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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 22, 1915

THE P. E. ISLAND ELECTIONS.

There is more handwringing on the wall. Before dissolution the Matheson government in Prince Edward Island held twenty-eight out of the thirty seats in the Legislature. In Thursday's elections—If the early figures are confirmed—the Conservatives carried seventeen seats and the Liberals thirteen, and while the Speaker of the House and two members of the government met defeat, two other members of the executive won by margins so narrow as to suggest that a recount might unsettle them. Premier Matheson, who had more supporters than he well knew what to do with after the elections of January, 1912, is now suddenly presented to Canada as one winning a victory so costly in casualties as to amount to a defeat. Pyrrhic is the word. Whether he will keep his majority of four after the election inquests, and whether, in any event, such a majority would last long in the face of a vigorous and resourceful opposition, are questions of much interest. The Premier personally has a comfortable majority, but his dead and wounded are both numerous and significant. The Conservative majorities in Charlottetown, for example, were 1,098 and 869 in 1912. Thursday they were 90 and 75. The Commissioners of Public Works is reported elected by six votes, and there is talk about spoiled ballots having been counted. The Commissioner of Agriculture who had a majority of 285 in 1912 had only seven votes to spare yesterday. Hon. Charles Dalton, who is one of the fox magnates, also had a narrow escape. He won over Hon. Benjamin Rogers, until recently Lieutenant-Governor, who is the Liberal leader. The defeat of Mr. Rogers will be much regretted by Liberals everywhere. He gave the enemy a sharp and shaking fight at short notice, and with a little more time and organization it is evident that he and his associates would have given the Island a Liberal government. Mr. Rogers was one of the forty men who prepared the Liberal platform at the famous Ottawa convention of 1898.

By a narrow margin—very narrow—the influence of two governments was barely sufficient to prevent the Island from following Manitoba into the Liberal column. Indeed an analysis of Thursday's result when details are available may show that the Liberals polled a majority of the popular vote. There were no great local issues, though there were many issues over which feeling ran high. Undoubtedly the Island had been feeling the general revolution against Conservative rule which is noticeable elsewhere in Canada. The Liberal spirit, depressed for a time after the sweeping defeat of 1912, had flamed up again. Manitoba had spoken. The thought was in everybody's mind that New Brunswick and British Columbia would follow Manitoba's example when they had the opportunity. The Matheson government, though its majority was formidable, was seen no longer to be "solid with the country." The Conservatives locally had made mistakes, and they began to feel the effect of the scandals for which men of their party were responsible elsewhere in Canada. The secret ballot, introduced for the first time in the Island, made independent and fearless voting possible. The Liberals, making good use of the local issues at their command, conducted a most vigorous campaign. Considering that they had the influence of two governments against them they certainly made a great fight—one that will bring them congratulations from all over Canada.

Following the Manitoba victory, the Island returns afford fresh proof that the Liberal party is coming back. In every province party confidence is rising. The Conservatives in every province where they have been in power have fallen upon evil days. If, as we are told, four of Sir Robert Borden's ministers are demanding that the Federal election be brought on, the Prime Minister may point to Manitoba, and to the Island, and to the conditions in several other provinces.

THE WAR.

The Russian resistance is stiffening. Despatches illustrate the truth of Lord Kitchener's statement that the German drive is losing force and speed. And Russia, undismayed, is calling up the reserves of the Territorial army. Petrograd says that if the age limit is fixed at thirty, five this would mean 8,000,000 more men. These could not be equipped at once, but the best of them could soon be used

as reinforcements, and later on as fresh armies. The power to equip more men will improve rapidly, and with the forcing of the Dardanelles Russia might soon be able to meet the enemy on something like even terms in the matter of artillery. Of men the Czar will have more than he can employ at the front, no matter how long the war may last. Russia surprised the world by the speed of her mobilization thirteen months ago. She may surprise those who say it will be a long time before she can resume the offensive.

It is not long ago that Russia was fighting in the Carpathian passes, whence her soldiers could look down into the Hungarian plains. Lacking artillery and other equipment, her armies have been thrust back and have suffered terrific punishment. But the enemy has failed to crush or disperse these Russian armies, and they will turn upon the foe in time. This, too, is to be remembered: when the Russians get their supplies and equipment—above all, the necessary artillery—the German and Austrian forces opposing them will not be so strong as they have been for the last two months.

The Russians have had the heavy end of the fighting. It is now the turn of the French and British, and though their operations have been delayed by the necessity for sending guns and shells to Russia, they will soon be launching an attack in force upon the western front. Then we shall see.

If New Brunswick were to raise troops as Hilaire Belloc says the Germans and Austrians have done, we should send 35,000 men to the front. Mr. Belloc, a distinguished English military critic, says the Germans and Austrians have placed 12,000,000 equipped and organized men in the field since the beginning of the war, which represents ten per cent of the manhood of both nations. He asserts that they require almost 6,000,000 men to defend the fronts they are now holding, and that their casualties already exceed 6,000,000.

Suppose these figures to be approximately correct. If Canada were to recruit up to the same standard it would raise 900,000 men. So many will not be necessary, but Sir Robert Borden has said we may raise 350,000, and of that number our share would be some 15,000. It may be needless insanity which leads Germany and Austria to employ ten per cent of their male population in an attempt to throttle and dominate the world. We cannot help that. The wine is poured now, and it must be drunk. They must be beaten, or we must be beaten and become their property. Therefore, if New Brunswick's share of the forces necessary to defeat them should be 15,000 men, or 25,000, or 35,000, the men must be forthcoming. If the enemy were on our border we should have 50,000 men in short order. But if the Allies were beaten, we should have the Germans upon us in short order, and our 50,000 men would be but a hopeless handful. Every consideration of honor and of safety, of loyalty and of self-respect bids us push on the work of sending men, men, and more men until the enemy is crushed and the danger is over. We must think of nothing less.

GERMAN METHODS, AND OURS.

A German account of the North Sea battle in which the Bleucher was sunk has been written by one Captain von Kuhlvetter. The German government sanctions the captain's version, though it is a foolish lie on its face. He sinks the whole matter in more detail. It would be interesting to learn, for instance, why, having whipped the enemy so thoroughly, the German squadron continued to run away. It would be interesting to learn why, if it did not run away, the slowest of the ships was destroyed. And, finally, it would be most instructive to be told what further efforts have been made, since that brilliant expedition, to clear the Dogger Bank of fishermen by means of battle cruisers, and if none, and the Germans have stuck to their harbors, why they suddenly became so cautious.

The German fleet keeps under cover. Having no real victories to its credit, the German population is entertained by victories made of paper and ink. It is gratifying to have at least a true account of the German victory; only, seeing it has taken half a year to establish the truth, it is a pity that Captain von Kuhlvetter does not explain the whole matter in more detail. It would be interesting to learn, for instance, why, having whipped the enemy so thoroughly, the German squadron continued to run away. It would be interesting to learn why, if it did not run away, the slowest of the ships was destroyed. And, finally, it would be most instructive to be told what further efforts have been made, since that brilliant expedition, to clear the Dogger Bank of fishermen by means of battle cruisers, and if none, and the Germans have stuck to their harbors, why they suddenly became so cautious.

How much do the Germans know of the losses of their armies? A neutral observer of distinction says Germany alone has lost 8,000,000 men, killed, wounded or missing, and that of these at least 600,000 are dead, not counting mortality from any cause other than wounds. The German people are fed on lies. The diplomatic representatives Germany sends to neutral countries are occupied in spreading lies there. The German newspapers, controlled and inspired by the government, flood the land with falsehoods and distortions of every phase of the war.

Now, the contrast. In Britain—the Empire—the people are told at short intervals what our losses in battle have been. No information is concealed unless it may be of assistance to the enemy. Ours is a free nation. We have priceless privileges. Shall we keep our heritage, or let the Germans and the Austrians take it by force and set their feet upon our necks?

We say our methods and our institutions are better than theirs—and so they are. But if we would keep our freedom and our possessions, our right

to live in our own way and develop our national ideals, we must prove that we are worthy of freedom—that no military-mad nations can beat us down.

We in Canada have our share in this task. Let us look it in the face. Let us rise to the level of this supreme duty.

PURIFYING PUBLIC LIFE.

Ringling denunciation of corruption in high places was the keynote of the opening address to the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada at its session in Toronto three days ago. The speaker was His Grace Archbishop Matheson, Primate of All Canada.

In the course of his plain speaking he said: "That the politics of our country have been growing more and more impure as years go on is a sad and self-evident fact. It seems almost as if no political party can remain long in power before corruption creeps into it and spreads like a dread disease until it gnaws upon its vitals and kills it. Revelations of wrongdoing come to the surface here and there like hideous local eruptions, and it is not encouraging to be told that these are only slight compared to what is covered up and remains seething underneath. The situation, I repeat, is most menacing to the future well-being of our country. There must be a cleansing of the springs of our political life or else our whole character and ideals as a Canadian nation will be gravely imperilled. The cleansing is in the hands of the electors, who must see to it that only clean men are placed in public positions, and not only that, but that only clean men will be kept there."

The Archbishop said that the Church, after prayerfully forming its judgment on public questions and holding up proper ideals of character and conduct, "should not embalm these in journals of Synods, which are seen by few, but should have them each printed separately in such a form as to be capable of distribution among our people at the proper time. I feel that the Church must do something in combining with other agencies towards stemming the tide of political impurity which is and has been flooding and defacing our fair land."

These are good words, spoken with courage from conviction. How such words cover with shame and confusion the cheaper partisans who seek to defend or conceal wrongdoing and who say those who expose and condemn it are merely attacking Conservatives because they are Conservatives. The Archbishop is not a politician; he is not in politics. He speaks to the country without regard to or for parties. He does not believe we should tolerate corruption or their because it wraps itself in the folds of the country's flag or flourishes while the country is busy with the great war. Will the church follow his lead with courage and strike home?

BEGINNING TO SPEAK OUT IN MEETING.

Conservative newspapers are beginning to use plain language in commenting upon the "take-off system" of buying war supplies. The Conservative Toronto Telegram, the owner of which was formerly a Conservative member of Parliament, is not yet convinced that the methods exposed by the Davidson Commission have been abandoned. The Telegram says:

"Orders for certain lines of regimental supplies are said to be controlled by individuals who demand a twenty-five per cent. commission from the manufacturers who receive the orders for such supplies. The money that covers the price of these orders may come from regimental funds or from private subscriptions. Publicity should reveal the methods of expending the money irrespective of where the money comes from. Do custom and usage sanction a system under which individuals who can place or refuse to place orders for regimental supplies demand commissions of twenty-five per cent. on the price named in these orders? Do orders go to the manufacturer who can offer the best regimental supplies for the lowest price, or to the manufacturer who can pay the highest commission to the agent who places the order? These questions are being quietly asked and should be publicly answered. Sir Charles Davidson might do worse than include Toronto in the circuit of his war contract inquiry. An inquiry would show whether or not manufacturers have to meet demands for commissions when regiments place orders for military supplies other than those provided by the Militia Department."

The Davidson Commission can scarcely overlook this demand for an inquiry, made by a leading Conservative journal. The commission is now at work in British Columbia. After its work there has been done it should resume its operations in Eastern Canada. The country is asking for the exposure and punishment of all who are making dishonest profits out of the war, or who are concealing or permitting improper practices in connection with expenditures in any way related to the war.

It is a good sign that the more independent Conservative journals are beginning to "speak out in meeting."

THE WAR.

Official news of the landing of the whole Second Canadian Division—which includes the 20th New Brunswick—is now published, confirming private cables already received here. The division was carried to France and disembarked last Friday, in good order, and after a short period back of the lines will go to the battle front. All reports agree that this second Canadian expeditionary force is in all respects the equal of the first, whose of-

IS IT PATRIOTISM OR POLITICS?

(Toronto Globe).

Sir Robert Borden knows today, even if he did not know a year ago, that the war situation is much too serious for any man except a traitor or a fool to play party politics in Canada during this war.

Sir Sam Hughes knows as surely as he knows anything that every ounce of Canadian energy, physical, mental, and moral, must be conserved and utilized if Canada is to face up worthily to the nation's responsibilities and the Empire's needs.

Sir George Foster knows, no one of them knows better, that alike on the battlefields and in the councils of the nation the moral impact of Canada will be as important as its military prowess, and that in an election campaign is neither a matter of national sentiment nor a school of national morality.

It may be that Mr. W. L. White also knows that Canada's most dangerous enemies at this moment are not the Kaiser and his Hun, but are the Ministers of the Crown who, for themselves and the private interests an election might serve, about loyalty from the houseposts but are conspiring now for the third time within a year to sell Canada's birthright for less than a mess of pottage.

And the people of Canada know—Conservatives as well as Liberals know—that if a general election is called for this critical year it will be because the Prime Minister and his more responsible colleagues have been mastered, and stay mastered, by Rogers and Cochrane and Reid and Crothers. These are the men who, partly by their incapacity and partly by their chicanery, have already earned defeat for the Borden Government, and are now doing their best, or their worst, to merit disgrace for the Conservative party and humiliation for Canada.

There is no use mincing words. All this babbling of the Rogers newspapers about the responsibility of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberals is the only game of political tricksters, for which neither Sir Robert Borden nor his party will be held responsible unless they endorse it. The full and final responsibility for calling an election at any date within the next twelve months lies alone on the Prime Minister. If he does not want it, and is strong enough to say so, there neither can be nor will be an election. And as for a coalition, the main Ottawa and their hirelings and echoes in Toronto and elsewhere who organize and are carrying on this campaign of party jealousy and innuendo are not the men who would sacrifice their selfish chances in an election for the sake of the country's honor, or who would agree to any coalition which honorable and patriotic men could accept.

This much ought to be taken for granted: if the Government's election policy is dictated by the Rogers clique, and if its programme is fixed to suit the exploitation interests that are now dogging the Government, there is no place in such a campaign either for Liberals or for Liberal opinion.

Nathiel Rogers, none of his ilk ought ever to have been allowed in a Canadian Cabinet. Those of them that are not utterly incapable are utterly corrupt. The Premier has them on his hands, and may not be able to rid himself of them. If so, Sir Wilfrid Laurier should, for the nation's sake, in war time, agree to any reasonable proposal for extension of the term of Parliament, even though it carried the Government's burden of incompetence and compromised Ministers. But to ask the electors of Canada to endorse before the war is over the cut-throat antagonisms within the Cabinet, and to whitewash Hon. Robert Rogers for the High Commissioner in London, would be to insult the decencies of Canadian life.

The Globe affirms again that, in the face of the war's growingly stern realities, it cares next to nothing for the fortunes of mere party programmes and personalities in Canadian politics. But every truly patriotic Canadian, Conservative and Liberal alike, will absolutely refuse to condone any election scheme inspired by the disrupted Tammanyism that sank Manitoba neck-deep in the mire and filth of political criminality and rottenness. We are quite ready to acquiesce in any proposal agreed upon by Sir Robert and Sir Wilfrid, uncoerced by the Rogers junta, whom self-respecting Conservatives themselves distrust, but it would be treason to the ideals of life for which Canadian soldiers fight in Europe were trickery allowed to triumph over public morality and patriotism.

Sir Robert Borden might even yet redeem his lost chances were he to give his own best instincts free play. Were he to grip this persistent Rogers cabal with a strong hand he would find what Manitoba found—a painted leth. And as for the Rogers newspapers fed out of his hand—a subsidized Press in Canada has neither teeth nor claws. But so long as these paid-for journals are allowed to speak in with Government authority, to traduce Conservative manufacturers who joined in the C. M. A. protest against an election, and week after week to vilify Liberal leaders—to do all this for election purposes, and the Prime Minister keep silence as to the probabilities of an election—so long will recruiting and patriotic enterprises suffer and the national sentiment be divided by petty controversies.

Let Sir Robert Borden play the part not of an uncertain party leader, but of the real Prime Minister of Canada, and let him take this whole war situation as seriously as he knows it to be, and the Liberals of Canada will join their Chief, by whom they have been pledged, in giving him devoted and loyal service until the war is over and the victory is won.

feers and men have fought so well under all circumstances. The second division is, more nearly all-Canadian than the first, and this province is more strongly represented in it. We are fortunate in being able to publish today—along with the official news of the landing—a spirited letter telling of the final review of the Canadian troops by His Majesty and Lord Kitchener on the eve of their departure, on which occasion the 20th elicited high praise from King George.

A letter from Lloyd George on the war and the chances that conscription may become necessary at once is a feature of this morning's news worthy of careful reading. The Minister of Munitions knows the people of the United Kingdom as few leaders do, and the moving power of his words is very great. He has moral courage in a conspicuous degree. He has knowledge of the situation which the nation at large cannot have. His warning as to the gravity of the peril in which the Empire and the Allies generally stand is certain to have a sobering effect far and wide. Here in Canada we must weigh and heed that warning. Lloyd George does not yet say "Yes" or "No" to conscription. He asks the country to wait for the government's forthcoming decision. But he says that the war must be won regardless of differences of opinion as to methods of raising men, and if the voluntary system does not produce them fast enough, then conscription must. As to that, there is little enough room for argument. At the moment the facts are in doubt, and so controversy over conscription flourishes. Presently we shall have an official statement of the case—the figures—from the Prime Minister. And by the facts the voluntary system must stand or fall.

Compare what Australia is doing with what Canada is doing. Australia has sent 70,000 men overseas, and has 40,000 more in training. Further enlistment is proceeding rapidly. This country has sent some 82,000 men overseas, and has about 78,000 in training. The Australians conveyed their forces and supplies with their own ships of war; and, as a matter of fact, it is known that His Majesty's Australian cruiser Sydney (of the Bristol type) on at least one occasion assisted in protecting our shores and in conveying a transport carrying Canadian troops. It was the Sydney which destroyed the Emden. Australia's population is much less

than ours—2,250,000 less by the last census—yet our cousins have almost matched us in the number of men sent to the front thus far, and they are using such vigorous methods to speed up recruiting that we shall have difficulty in keeping them from outstripping us in the race of honor.

There is some good news from the Russians, and some bad. The bad outweighs the good at the moment, for it appears that a large Russian force is cut off by Von Hindenburg and may extricate itself with very heavy losses if at all. The Russian idea is that this force is in danger enough, but that its fate is by no means settled yet. A great battle is proceeding, and its issue will decide whether or not the Russian reverse is as severe as Berlin claims. There is no reason yet to apprehend that the main Russian armies are likely to be broken in the field. The Bear stands up admirably to terrific punishment; and his turn will come. Meantime, the great lesson of all the war is the urgent need for men and more men for the western front.

FILL UP OUR NEXT BATTALION.

Hon. Mr. Hazen's speech at the opening of the Fredericton Exhibition on Saturday contained, among other interesting matter, what may be taken as an official announcement that Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Fowler, M. P., is to command the next infantry battalion from New Brunswick; and we trust this news will be followed, as soon as may be, by publication of the names of all or some of the officers who are to serve in this unit. Action, together with definite knowledge of what is being done, strongly helps recruiting.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries dwelt upon the duty of this province to raise men more rapidly for service overseas, and his remarks on this point should receive attention in every part of this country, together with what he said about putting aside petty issues and concentrating our energies upon the work necessary to bring the war to a successful conclusion. It may be said by some that all that we can do will have but a small influence in bringing the war to an end. But we are not in the slightest degree excused by any such unworthy plea; for we must remember that if other parts of the Empire sought refuge in such foolish and wretched conduct they would be languid or indifferent or tardy, and our cause would be lost. New Brunswick, just as much as any other part of this Empire, is bound by every

consideration of honor, of duty, and of safety, to throw itself into this war.

And it is the practical things that we must do. Just now we must set to work to fill up the new battalion which Lieutenant-Colonel Fowler is to command. We should fill it up in record time. The statement by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries that every young man of active service age who has no ties to hold him should enlist forthwith, is not only a justifiable but a highly necessary presentation of a fact which requires to be driven home at once in every parish of this province. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, in his reference to the supreme issue of the hour and to the necessity for speeding up recruiting, spoke strongly, but moderately after all when the situation is duly considered. Every young man of active service age who had not yet put on the fighting coat of the King has now an opportunity of joining a new battalion to be composed of the sons of New Brunswick. He will be going to the front, after a period of preliminary training, together with other New Brunswickers, young men from the farms, from the factories, from the shops and from the offices, young men who have heard the strong, resonant call of duty from the battlefields of Europe, and who have determined to be true to the best blood in them and to go to the support of our brave fellows who are already in the battle smoke.

Our recruiting machinery, which is in the hands of earnest and patriotic men, has been working more smoothly of late, and if certain measures are taken to simplify and facilitate the work still further, and if the duty of the hour is carried home to the young men of every parish, far and near, we cannot think it possible that the new battalion will long lack the full number required. We must keep in mind the truth that the number of men we have sent is still far below our quota. If we had recruited up to the level of what Alberta has done, in proportion to our population, we should already have raised some 14,000 or 16,000 men. Certainly we never should stay our hand until we have raised at least 8,000. We do not know in this country how long this war will last. They do not know it in Great Britain. They do not know it in France. Least of all do they know it in stricken Belgium, or in devastated Serbia, or in mighty Russia. But in this country, and in all those countries, they do know that the young men of the Allied nations must go forward steadily, battalion by battalion, brigade by brigade, to fill up the ranks, to increase the forces in the field, and to strike ever more staggering blows at the enemy, until his front is broken and the horror and destruction of war are carried into his territories.

This, then, is the hour in which the loyal sons of New Brunswick must bear a hand. This week recruiting committees will be at work in many places. They do not want excuses; they want men. Every man who can go and who is fit to go is needed—at once. Let that fact be driven home in every town and village, and we must not doubt that the harvest will be an honorable one.

THE ELECTION TREASON.

Ottawa despatches of Friday predict that within three or four months Canada will be in the midst of a general election, in spite of the common knowledge that the people do not want a contest, that the government has no excuse for going to the country, and that a political campaign will divide and divert energies that should be devoted to the prosecution of the war.

It is noteworthy that the Montreal Gazette, the senior Conservative journal, is opposed to an election before the end of the parliamentary term, more than a year hence. Nevertheless Ottawa hears that four of Sir Robert Borden's ministers are pressing hard for an appeal to the country, and that the Prime Minister, listening to these advocates of partisan tactics and disturbed by growing evidences of hostility to his party in many parts of Canada, has agreed to undertake the unworthy job of trying to "jockey" the Liberal leader into some position where he may be charged with making an election unavoidable. Some of Sir Robert's advisers, it appears, considering only the chances for gaining a new lease of power, are convinced that while those chances are bad now they will be much worse a year hence or some months after the conclusion of peace. It is proposed, therefore, to have a private conference with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and suggest the extension of the present Parliament until two or three years after the end of the war. He would, naturally, decline to assent to any such absurd and unworthy bargain—and his refusal would be made an excuse for bringing on the elections this year!

AN APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.

We have now entered upon the second year of the war, and the end seems as far off as ever. No one imagined, a year ago, that by September of 1915, Canada would have sent across the Atlantic nearly 100,000 men with as many more to follow if necessary. This magnificent enlistment, while primarily due to the loyalty of our people, has been, in a large measure, made possible by the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

This greatest of all the national benefactions is now assisting 20,000 families of men who have enlisted for overseas service. These men have come forward with the full assurance that the people of Canada will see to it that during their absence, their wives, widowed mothers and little children shall be maintained in comfort. We hear that the drain upon the fund is assuming large proportions, that to meet the needs of July and August \$700,000 was expended, that the reserves are being materially decreased and that the national executive committee now finds it necessary to make a further appeal to the Canadian public.

There are many funds, most of them worthy, but of them all the Patriotic Fund is the one we cannot allow to fail. It is the duty of the government to arm, equip and maintain the troops. Not a dollar do the federal authorities give to the Patriotic Fund. This work depends solely on the patriotism and generosity of our own people. Thousands of brave men are fighting our battles, believing that we meant what we said when we told them as they went forward: "Go and we will care for the wife and the children." It would be to our everlasting disgrace if our pledge were broken.

The national organization, with headquarters at Ottawa (and branches or affiliated associations in every part of the Dominion), is worthy of our most generous support in the tremendous and ever-growing task that it has undertaken. We have heard much about patriotism from the public platform in this coun-

try. This is the time, of all times, to practice it. Let Sir Robert Borden set the example.

A MESSAGE FOR NEW BRUNSWICKERS.

Here is a stirring message for New Brunswickers, particularly those of fighting age.

On September 2, when 25,000 Canadians, the men of the Second Division, were marching past the saluting base at Beachborough Park under the eyes of His Majesty King George and Lord Kitchener, the King turned to Major-General Turner, who commands the division and who was at his right hand, and asked concerning a certain regiment, then passing:

"What regiment is that?"
"The 26th from New Brunswick, your Majesty," replied Major-General Turner. "An exceptionally fine regiment," said his Majesty.

A little later Lord Kitchener said to Major-General Turner that this second Canadian division was one of the finest he had ever reviewed.

We take these few sentences from the text of an exceptionally interesting letter from Captain the Rev. E. B. Hooper, chaplain of the 26th, which is published in full on another page of today's issue.

This part of the letter, we think, requires no comment, but the news may properly be regarded as a cause of pride on the part of the 26th and on the part of their relatives here. We had almost said that this message might well be a cause for pride on the part of all friends of the 26th in this country, but that is only true regarding some of their friends—those who are themselves unfit for active duty overseas. To those friends of the 26th who are of active service age but who have not yet joined the colors, we prefer to give another part of Captain Hooper's letter. He says:

"The reading of the daily papers is my first duty every morning. And the reading reminds me of the gravity of present conditions, and the urgent need for more and more men. My wonder increases as to how any man of military age and physical fitness can remain at home. Business, home ties, love—all have to be sacrificed, that the Empire may be preserved, that German militarism may be crushed, and a righteous and lasting peace may be restored."

"For myself, old as I am, loving the happiest of homes with all my heart, devoted to my people and my parish, I would rather die in serving the Empire in its need than live on in the enjoyment of a peaceful and happy home while other men are fighting for me or are serving in my place. Only those who are doing their duty at home or at the front can pray: God bless our Empire! God save the King!"

This, too, needs no comment. Think it over.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

More of our men—the men we knew—have crossed over to France. Many of them are asking when the young men they left here will follow. What is the answer?

Recruiting here is taking a more practical turn. Sir Sam Hughes, everyone is sure, wants New Brunswick to raise as many good men as possible in the shortest possible time. That, too, is the desire of the men at work in recruiting here. If they can show the Minister of Militia how the work in New Brunswick can be simplified and speeded up, no doubt he will meet them more than half way.

Colonel George W. Fowler and the Minister of Marine could both be of assistance in this matter. There is no time to lose. A provincial recruiting officer is necessary. A responsible head who can deal with Ottawa without going through Halifax is also necessary. The number and the officers of the next battalion should be made public. There are other practical steps that will help every phase of recruiting. All concerned have the same object in view. There should be no difficulty in making the suggested improvements.

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We have now entered upon the second year of the war, and the end seems as far off as ever. No one imagined, a year ago, that by September of 1915, Canada would have sent across the Atlantic nearly 100,000 men with as many more to follow if necessary. This magnificent enlistment, while primarily due to the loyalty of our people, has been, in a large measure, made possible by the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

This greatest of all the national benefactions is now assisting 20,000 families of men who have enlisted for overseas service. These men have come forward with the full assurance that the people of Canada will see to it that during their absence, their wives, widowed mothers and little children shall be maintained in comfort. We hear that the drain upon the fund is assuming large proportions, that to meet the needs of July and August \$700,000 was expended, that the reserves are being materially decreased and that the national executive committee now finds it necessary to make a further appeal to the Canadian public.

There are many funds, most of them worthy, but of them all the Patriotic Fund is the one we cannot allow to fail. It is the duty of the government to arm, equip and maintain the troops. Not a dollar do the federal authorities give to the Patriotic Fund. This work depends solely on the patriotism and generosity of our own people. Thousands of brave men are fighting our battles, believing that we meant what we said when we told them as they went forward: "Go and we will care for the wife and the children." It would be to our everlasting disgrace if our pledge were broken.

The national organization, with headquarters at Ottawa (and branches or affiliated associations in every part of the Dominion), is worthy of our most generous support in the tremendous and ever-growing task that it has undertaken. We have heard much about patriotism from the public platform in this coun-

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