

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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UNCALLED FOR

The Patriot in its leading article yesterday refers to the meeting held on the 21st instant in connection with the Patriotic Fund as a "hole and corner meeting."

The statement is also made that many who subscribed to the Army Field Service Fund did so without understanding the object to which the funds were to be applied.

If it is true that any person subscribed under a misunderstanding of the object the Treasurer of the Army Field Service Fund will, we have no doubt, be glad to make the necessary correction.

We cannot afford at this time of terrible danger and stress to have any bickerings or hairsplitting distinctions. The object of all and the duty of all is to help, and we believe that the motive behind every dollar and every bushel and every gift so far pledged was help, help to the Empire in its hour of need.

GIFTS OF THE PROVINCES

In addition to the 1,000,000 bags of flour sent by the Dominion of Canada at large, the following contributions of the various provinces of Canada have been offered and accepted.

- British Columbia gives 25,000 cases of salmon, -1,200, 000 cans.
Alberta gives 500,000 bushels of oats.
Saskatchewan gives 1500 horses.
Manitoba gives 50,000 bags of flour.
Ontario gives 250,000 bags of flour.
Quebec gives 500,000 lbs. of cheese.
New Brunswick gives 100,000 bushels of potatoes.
Nova Scotia gives 100,000 tons of coal.
P. E. Island gives 100,000 bushels of oats.

The list is a creditable one. It is the expression of a "nation in arms." The British Empire to its remotest bounds recognizes the gravity of the situation and its responsibility and has risen as one man to the occasion.

PRISONERS OF WAR

The maintenance of the armies of prisoners captured by battle is by no means the least of the problems of war. Practically every battle yields its quota of men who are unfortunate enough to become detached from the main army and who are obliged to surrender.

From an English exchange we learn that in the great steel and glass pavilion known as the Olympia, where only a few months ago fashion and nobility gathered for the annual military tournament and the horse show, there are now detained some six hundred Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians whom His Majesty's Government thinks best to keep under key until the end of the war.

Lots of the better class have received police permits to remain at liberty, reporting at stated times to the police stations. Of these many continue in employment, although the discharging of clerks, teachers, governesses and servants is becoming more common as the war feeling grows.

But the vast majority of the unemployed and penniless, who are a charge on society and a source of concern to the police, have been gathered in various detention camps. There are a number of these camps in England.

DURATION OF THE WAR

How long will the war last? The local critics and the local war office authorities assure us it will be over before Christmas; Lord Kitchener on the other hand says it will be "prolonged".

We took the word of the local authorities up to six weeks ago that there was no danger of the Empire becoming involved in war. Lord Roberts and several other well informed gentlemen in England insisted upon it that there was danger.

The London Times commenting on the situation says we are fighting a nation in arms of 70 million people and we have no good reason to suppose that they have any object in life but to crush us if they can.

The battle that has been in progress north of the Asine River for the last eight or ten days gives an idea of the mettle of both armies. For ten days the contending hosts battered each other, attacked, counter attacked, won positions and lost them, made bayonet charges and counter charges—and all without decision.

It has been claimed that Germany cannot keep up the struggle much longer owing to her commerce being tied up and her industries paralyzed. It must not be forgotten that Germany made provision for this war, that when it began she had a war fund of some billions in gold safely deposited and to be used only for this war.

Lord Kitchener is recruiting in the United Kingdom. Premier Asquith and Lloyd George have taken the stump to call all able bodied men to the colors and they are expected to maintain 40,000 men at the front making monthly provision for those who become incapacitated.

This is the situation as it appears to those who have studied it and who know. It is for us to take their word for it and to act accordingly. The contract is to beat Germany to a finish. It must be done. The Allies must do it, and Great Britain and her colonies must do the biggest part of it.

WAR'S CRUELTY

It will be remembered that during the Balkan war charges of inhuman cruelty were made by some of the belligerents against their enemies. Similar charges were made against the Italians when, during their war with Turkey they invaded Tripoli and, in revenge for cruelties inflicted upon their wounded and prisoners, they used their enemies as the latter had used them—most barbarously.

In the present war in which the most highly civilized and cultured peoples are engaged, the Germans have been accused of almost unbelievable crimes against Belgian civilians. Naturally civilians have been made in Berlin, but there can be no doubt that there have been cases of unpardonable cruelty.

Only a few days ago Mr. E. Alexander Powell, a war correspondent of the New York World, interviewed General Von Boehn, commanding the Ninth Imperial Field Army, with respect to alleged atrocities on the part of the soldiers.

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THEY MUST ALL GO

Recently the German papers contained the report of a speech delivered by the Rt. Hon. John Burns in Albert Hall on August 14th. It was most interesting, chiefly because Mr. Burns made no speech in Albert Hall or anywhere else relating to the war and because no Englishman could possibly deliver such a speech.

OUR LONDON LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent)

LONDON, Sept. 11.—The numerous manifestations of empire unity and loyalty which have been in evidence since the British Empire was plunged into one grand stroke when the House of Commons this week listened to the message of the Viceroy of India which informed the Imperial Government that the Princes of India had spontaneously offered their services in the fighting line, as well as their armies and their treasures, and, in fact, all that the great peninsula empire could contribute in order to crush the would-be despot of Europe.

The fact that the Boers of South Africa, our enemies in arms for the last twelve years ago, were now ready to join our cause, removed any lurking fears that the old sores were not healed; and, then to crown all, came the news that India, with its teeming millions of many-coloured inhabitants, many of whom have many international grievances could also be relied upon like Ireland, to shelve internal and domestic difficulties while the foe was at the gate.

From passengers who came over on the Mazatlan your correspondent learned that the troops actually sailed as far as Quebec, but that they disembarked there, the supposition on this side being that they did so because of the publicity given to their movements by the Canadian press.

The scheme for the Queen's Canadian Military Hospital has been definitely launched this week by the Canadian War Contingent Association and the Canada Lodge conjointly. At the moment of writing, the location of the hospital has not been determined, though there is every likelihood that it will be in the metropolis.

Although the hospital is styled "Canadian," the intention is that it will be at the disposal of the War Office for any wounded and sick soldiers, though, in accordance with a defined policy, this will be the "home" district for Canadian troops, so that whenever convenient and possible a sick or wounded Canadian will be sent here just as an Aberdeen man would be sent up north.

The generous part played by the Masonic fraternity must not be overlooked in connection with this hospital, since the inception of the scheme is to be credited to the Canada Lodge, of which Mr. Wm. MacLeod Moore, formerly of Montreal, is secretary.

It may be of interest to Prince Edward Islanders where there are many Scots, or their descendants, to learn that the Cameron of Lochiel is busy recruiting for a new battalion of the Cameron Highlanders. He has publicly stated that the Canadian regiment of same name has already volunteered 500 strong, and that the Minister of Militia (Hon. Col. Hughes) has approved of the raising of this new battalion, even though it may mean that some Canadians may come over as an Imperial corps.

The news coming through from Sir John French gives good cause for restored confidence, though at this stage we would be well advised not to "holloa before we are out of the wood." At the moment the German army fighting all along the line of Northern and Eastern France is suffering some set-back, but just as the Allied troops retreated for strategic purposes, so may the enemy do while at the same time preparing a new plan of action.

The full despatch from Sir John French, under date 7 Sept., reporting the operations of the British troops under his command during the week ended 28 August, is a historic document of great importance since it bears out the fears that found expression in the Times of 30 August that our army was at that moment in real peril. There was evidently some lack of touch between the Allied armies which resulted in our army meeting resistance from five German corps.

Retreat was the only possible course to take, but the manner in which this was effected happily saved the situation, and the gallant conduct of officers and men has added a twentieth century page to the annals of British military feats.

CAEDMON.

POPE'S MESSAGE.

LONDON, Sept. 22.—A Rome despatch says the Pope telegraphed to the German Emperor protesting against the destruction of the Cathedral at Rheims.

IMMIGRATION FALLS AWAY.

OTTAWA, Sept. 19.—Not only has the war practically stopped all immigration into Canada through the ocean ports, but the immigration from the United States is also reduced by 50 per cent., as compared with last year. On 18 boats arriving at Quebec during August there were only 1,359 immigrants, and the immigrants crossing from the United States were less than 5,000, as against 9,681 in August 1913.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Sept. 22.—A shocking fatality occurred about dusk last evening at Millstream, King's County, N. B., when James Herbert Goggin aged about 35 years a farmer was killed by a shot from a rifle in the hands of his nephew, Henry Loker. The latter mistook him for an animal.

FINDS DELUGE PRIOR TO THE FALL OF MAN

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21.—The Deluge preceded the Fall of Man, according to Prof. Stephen Langdon's literal translation of the newly discovered tablet concerning the Sumerian account of these events. Prof. Langdon, who is connected with Jesus College, Oxford, has just delivered this translation to the University of Pennsylvania museum. He discovered a part of the tablet when he was here a year ago, but only recently translated it.

Dr. Langdon has prepared a summary and commentary on the translation which was received by the museum today. This summary follows in part: "The tablet, which contains a remarkable account of the early Sumerian theology concerning the origins of human culture, has been almost completely restored by the museum authorities. We have here a finely written six column tablet of about 240 lines, most of which are entirely intact."

"Written in liturgical style, this composition deserves the rank of an epic, for it handles the most profound problems which concern humanity. It begins by describing the land of primeval bliss, which it locates at Dilman, an island in the Persian Gulf, and probably connected with the main land in prehistoric times."

"In this paradise dwelled mankind, whom Ninud, the creatress, with the help of Enki had created. "After the Deluge this King is called Tagtug, the Divine, a name which is most probably tendered in Semitic by Mihu ('God's wrath is appeased') and the Tagtug lives in a garden, is himself a gardener, and the wise Enki reveals unto him wisdom."

"The Greek historians too preserve this legend in the story of Oannes, who rose from the Persian Gulf to teach men wisdom in primeval times. And so Tagtug, as in the Hebrew history of Noah, plants a garden, names the trees and plants and is permitted to eat of all but the cassia tree."

"The cassia in Sumerian documents is the herb of healing par excellence, as well as in Semitic and Greek medicine. The legends in regard to it probably told of its being the plant which bestowed absolute immortality. Of this plant Tagtug was not to eat, for thereby he would attain eternal life."

"Mankind until this time possessed extreme longevity, but not immortality. Tagtug on his own initiative, takes and eats. He is cursed by Ninud and becomes a prey to disease and ordinary mortality. Thus in the original Sumerian story Noah, the survivor of the flood, is the one who eats from the tree of life. No woman is concerned in this disobedience which results in our loss of perfect health, peace and countless years."

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