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MR. MCKINNON'S SPEECH

The address by Hon. Murdoch McKinnon, Commissioner of Agriculture, on the Speech from the Throne, appears elsewhere in this issue. It will be seen that such criticisms as have been offered by the Opposition have been fully and satisfactorily answered. Indeed the criticisms so far offered have been exceedingly mild and appear to have been inspired by the very erroneous idea that unless the government is criticised the public will get it into their heads that things are going along too well. One has said, in an entirely different connection, that "it is always safe to kick a pig for if he hasn't been in mischief he is going into it." This has for many years been the political philosophy of many and through the years gone by many precious hours of valuable time have been wasted, many capable men driven out of political life or prevented from entering it.

If the war has added to our many other losses a realization of the uselessness and the waste of money, it is only when the honest path is abandoned or when the public welfare is threatened either by his ignorance, his neglect or his crookedness that he becomes legitimate prey of the critic, only then public opinion, regardless of political distinctions, should be warned against him. Fortunately we have few such cases as these in this province. Criticism we have in plenty but when both sides of the story are told, as they have been, so far during the present session, we find that the criticism has been of the kind that expects to be refuted.

Mr. McKinnon's retort that the farmers who purchased the imported hogs were probably as good judges as the members of the Opposition, and while the former were satisfied with their purchases the latter might well be, was probably as effective a reply as could be given; a reply that shows how little there really was in the criticism. The criticism of the hog purchase drawn a par with much of the rest and was made to be refuted.

It is pleasing to note that the debate on the session has been concluded with little of time and that the bantering between both sides of the house carried no bitterness. The tone of the House has, at least, been in keeping with the serious task before the province, the Empire and we have good reason to hope that the session will be concluded in good time and to the advantage of the province and the people.

THE WAR

Naturally everybody is looking anxiously for news of the great clash that is expected in the Arras sector where several hundreds of thousands of men are about to meet each other in what may be the decisive battle of the war. Little comment on the situation is necessary; our despatches tell us we are permitted to know and it is enough. Of one thing only we are sure, namely that our Allies know what to do and they are ready and waiting. The blow will be struck in the line of Arras and the German hope is that they can break the Allied line and get possession of Amiens. Possession by the Allies of this great railway centre would be a serious blow to the German line and that they cannot get it. We know that the Germans are hurling their wave after wave in every offensive but so far these waves have been broken on the impenetrable steel of British and French bayonets and bayonets have been terrible and that, while we have large reinforcements to throw over the bodies of their comrades, the situation is a serious loss to the Allies at present and at any hour we may expect that this greatest of all battles will be fought. While there has been considerable attacking and counter-attacking these have evidently been carried out to conceal the larger movements behind the lines where guns and troops are being brought up for action. How far these preparations have gone or what is yet to be done before the battle begins we are not informed.

Our despatches this morning tell of attacks and counter-attacks in which the British have successfully repelled the enemy and captured prisoners but these are only preliminary skirmishes and no major offensive has been undertaken since the German advance was halted some miles from Arras.

DELAYED TRAIN SERVICE

Mr. R. W. McEwen of the Royal Canadian Navy stationed at Halifax returned to Charlottetown on Tuesday en route for his home in St. Peters on a fourteen days furlough. Mr. McEwen complains that out of the limited time he is compelled to spend six days on the road. He left Halifax at 7 a. m., on Monday, arrived Sackville at 1.20 p. m. Left Sackville at 4 p. m. arrived Tormentine at 8 p. m., left Tormentine Wednesday morning at 11 a. m. and reached Borden at 11.45 a. m. The train for Charlottetown did not leave until 2.30 p. m., though everything appeared in readiness for an immediate start. The explanation given was that the train had to wait to make connection with the Summerside train going west at Emerald. This meant an unnecessary delay of two hours and a half, as there seems no reason why the passengers going west should not be left to wait the trains at Emerald, permitting the Charlottetown train to get to its destination in time to allow passengers east and south catching their connection that afternoon and saving a day on the journey. This matter seems only to require to be pointed out to have it attended to. In summer time the journey from Halifax and St. John to Charlottetown is accomplished easily within twelve hours, and there seems to be no reasonable excuse why three days should be considered in weather such as we now enjoy.

THE LOSS AND GAIN.

Several deductions are possible from the statement that the British have 27 divisions stemming from the onrush of the 97 German divisions. The striking feature of the comparison is the confidence placed by the Allied General Command in the two British armies and the very free hand it is retaining over the disposal of the other 150 divisions that go to make up the Allied forces on the Western front. The British Third and Fifth armies, comprising these 27 divisions, or about 500,000 men, are only one-sixth of the Allied forces, yet there are fighting to the death nearly one-half of the whole German army. The question is: when and how will the Allied General Command use its superiority in other sectors to counter the German blow—when the time is ripe? The question as to when the time is ripe depends on conditions we at this distance have no chance of gauging. Manifestly, if the Allied Command were convinced of the power of its arrangements, with five-sixths of its forces free to deal a staggering blow at some other part of the line, it would pay to let the Germans exhaust themselves in shoving forward against the stiffest sort of resistance in the Somme theatre. But before the risks of a real disaster there could be taken the assurance of success for the counter-stroke would have to be very real and strong. The dropping of the losses of British in prisoners shows that the retirement was in good order, and the fighting more costly than ever to the Germans. The alternative plans of the Allied Command have to come into play before any strategic centre such as Amiens is threatened, because Allied success depends on the maintaining of the fullest cohesion in supplies and tactics. On balance, the Allies have been doing pretty well, as will be manifest to all when the army of manoeuvre gets going. The strategic battle is the biggest ever played. In any case, the Allied situation is immeasurably better, comparatively and absolutely, than it was during the long retreat to the Marne, and it is to be hoped that no such terribly risky strategy may be necessary in this case. Germany's ten per cent. superiority in men ought not to allow any such advantages on an offensive.—Ex.

NOTES

General Ludendorff complains that the British depend on tanks, machine guns and the "strength of machinery." The British had neither tanks, machine guns nor much of any kind of machinery at Mons and Ypres, and the Germans, who were well supplied with all the latest devices, got licked out of their boots.

KIPLING PAINTS THE HUN

GERMAN HELL OF TYRANNY

Britain's Great Writer Tells His Countrymen of the Horrors That Will Fill World Conquered by Hun

No greater speech has been uttered in the English language since the outbreak of war than the following oration delivered recently at Folkstone by Rudyard Kipling:—"At the present moment all the powers of the world that have not been bullied or bribed to keep out of it have been forced to join in one international department to make an end of German international thuggery, for the reason that if it is not ended life on this planet becomes unsupportable for human beings. "Even now there are people in England who find it hard to realize that the Hun has been educated by the State from his birth to look upon assassination and robbery, embellished with every treachery and abomination that the mind of man can laboriously think out, as a perfectly legitimate means to the national ends of his country. He is not shocked by these things. He has been taught that it is his business to perform them, his duty to support them, and his religion to justify them.

A THOUGHT-OUT HELL

"They are, and for a long time past they have been, as legitimate in his eyes as the ballot in ours. This, remember, was as true of the Germans in 1914 as it is now. People who have been brought up to make organized evil in every form their supreme god because they believe that evil will pay them are not going to change their belief till it is proved that evil does not pay. So far, the Hun believes that evil has paid him in the past, and will pay him better in the future. He has had a good start. "He is doing what is right in his own eyes. He thought the hell he

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

THE PARABLE OF A PRODIGAL FATHER.

A certain man had two sons and the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the portion of thy time, and thy attention, and thy companionship, and they counsel which falleth to me." And he divided unto them his living in that he paid the boy's bills, and sent him to select preparatory school and to dancing school, and to college and tried to believe that he was doing his full duty by the boys.

And not many days after the father gathered all his interests and aspirations and ambitions and took his journey into a far country, into a land of stocks and bonds and securities and other things which do not interest a boy; and there he wasted his precious opportunity of being a chum to his own son. And when he had spent the very best of his life and had gained money but had failed to find satisfaction, there arose a mighty famine in his heart; and he began to be in want of sympathy and real companionship. And he went and joined himself to one of the clubs of that country; and they elected him Chairman of the House Committee and President of the Club and sent him to Congress. And he would fain have satisfied himself with the husks that other men did eat and no man gave unto him any real friendship.

But when he came to himself he said, "How many men of my acquaintance have boys whom they understand and who understand them, who talk about their boys and associate with their boys, and seem perfectly happy in the comradeship of their sons, and I perish here with heart hunger! I will arise and go to my son, and will say unto him, Son, I have sinned against Heaven and in thy sight; I am no more worthy to be called thy father; make me as one of thy acquaintances." And he arose and came to his son. And while he was yet afar off, his son saw him, and was moved with astonishment, and instead of running and falling on his neck, he drew back and was ill at ease. And the father said unto him, "Son, I have sinned against Heaven and in thy sight; I am no more worthy to be called thy father. Forgive me now and let me be your friend." But the son said "Not so. I wish it were possible, but it is too late. There was a time when I wanted companionship and counsel and to know things, but you were too busy. I got companionship and I got the information, but I got the wrong kind and now, alas, I am wrecked in soul and body, there is no more heart left in me, and there is nothing you can do for me. It is too late, too late, too late."

wished to create; he built it up seriously and scientifically with his best hands and brains; he breathed into it his own spirit that it might grow with his needs; and at the hour that he judged best, he left it loose on a world that till then had believed there were limits beyond which men born of women dared not sin.

HUN'S UNPUBLISHED CRIMES

"Nine-tenths of the atrocities Germany has committed have not been made public. I think this a mistake. But one gets hints of them here and there—Folkstone has had more than a hint. For instance, we were told the other day that more than 14,000 English non-combatants, men, women and children; had been drowned, burned, or blown to pieces since the war began. But we have no conception—and till the veil is lifted after the war we shall have no conception—of the range and system of these atrocities. Least of all shall we realize, as they realize in Belgium and occupied France just across the water, the cold organized miseries which Germany has laid upon the populations that have fallen into her hands, that she might break their bodies and defile their souls. That is part of the German creed. "What understanding is possible with a breed that have worked for so long as the Germans are left with any excuse for thinking that such things pay can any peace be made with them in which men can trust? None. For it is the peculiar essence of German Kultur, which is the German religion, that it is Germany's moral duty to break every tie, every restriction, that binds man to fellow man if she thinks it will pay. Therefore all mankind are against her. Therefore all mankind must be against her till she learns that no race can make its way or break its way outside the borders of humanity.

THE WAR MUST GO ON

"The more we have suffered in this war the more clearly do we see this necessity. Our hearts, our reason, every instinct in us that lifts us above the mere brute, shows us that the war must go on. Otherwise earth becomes a hell without hope. The men, the ships, the munitions must go forward to the war, and behind them must come the money, without which nothing can move. Where our hearts are there must our treasure be also.

"Our security for our loan is not only the whole of the British Empire, but also the whole of civilization, which has pooled its resources in men, money and material to carry on this war to victory. Nothing else under heaven matters to-day except that the war shall go on to that end. "What is the personal aspect of the case for you and me? We are fighting for our lives, the lives of every man, woman and child here and everywhere else. We are fighting that we may not be herded into actual slavery such as the Germans have established by force of their arms in large parts of Europe. We are fighting against eighteen hours a day forced labor or under the lash or at the point of a bayonet, with a dog's death and a dog's burial at the end of it. We are fighting that men, women and children may not be tortured, burned, and mutilated in the public streets, as has happened in this town and in hundreds of others. And we will go on fighting till the race who have done these things are in no position to continue or repeat their offence.

IF THE HUN WINS

"If for any reason whatever we fall short of victory and there is no half-way house between victory and defeat—what happens to us? This. Every relation, every understanding, every decency upon which civilization has been so anxiously built up will go—will be washed out, because it will have been proved unable to endure. The whole idea of democracy—which at bottom is what the Hun fights against will be dismissed from men's minds, because it will have been shown incapable of maintaining itself against the Hun. It will die; it will die discredited together with every belief and practice that is based on it. "The Hun ideal, the Hun's notions of life, will take its place throughout the world. Under that dispensation men will become once more—the natural prey, body and goods, of his better-armed neighbor. Women will be the mere instrument for continuing the breed; the vessel of man's just and man's greed; and labor will become a thing to be knocked on the head if it dares to give trouble, and worked to death if it does not. And from this order of

life there will be no appeal, no possibility of any escape.

IT WILL TAKE EVERY OUNCE

"This is what the Hun means when he says he intends to impose German Kultur—which is the German religion upon the world. This is precisely what the world has banded itself together to resist. It will take every ounce in us; it will try us out to the naked soul. Our trial will not be made less by the earnest advice and suggestions that we should accept some sort of compromise, which means defeat, put forward by Hun agents and confederates among us. They are busy in that direction already. But be sure of this— "Nothing—nothing we may have to endure now will weigh one feather-weight compared with what we shall most certainly have to suffer if for any cause we fail of victory."

HOW KAISER MAKES PROFIT FROM WAR

After having called the Kaiser a murderer for more than three years it may appear in the nature of an anticlimax to call him a grafter, or even a profiteer; but the interests of truth make the demand. Emperor William is probably the greatest profiteer that has been developed by the war. If he is alive when it ends he will have amassed one of the greatest private fortunes in the world as a result of the struggle. The fact that Germany will be ruined will not affect him, except that his own winnings will stand out in bold relief. It is not now suggested that the Kaiser brought on the war in order that he might become the richest man in Germany; but if his private fortune is increasing at the rate, say, of a million dollars a week while the war lasts, it is plain that he has a strong personal interest in continuing the war, and that the sacrifice of the lives of a few hundred thousand of his subjects will not be allowed to interfere with his plans for securing a competence.

Partner of Krupps

Wilhelm has several ways of making money out of the war, but it is his holdings of Krupp stock that have made him the richest man in Germany in the past three years. The profits of the great concern at Essen have been fabulous. They were prodigious before the war began; they have been record-breaking ever since. The names of the shareholders in the Krupp business have never been publicly announced but it has been said on excellent authority that after Bertha Krupp, the Kaiser is the chief stockholder. All efforts made before the war on the part of German Socialists to probe into the Krupp affairs were blocked, either at the Kaiser's orders or with his sanction. Some sixteen years ago when Vorwaerts directed an attack against the owner of the plant, Frederick A. Krupp, accusing him of the most frightful immorality, the Kaiser put the ban on the exposure and forbade the scandal being aired in court. Despot that he was, it is plain that he had to yield to Krupp, for the latter could, no doubt, have made disclosures concerning the real ownership of Krupp stock that would have been extremely embarrassing.

Rise of the Krupps

When Frederick Krupp died, leaving his business to Bertha Krupp, he was by far the richest man in Germany. He had an income of \$5,000,000 (disclosed), while the next wealthiest German admitted to an income of only about one-fourth of this amount. A year or two before the war the Krupp publicity department made a determined campaign in American newspapers to convey the impression that the Krupp fortune had been built up by honest industry alone. There were touching stories about the original Frederick, who established his iron forge in Essen in 1810. The town then was smaller than Brantford. Now it is more like Pittsburg, and its increased prosperity and population are almost wholly due to the expansion of the Krupp works. From a simple blacksmith shop Krupp has grown until it is a property of vast mines, steamships, railroads, coke ovens, tremendous ore bodies, newspapers, and it has been hinted, Governments as well. Five years ago about 80,000 people were working, openly, for the Krupps and a good many more were its secret employees. Perhaps twice that number is now employed. How Krupp Got Business.

It all made a fine story, but the facts not mentioned were still more interesting, and some of them were brought to light as a result of charges made by Liebknecht, and the Socialist newspaper, Vorwaerts. It was

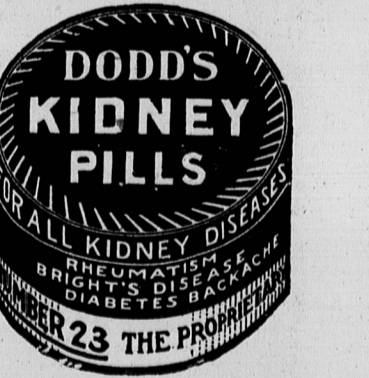
shown that the Krupps, in order to increase their tremendous annual sales to the German Government bribed certain French newspapers to make attacks upon Germany, hinting at war in the near future. These fulminations duly copied in the Krupp organs in Germany, were used to prove that France meant mischief and that the German Government must increase its purchases of cannon and munitions, in which the Krupps had practically a monopoly. But in order to kill off whatever competition there might be on the part of other German munition works, the Krupps bribed various German officials to give them advance information, so that they might undersell their rivals. It was a most sordid, if sensational story, and the full revelations would have shaken Germany, but again the German Government blocked a full enquiry, at the order of the Kaiser. A Commission of Enquiry was constituted, as was the right of the Reichstag, but it was given no power to send for persons or papers, as was the right of the Kaiser to determine.

Kaiser's Great Wealth

In such a country as Germany it is easy to keep secret such matters as the fortune of the Kaiser. He inherited \$12,500,000 from his grandfather. As King of Prussia he has a civil list of \$4,250,000 a year. Beside that he is the greatest landowner in the kingdom. For many years past it is said that whenever he had an odd million marks to invest he tucked it away in Krupp shares. It may be that the Krupps did not like to share their tremendous profits with the Kaiser. It may be that they figured that they could well afford to make him an equal partner. In any event it would have amounted to the same thing. The Kaiser had the power to demand a share of the plunder, and he has been piling it up ever since at a great rate. If the war should end with the Kaiser on the throne, he will become by virtue of his great wealth, more than ever the owner of the German Empire. If it should end with his overthrow, he would still be in possession of one of the greatest private fortunes in the world. In either event he has an obvious purpose in increasing his profits. After he is hanged, his private fortune ought to be distributed in France and Belgium.

WOMEN DRUMMERS GO THROUGH STREETS ORDERING SUPPLY OF BEDS

LONDON, April 2.—All available buildings in Western Germany are being converted into hospitals to accommodate the thousands of the Kaiser's soldiers, who have been wounded in the big drive, says the Amsterdam correspondent of the Daily Express. The number of those wounded brought from the front is three times as great as had been expected. For the last three days messengers from German headquarters in France have been raiding all towns and villages in the Rhine province and Westphalia and organizing hospitals in every school, public building and church. In the villages near the Dutch frontier beds have been requisitioned everywhere. At some places public criers, preceded by women drummers, go through the streets ordering citizens to bring their beds to the town hall to be used in the service of the wounded.



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