

## The Evening Times and Star

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## THE WAR NEWS.

The retirement of Field Marshal Sir John French and the appointment of Sir Douglas Haig to command the British forces in France and Flanders is the most interesting item of last night's news by cable. Sir John French had had a very distinguished career, and his more recent services have been recognized by conferring upon him the rank of viscount. It is a graceful way to effect the change in command. Sir Douglas Haig, on the testimony of Sir John French himself, is a brilliant soldier. He has made a splendid record in this war. It may be that he, in conjunction with Gen. Joffre, will make the situation more interesting on the western front.

If it be true, as reported from Vienna via Berlin, that Austria will refuse to disavow the action of the submarine commander who sank the Ancona, there will be a severance of diplomatic relations by the United States, which would naturally tend to strain still more the growing tension of the relations between the latter country and Germany. The American note in the Ancona case was too preemptory to admit of such quibbling, and Austria must disavow or accept the consequences without long delay.

The situation in the Balkans is unchanged. The Allied forces are in no immediate danger, and are awaiting the next move of the enemy. There is no development of Greek policy, nor is there any indication of what part Roumania and Russia will play in the Balkan struggle. There are rumors of further concentration of German forces on the western front, and there is evidently fear of a German attempt to make trouble in Egypt, but most of the comment is more speculation. The outlook in the south and southwest is more gloomy, but, however, far from satisfactory.

## CONCERNING PEACE.

Despite the disclaimer of the German chancellor, the Montreal Mail holds that Germany desires peace. It says:—"Germany is moving heaven and earth today to end the present war, because she is at the zenith of her power and can travel only down the hill from now on. The present conflict is not the kind of war Germany planned, prepared for and thought she was starting. The suffering is too well distributed and the inevitable result in sight is only too depressing. Germany prefers peace to defeat, especially a peace in which she would have, by reason of her spent military efforts, a more attractive place than she can get if the war goes on."

Let us refresh our memories as to the terms of peace acceptable to France by quoting the recent speech of the French under secretary for war. He said:—"There will be no peace until our Alsace and Lorraine are definitely re-established as part of the French unity. There will be no peace until our unfortunate brothers of Belgium and Serbia are assured of recovering their homes in complete security and independence. There will be no peace until German imperialism and Prussian militarism are put beyond the possibility of resurrection. There will be no peace until a system of right, founded upon the victorious union of the allies, and supported by the free adherence of neutrals, has abolished for ever the violence of war. What ever may be the sacrifices France, united, will go steadily forward to accomplish this end."

As soon as quarters are ready for the 118th Battalion another big recruiting campaign will be inaugurated. There are now five battalions in sight for New Brunswick, exclusive of the 104th.

India is contributing funds to provide seven aeroplanes for the British army. That is another instalment of India's answer to the Kaiser.

The appeal to Canada in behalf of Belgium is renewed. Another winter confronts the helpless people of that country, martyred for the sake of right and justice.

The placing of an order in the United States for 10,000 aeroplane guns for the British government indicates that aircraft are to play an increasingly important part in the war.

The Conservative governments in British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, representing the extreme west and the extreme east, are having troubles of their own. There are others.

Sir Richard McBride goes to London as agent general for British Columbia, and Hon. W. J. Bowser, a New Brunswick man, becomes premier of the province. Sir Richard has had premonitions of the coming political storm in the Pacific province.

As an indication of the feelings of the American people we note a debate by the Current Events Club of Bar Harbor, Maine, this week. The subject debated was this:—"Would the World Derive the More Benefit from the Success of Germany and Her Allies or from the Success of Great Britain and Her Allies?" Of course both sides were carefully pre-

ented, but after the speaker on either side had presented his case the debate was thrown open, and every speaker argued in favor of Britain and her Allies.

More than 2,000,000 men have enlisted in the United Kingdom under the Derby plan. There is still a doubt, however, whether the single men have responded as they should. One would think their position, if they fail to enlist, would become increasingly uncomfortable.

Will German intrigue be able to stir up any disaffection in the Young Egyptian party which gave the British government a little trouble a few years ago? Will an attempt be made to seize the Suez Canal? These are questions one would like to be able to answer.

A despatch from Ottawa yesterday announced that St. John is cut out this winter so far as grain shipments over the government railway is concerned. It will be cut out again next winter if no elevator is built, and elevators are not built in a day. Why has no action been taken to provide St. John with more elevator space?

The board of trade is naturally indignant over the announcement that St. John is cut out of the grain traffic over the government railway this winter. They remember the promise of Mr. Gutelius. At the very time when an elevator is most needed in connection with the government railway here, there is none, and apparently there is no hope of the C. P. R. elevators being used for any grain over the I. C. R. How will it be next winter?

The selection by Restigouche Liberals of Hon. C. H. LaBelle as their standard bearer, to succeed the late Mr. James Reid, is a fitting recognition of valuable public service. The return of Mr. LaBelle to public life as a member of the federal house would give Restigouche an experienced representative who has made an excellent record in the provincial field. In Messrs. Currie and LeBlanc the Liberals have chosen two good men as candidates for the legislature.

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Arthur—"They say, dear that people who live together get to look alike."  
Kate: "Then you must consider my refusal as final."

About That  
"While the auto thief was speeding away, the stolen car turned turtle and pinned him to the ground."  
"Caught under the goods on him, eh?"  
Why He Got It  
"I suppose you were touched when your wife gave you that \$30 easy chair for your den?"  
"I was touched before she gave it."

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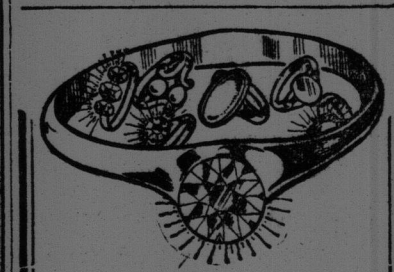
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