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Wednesday, March 21, 1917.

THE WAR.

The war news of the past few weeks, and particularly of the past two days, is most encouraging. The sweep of the Allied armies along a hundred miles on the western front was a magnificent achievement; the liberation of two whole departments of France after they had been dominated, bled white and tyrannized over by the Germans for two years was glorious. And we can imagine the wild joy with which the men and the women of these places welcomed their fellow-countrymen and their allies, their liberators, as they entered on the heels of the departing enemy.

But we must not be too sanguine over this, which is only the beginning of victory. There was practically no fighting, it was simply a German retirement. In many places doubtless, especially at Bapaume and Peronne, the Germans found their positions untenable and they retired to other positions which they will have fortified. There was no doubt strategy in their move and we shall hear from them again and again. Looking at the map the territory gained is pitifully small compared with that yet to be retaken before we reach the Rhine. How far the retirement will proceed, where it will end, or how is as yet problematical. It is the beginning of the end no doubt but only the beginning and we have yet a long way to go on that five or six hundred mile front between the North Sea and Switzerland. The line has not perceptibly moved in Belgium; the new Allied line is in many places only a few hundred yards from the original border of German occupation, although ten to twenty miles in one small section of France.

We are not yet out of the wood and we must not slacken our efforts but rather re-double them. We need men and material and both must be poured in without stint and regardless of sacrifice. We are fighting an enemy who has reached the stage of desperation, who will scruple at nothing, who will sacrifice anything and everything not to gain a victory, which is impossible, but to secure an inconclusive peace, a peace which may serve as a starting point for further aggression and further devility.

And above all we want men and material for the peace time. We know nothing yet regarding the terms upon which peace may arise, nothing of the possible interference of other nations, nothing even of the aspirations of our Allies. All we can count upon is the strength of our arm, the righteousness of our cause and the justice-loving national instinct of our Empire. These we know, but we know no more of outside intentions or possibilities than we knew of Germany three months before she defied us.

We are fighting for peace, waging a war against war. We have already paid a fearful price, a price measured in miles of graves in France, in Belgium, in Gallipoli, at home. For this price, unless it will have been thrown away, we must have a peace that will endure, that will enable us to resume our civil life "nonedaring to make us afraid." To secure this kind of a peace and this kind of a life after the war we must have an army sufficiently strong not only to defeat the enemy but to enforce our peace terms. We have not yet reached this point. Recruiting must go on; contributions to the war funds must go on till the end of the war.

We may rejoice over the victories won during the past few days but we must not overestimate them. We have not yet seen the end of the Germans. The Rhine is still many miles off and not until they are safely beyond their own borders and we at their heels shall we have peace.

THE COUNTRY'S FINANCES.

Near approach of the end of the fiscal year finds Canada's financial position sound. The customs revenue, which may be regarded as a fairly reliable barometer of trade conditions throughout the country, continues to break records. The figures for February showed an increase of more than ten per cent over the corresponding figures

for 1916; and there is reason to expect that equally satisfactory advances will be shown in March.

This is satisfactory in a double sense: it shows that despite the war the country's prosperity continues on the upgrade, and it acts as an incentive to the nation to lift that prosperity to a still higher level.

During the past two and a half years the nation's energies have been chiefly devoted to the war, and rightly so, because the whole future of the Dominion and the Empire depends upon the success of the vast issue in Europe. But it is nevertheless important, if not vital, that the commercial and industrial activities of the country be maintained and extended in every possible way, if only to bring about a condition whereby the Dominion will be in a stronger position to meet the heavy burdens that will necessarily be imposed upon it as a result of the war.

And, in addition to that important aspect, there is the future development of the country to be borne in mind. After the war there will be an unloosening of the national energies now concentrated upon a temporary but vital enterprise. The great armies now battling in Europe will be forged into industrial armies and concentrated upon the task of regenerating the devastated industrialism of most of the nations now dedicated to war. There will have to be great reorganizations, and there will necessarily be great upheavals, and it would be folly on the part of Canada if, while expending her energies now upon the supreme issue in Europe, she did not, at the same time, make some preparation to maintain for herself after the coming of peace, the splendid position she has so dearly won in this war.

MILITIA SERVICE.

In a cablegram to Sir Edward Kemp, from Sir Robert Borden, shortly after his return to England from France, where he had visited the Canadian troops, Sir Robert said:

"We are entering upon the most critical period of the war, and I voice the feeling at the front when I appeal to Canadians to support with the most earnest effort the proposals which you are putting forward to partially mobilize the active militia of Canada. A splendid response to these proposals is vitally necessary in order that the full strength of our Dominion, in co-operation with the whole Empire, shall be thrown into the struggle with the least possible delay."

This partial mobilization means that for the double purpose of providing troops for the defence of Canada and of releasing the members of the expeditionary force still in the Dominion 50,000 men will be enrolled in the active militia and will in two months be embodied in units for continuous service. For some weeks past the Government has been considering measures for filling the ranks of the militia, which have been depleted by enlistments for active service abroad and for providing a home defence army. The course decided upon was announced by Sir Edward Kemp, the Minister of Militia. Accompanying the announcement was an appeal to the manhood of Canada to volunteer for national defence.

Men between the ages of 18 and 45 years are urged to enlist through the existing militia units. They will be attested for one year or during the period of the war, should it last longer, and for six months after the war, provided His Majesty should so long require their services. Their attestation papers will show that they have been accepted for duty in Canada.

It is expected, however, that a considerable number of soldiers of home defence corps will in time seek transfers to the overseas forces.

During the present month battalion staffs will be organized, officers and non-commissioned officers will be instructed and recruits will be enrolled in the new units. Next month the men enlisted will be trained two evenings and one forenoon a week.

In May, unless their units are detailed for special duty, they will go into camp for the summer.

It is estimated, on the data provided by the National Service cards that there are 50,000 men still in Canada eligible for military service, that is, men not only physically fit and of military age, but men who can be spared from their present occupations. Concurrently, with this voluntary enlistment will be the enlistment now in progress for reinforcements so that henceforth there shall be no excuse for men of military age for not attaching themselves to one or the other of these forces.

RUSSIA AND GERMANY

BY CHARLES SAROLEA.

IX.

During the reigns of Nicholas I. and Alexander II., the German-Austrian influence reached its zenith at the Court of Petersburg. Nicholas I. was the brother-in-law of the Prussian Hohenzollern. An able and an honest man in his private relations, he was in his political capacity a Prussian martinet, as even Froitschke is compelled to admit, and he organized his Empire on the strictest Prussian principles. The Court, the Army, and the Bureaucracy were Prussianized as they had never been before. A German bureaucrat, Nesselrode, who could not even speak the Russian language, for forty years controlled as Foreign Minister the policy of the Russian Empire. Even as his grandfather, Peter III., even as his brother, Alexander I., had saved Prussia from destruction, so Nicholas I. saved Austria from a similar fate. Francis Joseph had ascended a throne shaken to its foundations. Hungary was in open rebellion. The young Austrian Emperor appealed to Russia for help. Nicholas I. sent an army to quell the revolution, and established his cousin on the Hungarian throne. It is unnecessary to add that Francis Joseph was as loyal and as grateful to Russia as Frederick the Great had been!

Alexander I. had refused to accept Napoleon I. as a brother-in-law. Even so Nicholas I. refused to recognize Napoleon III. as Emperor of the French. It was a gratuitous insult inspired by Prussia; it was opposed to Russian interests, and it was one of the main causes of the Crimean War.

X.

Under Alexander II. the alliance of the three reactionary empires of Central Europe was welded even more firmly than under his predecessor, Bismarck, during his tenure of the Prussian Embassy at Peter sburg, was the chosen favourite of the Russian Court, and if he had chosen could have become a Minister of the Tsar. An understanding with Russia became the chief dogma of his political creed, and it remained so until the end. It was Bismarck's adherence to the Russian-Austrian Alliance which was one of the causes of his dismissal.

Alexander II. did nothing to guard against the German peril. He might have been the umpire of Central Europe, as Alexander I. had been fifty years before. He demanded no compensation for the enormous accession of power and territory which Germany had received through the victorious wars of 1863, 1866, and 1870. He insisted on no guarantees. When, after Sedan, Thiers came to St. Petersburg to obtain the intervention of the Russian Empire, he was dismissed with empty words. One year after Thiers' fruitless journey Emperor William had an official visit to his nephew Alexander II., and the Tsar once more proclaimed the indissoluble solidarity of Russia with Germany. Until the end of his reign the German

Austrian-Russian Alliance, the famous dynastic Alliance of the Three Emperors, remained the keystone of European policy and the mainstay of Russian reaction.

XI.

The influence of Germany at the Russian Court was strengthened by the influence of Germany on the Russian bureaucracy. An agricultural community without a middle class, Russia has had to recruit her Civil Services almost entirely from the outside and mainly from Germany, and more especially from the German Baltic Provinces of Estonia, Livonia and Courland. Teutonic barons from these Baltic provinces have filled the higher ranks of the Diplomatic Service and of the Civil Service for a hundred and fifty years. The Russian Tsars found the German barons far more servicable tools than the Russian nobles. In a previous age one Emperor after another had been removed by a rebellious aristocracy. The highest nobles in the land had been implicated in the Decembrist conspiracy at the end of Alexander I.'s reign. Even under Alexander II. there were always a few members of the nobility to be found as accomplices in the revolutionary plots. But there never was one single German from the Baltic provinces implicated in the conspiracy against the Tsar. It is easy to understand, therefore, why a Russian autocrat, lavish, a bad economist, easy-going, generous, and he is corrupt because easy-going and generous. He is also much more independent. The Junker is punctual, precise, disciplined, generally poor, always ambitious. He is also tolerably honest. He is the ideal bureaucrat.

XII.

German influence has been no less dominant in the Russian academies and in scientific institutions. The Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg was organized on the pattern of the Academy of Berlin. It was an official institution with high privileges, and it remained consistently German. Until recently its proceedings were published in the German language, and German scientists were invariably preferred rather than Russian scientists. Mendeliev, one of the most creative scientific minds of his generation, was a member of every European academy except the Academy of Petersburg.

The Germans have been an even greater power in the Russian Universities. They took full advantage of the prestige which German science had acquired in Europe, and they largely filled the ranks of the Liberal professions: German doctors, German veterinary surgeons, German "feldschers," German foresters, German engineers were to be found in every part of the Empire. A casual reading of the Post Office directories of Moscow or Petersburg, or Kiev provides a most instructive commentary on the extent of the German domination. (To be continued.)

POLITICAL CO-OPERATION

Dear Sir.— At the supper given by Mr. F. R. Heertz to the members of the Development Commission on Wednesday, 7th inst. Mr. J. A. MacDonald, Director of National Service, made a speech which seems to me to be one of the best things that have been recorded in our papers, and which is calculated to be of much service at this critical time. There never was a time when the co-operation of every citizen was needed, as much as at present; this being the case, there is another matter, about which, I would like to take up a little of your valuable space. Do we not need an example of co-operation from our leaders? Our provincial legislature is at this time in session. The matter on the side of the government is small. We all remember the doings of last year. Would it not be a grand object lesson for the people to see the two parties work in harmony—co-operate in dealing with the great questions that come up, and instead of opposing, or favouring a question, because of their party, to work together for the advancement and welfare of our fair province. Surely this is no time for partizanship on either side. If we have good men, capable of rendering their country a service; why not use them regardless of the party affiliations. I am sure that it has had a good effect on the people in general to read some of the hard things that have been said about the present Premier of Canada, Sir Robert Borden and other leading men. No man yet having occupied the position he does, has had to pass through the experiences of war time. True, there have been mistakes, but after nearly three years of war, Canada today stands out as the marvel of the world, and never again can she be slightly spoken about. We should be proud of our country, proud of our leaders. Proud of Sir Robert Borden, proud of Sir Wilfrid Laurier; we have a glorious country, and we should make the crowning of this glory, rest in good citizenship and the welfare of all the people. If I have intruded upon sacred ground in my advocacy of co-operation for our two political parties; then I ask pardon, but I do think that the sight of harmony and co-operation in the halls of legislature would be one of the omens of the coming better days.

I am, Sir, etc.,
W. H. HARDING.
Tignish, March 17th.

SORES FLEE BEFORE IT— There are many who have been afflicted with sores and have driven them away with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, which acts like magic. All similarly troubled should lose no time in applying this splendid remedy, as there is nothing like it to be had. It is cheap, but its power is in no way expressed by its low price.

Mr Man It's Time to Order Your Spring Suit

With the milder days and bright sunshine, comes that shabby feeling, which makes you think of clothes.

Make up your mind now to have the nicest Spring Suit you ever had.

The difference in cost between a poor suit and a good one is small, while the difference in style, fit and satisfaction is great and lasting.

By careful buying we have avoided to a large extent, the sharp advance in price on all woollen goods and we are able to show you a collection of suitings that for style, quality and price, compares well with times before the war.

Smart and Stylish, describes our colored suitings.

All the newest ideas in neat check and stripe effects are included. You'll like them.

Guaranteed serges too, lots of them in Blues, Blacks and Greys, all of the best quality, and the price only a trifle higher.

The New Style Plaies

are here, and you will agree with us that mens' fashions for Spring 1917 are neat, graceful and very stylish.

A few minutes looking over our new goods will be time well spent. We will be pleased to see you, and show you all the new things, whether you wish to order your suit now or not

MacLellan Bros.

Charlottetown's Best Tailors

We thank our customers for their liberal patronage during the past year.

Our wish that Health, Happiness and Prosperity be your good fortune during the coming year

W. N. TANTON

Jeweler

Business Announcement

We beg to announce that on and after April 1st, we shall conduct our business on a strictly Cash Basis, we will not advance any credit to any person for any amount, no matter how small.

Our clerks will, beginning April 1st, re-price all our stock, adding expenses and only a living profit to cost price.

We will make trips to Montreal, Toronto and other Canadian cities to do our buying, thus saving the large expense of salesmen, and reducing the cost of freight by buying in large quantities; in short we shall reduce the cost where-ever possible without lowering our high standard of quality, and our customers will receive the full benefit in lower prices, better value and better service than they can procure elsewhere.

Our price will be one price to all, the lowest possible, and every article will be priced in plain figures.

We have a lot of goods bought before the advance, and wish to share the benefit of our purchase with you.

We know our customers in general will prefer this system when they give it a trial, and realize the saving and improved service their co-operation in paying Cash will enable us to give them.

On the above date we will close our books, render statements and shall expect an immediate settlement of all accounts.

Estate James Kennedy

'Where Cash Buys the Best Goods Procurable'

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If you want the best possible value in neat, stylish and strong rubbers you need to come here. We handle only the best grade rubbers; the kind that wear long and give good service; a style to fit every shoe. Military rubbers, all sizes in stock. A splendid range of men's and women's leather footwear. Ladies' Patent Glove and Cloth Top Boots at \$3.50, 4.00, 4.50 etc. Buy your footwear where you get the best value for your money.

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