

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH is issued every Wednesday and Saturday...

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 19, 1916.

WAR COMMENT.

The German offensive against the French in Champagne has been beaten off with very heavy losses to the enemy...

Meanwhile, the Russians record important successes in Galicia and Bessarabia. The worst part of the news during the last few days has been that from Montenegro...

While the recent fighting in Champagne appears to have been heavy the feeling with respect of the war generally is one of suspense rather than action.

Everywhere enormous preparation is being made for great movements in the future. If the Allies were weak in munitions a few months ago...

The united determination of the people of Great Britain to make every sacrifice necessary for victory receives fresh proof...

Germany did not count on the dominions giving such aid to the Empire as they already have given; nor did she realize that by precipitating the war she would be stimulating the development of Britain's overseas possessions...

It has been predicted again and again in Berlin that Great Britain would hesitate to adopt any form of compulsion, and that even by such a measure no very large British army could be brought into the field...

In Canada we must be very careful not to encourage the impression that the need for recruits from this country is in any way diminished by the heroic efforts of the people of the British Isles...

Great Britain, as has been said, is preparing to pay the price of victory in full, and we in Canada must rise in the same spirit to meet the demands of the war.

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AFTER THE WAR.

Dr. George R. Parkin, organizing representative of the Rhodes Scholarship Trust, delivered an address the other day before the Hull Luncheon Club in England...

Dr. Parkin explained what must now be planned for all that the future of the world is hanging on the issue of the great struggle in Europe. After the war is over, he said, one quarter of the land area of the world would be found under the British flag...

publicly recorded their view that Mr. Fleming is quite all right. With many other exploits of members of the local government and their followers in the legislature the New Brunswick public is thoroughly well acquainted.

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With the coming of 1916, Mr. Simonds argues, the war passed from one of conquest to one of endurance. He says that if Germany can outlast her enemies she would win the war, "not as she hoped to win it, for France and the British Isles are secure."

Can France and Britain break the German armies in the West? Upon their ability to do so hangs the fate of the war, according to Mr. Frank H. Simonds, the American critic who examines the present condition of the conflict and the outlook for 1916 in an exhaustive article published by the January Review of Reviews.

Mr. Simonds believes Germany will be beaten in the end, but he points out that there is grave danger unless Great Britain is able to exert this year a much more decisive influence in the land fighting than she has hitherto been able to bring to bear.

He expects no peace in 1916. With the spring he predicts that Germany must undertake new offensives, and organize new invasions, begin once more the invasion of Russia or send new forces across Asia Minor and try to repeat in Egypt the success she has had in the Balkans.

Unless Germany conquers France or Russia, or collapses in consequence of internal weakness, there is no prospect that peace will come in the current year. There is, indeed, little prospect that before autumn, the German armies can be driven in upon the frontiers of Germany.

While reiterating his belief that Germany will be beaten finally, he dwells with marked gravitas upon the need for British ability to strike so heavily on the western line in co-operation with France that Germany shall be unable to pursue a fresh offensive against Russia and Egypt with success.

Comparing the men of the opposition with the men of its own party the Conservative journal is persuaded that the public had better stick to Mr. Fleming and Mr. Fleming's successors. It does not mention Mr. Fleming, of course, but Mr. Fleming is a candidate of the Standard's party for Federal honors, and before he was chosen for that position by a regular party convention Mr. Premier Clarke and Lieutenant-Colonel Baxter assisted in the adoption by the provincial legislature of a resolution whitewashing Mr. Fleming in the face of the verdict of the royal commission on the Dugal charges.

In other words, all of the government members and all of the government followers in the present legislature have

NO, THIS IS NOT RHEIMS OR LOUVAIN



It is a picture of a section of the highly neutral, peaceful and civilized city of Youngstown, O., after the mob of striking rioters got through wrecking, looting and firing.

splendid army can hold its present lines. In conjunction with British masses it can attack. But there are lacking French numbers to complete, singlehanded, the great work begun at the Marne.

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WAR AND BUSINESS.

While American diplomats are asking the Allies, and chiefly Great Britain, to modify the activities of the navy in restricting neutral shipments which may be intended, directly or indirectly, for the enemy, American publications continue to announce with pride the marvelous growth of American business because of the war.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Breve little Montenegro deserved a better fate. The refusal of the French government to permit shipments of condensed milk to Germany and Austria seems reasonable and just. Why should France and Great Britain help their enemies at this critical time? Germany's guarantee mean nothing. The Allies have been altogether too lenient in this regard.

Baron Chelmsford, who has been appointed viceroy of India, is a brilliant scholar and a member of the bar. He has taken a deep interest in educational matters and for several years he served as member of the London school board. He has also been a member of the London county council.

The attack upon the British steamer Clan MacFarlane in the Mediterranean during a heavy sea, and without warning, was as murderous and pitiless as any the Huns have yet been guilty of. It is not known that any Americans were on board, but, of course, that would have little bearing on the case—even in Washington.

It is difficult at this distance to find an excuse for Italy's course with respect to Montenegro. Domination of the Adriatic would give Austria the whip hand over her rival. No nation had so much at stake as Italy, and it was believed she would take every means in her power to prevent the very thing that has happened.

For the purpose of keeping up the spirits of the people at home the Crown Prince of Bavaria tells an interviewer that "the British soldiers are no longer what they were," and he speaks lightly of the new armies now being raised. The Crown Prince of Bavaria has a habit of giving out such interviews. Early in the war he dismissed the British forces as "undisciplined troops" which could never be trusted to stand firm in the face of the German offensive. His opinion at that time was proved to be worth very little.

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the widest difference of opinion. Some prophesy depression, but at least as many more predict that the United States will continue to reap a rich harvest through immigration and because of the destruction of property and the disorganization of business in Europe due to the war, coupled with the killing and crippling of millions of European workmen.

IN THE ADRIATIC.

If Austria is successful in getting full control of the Montenegrin seaboard, as now seems highly probable, nearly a hundred miles will be added to her Adriatic coastline. This concerns Italy more than any other nation, and causes immediate speculation as to how well Italy is prepared to guard her interests.

In general terms it may be stated that at the end of 1915 Italy had ready for service six dreadnoughts, eight pre-dreadnoughts, nine armored cruisers, sixteen protected cruisers, ten torpedo boats and forty-three destroyers. Austria's navy at the end of 1914 was made up of four dreadnoughts, twelve pre-dreadnoughts, three armored cruisers, seven cruisers carrying very light guns and little or no armor, seven torpedo gunboats of doubtful value, and sixteen destroyers. But while Italy's larger ships are more modern and carry heavier guns, it must be noted that Italy has very few, if any, submarines. Austria, on the other hand, at the beginning of 1916 had eleven submarines. How many submarines Austria now possesses is not known, but there is no doubt that several German submarines are operating in Austria's interests in the Adriatic and the Mediterranean. They may or may not long escape the Allied nets and destroyers.

At the same time many French and British submarines are in those waters to protect the Allied interests. All of Italy's battleships are faster than Austria's. Two years ago Italy laid down four super-dreadnoughts, each to carry eight 14-inch guns. It is probable that work on these ships has been rushed since the war began, but it is not known how soon they are to be completed. With these ships in service Italy should have a great preponderance over Austria in actual fighting strength.

In the early months of the war a greatly superior Franco-British force prevented the Austrian ships from displaying much activity. During the last year the Adriatic has been left to the Italian fleet, the duties of which are likely to become more strenuous as a result of the developments in Montenegro. The danger to Italy does not lie in a possible general attack by Austria's warships so much as in the enemy's naval raids upon more or less exposed parts of the Italian coast. For example Venice is only sixty-five miles from Trieste and seventy-seven miles from Pola, while the Italian coast at the nearest point is not more than fifty-five miles from Pola. These distances hold for most of the 400 miles of coastline along the Adriatic. It is apparent, therefore, that the Italian ships must be constantly on the alert to prevent the Austrians from slipping across under cover of darkness or fog and shelling one or more of their important seaports. For this reason, if for no other, it is impossible to understand why Italy made no effort to prevent the hundred miles of Montenegrin coast from passing into the hands of its enemy.

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after a year and a half of fighting the world has no reason to take it at a greater valuation. The British soldiers and their French comrades have held the German armies on the west front as in a vise. That is what is troubling the Crown Prince of Bavaria.

The Turks have not yet estimated the number of Anglo-French soldiers they "annihilated" while the latter were withdrawing from Gallipoli; nor have they appraised the "enormous booty." Meantime the British general has not missed a single man and he still refuses to consider a dozen wounded guns that were put out of business before he left, as "enormous booty."

Colonel Murray MacLaren is now a C.M.G. The distinction is well earned. Sergeant Ryer of the 20th gets the Distinguished Conduct Medal for intrepidity in the crater fight, and on other occasions. Another award that will be pleasing to his friends everywhere is the Distinguished Service Order to Major Frank Magee.

With the greater part of their country in the hands of the enemy, the Montenegrins, in the face of terrible hardships, proudly declare that they will agree to no separate peace. They prefer to "fight to the last man." How can young Canadians hesitate to do their duty after such a display of heroism by men and women who have been fighting against terrific odds since the earliest days of the war?

The Russians are reported to be striking hard in the Caucasus. Little has been heard of Grand Duke Nicholas since he left for that theatre of the war. It would not be surprising if a good deal is heard about him and the troops under him from now on. The Grand Duke has doubtless been planning his campaign with care. As a strategist he has few superiors.

Referring to the fact that Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien is to have under him a force largely composed of Boers, the men against whom he fought fifteen years ago, the London Daily Express says: "That is the way of the British Empire. That must be its way if it is to endure. Differences disappear in face of a common danger. The British Empire means liberty, and all its peoples rush to arms when their liberty is threatened."

Some of the Ottawa newspapers are investigating the merits of commission government. The Ottawa Journal publishes a statement by Frederick J. Haskin saying that more than 400 cities had government by commission at the beginning of 1914, in the United States and Canada, their combined population being about ten millions. Mr. Haskin says only seven of all the cities which have tried commission government have ever held elections to determine whether to go back to the old form of administration, and that only one American city has taken the backward step. If Mr. Haskin is correct in saying that only seven out of more than 400 cities have on the whole held elections for a short time, the record speaks highly for the commission principle.

Although there is little cheer in the daily reports from the battlefronts at present, we were warned by those in a position to know that things would doubtless be worse before they were better. And we must not forget the British navy, without which it would have been impossible for the Allies to have continued the war for six months. The navy is much stronger today than it was at the beginning of hostilities.

The Philadelphia Record predicts an early end to the Austro-German submarine activity in the Mediterranean. It says: "In a little while the British and French will get nets and traps and speedy destroyers into the Mediterranean, and the prospects of a crew operating a submarine in the Mediterranean will be as gloomy as the fate of the three-headed hydra used to be used to describe upon merchant steamers and the English Channel and the North Sea."

Shadow by shadow, stripped for light. The lean black cruisers search the sea. Night-long their level shafts of light Revolve and flash on enemy's eyes. Only they know each leaping wave. May hide the lightning and their grave;

And in the land they guard so well, Is there no silent watch to keep? An eye is dying; and the bell— Rings midnight on a vaster deep; But over all its waves once more The search-lights move from shore to shore;

And captains that we thought were dead, And dreamers that we thought were dumb, And voices that we thought were fled Arise and call us, and we come; And "Search in thine own soul," they cry. "For there, too, lurks thine enemy."

Search for the foe in thine own soul, The sixth, the intellectual pride, The trivial jest that veils the goal For which our fathers lived and died;

The lawless, dreams, the cynic art, That rend thy nobler self apart. Not far, not far into the night The sword of light can pierce; Yet for her faith does England fight, Her faith in this our universe, Behind the train and Justice draw From founts of everlasting law.

Therefore a Power above the State, The unconquerable Power, returns, The fire the fire that made her great. Once more upon her altar burns, Once more, redeemed and healed and whole, She moves to the Eternal Goal.

Anything is Useful. The brick when laid on a good standing for the horse, mud fever, which is so prevalent, have to stand at all times. The old lumber makes a covering for the horses, boxes, thatched straw, old corrugated iron, old rubber out, and so help to maintain the wind and rain.

For some time we have seen some time we may expect of mud, rain, and cold. It is like a bog, and yet men are standing it wonderfully, marvelous how little the mud and how willing they are to yesterday, last night and to row has been going on, and in three being using their gas in tubes, wire and coal, and it and its effect so far as it is small.

The new gas they are using, which they first facts the eyes terribly, make so freely it is impossible to gas is usually followed by tubes, which suffocates and causes agony. "Dec. 25—I found it impos

TRUE SOLDIERS AT FRONT IN NEW

Optimism and of Message

Sixteen-Year-Old

"Good as Ever" adian Artillery

—From Train

From the training camp line and from the mud-lined Brunsvick's sons who are "marked by the greatest spirit of duty as described as very young."

The enemy continues to that does not dampen their gas they are using, it is as a terribly, making one weep so followed by a chlorine mixture.

In a letter to his aunt I lost a leg in the fighting, say of weeks ago. I was wounded so bad at first but it was not necessary to amputate my leg doesn't know this and I want at all for I am doing fine and fixed with an artificial limb about as good as ever."

Thus do these brave lads they were of no more import pain and agony in silence for

The Gaps Are Filled. The following is an interesting received recently by a friend from Captain W. A. McLeod, Divisional Ammunition Column fighting with the first Canadian "Objective Service, Belgium, 1915:

"My letter writing for some past has been very limited, but you have noticed, has been the many officers and men in the line. Yet, many times I have letters, but was denied the

"Since the battle of Ypres, much time without officers. Artillery Brigade has made in the early summer, and considerably to the duties of a ing officer. Then again, change has taken place among and men. As casualties are vacancies crop up, from one another, new officers and old along, occasioning a lot of work on the old hands for a short the 'new hands' fall in line. not take long, however, for men come over well fitted for ahead of them."

In Great Drive. "During the last of Sept. Artillery Brigade was the other part of the line, and on an imperial division, working junction with the French an our side, the greatest were the only Canadian unit extensive part at that time. mously exciting time, for my ammunition column. The navy were very close to the trenches, and for reasons I divulge we had the fun of de rect to the guns. To get to the batteries we had to go through which had to be screened, a mans could see all the roll, a wagon came in its shell, able to learn by airplane observation. The screen only their snipers from getting a her quite unaccounted, all the of the batteries, the ammuni be dumped under cover of a ing, and then carried to through a communication line, through a communication line, with the column, which in the year necessitates much and hard work.

"I am now building my horse lines, and do hope we where we are, until the best sets in."

"To build horse lines, we are battered down, and as is dangerous work, and we be done at that time."

"A few days ago I had five the village of — a mile ter from the town of — the German. As this town country than the village it have done a great lot of snip went about loading brick on her quite unaccounted, all had not been shelling the to and the German front. There is no doubt some of us been picked off."

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