

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1918

## HUNS OFFER PEACE TO BELGIUM; AUSTRIA'S NOTE TO BRITAIN

London, Sept. 15.—It is understood that the government has received an Austro-Hungarian peace note inviting a discussion in a neutral country and also a proposal, that all the powers should withdraw their troops from the Murman territory.

It is also learned that Germany has made a peace offer to Belgium. The terms of this proposal are as follows:

That Belgium shall remain neutral until the end of the war.

That thereafter the entire economic and political independence of Belgium shall be reconstituted.

That the pre-war commercial treaties between Germany and Belgium shall again be put into operation after the war for an indefinite period.

That Belgium shall use her good offices to secure the return of the German colonies.

That the Flemish question shall be considered, and the Flemish minority, which aided the German invaders, shall not be penalized.

The proposal contains no word respecting reparation or indemnities, no admission that Germany wronged Belgium.

## BIG POST FOR LT. COL. POWELL

Goes to Siberia as Base Commandant—Officers Named for Canada's New Expedition

Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. H. Powell, A.A.G. Military District No. 1, has been selected as base commandant of the Canadian expeditionary force in Siberia. The announcement of this appointment will be received as a well merited tribute to the ability of a soldier of long experience to whom the honor comes as a fitting recognition of the manner in which he has performed the arduous duties assigned him. Since coming to St. John, Lieutenant-Colonel Powell has won the sincere respect of all those with whom he has come in contact and has made hosts of friends. While sincere congratulations are being extended to him in the distinction of being selected from among the available officers of the entire Canadian staff for this important post, his friends will regret that it involves his departure from St. John.

As the post is a new one, there will be some uncertainty, until further advice is received from Ottawa, regarding the duties which will devolve upon the base commandant, apart from the fact implied by the title that he will be in charge of the Canadian base in Siberia, a position for which his executive ability well fits him. It is possible that Lieutenant-Colonel Powell will precede the expeditionary force in order to complete arrangements for the base before the troops arrive in Siberia and have the base in readiness for them. While there is no intimation to this effect, his friends may at least hope that it will mean a further advance in rank.

Lieutenant-Colonel Powell is a former Ottawa man and a graduate of the Royal Military College at Kingston. He holds the King's and Queen's medals for service in the South African war as he saw much of the fighting there. On his return to Canada he became a regular and was given a staff appointment. Later he became deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster general for M. D. No. 7 at Halifax, which position he held for several years.

On the outbreak of war, when New Brunswick was created a brigade command he was appointed assistant adjutant general in this province, which position he has held ever since, and when the province was created a separate military district he was retained in his old position. He has repeatedly been acting O. C. of this district and two summers ago was assistant adjutant general at Valcartier Camp during the summer training period.

Lieutenant-Colonel Powell is generally recognized in militia circles as being one of the best administrative officers in Canada and few soldiers have K. R. & O. at their fingers' tips as does he. It has been learned that the maritime provinces representatives with the Siberian force, who will constitute "A" company of the 200th Canadian Rifles, will have their headquarters in Sussex and will receive their training there, prior to their departure for the Orient. This will bring to the New Brunswick camp the members of the sister provinces who are going to Siberia.

The two platoons, which will form New Brunswick's share of the company, will be commanded respectively by Captain H. D. Warren, of Sussex, and Lieutenant W. H. Brooks, of St. John. Both of these officers have seen overseas service in the present war. Captain Warren, in accepting an appointment as a subaltern in order to get to Siberia, is but following the example of several other officers who have been appointed to this force and who are taking lower rank for the purpose.

Another New Brunswick man who has been appointed to the Siberian force is Harry McGill, formerly district toll chief of the Bell Telephone Company, Ottawa, and son of the late R. M. J. McGill, chief accountant of the Transcontinental railway, who has been granted a commission in the signalling company, where his training will be of value. A brother, Robert McGill, is a sergeant on the instructional staff at Kingston, after having served thirty months overseas.

Lieutenant McGill is a former St. John man and is a nephew of Mrs. P. C. Sharkey of this city, his mother being a sister of Mrs. Sharkey.

Private Arthur Arbin was wounded in the left shoulder on Sept. 8 and has been admitted to a hospital in France, this advice having been received by his wife, who resides at 215 Charlotte street. Private Arbin had served for seven years with the U. S. army and was a military telegrapher in the Philippine Islands before returning to Canada to enlist.

Mrs. Starr, 16 Queen street, was advised on Saturday that Sergt. John Starr has been admitted to the 27th General Hospital at Camiers on Sept. 8.

Mrs. Mary Sheehan received word on Saturday that Private Warren Ryan had been admitted to No. 2 Western General Hospital on Sept. 6, suffering from gunshot wounds.

Word was received in the city on Saturday that Corporal George Hemming has been wounded. This is the second

time he has suffered wounds, having been in hospital before in April. Word came to his parents on Friday that Private Kenneth Barbour, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Barbour of Riverside, Albert county, and Private Joseph Barbour, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Barbour of Waterville, had each been wounded, the former in the thigh and the latter in the side. Each of the young men, who are cousins, had been wounded before and had recovered sufficiently to be back at the front. Their friends hope that these heroic lads may again enjoy complete recovery from their injuries.

## MASTER'S CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN CANCELLED

The certificate of the master, Captain Charles E. Dagwell, has been suspended for the duration of the war as a result of the inquiry held here on Saturday regarding the circumstances surrounding the loss of the schooner Dorvalton, which was attacked by gun fire and destroyed by burning by a German submarine off the mouth of the Bay of Fundy on August 2.

The reasons given that the captain had handed over to the commander of the enemy submarine his secret sailing orders, making no attempt to destroy them, notwithstanding the peremptory orders he had received. The court found that he had been gravely negligent, but not with criminal intent.

Although the crew was of mixed nationality and two of the members spoke German, the court was unable to connect the disaster with any prearranged signals or notification to the enemy. The other members of the crew were, therefore, exonerated.

## CALL FOR DISMEMBERMENT OF THE DUAL EMPIRE

New York, Sept. 15.—Resolutions demanding dismemberment of the Austro-Hungarian empire and pledging the various oppressed nations of the empire to put aside political and religious differences until the cause of freedom is won, were adopted here yesterday by representatives of the subject peoples at a victory meeting for oppressed nationalities of Austria-Hungary, held in Carnegie Hall.

## In Old Age

Health and comfort in old age depends largely on keeping the liver and kidneys in healthful action.

Pains and aches, stiffness of the joints, lumbago and rheumatism tell of poisons left in the blood by sluggishness of the liver and kidneys.

People in advanced years hold Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills in high esteem because of the promptness and certainty with which they awaken the action of kidneys, liver and bowels.

## Widespread Use Of Carrier Pigeons

They Are Doing Notable Work—The Story of the "V. C. Bird"

Behind British Lines in France, Aug. 20.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—For the American soldier newly arrived in the lines in France there is always a great interest attaching to the now widespread use of carrier pigeons. Little crates of the birds are found in many a front line dugout, and they become great pets of the men, who watch their work with close interest.

Normally information in wartime is transmitted by wire, but sometimes occasions arise when the wires prove insufficient or break down altogether. Every front line unit must be prepared for such an emergency. So the pigeons are always kept handy, and from time to time are "tried out" to be sure that they are ready for their work.

The pigeons quickly become accustomed to shell fire and they will carry important messages through a heavy artillery barrage and through gas clouds when no other method of communication is practicable.

Pigeons were first employed by the British army in October, 1914, when an experimental shipment of fifty birds was brought to France. Their value was immediately recognized and the service rapidly grew to enormous proportions. In war, mobile lofts must take the place of stationary ones. These are usually small automobile trucks and trailers, for distances of ten miles, single birds are relied on constantly, and there are very few failures.

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In the battle of the Somme in 1916 about 4,500 operation messages were brought in by carrier pigeons over a period of three months. Carrier pigeons are very successfully used in connection with aircraft in flight, and for distances up to twenty or thirty miles in fine weather can be relied upon to reach home with their message. They are released in such a manner that they will first move with the wind, the airman throwing the bird forcibly downward and sideways in the direction the wind is blowing so that the wind will assist it to clear the machine. With sea-planes, some cases have occurred where pilots in distress have been rescued as the result of pigeon messages.

There are several cases on record in which a bird has successfully delivered its message even when severely wounded. In the British army lofts, the inquisitive American soldiers have found several birds still at work who bear the marks of battle, including several veterans who are still flying, regularly though minus a leg lost in action.

The British pigeon officers tell of an historic pigeon, known in service as the "V. C. Bird," which arrived torn and bleeding with the cylinder containing his message actually forced from his breast by the force of an exploding shell. This stout-hearted flier fell dead when his message was delivered.

## BURIED ON SUNDAY

The funeral of Miss Grace Oram took place yesterday afternoon from the residence of her brother at 129 Sheriff street. Burial services were conducted in St. Peter's church by Rev. F. J. Coghlan, C. S. R., and interment was made in the Catholic cemetery.

The funeral of James Clark, chief engineer of the C. G. S. Lansdowne, took place yesterday afternoon from his residence in Cliff street to the Cathedral, where burial services were conducted by Rev. Wm. Duke. Interment took place in the old Catholic cemetery. The body was escorted to its last resting place by a guard of honor under the command of Captain A. J. Mulcahy.

The funeral of Mrs. Eliza Jane Willis took place yesterday afternoon from her late residence in Golden Grove. Burial services were conducted by Rev. L. A. Hoyt and interment was made in the churchyard of the Episcopal church at Loch Lomond.

A large number attended the Soldiers' Comforts fair at West St. John Saturday. The door prize, a bread mixer, was won by Mrs. C. G. Gile; gent's air gun, sofa cushion, W. Seeley's ladies' air gun, fancy pen, clock, Yosted's gent's bean board, centre piece, Roy Campbell's ladies' bean board, fancy work, Miss S. E. Murphy. The fair will close tonight. A lot of coats will be the door prize and during the evening two other loads will be disposed of. At the close the various lotteries will be drawn and prizes awarded. The depot band will attend.

## NO HOPE FOR A BETTERMENT OF FOOD SITUATION

German Official Makes Admission and is Told Workmen Must Have Shorter Hours

Amsterdam, Sept. 16.—Herr Von Waldow, president of the German food regulation board, speaking at a reception to the leaders of the German trades union, said he regretted the lateness of the harvest and that there were no shaper means than were at present used to get more foodstuffs.

The corn crop, he said, was only fifteen per cent better than that of last year and the potato crop was probably worse. The provisioning of industries, he added, would improve from October 1. A full bread ration certainly would be restored, but he declared he could not hold out any prospect for an increase in the potato ration, as unfavorable weather had prejudiced the crop.

Under present war conditions, the pigeons are most largely employed for two purposes—to bring back information from the front line trenches, and during an advance to bring messages from the advancing tanks and infantry. Generally speaking, a 100-mile flight is the outside limit for military purposes, even when messages are sent in duplicate. For distances of ten miles, single birds are relied on constantly, and there are very few failures.

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## BIG POTATO CROP SAVED ENGLAND

Striking Statement by President of Board of Agriculture

London, Sept. 16.—The huge additional potato crop grown in England in 1917 enabled that country to maintain its position as a belligerent, so visiting American editors were told at a dinner on Saturday. Rowland E. Prother, president of the board of agriculture, said that but for this home crop Great Britain might have been starved into submission.

Continuing, Mr. Prother told what the agriculturist had done to help win the war. Nothing, he said, so stimulated the farmers to do their best as "the argument that every ton of food they raised helped to bring over the American army to shorten the road to victory. Concerning the aid which the government has given and is giving to increase men to replace the labor they lost—something like 60,000 returned soldiers. Thanks to the energy of our army we have something like 20,000 German prisoners at work on land and we have in-

Meatless weeks must be continued, the speaker said, in order not to endanger the milk and fat supply. Unfortunately he was unable to hold out any prospect of an improvement in the food supply, but he was positive that it would not get worse.

Herr Leiten, a member of the Reichstag, who was one of the deputation, replying to Herr Von Waldow, said that in view of the hopeless information he gave regarding the food supply the workers could not continue to work the number of hours they are now working.

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## DEATH OF CHILD

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created the number of women land workers by upwards of 200,000. For the harvest we provided an additional 10,000 soldiers.

## VALLEY RAILWAY WORKMAN KILLED IN ACCIDENT

Boich Constuk, aged thirty-five years a Russian employed by Kennedy & McDonald, on the Valley railway, was run over by a working train at Westfield on Saturday evening and had both of his legs nearly severed. He was rushed to the General Public Hospital where he died about midnight. Prior to his death both legs had been amputated.



## GIVE!

WON'T you help make it possible for all the boys to be inside? YOU—EVERYBODY—can give something. Put your fighting dollars behind our fighting lads. Give them your loyal support, the help, comfort, care and consolation you would want if you were there.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO DISTINCTION OF RACE OR CREED  
ALL SOLDIERS ARE ADMINISTERED TO ALIKE

\$500,000.00 is needed quickly to keep pace with the wants of our boys who are wearing down civilization's most savage and "bloodthirsty" enemy. The increasing demand for more huts and supplies is great—far greater than our finances at present can maintain. So won't YOU help us "carry on" this angelic work?

"Stand behind the boys behind our guns"

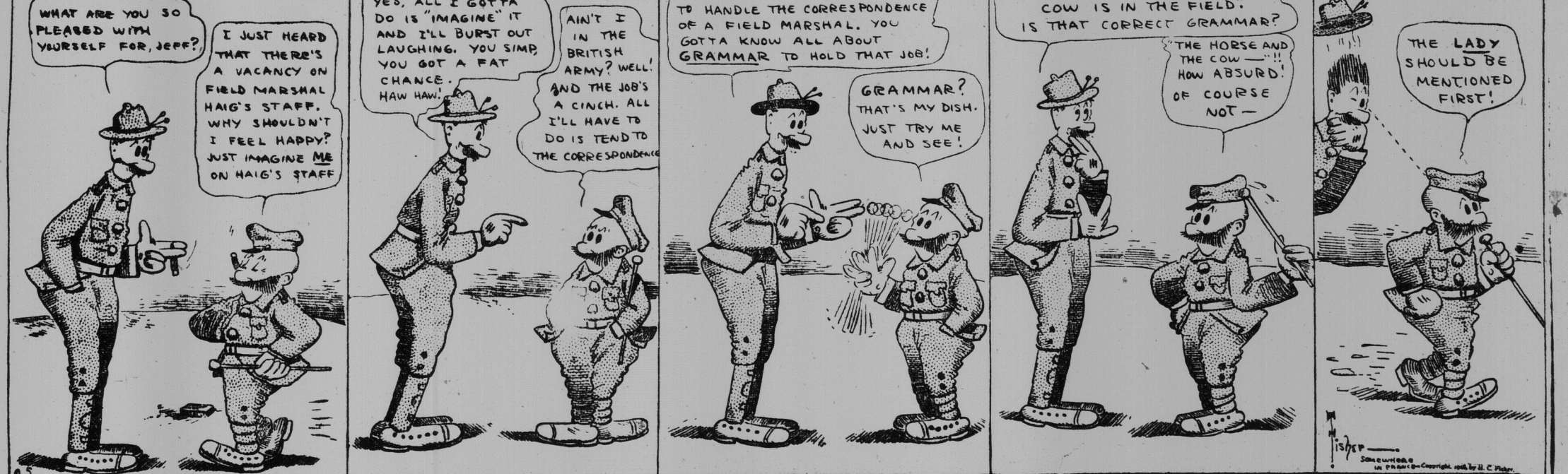
## GIVE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN



Canadian Headquarters, 95 Laurier Ave., West, Ottawa, Ont.

## MUTT AND JEFF—JEFF CONFUSES DRAWING-ROOM STUFF WITH HIS GRAMMAR

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By "BUD" FISHER