

CURRENT EVENTS.

Ungava, the immense territory which was added to the province of Quebec, in 1912, is a huge plateau, with innumerable lakes, constituting about one-fourth of its total area, and a network of streams which facilitate travel and are capable of supplying unlimited water power. The forests are of some value, and there are supposed to be valuable iron deposits. The lakes and rivers will yield an inexhaustible supply of fish.

The Canadian contingent arrived safely at Plymouth, England, on the fifteenth of October. From there they proceeded to Salisbury Plain, where they will remain until sent to the front. They were well received in England, and have made a favourable impression.

Colonel Hughes, the Canadian Minister of Militia, who followed the Canadian troops to England, has been promoted to the rank of major-general.

It is expected that a second Canadian contingent of sixteen thousand men will be ready to sail in December, and others will probably follow in the spring. There is every indication that the war will be of long duration and that the British will have to send larger armies to the front.

A new lock in the Sault Ste. Marie canal system just opened to navigation is one thousand two hundred and fifty feet in length, and is said to be the longest lock in the world.

The Canadian government has sold the ice-breaker Earl Grey to Russia and it is now at Archangel, where it will be used to keep the port open for winter traffic and the transportation of war supplies. It is renamed "Canada," in commemoration of the assistance thus rendered by the Canadian government.

The Mexican peace conference has made some progress by declaring itself a national assembly and making appointments of heads of departments for the government of the country. It has not yet chosen a provisional president, but has decreed that neither General Carranza, who is at present acting, nor General Villa, the leader of the northern rebels, shall hold that office.

The rebellion in Haiti has assumed such serious proportions that the United States may have to intervene.

The long battle line in France and Belgium has been extended to the coast, and a mighty struggle is taking place in the small part of Belgium which has not yet been overrun by the Germans. The capture of Antwerp, on the ninth of October, has been the most important event of the month in this part of the war zone. The strong fortifications were unable to withstand the heavy bombardment by the German guns; so the defenders abandoned the city, and succeeded in making their way along the coast to join the French and British forces. Meanwhile the Germans were strongly intrenched along their whole line in France, where they could remain on the defensive, and the fiercest of the fighting since, has been near the French and Belgian border. The German forces released from the siege of Antwerp followed the fleeing Belgians, expecting to push through to Dunkirk and Calais; but this movement seems to have been defeated, or at least delayed, by the battle in the valley of the Yser (eeser), a small river which enters the sea about ten miles west of Ostend. Both the British and the Belgian troops suffered heavily in this battle. At present, only the

extreme western part of Belgian, in which Ypres (eepr) is the chief town, is held by the Allies.

Antwerp, on the river Scheldt (shelt), sixty miles from the mouth, is a famous port which the Germans will be glad to hold permanently, if they can keep it. A large part of its trade in recent years has been German trade which found there a convenient port of shipment. The Germans, however, cannot now use it as a naval base, because the mouth of the river is in Holland.

On the Russian frontier, the Germans and Austrians advanced to a point within a few miles of Warsaw, and were then driven back, very much as they were in France in the preceding month. The approach of winter will probably stop active operations there before the end of this month, and before either side will have gained a decisive victory.

The Balkan Allies, after many successes, seem to be falling back before the Austrian advances. Albania, left without any government after the departure of Prince William of Wied, has fallen into anarchy. Italy has taken possession of the seaport of Avlona; Greece has moved or will move an army into the southern part of the country; Austria is arming the northern tribes against Serbia and Montenegro; Serbia is arming others against Austria; Turkey is trying to get possession of the whole.

The entrance of Turkey into the war is the most important event in the east. Without a declaration of war, Turkish ships attacked several Russian ports, and Turkish troops are said to be threatening Egypt. An Anglo-French fleet is now in the Mediterranean, of quite sufficient force to meet the fleet of the new enemy; and a British ship has taken and destroyed the Turkish fort on the Gulf of Akaba, near the Suez Canal.

Much anxiety was felt when it was learned that a rebellion had broken out in South Africa; but the rebel forces have been scattered, and it will probably not be of long duration.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

The Canadian Branch of the League of the Empire have suggested that the school children of Toronto should prepare scrap-books with clippings from Toronto daily papers to be sent to the soldiers from that city now in training camps in England. The School Board are to furnish the books, and the League of the Empire will forward them.

Mr. A. Munro Grier, K. C., of Toronto, offers to subscribe 10c. to the Red Cross Society in the name of each child (up to a total of 1,000 attending school in Toronto,) who reads the White Paper, and informs him, through parent or teacher, of the fact, before October 31st. He hopes in this way to interest the children in the question of the justice of the war, and in the work of the Red Cross Society. Here is a suggestion for other public spirited persons interested in education.

The High School Alumnae Society of St. John has contributed \$200 to the Patriotic Fund. This sum is the Society's share of the profits from the production of the play, "All the Comforts of Home," lately given by the Alumnae.

A High School Association has been formed in Sackville, N.B. This Society proposes to arrange a series of lectures and debates to be given under its auspices, and also to