

The Daily Gleaner



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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1915.

WHAT THE BRITISH NAVY HAS DONE.

The consideration of the naval estimates in the House of Commons on Saturday serves to remind everyone of what the British Navy has been worth not only to the Empire, but to the world, since the war began; and the more this subject is dwelt on, the more criminal does the conduct of the Laurier party, when it prevented Canada from sharing in the upkeep and maintenance of that navy, become in the eyes of thoughtful Canadians. Little has been heard of the British fleet except for one or two spasmodic engagements between cruiser squadrons, and as far as active exploits as a fleet are concerned, it might not be in existence at all, for all that it has done in that direction. But for all its apparent inactivity, it remains the controlling factor in the world's affairs today. Not only has it permitted business to proceed as usual but it has also warded completely off the faintest semblance of the shadow of hunger from the British Empire. Over all Germany famine is said to be hovering darkly and ominously; but both in the British Isles themselves and everywhere else in the Empire there is no lack of the necessities of life. The war is costly every day to the British nation, but here again as compared with the enemy, Britain's fiscal estate is intact and in good going order. The navy has driven five and a half million tons of German shipping to the seas, or captured it. It has strangled the overseas trade of both to an extent exceeding in value \$2,000,000,000 a year. It has destroyed a German colonial empire that, besides representing many years of Teutonic ambition to have a place in the sun, has cost \$330,000,000 to work up. It has prevented over 1,000,000 men of German, Austrian or Hungarian nationality, who are resident in foreign countries, from crossing the seas to fight in Europe. A careful estimate places the number of killed, wounded, imprisoned and sick German soldiers at no less than three millions. And now, in striking at the Dardanelles, the navy is on the eve of putting an end to the German visions of becoming the dominating power in Turkey and in the regions that lie beyond right all the way to the Persian Gulf, and left Great Britain mistress of the seas to an extent greater by far than ever before. Here the German hate for Britain comes mainly in, for it is her warships that have reduced Germany's people to starvation, beggared her of wealth and industry, and left her no more than the memory of a colonial empire.

MORE CARVELLISMS.

It is very amusing to read in Hansard the supplications and prayers addressed by Mr. Carvell to the Minister of Railways, urging the latter to come to the assistance of New Brunswick in the matter of the Fredericton-Gagetown section of the Valley Railway.

"If the Minister could realize the financial burden which the province of New Brunswick is bearing as the result of the contract which he made with the province (to operate the road), he would take over the road and stand by the contract."

Mr. Carvell's sudden exhibition of anxiety for the welfare of the province, and particularly its finances, is something very new and unexpected, and would be absolutely startling if people were not by this time getting used to these little vagaries of his. Twelve months ago he was actively preparing to launch a campaign which has cost the province very many thousands of dollars, for no earthly public benefit. His concern for the conservation of the provincial finances was certainly not very apparent at that time; neither was it any more apparent down to a few weeks ago, when he and his two legal friends attempted to mislead the treasury in upwards of \$6,000 for their personal costs in connection with the matter.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Carvell's sudden anxiety for the welfare of this province's finances will not lead him into doing anything rash. It has been noticeable for some time past that he is suffering from the strain of the excitement which he has passed through during the last six months, and these little outbreaks of eccentricity are beginning to cause a good deal of worry and disquiet among his friends. Under the circumstances it is, of course, only natural that they should wonder what he will say or do next, and the uncertainty of it all is embarrassing to them, to say the least.

HOW MUCH LONGER?

The British Empire is now about completing the eighth month of actual hostilities, and yet according to Lord Kitchener the real business of war has not yet begun. It is not unusual, therefore, that people should wonder how long it is likely to last. As to the precise limits of the duration of the war, it is of course impossible to even hazard a guess with any degree of accuracy, so many are the influencing elements that have to be taken into consideration. But it will be apparent that in every element of waste or of the strain imposed by time upon the resources of the empire, the argument points towards a war of shorter rather than longer duration, if the containment of the enemy continues unbroken, and if the blockade which is now in the power of Britain to impose is at last seriously imposed. But at the end of three full months, the weight of valuable projectiles upon the two sides will have turned in favor of the Allies and against the German powers. If they are still continued, and the same calculation a little more prolonged gives the early summer as the corresponding date for the chief effect of the food blockade, but the end of May, but the end of June or the beginning of July, gives the point of maximum strain in this regard, and that strain will be very heavily increased indeed if the Hungarian Plain, or any considerable part of it, should fall into Russian hands before the harvest. Everything, therefore, seems on this line of argument to converge upon the early summer as the decisive moment.

ITALY'S POSITION.

So much has been said during the last few months about Italy's entrance into active participation in the war, and that contingency has still failed of materialization, that a contemporary rises to remark that it may be that Italy is working on a schedule in her relationship to the war.

The Allies may not be ready even yet for Italian intervention. Italy may be prepared to intervene as soon as the Allies are ready to take the offensive, and Italian activity will further the Allied plans in warfare and diplomacy.

Italy can intervene with more influential effect in April or May, 1915, than in any other month from August, 1914, onward. Italy would have worn herself out without really weakening Germany if Italy had thrown her armaments into the scale against the Teutonic powers before the Allies were ready for the opening of an aggressive campaign.

Italy, Roumania and other powers may be working on a schedule that will bring the armies of these nations into the fight when they can come in at a time and on terms that will do Germany most harm and the Allies most good. Italy can do more to shorten the war by her intervention today than Italy could have done by her intervention last autumn.

FOUR SONS ARE ON SERVICE

(Continued from page 12.)
of New Brunswick, a record is made of which any man may well be proud. In the early stages of the war, Mr. Montgomery applied to his old Colonel Hon. Harry McLeod, M. P., to be taken as chaplain, but owing to the fact that there were six applications from younger clergymen also entered his application, much to his regret, was refused.

"Henry L. Montgomery, the eldest son, is a sergeant in the Mounted Cycle Corps which went out on the first contingent and is now actually on the firing line. Douglas Goff, the second son, is quartermaster sergeant with the 23rd Infantry, Ontario, which left with the second contingent. K. Hugs, aged twenty, another son, is a private with the 12th Mounted (signalling corps) stationed at Calgary, and Edward, aged 18, is allied to the militia forming the home defence, the 35th Infantry, at Red Deer."

Actress Who Saves Her Money
And is Proud of Being Able To

MISS VIVIAN WESSELL.
"THE ONLY GIRL."

"The actor who doesn't save half his salary is not only a bad actor but a foolish man," said Miss Vivian Wessell, who is appearing in New York in "The Only Girl," when asked her opinions about art. The stage as a profession narrows down to a simple proposition of dollars and cents, according to Miss Wessell, who holds that without the means to live clean, decent lives it is impossible for players to respond to the call of their work. And if the facts were known, Miss Wessell says, there are comparatively few players who save enough money during the theatrical season to carry them over the summer months of idleness. She also says that the strongest argument for saving money and the most effective warning against idly frittering it away is found in the pitiable spectacle of men and women who have not saved.

The Lighter Side of Life

A Result of Bigness.
"It's getting to be a big city, isn't it?"
"Yes. We no longer get mad when our friends don't invite us to all the parties they give."

That Broken Look.
"How did you guess I was having financial troubles?"
"I noted the change in your face."

A Sharp Lad.
"When I was a boy we didn't have such wonderful mechanical toys."
"You needn't have told me that, pa. From the way you stick to mine I'd have guessed it."

Three Ways.
Grateful Patient—Doctor, how can I ever repay you for your kindness to me?
Doctor—Doesn't matter, old man. Check, money order or cash.

Serious Charge.
"What's the trouble at Wombat's?"
"Wombat accuses his wife of using dum dum biscuit."

THE JOY RIDER.
Flora O'Flinn, with her vain little heart,
Feathered and furred, in a gasoline cart,
Rides up the avenue:
Babyish blue is the light of the eyes
Fit to be true the wide look of surprise
Golden hair that's the radiant crown of her,
Fetching, that fleeting, bewildering frown of her.
Trim and expressive from toe to the loque of her,
High cost of living no worries evoke of her;
Fashion and folly, the first and last word of her,
Fill with their frivolous the day all Man, born of woman, the ultimate fool of her.

What He Wanted.
Sportsman (tossing jockey, who has been knocked out)—Stand back, please! A little more air! And hurry up with that brandy!
Mr. N.—Perhaps it thinks we are still engaged.

The Millionaire Sends for a Specialist.
"When I was poor and got sick, I sent for a doctor."
"Well?"
"Now that I'm rich I get ill and send for a physician."

Mercant—Are you married?
Applicant—No.
Mercant—Then I'm afraid the salary would look small to you.

The Bayonet Won Sabot
Woods for French Troops

Capture Followed Fifteen Days' Dogged Fighting and Heavy Losses on Both Sides—Success Finally Attained in Pitch Darkness—Attackers Made Unexpected Onslaught.

Paris, March 27.—An official eyewitness describes the capture of Sabot woods, between Souain and Perthes, on the battlefield in France. He writes:—

"Each time we attack, we gain our end, each time they counter-attack we maintain our gain," said a sergeant, explaining the operations around Perthes.

"Between the adverse lines, where the fighting has gone on for months, quantities of dead bodies lie, some of them dating from the first engagements their dried faces reduced to the appearance of mummies. Beyond these lines the Sabot woods, which the enemy held strongly for months, were the object of a systematic attack. The Germans strongly fortified the heights dominating our positions at that point.

"On March 1 the general order was given that these woods must be taken. The artillery prepared the ground for the first attack, in the face of a violent machine-gun fire, which resulted in the capture of two lines of trenches. A further advance was checked by a vigorous counter-attack.

"Our success was very costly. The lieutenant-colonel commanding a company and two lieutenants fell, mortally wounded.
"On the morning of the 8th the Germans made a more serious attempt to regain the position.
"The spectacle furnished by our troops was magnificent. With fixed bayonets they bounded forward, and in a few minutes the ground was covered with dead Germans, many of whom are still lying there.
"From the 9th to the 12th further progress was made. We arrived at within twenty yards of the main German trench, which was particularly well fortified. Unable to withstand the pressure, they retired until the 15th, when an attack at 4 o'clock in the morning resulted in its final capture. In pitch darkness our men approached silently, until ordered to charge; they then fell upon the line of defence so unexpectedly that the Germans were bayoneted in their tracks. Only a few survivors succeeded in retreating to their rear line.
"This movement concealed a trick. A strongly organized blackhouse was unmasked behind the trenches and an enfilading fire from machine guns decimated our ranks, which, however, held good until 4.30, when the black-

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Everyone will want something new for Easter Sunday.

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BISHOP OF AMIENS
ENDS LIFE WORK

Amiens, France, March 29.—Monsieur Jean Marie Leon Dizio, Bishop of Amiens, died here today. At the time of the separation of church and state in France, Bishop Dizio was active in the effort to avoid a conflict and went to Rome to plead the cause of peace.

Mrs. Ludlow Robinson, of Winnipeg, is the guest of Mrs. John Robinson.

house itself was attacked with great fury. Hand-to-hand fighting on the parapet lasted one hour.

"At 5.30 we were inside. Bayonets were reeking with blood; several of them were bent out of shape by excessive use, after which the fighting went on with the butts of rifles.
"At dawn the Germans counter-attacked twice, but were stopped by our bombs—and we were masters of Sabot woods."

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