

SIR JOHN FRENCH'S TRIBUTE TO CANADIANS

"WORK OF CANADIANS MOST SPLENDID IN RECORDS OF BRITISH HISTORY"

Commander-in-Chief of British Army thus praises fighting of men from Canada.

London, Sept. 18.—Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British in the field, recently visited a Canadian brigade and delivered a speech to the men in which he said: "I wish to express appreciation for the splendid manner in which, early in the year, when a Canadian infantry division suffered great losses, you volunteered to leave your homes and come out here. At the commencement you took the most prominent part in the battle of Festubert, where we not only gained a considerable amount of ground, but inflicted great losses on the enemy and captured a large quantity of material. Afterwards at Arras you kept up the same fighting record, and since that, till a few days ago, you have been doing very hard work in the trenches.

"Your record will go down in British history as one of the most splendid of British history."

INSPIRING ADDRESSES MARK OPENING OF FREDERITON FAIR

(Continued from page 1)

The premier also told of many opportunities which the farmers of New Brunswick were having provided for them, as compared with a few years, and expressed regret that the people did not even yet take full advantage of these opportunities which meant that there was still much room for development of the resources of the province. "Agriculture in N. B. is looking well today," he declared, "but much more can be done to keep our young people on the farms and have them reap the benefits which will come from a further development of everything that this province offers."

Hon. Mr. Clarke concluded his address with references to the great war and the part which Canada and New Brunswick have played and must play in this crisis of the British empire. "We should stick to the idea that our first business is that the empire is at war," he declared, "and then in lauding the heroic part which Canadian have played in the fighting in Flanders." He declared that "they have shown that man for man British and Canadians are better fighters than our Teutonic enemies." He called upon the people of New Brunswick to make the supreme sacrifice which all citizens of British empire must make, and declared that if every British subject did his part there could be no doubt as to the outcome of the struggle being a glorious victory for Great Britain and her allies.

Fine Reception Accorded Hon. Mr. Hazen

The premier was very warmly received, his remarks brought forth frequent outbursts of applause and these scenes were repeated with much enthusiasm during the address of Hon. Mr. Hazen, who was the last speaker and who concluded his speech by formally declaring the exhibition open for business.

It was the first time that Hon. Mr. Hazen had been heard in a public deliverance in Fredericton for some time and the warmth of reception accorded him and the attentive hearing which those who were fortunate enough to be able to listen to his address gave, showed that he occupies as high a place as ever in the admiration and affection of the people of this city and country.

Hon. Mr. Hazen in opening his remarks expressed his appreciation at being invited to attend the opening functions of the Fredericton 1915 exhibition, and to have been honored with the duty of declaring the exhibition open.

New Brunswick's Envious Position. "Here we have business as usual," said the minister, "and it is my opinion that this year's fair will be even more successful than those in past. It must be a matter of supreme satisfaction for the people to realize, if they really do realize, the absence of disturbing conditions, and that the people of Canada, while doing their share, are still able to carry on their ordinary avocations. In this country we have business conditions normal, and Canada in conjunction with the United States, enjoys the reputation of being the most prosperous country in the world at the present time. Although over twelve months of war have passed, we hardly realize what a blessing we enjoy to be removed, as we are, 2,500 miles from the scene of conflict. In the west, in response to an appeal for increased production, farmers have just gathered the greatest crop of golden grain since the prairie lands first received attention of the husbandman. There have been bountiful crops in our own province, and today the farmer is receiving the greatest prices for his products.

FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS RAISED AND DISBURSED FOR BELGIAN RELIEF

Splendid Work Done by Belgian Relief Commission in First Eight Months of Its Existence —Of Total Amount Contributed Over Fifty per cent. Has Come From Belgians Abroad.

(Correspondence of Associated Press) London, Sept. 18.—The first complete report of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, covering the first eight months of its existence, reveals that in income and expenditure the organization forms the greatest relief movement of history. The commission has collected and disbursed fifty million dollars, fifteen million of which has been contributed in the form of money or gift food by the people of the United States and the British Empire and Belgium itself. The bulk of the income has come from other than purely philanthropic sources, but the raising of this enormous sum has been exclusively the work of the commission, which by financial arrangements with Belgian individuals and institutions, exchange of currency with Belgium and a system of providing the solvent Belgian inhabitants, has maintained the entire population of a nation for almost a year.

A remarkable feature of the report which has hitherto received but little notice is the effort being made by the Belgians to help themselves. Over fifty per cent. of the money expended by the commission in benevolence is being furnished by Belgians abroad, and a large amount also is being supplied by Belgians in Belgium. In discussing the report Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the commission, said: "It may cause more surprise among Americans, who believe that the United States is provisioning the Belgian and French people in the track of war, that only something over six million dollars in food, clothes and money have come from the United States. However, the American public should realize that the commission in its organization, working personnel and political aspects is distinctly American. The American charitable support, so early and promptly given, came at the very inception of the movement when such backing was vital to the success of the organization in giving it time to build. This support gave the commission its foundation from which it acquired the moral prestige that enabled it to secure the necessary concessions from the various belligerent governments. Nor is the necessity for this valued support at all over. The problem becomes more difficult every day for the number of destitute has increased from 1,000,000 last October to 2,750,000 in June, and now grows at the rate of 200,000 a month. And our resources, large as they are, cannot keep pace with the need if the charitable public loses interest in our work. Moreover, the continued support of America is necessary to provide the commission with the moral prestige which is an American institution which it now possesses in the sight of the warring powers, and the maintenance of this prestige can only be secured by the continued sentimental and practical backing of the American people."

Work Divided Into Three Classes The report includes detailed statements of the commission's work, such as complete accounts of the disposition of 195 cargoes of foodstuffs and clothing, and other statistical data, as well as a general survey of the situation in Belgium. It is pointed out that the organization as it stands now is the result of constant up-building, a feature of which has been the organization of local relief committees in practically every commune with a federal system of district and provincial committees with the Comité National at the apex. The relation of this structure to the commission is one of joint endeavor, and the membership of Americans entirely interlocks the organization.

The relief operations are divided into three classes: (1) the collection of money; (2) the collection of goods; (3) the distribution of goods. The first class is the most important, as it is the foundation of the work. The second class is the collection of goods, which is also very important. The third class is the distribution of goods, which is the most difficult of the three.

Lumbermen received prices for their deals shipped from this province last winter that were larger than ever before. From the port of St. John last winter there was shipped \$18,000,000 worth more products than ever in the history of that port. During the past summer the port of St. John has had a considerable number of sailing ships carrying products to the other side to the warring countries. All these advantages are enjoyed by no other country than Canada, with the exception of United States, and they are enjoyed by us despite the fact that millions of men are engaged in a gigantic struggle which can have but one end, triumph of the allies, and restoration of a peace that will be lasting to the end of time.

"Do we ever contrast conditions as they are in Canada with Belgium and Northern France and other war-

to three classes, one to provision the entire population, another to conduct financial relief and exchange operations; and a third to care for the destitute.

"The provisioning department," says the report, "is charged with the duty of reuniting the whole 7,000,000 people with necessary imports, and up to June 30 had either delivered or had in stock over 600,000 tons of foodstuffs for the Belgian section to the gross value of over \$45,500,000. The whole of these foodstuffs are re-sold to the population through a broad system of reticulation, and the profit of these operations is devoted to the support of the destitute. Such profits have been made possible by the volunteer executive, commercial and transportation services, and the amount of these profits—about \$4,800,000 to date—is the measure of the value of such voluntary service."

After referring to the work of the financial relief and benevolent departments, the committee states that half a million people who might otherwise have fallen into destitution have been provided for through the remittances made available by this department, which to June 30 totalled about \$20,000,000.

Through the benevolent department, the rapid continuation of the charity of the world and of the Belgian people themselves is mobilized to the support of the destitute, and through it over 2,750,000 persons are now being assisted in some measure with food and clothing. The total resources made available to the commission from abroad for the support of the destitute was over \$31,000,000 to June 30, and the expenditure from the same sources was at that date \$25,000,000, and is now proceeding at the rate of about \$5,000,000 per month. Beyond this expenditure lies local charity, now exceeding \$10,000,000. The Belgian people have risen to an unprecedented emergency with the most devotion, and aside from local charity about fifty per cent. of the charitable funds of the commission from abroad are provided by Belgians and Belgian institutions.

The response of the American, British and other people to the plea on behalf of the Belgians has been without parallel in international philanthropy—amounting today to nearly \$15,000,000 in cash, food and clothing.

The gloom and gloomy problem is one of unemployment, for month by month a larger proportion of the industrial mass of over 3,500,000 people falls further and further into destitution.

Generous as the resources placed at the commission's disposal are, they are pitifully small when spread over the number who are now wholly dependent or who are becoming dependent with increasing frequency. It will appear from this report that the commission's work has been only supplementary to individual resources, and these can obviously but diminish throughout the period of the war unless something can be done to at least overcome the industrial stagnation."

In addition to the Belgian people, the commission also supplies the French population within the German occupied territory, which number about 2,300,000. The cost of supporting these people amounts to about \$4,000,000 a month, and is accomplished entirely without recourse to charity by financial arrangements which the commission has instituted whereby the towns in the occupied zone secure loans from the banks of Paris.

devastated countries of Europe? Do we think of sense of security with which we carry on our usual work of our soil yielding the greatest crops in its history, while those of Belgium and France are largely killed from havoc created by war? Farming in these lands has been carried on within the very sound of booming of guns, and even in the midst of shells. Contrast the fishing industry of this country with that of Great Britain. Here work is carried on without any dangers, other than these natural to the calling, while in the North Sea the fish supply has been cut in two through the activity of German submarines. All these blessings we enjoy, yet do we realize that institution which has made it possible for us to continue in pursuit of our natural avocations is an institution to which we in Canada have never contributed

a dollar of money? I refer to the British navy, supreme on the seas today as it was in the days of Lord Nelson.

"Without divulging state secrets, I may say to you that in the early days of the war, when there were a number of German ships free on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans the cities of Vancouver and Victoria were in danger of destruction. The danger was less in the Atlantic than in the Pacific, but now that danger has passed from the coast for the day to come when they can demonstrate their superiority. Great greyhounds of the ocean, North German Lloyd liners are lying in the harbors of New York, Boston and other American ports, unable to leave their anchorages as certain destruction would await them at the hands of the British fleet."

One bright spot in the war which stands out most of all is the supremacy of the British navy which secures to Canada and the British empire that feeling of safety which we enjoy. I ask all Canadians if it is not their duty to have one and only one great object in their minds at present. All local and domestic questions we have in Canada at present are petty compared with the great question of bringing this war to a successful close. Every effort must be put forth and every nerve strained to accomplish this end. When this war will cease no man, woman or child can tell. It may be years, it may be months, or it may be weeks.

Must Be Economy. While we have not been greatly affected in many ways by the war during the past year we may feel the effects much more during the next year. In view of the exchange situation and the fact that all ocean liners have been requisitioned for use in carrying war supplies it is only reasonable to think that business will not proceed as satisfactorily as in the past year. Therefore it is paramount that both governments and individuals pursue all that

retrenchment, frugality and economy so strongly exemplified by our forefathers when face to face with any great crisis. This we must do in order to successfully carry out our part in this conflict. In Canada we have to go on. People demand that the government shall go on and put more men in the field and equip more men. Some complacently say that Canada has done her share now. True we have 100,000 men in the trenches and in England 60,000 or 70,000 more men under arms in this country. The feat of equipping these men and transporting them across the ocean is one worthy of the genius of the Canadian people. The call has gone forth from Kitchen for men, more men and still more men and Canada's duty will never be done until the war is ended and she has put forth every effort in support of the Motherland to bring about a glorious victory for the Allies.

"While we aid the Motherland, we are fighting for our democratic institutions, institutions we cherish. The men fighting in the trenches in Belgium and France, men who fought so bravely at Ypres, are fighting for the defence of Canada and the Canadian people as for the defence of the British Empire. That battle is happily not being fought on our own lands, not our own territory, but let Germany win and what is the future of Canada?"

The Duty of Those Who Stay at Home. The minister then portrayed what would happen in Canada if there was an invasion. The Dominion was not in a position to defend itself and if there was no invasion and Germany had been successful in war the country would be flooded with her people and the present generation would see them in control and able to dictate the policy of the country. Ties which bind us to the Motherland would be broken and our democratic institutions would be wiped out and in their place we would have the autocratic rule of a Kaiser.

In this way the minister pointed out that the Canadian boys in the trenches in Flanders are fighting the battles of Canada and paid a tribute to Major Percy A. Guthrie who, he said, had proved not only a brave and courageous soldier by his work in the

field, but by his heroic efforts to rescue women and children when the vessel on which he was returning to Canada was torpedoed, he had also proved a gentleman. "There are many men in this province who have not yet enlisted who should enlist and go forth and fight as Percy Guthrie did for the holiest cause since the world began," said the minister. "But for those who cannot go there is a duty to perform as well. The Patriotic Fund is largely exhausted and must have large contributions. This province must contribute to the support of its own soldiers. It would be an eternal disgrace if the people of this province did not maintain a fund to support families of our own men who have gone forth to fight and New Brunswick had to depend on other provinces to make up the deficiency."

The minister referred to the fact that Nova Scotia had contributed almost 1,200 of the 1,400 men assembled at Sussex for the 64th Battalion, and made a strong plea for a generous response throughout the province to the call which would soon go out for recruits for a regiment to be commanded by Lt. Col. George W. Fowler, M.P., whom he described as one who did not know what fear is, one who had been always loyal to his friends and would be loyal to his men. At the conclusion of his speech he declared the exhibition open and expressed the wish that it would be the most successful ever held here.

By having the opening ceremonies this evening it will be possible to have the fair running full blast on Monday. Judging, however, will not be commenced until Tuesday morning.

The following are live stock judges: Heavy horses, H. G. Boag, of Barrie, Ont.; light horses, Wm. Graham, of Claremont, Ont.; dairy cattle, F. L. Green, of Greenwood, Ont.; beef cattle, A. J. Howden, of Columbus, Ont.; sheep, John Miller, of Claremont, Ont.; swine, A. C. Hallman, of Breslau, Ont.; poultry, Seth Jones, of Sussex, and Abel Stevens, of Wellesley, Mass.; dairy products, C. W. McDougall, of Sussex, and L. C. Dingle, of Moncton; honey and apiculture, H. B. Durand, of Woodstock. Judges for ladies' domestic fancy work and household art

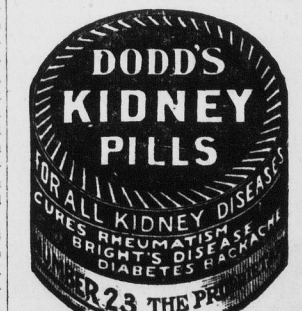
are being arranged for by the Women's Institute.

Hon. Mr. Hazen and party returned to St. John on the Dream today.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

The following contributions for the Patriotic Fund are acknowledged: J. J. Rowan, North End, \$10.00; Mrs. E. Bonnell, Cornwall, Eng., 25.00; From Bristol, Carleton Co., 10.00; John J. Hayward, 10.00; W. Gardiner, 2.00; Guy Wells, 10.00; David Bell, 1.00; Ernest Carey, 2.50; Charles Lockhart, 10.00; L. A. Noble, 2.00; M. W. Caldwell, 5.00; G. H. Bazer, 3.00; H. D. Curtis, 2.00; Roy Estabrooks, 25.00; G. W. Somerville, 10.00.

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