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THE WAR.

It is officially announced that the British army now in France numbers about two million men. These men are either seasoned veterans, who have fought their way through some of the fiercest battles of the war...

Germany has seen this gigantic preparation, and is no doubt also making preparations to meet it when it moves forward. That the fighting will be on a gigantic scale, a scale unprecedented in the history of the world is certain and the outcome of it is equally certain however prolonged it will be.

But the call is still for more men. The Allied armies must do more than enter Germany "with the skin of their teeth," they must, to use another scriptural phrase, make "an abundant entrance." It is for this that men are being called to the colors, that men are rushing from every part of the Empire to join their brothers at the front.

Of the progress of the war there is little to be told. Roumania is now in the hands of the Germans, but the armies engaged in conquering it will still be required there to hold the Russians in check.

It is not probable that there will be any heavy fighting in either theatre for the next month or two. In France the ground will begin drying up in March and with the beginning of that will probably come the beginning of a movement on an extensive scale.

As to internal conditions in Germany and Austria there is no doubt that actual war confronts many of the towns and villages. Even the large cities are suffering privations which are trying the souls of men and women, of fathers and mothers who see hunger gradually stealing in upon them.

THE WINTER

So far the present winter has been one of exceptional mildness, although it began sufficiently early to catch many farmers and shippers unprepared for its coming.

es of weather conditions, summer or winter, have failed. Eleven, thirty-three and other year-cycles, have shown features of similarity in winters and in summers to lead to the idea that these periods bring similar conditions and that future seasons could be accurately predicted from past meteorological history...

There can be no regrets because the present winter, so far, has been mild, when the price of coal and other necessities are taken into consideration. The expensive coal bin, the poor man's great burden, will last longer because of the mildness of the season.

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

The coming Imperial Conference, called by Premier Lloyd-George, will be a demonstration of the British Empire's common interest in the war. It will serve to give Canada, as an overseas Dominion, a new sense of her status as a belligerent, her responsibility and her duty as one of the nations allied by convictions of uncompromising hostility to Prussian barbarism.

The people of Great Britain have supported the war against Germany because long experience with free political institutions has made them keenly alive to the danger of such defiance of law and order as Germany furnished from the time when the Kaiser connived at Austria's sudden assault on Serbia.

Writing to the London Times, a Canadian officer, now in Great Britain, says: "We have come because we believe this is our war, the Empire's war, and not the exclusive property of the people of the United Kingdom." While expressing the fullest appreciation of the kindness with which the Canadians have been treated by all classes in Great Britain, he protests against the theory that Canada went to war to help England rather than to fulfil her function as a self-respecting unit of the Empire.

Men enlist for war service from many motives, but nations going to war are animated by one demonstrating motive. Canada acted because she recognized the present war as her own, relatively with regard to other considerations. She did not rush to help Great Britain so much as to co-operate with the Mother Country in the common task, which is an Imperial effort and a worthy one.

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

The Ottawa Journal Press, commenting on the suspension of the Montreal Evening News and the Daily Mail, says: "These newspapers were started less than three years ago by Mr. M. E. Nicholas and Mr. B. A. Macnab. Both were men of national reputation in newspaperdom and wide metropolitan experience in Canadian journalism, the one in Toronto and Winnipeg, the other as the chief assistant of Sir Hugh Graham on the Montreal Star for many years."

NOTES

Shall this war be carried to a finish through the exhaustion and complete overthrow of Germany? Or will Germany end it now by making the concessions essential to peace, a great surrender to be sure, but not in disproportion to her great offending?

WANTED: A POST CARD.

Sir.—Some fifteen years ago, I saw a post-card with a map of Europe upon it showing the boundaries of the German Empire. Underneath were the words "The German Empire, 1950."

These boundaries included Germany, Austro-Hungary, Poland, Serbia, Roumania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, and the Dardanelles, Italia-Irridentia, the northern part of France with its coast as far down as Bologne, Belgium, Holland and Denmark.

On the British Islands was a mark of interrogation. I regarded it as a joke then, but in view of the events that are now transpiring it was an expression of a dream to be realized by the German people.

If any of these postal cards are to be found it would be well to have them reproduced as showing the ultimate situation of the ruling caste of Germany and the value of its peace overtures.

I am, Sir, etc., A. ROSS.

MARTIAL LAW AT KITCHENER

RESULT OF THE ELECTION. CITIZENS' LEAGUE RETURNED ENTIRE SLATE INCLUDING THE MAYOR.

KITCHENER, Jan. 8.—Instead of the electors of Kitchener celebrating victory for the successful candidate for the Mayor, the city is under martial law, 100 men of the 122nd Muskoka Battalion, stationed at Galt, parading the streets of the city to preserve order.

NAME-CHANGING ISSUE.

The municipal fight was waged between the two leagues primarily on the name-changing issue, but during last week the Citizens' Leaguers declared that the name question was not an issue until after the war. Instead the organ of the Citizens' League, the News-Record, appealed to the old-timers to show by their votes who would control this city in future.

When the results were being reported and it became known that the Citizens' Leaguers were successful, the soldiers of the 118th Battalion formed a parade on King Street and marched to the tune of patriotic airs until they reached the News-Record office, where some unknown person, it is alleged attempted to grab the Union Jack away from Sgt.-Major Blood.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

DEAR OLD FATHER.

Life tells me now I did not understand My father in the good old days of yore. When we romped lanes of summer, hand in hand, And gathered shells and pebbles on the shore. I never knew the meaning of his sighs Nor guessed the secret of his boundless life.

LLOYD GEORGE AND HIS CABINET. An illuminative article on the Cabinet reconstruction in England appears in THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE for January from the pen of Lindsay Crawford, a journalist who is well acquainted with Old Country politics.

GRANTED LEAVE TO ATTEND PARLIAMENT

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Canadian members of parliament serving in France and England, have been granted special leave to attend the "very important session of parliament, opening January 18."

Duke Appeals For \$12,500,000 For Patriotic Fund

Special to the Star. OTTAWA, Jan. 2.—His Excellency the Governor-General, as President of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, has issued the following New Year's appeal on behalf of the Fund.

ASSURANCE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

"Heavy as the sacrifices have already been, the Dominion is as determined as ever to carry the war to a successful conclusion and, however onerous the burden may be, she is equally determined to help the families of those who are serving in the army and in the navy."

HUGE SUM REQUIRED.

"Fifty-five thousand families, comprising one hundred and fifty thousand individuals, are today dependent upon the fund, and it is estimated that twelve millions, five hundred thousand dollars will be required to meet the requirements of the next twelve months."

\$50,000 is Prince Edward Island's allotment for this year We must either Fight or Pay

Silver Foxes Bring More Money In New York

Than anywhere else on earth. If you have Silver Foxes on hand — few or many — get in touch with a firm of reliable Silver Fox specialists - who know values - who can be depended on for prompt, honest returns and whose clients are able and willing to pay fancy prices for the choicest skins or the highest average prices for average grades —

M. F. Pfaelzer & Co., Silver Fox Specialists ---

115 W. 29th St., New York.

Important Notice

The firm of M. F. Pfaelzer & Co., is the one which recently sold one pair of Silver Foxes in New York for the sum of \$3,500.

ROADMASTER'S PATRIOTIC FUND

A Start Made — What Follows in the Trail?

In response to several appeals, Mr. Ian and it will be acknowledged in A. W. Bruce, Red Point, has opened the columns of the Guardian, a Roadmasters Patriotic Fund. The Andrew Mooney, Little Haridea being that every Roadmaster contribute one hour \$2.50 tribute \$2.50 to the fund. The money S. S. Robertson, Kingsborough \$2.50 may be sent to Mr. A. W. Bruce, to A. A. Bruce, Red Point 2.50 Mr. H. W. Binning, Bank of Nova Scotia, or to the Editor of the Guardian. Archie Bowles, Murray River. \$2.50

Just Arrived Two Cars Consisting of FLOUR Bran, Oil Cake and Middlings and Feed

Also Shipment of Sleighs, Engines and Separators

One low Cash Price to Members only. The Associated Farmers Co-Operative Co., Ltd. 3849-1-Mil.

RUBBERS RUBBERS

The Best Kinds—Men's 90c and \$1.00 closed sides \$1.25 Ladies 70c and 75c Boys' 75c Girls 55c Child's 45c and 50c Ladies' Overshoes \$2.00 and 2.50 Men's Overshoes \$1.75 to 3.25 Men's Lumbermans (Leather Tops) made by the Vacuum process Great wearers.

GOFF BROS.