

## The War Week by Week.

By OBSERVER.

It needs little thought on the part of any observer for him to see that matters are working up, by however slight degrees, to a climax, and that that climax will have been reached before long. This is denied in many quarters by many writers. They say that the Somme fighting is not the great Western offensive; that the time is not yet. It is, they say, a subsidiary incident; with a design, of course, but that design not the smashing of the German lines at this point. They go further and say that the British drive has been held, has been brought to a standstill. They profess great disappointment and make uncommensurate comparisons with the French achievements to the south.

This view seems to us quite erroneous. The British drive may not be intended to smash the German lines, necessarily; but it is very probable that it is. We cannot argue from a map of France with an irregular black line running across it, and putting a finger on such and such a point in the line, say, "This is the spot to advance from." The past offensive efforts of the French and British have proved more than the nature of the German defences and the need of ammunition; they have shown just what other parts of the German line are strategically weakest and most vulnerable to attack. This area north of the Somme is one of them, and of the whole line it is the section most favourable for an Allied advance. It was not chosen without long deliberation, based on experience, and enormous preparation. There are other sectors to the north where also an advance is practicable, but after it has been made here.

This, for one thing, would show that the great offensive has indeed begun, and no mere feint made. Next, it is absurdly untrue to say that the British have been held. The statement has hardly been made when it is successively confuted by the capture of Contalmaison, Bazentin and Longueval, all points of the greatest importance. It is a great mistake to argue from shaded map areas, "showing the advance of such and such an army since such and such a date." The advance may in some cases, notably on the East front, be over a great distance and have little tactical effect; it may, on the other hand, merely take in a little territory, but that of such importance that a large shaded area follows automatically. The British know well that they cannot expect to cover much ground as yet; they have before them defences of inconceivable strength and intricacy. But they are pounding them methodically, and very evidently with great effect. If we took, say, the Champagne offensive as a standard, we should say at once that the British had been held. But that is no longer a standard. The advance was made by infantry, after great artillery preparation. Here, it is being made by artillery, with the infantry as a subsidiary element, the essential finishing touch. It is being done by artillery, more artillery and still more artillery. For the prodigious expenditure of shells can be met by the supply, and so our army is taking its time.

On the West front the capture of these positions by the British was the most important event of the past week. Many of the prodigious initial difficulties have been overcome, literally blown away. The despatches hint at the gratifying discovery that the supporting German defences are

## Another Gallipoli Veteran Invalided Home.

Corporal Vall, a Gallipoli veteran, arrived here by Saturday evening's cross country train, being invalided home. He left here with the first contingent in October, 1914, and recounts some interesting and thrilling experiences since then. He was stricken with dysentery at Suvla and before he recovered developed enteric fever and was put in hospital. Subsequently he contracted diphtheria. As a result he was slightly paralysed in the legs from the knees down. He is able to walk, though not any great distance. After coming out of hospital latterly he went to France with the first draft attached to the 29th division, but owing to his disability he was sent down and ordered back to headquarters where he received instructions to come to St. John's on six months sick furlough.

## Incandescent Gas Lighting.

Possibly, the feature of incandescent gas lighting most frequently noted by casual observers is the great ease with which it can be installed. Under artificial light may be performed under the Welch gas mantle. The light has a peculiarly "friendly" quality, difficult to describe, but which is readily recognized by those who have had experience with the gas mantle lamp.

In its general effect upon bodily health and comfort, the use of incandescent gas lighting is decidedly favorable. The currents of air set up by the burning gas improves ventilation, tending to expel the air vitiated by respiration and draw in fresh air to replace it. Harmful or dangerous disease germs are instantly destroyed in the flame. The extent to which this effect takes place may be verified by placing a glass jar close to a ceiling and immediately above the lamp are the remains of dust particles which before passing through the flames were laden with germs and microbes. Actual experiments have shown that the burning of gas lamps in rooms previously containing bacteria, resulted in absolute sterilization of the air.

Contrary to the popular notion the temperature of rooms lighted by incandescent gas lamps is seldom markedly greater than that of rooms lighted by electric light, even under unfavorable conditions of ventilation, while in rooms provided with the ventilating facilities required by the demands of hygiene, the temperature in gas-lighted rooms is frequently lower.

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## L. O. A. Church Parade.

The members of Royal Oak band Leeming Lodges, L. O. A., accompanied by the S. A. Band attended Divine Service yesterday afternoon at the Cochrane Street Congregational Church. The Rev. C. A. Whittemarsh who severed his connection with the church yesterday, having been replaced in charge of the congregation by the Rev. J. B. McGarry, C.E., officiated, and preached an interesting and instructive address in which he made touching references to the Great War now devastating the fair fields of France and Flanders. The congregation, which filled the spacious edifice, joined heartily in the singing of the different hymns which were especially chosen for the occasion. The turnout was the largest in the history of the lodges.

## For the Ball Players.

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## A Bit of History.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Yesterday after I witnessed the magnificent parade of "our boys" I was imbued with the idea of a parade having taken place at St. John's in 1864, the largest and most historic in its history. On looking over my notes I discovered that a troop ship had arrived here containing 800 soldiers of the Scotch Fusiliers; the Duke and Duchess of Athol were on board also. The troops were then on their way to the Old Country. They came on shore 900 strong and marched through our principal streets and countrywards as well; the beautiful strains of the bagpipes were heard on the occasion, altogether according to a writer of that period: "It was the grandest parade of soldiers ever witnessed at St. John's."

With many thanks in anticipation of publication.

I remain yours most sincerely,  
JAMES MURPHY.  
July 18th, 1916.

THE ETHIC AT HUMBERMOUTH.

The S. S. Ethic, Capt. Goble, reached Humbermouth from the Battle of the Somme last night. Despite the stormy weather which prevailed throughout the trip the Ethic made every port of call.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

## Welch's Grape Juice.

The Drink that makes Prohibition possible.

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## Service For Volunteers at Wesley Church.

Yesterday morning, as was anticipated, a very large congregation was present to hear the "last words" to the two hundred fine men who are to leave us for duty and self-sacrifice. The Pastor, Rev. H. Royle, conducted the service, Rev. Dr. Curtis the opening prayer. Rev. Stanley Williams read the lesson. Miss Cora Eadie presided at the organ and there was a full choir present. Rev. Mr. Royle's address was based on the words, "Seeing that we are compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses." It was an earnest appeal for true manliness and trust in God. We were looking on as friends and parents and would rejoice in success and sympathize in the narrowness of the way. Witness the magnificent eulogy of General Haig and the admiration of the King, the congratulations of other countries and colonies, and even from heaven itself our forefathers are looking down upon the battlefield in sympathetic anxiety. In God's Name he wished them victory because they were fighting for justice and liberty, the prayers of the Church would follow them as well as their mothers and fathers, and he prayed they may be pure and godly and maintain the highest standards for honor and bravery. After singing of hymns "Onward Christian Soldiers," Rev. Dr. Curtis rose, and after congratulating the fine appearance on the march as the battalion had passed spoke to them as follows: He referred to the inspiring sight before him, the magnificent audience and called attention to the tremendous events transpiring in Europe at the present time as the great crisis of the struggle is on, with the Russians pressing from the east, the Italians from the south and the British and French from the west. He congratulated the soldiers upon the privilege of taking part in these world-determining events, and felt sure that in common with those already on the firing line they would do themselves and Newfoundland credit. He assured them of the absolute righteousness of our cause, saying that in the Germans we were encountering the very incarnation of evil, and therefore could be confident that all that makes for righteousness in the universe was on our side. But if we are to be worthy of such a cause, and such holy allies, all must be God-fearing men. We should be doing everything that would make it impossible for these mighty forces of heaven to co-operate with us. He urged them every one to take Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and shape their lives in harmony with His teaching and do it at once. He closed by wishing them a speedy victory and a safe return.

At the evening service the crowded church were greatly pleased with the excellent playing of Mr. Hayden at the large pipe organ. He showed himself a thorough master of the instrument and brought out its sweetest tones as well as its greatest power in the voluntaries, prelude and postlude. It is a great blessing that though deprived of sight, Mr. Hayden is so gifted with fine musical abilities. Rev. Mr. Coppin preached with much acceptance from the words, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdom of our God and of His Son, and He shall reign for ever and ever."

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The Picnic Question.

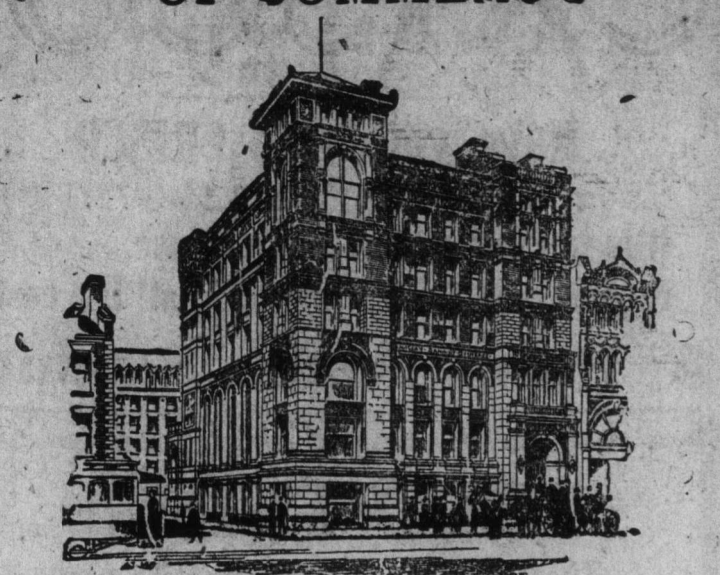
Dear Sir,—I have to agree with the reasoning and logical conclusions of your correspondent "Theobald," as contained in his popular notes in Saturday's Telegram in relation to "Sunday School Picnics." Whilst hundreds of grown people nightly crowd the movies to their utmost capacity, and other hundreds go in pursuit of various forms of pleasure, it does certainly seem inconsistent to draw the line with the children's annual day. I have nothing to say against those who are leading in the crusade against picnics as the object of providing beds for our wounded soldiers must appeal to all who can help in the good work; and whilst I give place to none for depth of sympathy with the bereaved, I don't think it will be necessary to deprive the children of their annual day. Let the children be asked to give up their festival? Of course they would give it up. On the walls of many homes in the city are little tokens of self-sacrifice to certify that the children have not been behind in "doing their bit." The children of Sunday and Day School alike (in many cases the same children) have given up their right to receive the prizes they had won for their work during the year in order that the money spent in their purchase might be given to the Belgian Relief. Women's Patriotic Association, etc. On the whole I would say the children of both St. John's and the outports need the great war and deserve some encouragement for what they have done. Sir, children are "wise in their generation," and have a queer way of catechizing sometimes. Let us be sure we are not imparting to them their first lessons in insincerity or hypocrisy. I would suggest that the usual prizes be cut out of the program of Sunday School Picnics this year, and the money thus saved be given to the most worthy object; but let the children have their day in the open, where they may, with their teachers, breathe in God's pure air, away from the shallowness and inconsistency of the world.

Yours very truly,  
SYMPATHIZER.

VISITING HIS PARENTS.—Mr. Harold Russell, of the Western Union Telegraph Co., North Sydney, who was north as far as Battle Harbour on a vacation returned to St. John's by the Sagona yesterday, on a visit to his parents.

The FORD is a 'LOYAL CAR' doesn't fall in an emergency. Jun 22, 11

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