

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THE WAR

Surely there is much of encouragement and hope in the war news of the past few days, news given in detail in our despatches and unnecessary to dwell upon here. A glance at the map shows as, no word description could, the effect of the fighting of the past two weeks on the battle line. From Nieuport on the North Sea almost due south to a point midway between Noyon and Compiègne and thence almost due east to Montfaucon, a little north of Verdun, the battle line is almost straight. In the north and south line there is only one sharp salient running into Allied territory; this is at Hazebrouck, the line being a little east of this important position. The Allied drive in the Marne sector has completely straightened the line running eastward, as far as Montfaucon, about ten miles north of Verdun. From this point the line runs almost due south to St. Mihiel, thence due east to Pont a Mousson and into Lorraine.

Lest we forget, where there is so much to remember, it may be worth noting the principal points still within the German lines. Commencing at Nieuport on the North Sea the following cities and towns close to the battle line, are still held by the Germans; Dixmude, Armentières, Lille, Le Bassee, Lens, Croiselles, Albert, Rosieres, Montdidier, Lassigny, Noyan, Neufchatel, Montfaucon, St. Mihiel.

Following the same course, we hold close to the line, Nieuport, Ypres, Hazebrouck, Bethune, Loos, Arras, Amiens, Estrees, Compiègne, Attichy, Soissons, Fraignes, Fismes (the latter three taken since Saturday) Rheims, Souvain, Massiges, Verdun, Charnay and Pont a Moussons.

Many of these cities and towns will in all probability figure in the war news of the immediate future. It is worth watching them. Some of them will probably change hands before many days, and we have good reason to hope that the change will affect those within the German lines.

The full extent of the Allied victory of the past three or four days is not yet known. That it was a disastrous blow to German hopes may be taken for granted. The blow directed at the Marne with a view to reaching Paris had been elaborately staged and carefully planned. That it should meet with even a more crushing defeat than at the first battle of the Marne was something the Germans had never anticipated. They are not yet beaten sufficiently to listen to reasonable peace terms, and the war must go on until they are. This may take months; it may take a year or more, but it must go relentlessly to the end, to a victorious peace.

We are entering upon the fifth year with high hopes, with courage, born of achievement. The success of the past five weeks and the assurance that in General Foch we have the greatest strategist in the world, nerve the arms of our soldiers for a campaign the end of which is victory.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Few realize the extent of the work so far accomplished by the Vocational Branch of the Department of Soldiers Civil Re-establishment. During the month of June 286 disabled soldier graduated from courses of industrial re-education conducted by this branch.

Figures compiled by the statistical division show that on the 30th June, 4,612 returned soldiers, so disabled that they cannot resume their pre-war occupations, had been approved for courses of re-education. The number of such courses in progress on that date was 2,070, and all but 27 of the students were discharged men in receipt of vocational pay and allowances. The other 27 had begun their courses while still in hospital receiving some treatment.

The number of graduates during the month of June, 286, was the largest for any single month to date and brings the total number of graduates up to 767. Of the 4,612 men for whom courses have been approved 302 have refused the benefit, while 442 have begun their courses and not finished them for various reasons. Included in this 442, however, are a number of men who were granted permission to discontinue temporarily, in order that they might

engage in the season's farm production work.

In addition to the above figures on industrial re-education the statistical division reports that for the month of June 1743 men were attending occupational therapy classes conducted by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment in the military hospitals as a contribution to the various forces engaged in restoring health. This was, an increase of nearly 100 over the month of May. This figure, however, does not include the men taking part in the ward occupations, such as basketry, embroidery, weaving, etc., conducted in the wards themselves.

A SLAV RAMPART

At a Jugo-Slav meeting in London, one of the speakers, Mr. Wickham Steel, boldly declared that "unless the Czech-Slovak state is created, London will be uninhabited in 30 years, and unless Jugo-Slavia is created, Venice will be uninhabitable in even less time, for a fresh war will be unloosed." The exaggeration contains a lot of ruth, and points a great moral. The settlement of the Balkan problem on proper lines, ensuring the subject Slav peoples racial and economic freedom, is as important a condition of future peace as a League of Nations. The greatest territorial questions to be settled are to be found in Central Europe.

The official recognition and encouragement of the Czech and Jugo-Slav aspirations by the Entente, came only after it was clearly seen that a racial barrier was necessary to break Germany's drive eastward. The complete subjugation of Austria-Hungary by Germany has made it imperative that strong anti-Teuton states be constructed between the Black and Adriatic Seas. Of Roumania's intense hatred for the Germans there need be little doubt. An enlarged and strengthened Serbia, including sections of Austria in which the Slavs predominate, will sever Turkey and Germany as by a Sahara. The problem of the Czechs in Bohemia is more difficult, because they are placed between the German districts of Austria and Germany. Independence for them would make their little state a camp surrounded by enemies. Yet, by linking them up with the Jugo-Slav federation, and by making what is left of Austria a Federal state, with equal rights for the remaining compartments, they might be assured a peaceful freedom under Entente auspices.

It is certain that if the war ends with the German military caste still supreme, a policy of "revanche" will dominate Berlin. Barred on the West, and perhaps in Russia, Germany will seek, first of all, to consolidate the alliance with its Austro-Hungarian and Balkan friends. The Mitteleuropa will be the main source of recuperation. The Allies cannot avoid, for their own protection, the logical furthering of the interests of the anti-Teutons in Austria and the Balkans, and the creating of powerful states of these, even at sacrifices to themselves. Italy has at last seen the wisdom of making allies of the Czech-Slovaks and Serbs by recognizing their aspirations, and the fruits of that wise action are seen in Russia, where Czech-Slovak troops are dominating Siberia in the interest of the Allies.

DEPRAVED HUN MENTALITY

"Today there is nothing that has not been destroyed. The tapestries have been hacked to pieces, the pictures slit from corner to corner, the leather and other chair-coverings have been ripped from their frames and all the delicate marquetry and the irreplaceable examples of craftsmanship of past centuries have been smashed. The legs have been torn off the tables and used in further work of destruction. There is not a mirror which has not been broken and the glass and china flung at them lie in fragments before them.

"The costly carpets have been soiled and ripped and dirt thrown at the silken paper on the walls. This vent of fury has been carried on to the extent of smashing nurseries and dolls' houses. The fashion in which beds and rooms have been defiled is difficult of description. It would seem the work of lunatics."

Such is the description of the condition in which the Germans left Chateau Thiercy when driven out last week. Also, it applies to apparently every place in France or Flanders the Germans have ever been in and been driven out of. And the thing indicates the whole German nation. Private soldiers would not dare to do it except at the instigation, or at least with the toleration, of officers. Officers would not instigate it or tolerate it unless feeling sure that it was agreeable to their men. The wanton outrage, the senseless destruction, the filth, indicate a diseased and depraved mentality; and the continuous exhibition of these things throughout the war argue that the disease and depravity are general in the German people. Adding self-deception and megalomania, Kultur is assuredly, a wonderfully vile thing.

SOME CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES OF THE POTATO

Paper Read at Conference of Agricultural Representatives in Guelph

(By Paul A. Murphy, in charge of Potato Disease Investigations, Dominion Department of Agriculture.)

It is not necessary to study statistics of potato production to see that potato growing is not on a whole a very successful or profitable line of farming in Ontario. This is particularly so if one is familiar with the potato industry in other parts of the Dominion. The statistics, however, amply bear this contention out. Turning to the average yield per acre for the last ten year period we find that the highest yields are obtained in British Columbia, namely 206 bushels per acre, and that the figure drops more or less gradually as one comes east through the Prairie Provinces. The next highest yield after British Columbia is obtained in Maritime Provinces, where it averages about 190 bushels during the same period. In Quebec the figure comes down to 140 bushels and in Ontario it reaches 123 bushels per acre, the lowest in the Dominion.

The reason for this gradual decline in yields from both coasts is probably not a simple one, but a partial explanation is not far to seek. It is now known that a number of very serious diseases are more or less widespread in Ontario grown potatoes while they are absent, or present, in less virulent form, in those parts where the yield is high. This is known to be true in the Maritime Provinces taken as a whole, and it also presumably true for British Columbia. It is known that these diseases begin to appear in aggravated form in Western Quebec and the fact is significant that it is about here we first meet with lower yields. It might be suggested that the climatic conditions are really responsible for the reduction in the crop. This is no doubt true, but only indirectly, as will be shown. The fact, now so well known to experimenters and many practical growers, that good seed imported from New Ontario or the Maritime Provinces at first yields just as well even in districts reputed poor potato sections as in its original home is sufficient to show that climate is not directly responsible.

The principal disease which is prevalent in many parts of Old Ontario, and which is apparently responsible more than anything else for reducing the yield of potatoes, is Leaf Roll. Plants attacked by it are considerably dwarfed in size and of a lighter green color than normal. They are stiff and upstanding in appearance and the lower leaves in particular become thick and tough to the feel and curl up at the sides instead of being flat. They afterwards become spotted and begin to wither particularly near the tips. It should be remarked that this rolling is on the lowest leaves and is not to be confused with the curled up and limp appearance of plants suffering from drought and heat which is now so general.

Leaf Roll plants give about one-third of the normal yield. The potatoes tend to be small and they are attached close to the stem as a rule. There is no sign of the disease on the tubers. These potatoes if planted invariably give rise to a diseased crop with the same symptoms and same yielding capacity. This is the principal way in which the disease is perpetuated, but it can also spread short distances in the field from affected plants to neighboring healthy ones. The latter look normal the first year but the tubers produced by them may give rise to a crop which is largely diseased.

It also appears clearly from some experiments carried out by Dr. C. A.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS
 Furnished by W. S. Louson
 JUST KEEP ON

Just keep on a-livin',
 An' keep on a-givin',
 An' keep on a-tryin' to smile;
 Just keep on a-singin',
 A-trustin' and a-clingin'
 To the promise of an afterwhile,
 For the sun comes up,
 An' the sun goes down,
 An' the morning follows the night,
 There's a place to rest,
 Like a mother's breast,
 An' a time when things come right.

Just keep on believin',
 An' hidin' all your grievin',
 An' keep on a-tryin' to cheer.
 Just keep on a-prayin',
 A-lovin', and a-sayin'
 The things that we love to hear.
 For the tide comes in,
 An' the tide goes out,
 An' the dark will all turn bright,
 There's a rest from the load,
 An' an end to the road,
 An' a place where things come right.

Zavitz at Guelph that climatic conditions induce Leaf Roll in potatoes which were previously healthy. The author has observed in importations of the same strain of potatoes which have been made year by year from New Brunswick and Northern Ontario that there is no Leaf Roll in the stock the first year they are grown at Guelph but that it then appears and increases rapidly, as shown in the following table:

Leaf Roll Record of the Same Strain of Potatoes After Being Grown:

1 year at Guelph, 0 p.c. Leaf Roll
 2 years at Guelph, 15 p.c. Leaf Roll
 3 years at Guelph, 24 p.c. Leaf Roll
 4 years at Guelph, 63 p.c. Leaf Roll
 6 years at Guelph, 89 p.c. Leaf Roll

Another important disease which reduces the potato crop in Ontario, is Mosaic. It is recognized by the fact that the leaves are corrugated or puckered all over, and mottled with faint light green spots. It is most prevalent on Green Mountains and is most readily seen during dull, cool weather such as we had in June. Diseased plants may not be much reduced in size unless the attack is severe, but they are less vigorous and less well able to withstand drought and tip-burn. The yield is not reduced to the same extent as in Leaf Roll, but it seldom exceeds two-thirds of the normal. The eating or keeping qualities of the potatoes are not affected and there is no sign by which diseased tubers may be recognized.

The trouble is spread by the use of the seed from affected plants as in the case of Leaf Roll. It is not known definitely if it spreads in the field or if the climatic conditions of Ontario induce it in healthy potatoes, but both may occur. It certainly often appears in a much more aggravated form in Ontario than in the Maritime Provinces for instance.

The control of Leaf Roll, Mosaic and some similar but less common diseases can be readily deduced from what has been said above. It consists of the periodical introduction of healthy seed from districts from which Leaf Roll at least is naturally absent. Such districts as these may be found in Northern Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. This course is being followed with success by many growers and the experiments now being conducted by the Ontario Department in every

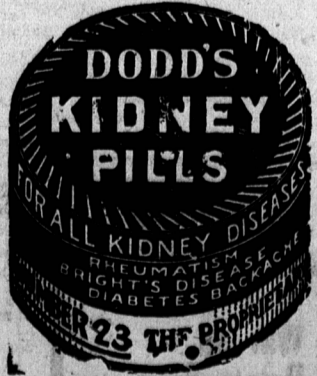
Continued on Page Two

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T. S. LINSKOTT, D. D.
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TO-MORROW AND NEXT DAY:—Jenny V. writes me, that she is very anxious about the future. The one whose advice the centuries have proved to be safe said, "Take no (anxious) thought for the morrow." Anxiety kept up spells unhappiness and generally prevents us from accomplishing what we otherwise could accomplish. Fear not for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. You can depend, if you are living right to-day, that the best of life is yet to come. The future holds in its hand nothing but good for those who are doing right to-day.

"ONE WHO IS SLANDERED:" inquires, "What shall I do to counteract the false reports they are spreading about me?" As a rule it is best to ignore all such reports. If you are living right these evil reports will not in the long run, do you any harm. If, unfortunately the reports are true, you had better pay no attention to them in any event, but you can make such reports of you in the future to be slanderous. Live right, think kindly of everybody, do all the good you can, keep a clear conscience and you need not be afraid what man can do unto you.



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