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Lord Roberts.

As recorded elsewhere in this issue Lord Roberts, of Kandahar, Pretoria and Waterford, Field Marshal of the British Army, passed away in France on Saturday last. It was characteristic to him that the mission that brought him the illness culminating in his death was undertaken for the purpose of exchanging greetings and good wishes with the soldiers who like himself were engaged in combatting the Empire's foe. He left England to visit the Indian troops on the firing line in France. On Thursday he was taken ill and on Saturday succumbed to pneumonia.

Volumes have been written regarding Lord Roberts, "Bobs," as he has been immortalized by the British Tommy, speaking through the talent of the soldier's poet, Kipling. His deeds of valor on many a field have been related until they will form an important chapter in the history of British progress. Like many other men who have become famed in the annals of Britain's military history "Bobs" was the son of a soldier, General Sir Abraham Roberts, G. C. B., and it was but natural that he should follow his father's calling. He obtained his first commission in the Bengal artillery in 1851, and from that time up to the conclusion of the South African war, had been almost continuously in the service.

As a soldier he made his reputation on the Indian frontier and enhanced it by his achievements in South Africa. Probably his most noteworthy feat was the relief of Kandahar when in the midst of winter, he started from Kabul on a forced march to relieve the Kandahar garrison and accomplished what up to that time and for many years afterwards was a record for the speedy transportation of an armed force, always remembering that Roberts' men marched the entire way through a hostile country and under stupendous difficulties.

After what would be considered by most men as a lifetime in the service he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of British forces in Ireland and was performing that routine duty at the outbreak of the South African war. He was called for active service against the Boers at a time when the prospect in South Africa was not too bright, but aided by the marvellous organizing ability of Lord Kitchener, his mission was successful. In the South African campaign he was at the relief of Kimberley and received the surrender of General Cronje and the Western Boer army at Paardeberg, in which battle the Canadian soldiers took such gallant part.

Lord Roberts has an experience not given to most army men. He has lived to see representatives of two races against whom he had, during his long career, conducted campaigns, fighting under the banner of Britain. In South Africa today sons of the very Boers against whom Roberts operated in 1889 and 1900 are fighting the battles of the Empire, and in the ranks of the Empire's Indian army in the fields and vineyards of France are descendants of the Afghans, Pathans, and Burmese who were his foes in the Indian frontier wars and in the campaigns to Burma.

Probably no other soldier will ever hold the esteem and affection of his men as he did. Kind,

courteous and thoughtful, ever zealous for the personal welfare and interest of his men, Field Marshal Lord Roberts was a popular idol and the hero of many a barracks song or story; the sort of officer whom men would esteem it a pleasure and a privilege to follow to assured death. In the heart of Tommy Atkins the memory of "Bobs" will stand secure in a niche of its own, and while the great orators of Empire may sound eloquent eulogies over his dead clay and his life and triumphs prove an inspiration for many a page of storied tribute, it will be the British soldier and the British reservist who will mourn most deeply and sincerely the loss which has come to the Empire army with the passing of "Bobs Bahadur."

Last Public Address.

Lord Roberts inspected the Canadian contingent on Salisbury Plain on Oct. 24. His Lordship was an honorary colonel of the contingent, and in giving his "brother soldiers" a hearty welcome to the motherland he said:—"We have arrived at the most critical moment of our history and you have generously come to help us in our hour of need. Words fail me when I try to tell you how deeply we appreciate your action and the splendid spirit of loyalty which had prompted that action. Three months ago we found ourselves involved in this war, a war not of our own seeking, but one which those who have studied Germany's literature and Germany's aspirations knew was a war which we should inevitably have to deal with sooner or later. "The prompt resolve of Canada to give us such valuable assistance has touched us deeply. The resolve has been quickened into action in what I consider a marvellously short period of time, and under the excellent organizing and driving power of your Minister of Militia—my friend Major-General Hughes—you quickly found yourself in a fine camp in your own Laurentian mountains, where your training and musketry were able to be carried out in the most practical manner and with the least possible delay, the result being that today, less than three months after the declaration of war, I am able to greet this fine body of soldiers on English soil. There is no need for me to tell you that you have a stern task before you. We are fighting a nation which looks upon the British Empire as a barrier to her development, and has, in consequence, long contemplated our overthrow and humiliation. To attain that end she has manufactured a magnificent fighting machine and is straining every nerve to gain victory. In her determination to be the ruling power in the world she has not scrupled to break faith with the smaller nations, and has shown by her actions that she is prepared by every means in her power—however unworthy and brutal—to achieve her purpose. It is only by the most determined efforts that we can defeat her. When the time comes for you to take your place in the field you will find yourselves fighting side by side with the men of our regular army who have already done great deeds and endured great hardships; with the men of our Indian Army who have come with such devotion and eagerness to take their share in defending British interests, and with men who, like ourselves, are coming from the other self-governing dominions to co-operate with us. "I need not urge you to do your best, for I know you will. You will be fighting in the greatest of all causes—the cause of right, of justice and of liberty. May God prosper you in the great struggle."

About six inches of snow fell at Winnipeg last Saturday night, and it was still continuing. Saskatchewan also got its share. Accompanied by blizzard in some localities.

The vast cost of the European war was realized in England on Monday for the first time, when Premier Asquith stated in the House of Commons that Britain alone was expending between \$4,500,000 and \$5,000,000 daily. The session was devoted to the discussion of the war. Some members were dissatisfied with the manner in which the Government had been run, and numerous pertinent questions were asked of Cabinet Ministers. The first Minister grilled was Reginald McKenna, who was asked what precautions had been taken by him as Home Secretary to prevent operations of spies in England. In reply Mr. McKenna stated that 14,500 aliens had been interned in concentration camps, this number not including prisoners taken in action. He admitted, however, that about 29,000 aliens had escaped thus far the Government's dragnet, and were still at liberty. The First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, came in for questioning because of naval losses. Churchill said he had every reason to believe Canopus was quite safe. He admitted she had been ordered to join the British squadron on the south-west coast of South America. The Sitting was entirely devoted to war measures, without partisan politics. Premier Asquith requested a vote of \$1,125,000,000 and another million soldiers, both of which the House granted without a dissenting voice. The condition of the morale of the soldiers, the inevitable spy system and press censorship were discussed freely. The Prime Minister characterized the crisis as the greatest emergency in which the country was ever placed. He said there were already under arms 1,200,000 men, that were costing nearly \$5,500,000 a day, and the Government proposed to lend Belgium \$50,000,000 and Serbia \$400,000,000 without interest until the end of the war. Timothy Healey, the Irish Nationalist, said the money should be given them.

Progress of the War.

Thielt, Belgium, Nov. 10 (Via The Hague and London).—The inundations in Flanders, which prevented the Germans from making their way along the coast in their efforts to reach Calais, are now proving equally unfavorable to the Allies, who, today, are finding it impossible to proceed through these marshy regions. The Germans have been obliged to evacuate Middelkerke, on the coast, half way between Nieuport and Ostend and this point has not yet been occupied by the Allies. The Germans, according to information available here, are now concentrating all their forces for a final attack in the vicinity of Ypres. The afternoon of Nov. 7 they almost succeeded in completely surrounding the city, as a result of attacks from the southwest, and the northwest. Today, however, their position is said to be much less favorable, because of the excellent work of the French artillerymen and the very able way in which the Allies have been supported by French and British aviators, who now seem to be flying even better than the Germans. The fighting has swung over the country with great rapidity, some villages, such as Dixmude and Ranscapelle changing hands several times a day. At the present time the Germans hold only a couple of unimportant villages on the left bank of the Yser. These engagements, which have caused some of the most severe losses of the war, have been fought over flat and muddy ground, which gives no opportunity for intrenching. The Germans, in this fighting in Flanders, have made use of regiments composed of volunteers recruited from the best classes of Berlin society. Their officers are men of high standing. Ninety-two trains of Germans wounded, each carrying a total of three hundred men, passed through Brussels on November 3, bound for Germany.

London, Nov. 11.—The Germans have resumed their attack

on the allied line between the coast and the Yser river, and while the French claim generally to have held their positions the Germans have succeeded in capturing the town of Dixmude, which has been the centre of some of the fiercest and most sanguinary fighting of the war. The country between Dixmude and Ypres, where the belligerents have been engaged in violent attacks and counter attacks for weeks past and where the losses have been heavier even than those in the battle of the Yser, is again the scene of a battle, which for fury has seldom, if ever, been equalled. Behind Dixmude is the direct road to Dunkirk, one of the French ports on which the Germans have set their hearts and if they can break through here the Allies will be compelled to fall back to new positions. The invaders have therefore been concentrating their forces at this point, and their success in taking Dixmude, where they claim to have captured 500 prisoners and positions to the west of Langemarck, where according to the Berlin report, 2,000 prisoners fell into their hands, shows that the statements so freely made, that they have been sending troops from the west to Poland, are without foundation. As a matter of fact, the military men here believe that the Germans, as soon as they saw it was impossible to carry out their design of capturing Warsaw, despatched troops from that region to the west, not imagining that the Russian pursuit would be carried out with the rapidity with which it has been. At other points along the battlefront in France the French official communications claim some successes for the Allies, but the German headquarters staff declares that all attacks have been repulsed. It is considered quite certain that with the enormous forces required for the effort to get through to the coast and to protect their own country from Russian invasion, the Germans will not be able to throw any additional troops into the lines which stretch through Northern France and along the Franco-German border. On the other hand the French, whose army is growing daily, might attempt an offensive against Lorraine or Alsace as a diversion which would relieve the pressure in the west. The Germans, according to Petrograd despatches, have suffered a more serious defeat on the East Prussian border than the official statements have disclosed. Advice from the Russian capital today state that in the recent fighting there the Russians have captured more than twenty thousand prisoners together with quantities of guns and munitions.

London, Nov. 12.—A critical stage in the battle in West Flanders has now been reached, and the next few days, if not hours, should produce something more decisive than has yet occurred. The Germans have continued to attack, with all the forces at their command, the British and French, who hold the line between Dixmude and Ypres, but with the exception of the capture of Dixmude, which occurred Tuesday and some little progress around Ypres, they have not been able to make any material advance. In fact the French official report issued this afternoon says that all the attacks have been repulsed. The Germans are no longer utilizing green troops in this region, but have brought up the pick of their army, including some Prussian Guards, who attempted an offensive movement against the British but without success. Both sides express satisfaction with the progress of the battle. Berlin says that the attacks of the Allies have been repulsed and that their own attack is making headway; while in London and in Paris it is felt that so long as the Allies can hold the line of the canal from Nieuport to Ypres their position is a strong one. In France, from the northwest, to the southwest, there have been engagements of lesser importance, in which, according to the French report General Joffre's armies have succeeded in gaining ground and strengthening their positions. The Germans continue to destroy bridges and railways around Ypres, but with what object remains a secret. It is thought, however, that they are making preparations to winter in that country, and they are taking every step to

prevent their plans from becoming known to their enemies. The Russian army, under General Rennenkampf, is fighting its way into East Prussia, and has taken Johannsburg, which is on the railway from Lyck to Soldan, both of which towns are already in Russian hands. This gives to Russia the control of an important railway line which skirts the frontier in German territory, and several branch railways running into the interior. The central army, which drove the Germans back from the Vistula, has had only unimportant engagements, but it is known to be pushing forward to the borders of Posen and Silesia, which the Germans are crossing.

London, Nov. 13.—The correspondent of the Central News in the north of France telegraphs that the Germans have been driven out of Dixmude. "The Germans," the correspondent says, "had not long in which to congratulate themselves on their seizure of the mass of ruins which was once the ill-starred town of Dixmude. They were sprayed with shrapnel and shattered with high explosive shells until extermination threatened them. The appearance of French marines with bayonets rapidly convinced them that the death rate would be too high if they remained. Hence Dixmude is ours again. "The Germans have made a slight advance against Ypres, but it is doubtful if they hold the village of Stelot. "As La Bassee the Germans are attempting to drive a wedge into the Allied line by a concentrated heavy gun fire. There has been a considerable bulge in the line here for some time, but the Allies hold their positions on either flank." London, Nov. 13.—The official press bureau issued the following communication at 11 o'clock tonight: "A very severe attack against the portion of the line held by the First Army Corps before Ypres was delivered on the eleventh by a Prussian Guard Corps. The enemy made an effort on this occasion to break the line, which they hoped already had been weakened by attacks of infantry of the line. The facts briefly are as follows: "Our troops were subjected to the heaviest bombardment that we have yet experienced, from dawn for three hours. This was at once followed by an assault in force, carried out by the First and Fourth Brigades of the Prussian Guard Corps. It is understood that these picked troops had been brought up specially to act against us in order to force their way through at points where previous efforts made by the infantry of the line had failed. "The attack was pressed with the greatest bravery and determination. Owing to the gallantry of our troops, and their splendid resistance against great odds, the attempts to penetrate to Ypres were repulsed, but the weight of the enemy's advance enabled them to break through our lines at three points. They were, however, hurled back and prevented from gaining further ground. "An immense loss has been inflicted on the Germans, seven hundred of their dead having been found on the ground behind our front trenches alone. "The casualties suffered by them in advancing up to our line, under direct and enfiladed fire, must have been enormous. Our casualties also were heavy. "The action of our troops on this, as well as on previous occasions, cannot be praised too highly."

London, Nov. 15.—After four weeks of most desperate fighting there is a lull in the battle in Flanders. With this lull, however, has come little relief for the men in the trenches, as the artillery and rifle fire, to which they have been subjected with hardly any intermission, has been replaced by one of those severe storms which so often accompany November in this latitude. In some parts of England the storm has reached the proportions of a blizzard; on the sea a heavy gale rages, and the battlefields are getting their full share of wind and rain. For the most part, the opposing armies have been content to shell each other at long range, but the Germans have made several attacks around Ypres, which, according to the French general staff, have been repulsed with heavy losses. Despite these losses, it is not believed that the Germans have any intention of

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giving up their attempt to reach the French coast, and the Allies are making elaborate preparations to block any further advance in force. Extensive defence works have been erected along the Yser Canal, and the French armies are holding that line from the Bel-

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Souris, P. E. Island. MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES NEURALGIA.

Imperial Parliament

London, Nov. 11.—King opened today what probably prove to be a purely war session of Parliament. No controverted political question will be debated but this does not mean that harmony will prevail. Cabinet ministers will be asked some pertinent and uncomfortable questions about their conduct in various phases of the war. Lord McKenna, the Home Secretary, is expected to make port on the situation in regard to the spy evil, but additional legislation in this direction is expected. The immediate business before the House of Commons will be to pass a bill for the extension of the war in men and in the recruiting situation. The recruiting situation has led to some steps towards compulsory service and the \$500,000 granted in August, has been practically spent, a further credit of a like amount will probably be proposed under the War Loan Act passed at the session. One hundred and twenty million are missing from the war, being absent in various capacities in connection with the war. While thirty-two Ministers are actually at the front many others are absent on government business. The usual money accompanied the opening of Parliament the King took military progress through the streets of Westminster. Like the Lord Mayor's show, the custom of the king's procession was lacking, but the brilliant uniforms of household, guards lining the streets and forming the sober khaki marked the military features of the display. The House of Lords, all the ceremonial trappings were in this body, the King's speech from the throne was moved by Lord Methuen and seconded by Viscount Bryce. In the House of Commons the speech was moved by Sir Robert Price, and seconded by William Middlebrook. The speech after the opening of the session, Premier Asquith declared that he doubted whether the war would last as long as some originally predicted, but that the war would last as long as necessary, the longer it lasts, the more the Empire's resources and strength will be available to fill the gaps, to place the losses and maintain the position. The Empire is one and the experiences of the three months have inspired with the confident hope that longer the trial lasts, the more clearly we will emerge from the champions of a just cause. Asquith expressed warm appreciation of the support which government had received from the parties. England is engaged in an unprecedented contest, he said regarding the justice of her cause in this there is no difference of opinion in any part of the Empire. The country has gone through much, has learned much from her troops hold a positive difficulty and danger, the position continued. "Today we see in a position in which, in connection with our allies, France, Belgium, they have been absolutely and defeated the designs of the German Empire."

Wool for Canada

Ottawa, Nov. 13.—The threatened demoralization of the textile and woolen mills of Canada, result of the prohibition of importation of hides and from the United States, the foot and mouth disease break has been obviated. Mills have been working and day on orders from the office and the militia department. Orders were issued today for foreign hides and foreign wool will be admitted to Canada, the United States when the import is accompanied by a flax that the hides have no contact with the domestic or prohibited wool of the States. United States hides admitted when accompanied by the certificates of an official of the bureau of Animal Industry that they have been disinfected. Fleeces wool during the spring of 1914 admitted if not mixed with other classes of wool. Hides and wool will be admitted unless it has been and heated. Any shipment required to undergo disinfection. Unreared pelts are pro-