

The Evening Times and Star

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THE GALLANT 6TH.

LT-Col. Dunsen and the officers and men of the 6th Battalion are welcomed to St. John. This city has so many of its own young men in khaki that its people have a special and personal interest in all of the soldiers of Canada. The men from Quebec are not of the English race, but they are British in their feelings and their loyalty and they are going to defend Canada and the Empire where the defence must be made—on the battlefields of France and Flanders. The old time rivalries between Britain and France have given place to an alliance which is to the lasting honor of both nations, for they are united to put down Prussian militarism, avenge the wrongs inflicted on Belgium and the smaller states, and defend civilization against an amazing revival of barbarism in Europe. The French in Canada are thus able to fight side by side with the soldiers of the land of their ancestors, and at the same time uphold the flag that has guaranteed their freedom and prosperity in Canada. Never before have the citizens of St. John had such an opportunity to show their cordiality to representatives of the French speaking people of Quebec. We have many Academics in New Brunswick, and honor them as good fellow citizens. There is, as a matter of fact, a small French society in St. John, but we are all French today in the heartiness of our welcome to the visitors.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

Sergeant Knight is emphatic in his assertion of the claims of wounded soldiers upon places in the public service of Canada. He is entirely right. The men who save the country have a very strong claim upon what it has to offer. The more political parties will cut but a small figure beside the man who has fought and bled for something larger than mere partisanship. When it comes to a choice between the man who fought for the flag and the bearer of a party banner there will be little hesitation in judging upon the merits of the rival claims. On this point the Ottawa Journal says:—

"France has formally adopted a policy of giving preference to wounded soldiers for government jobs. The Chamber of Deputies at Paris adopted on Saturday a bill giving preference in the government service to men mutilated or disabled in the war. This preference extends to every branch of the civil service. The Journal recently urged that Canada should adopt such a plan. It would mean benefit to the public employ, as compared with present practice. Too many persons get into public service now whose chief qualification is that they are healthy pushers who want an easy living and think they'll get it easier in a government job than by exerting themselves in any other way."

The returned soldiers will have something to say about more than civil service positions. In the meantime, let there be no indecent haste in thrusting able-bodied young men into fat billets when they would look better in khaki.

UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

Since the beginning of the war the Germans have made the United States a base of operations against the Allies. Even before the war started their agents by an artfully designed newspaper propaganda did all in their power to arouse prejudice against the British. After hostilities began, supplies were taken from American ports to German cruisers off shore, until the British navy sank or chased those craft into neutral ports. German officers of interned vessels at American ports broke their parole and left the country. Dr. Dernburg came to the United States and made pro-German speeches in many of the large cities. Agents of Germany destroyed factories engaged in making munitions for the Allies, and fomented labor troubles to prevent the manufacture and shipment of such supplies. Newspapers owned by German-Americans published utterly false statements about the causes and the progress of the war. To crown their infamy the Germans torpedoed vessels with Americans on board, and destroyed the lives of American women and children. In the face of these facts the people of the United States have grown more and more bitter in their feelings toward Germany, and more and more in sympathy with the cause of the Allies. There can be no doubt whatever on this point. The Boston Transcript reviewing the whole situation, apart from German treatment of the United States, and purely on the merits of the case as between Britain and Germany, says:—

"We should be deaf to the call of every great sentiment that has ever inspired us—the love of liberty, the spirit of self-governing independence, the hatred of military dominance, the will to win in the world as the result of the self-directed industry and thrift of the man at the plough, or at the till—let us not feel a profound and most sympathetic emotion when we see Britain confronting this crisis so bravely. There is a suggestion to aid where aid is possible, and none to hamper or defeat. America will wait, and wish England well."

MR. HENRY FORD.

Is Mr. Henry Ford, an enemy of human welfare? He is going about making a great ado about peace and the importance of getting the soldiers out of the trenches before Christmas. So far as we can judge, Mr. Ford makes no distinction whatever between the right and wrong of this war, unless indeed he hopes by a peace agitation to lend assistance to the Germans. This is no time to talk of peace. If the war is not fought to a finish, and Germany crushed, the United States will soon suffer greater humiliation than that to which she has already been subjected by Germany. The nations opposed to Germany are fighting for a lasting peace, which can only come to the world across the grave of German ambition. The great majority of the people of the United States realize this fact so fully that they have no sympathy with Mr. Ford, even if they do not find themselves free to join actively in the strife of civilization against barbarism. Mr. Ford is a great advertiser, but he has of late given himself considerable publicity of a character which will leave the public in doubt of either his motives or his common sense.

COLORED MAN WON V. C.

In view of the fact that nearly a score of colored men of St. John who enlisted are still waiting to be attached to some battalion, it may be recalled that a Nova Scotia negro, the "Victoria Cross" at the relief of Lucknow. His name was William Hall, and he was the son of a Virginia slave, and was born at Horton Bluff, Kings Co., N. S., where he died in 1904. In the January, 1905, number of Academics is an article by Mr. D. Mills, in which he tells the story of William Hall, and quotes the following letter from Sir Noel Salmon, written in 1906:—

"Dear Sir:—William Hall, the negro of whom you wrote, served with Peel's Brigade from H. M. S. Shannon at the relief of Lucknow. He was one of the crew of a 24-pounder siege train gun under Lieut. Young. The storming party, which was led by Sir Colin Campbell himself, was brought up by a high and thick wall which was strongly held. The gun in question was run in by hand to within a few feet of the wall which it was necessary to breach. Hall continued sponging and loading after all the other members of the gun's crew were shot down, for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross. He was a fine, powerful man, and as steady as a rock under fire."

The history of the Victoria Cross, by Philip A. Williams, London, 1904, says that Hall was one of three colored men who have been awarded the Victoria Cross.

Why should not a colored man who wants to fight for Canada be given a place in the ranks?

The war news has grown more favorable during the past week. The outlook is more satisfactory from all quarters the field.

The charge made by Mr. F. B. Carvell, M. P., that excessive profits are being made in war contracts for hay in this province must be investigated. The patriotic potato scandal has not yet been probed, but Mr. Carvell's letter in today's Times can hardly be overlooked by Sir Robert Borden.

They believe in Toronto in providing opportunity for healthy outdoor exercise for the citizens. The World says:—"At an expense of \$15,000, thirty-eight skating rinks will be provided by the parks committee for citizens of Toronto this winter, according to the decision reached at a meeting yesterday. There will be thirty-eight skating and hockey areas, nine slides and four toboggan slides included. This cost figure is \$4,000 less than that of last year and the one preceding."

The Standard appears to cherish the belief that the people of Canada should not be permitted to express their views as to who shall rule them until Sir Robert Borden gives them permission. After the war is over, which will be of most importance—the interests of a party or the interests of the country? The people do not want a bitter political controversy during the war. After the war is over they will want to resume within a reasonable time their prerogative, and pass judgment upon the conduct of Canadian affairs. That is their right. Who wants to deprive them of it?

The New York Sun hands this one to President Wilson and his cabinet:—"Our worst grievances against the Allies are trivial in comparison with the growing tale of our wrongs at the hands of Germany and Austria. In all reasons the lesser evil must yield to the greater. Our first duty is to stop the campaign of murder, incendiarism, espionage, stealthy underhand war, of which we are the victims. When that great work is done, it will be time enough to look after matters represented by the dollar sign. Honor and safety come before wealth or prosperity, even granting that prosperity lay in quarrelling with Britain—a self-evident absurdity."



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LIGHTER VEIN

Not Practical.

The self-made man was in a caustic mood. "These schools, ye know," he said, "they're no good. Don't give a boy no practical knowledge, see what I mean? Now, my son, he's supposed to be learning Greek, an' Latin, an' algebra. An' the other day I asked 'im to tel me the algebra for fried potatoes an' 'e couldn't."

Like Old Mortality.

"Perhaps this passage from 'Old Mortality' seems fitting for the mouths of our leaders at this present time—"Hinder me not," replied Burley. "Array yourselves under your leaders, let us not lack supplies of men and ammunition; and accused be he who turneth back from the work on this great day."

Caution.

"Had you the audacity, John," said a Scottish laird to his servant, "to go and tell some people that I was a mean fellow, and no gentleman?"

"Na, na, sir," was the candid answer; "you'll no catch me at the like o' that. I aye keep my thoughts to meself."

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CANADIAN WIRELESS SCORES NEW TRIUMPH

Station on B.C. Coast Talks to Ship More Than Half Way to Japan

The Naval Service Department which has had remarkable success with its wireless station at Cape Race, has scored another triumph on the Pacific Coast. A range of 2,600 miles has been obtained by the Estevan wireless station which is half way up the west coast of Vancouver Island. That is to say communication has been kept up with a vessel considerably more than half way to Japan.

These exceptional results secured by the Estevan station are due to the favorable atmospheric conditions on the Pacific Ocean. Hitherto there had been fairly good communication with the wireless station at Honolulu. During the summer the conditions for wireless operation on the Pacific are just average, but they improve in the fall and are extremely good in the winter, especially at night when there is freedom from atmospheric electrical interference, which is sometimes serious during the day.

The Estevan station has two wireless

sets, one of five kilowatts and one of one kilowatt. Sending with the ordinary wave length of 800 metres, the extra power does not seem to increase the range to any marked degree, but when a special wave length of 1,000 metres is

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used the extra power gives greater ranges.

This 600 metre wave length is used for all shipping work and is the wave provided by the international agreement. The Estevan station communicates at night with liners on the Japan routes at distances of 1,000 to 1,500 miles.

Distance Experiments.

Recently experiments have been made to ascertain just what distance could be reached by a station working with large ships, and it has been found that the station could communicate steadily with ships up to a distance of 2,600 miles. For a small station of this kind the results are quite remarkable and are due to the peculiar atmospheric conditions. Occasionally results of this kind are obtained in other places, but they are freaks and only occur in odd instances, whereas in the winter season these distances are operated over as a regular thing on the Pacific Ocean.

When the Crockerland expedition from the United States went north to Flegler Sound west of Baffin Land, the Cana-

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dian Naval Service Department agreed to try at a certain hour every Monday night to communicate with them from the Port Nelson and Cape Race stations. The distance, especially overland was too great, however, and the stations were never able to catch anything from the wireless operator with the expedition.

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