

The Daily Gleaner



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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1918. Tomorrow, New Year's Day, The Gleaner will not be published.

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

Within a few hours the Old Year, with all its dark clouds of war, will have passed, and the New Year, bright with anticipation of a real and lasting peace, will have been ushered in.

With stout hearts we Canadians greet the New Year, firm in our high resolve to do our duty unflinchingly, to make the most of our opportunities, to use wisely our resources, and to do whatever lies in our power to serve our Dominion and our Empire in the trying days before us, upon the issue of which so largely depends not only our own future but the future of the world's civilization.

When we look back over the past six months we see something almost miraculous in the position we hold today. Consider the sudden, startling, dramatic rush of events between mid-July and the first of November. "The line may be bent, but it can never be broken" was what we said for years about our line through France and Flanders. Between March 21 and 27, the impossible happened; it was broken. The Fifth Army was cut to pieces, and the Allied forces were driven back, and back, and back till the Germans were nearer Berlin since September, 1918. The British Commander-in-Chief told his armies that they were fighting with their "backs to the wall"; the British Premier cabled the United States to send men "for God's sake"; a British officer told New York that we would not say we were fighting with our back to the wall, if we had any reserves. We know now that the heart-shaking rumors of April 25th about the French government retreating from Paris to Bordeaux were based on fact. We lost in six days ground it had taken us six months to win. Last mid-summer the most sanguine optimist could only hope at best that we might be able to hold the Germans back until winter weather made campaigning impossible, and the American host could turn back the tide in 1919—possibly. Last mid-summer, and later, the opinion was freely expressed that the Americans had come in "too late," and that the only possible outcome of the world conflict was an inglorious, negotiated peace, a compromise with Wrongs, crowned, throned and triumphant.

"But sudden the worst turns the best to the brave." Foch was made generalissimo, thanks, as the great Frenchman said himself, to Lloyd George. No human being ever controlled such an unthinkable aggregate of fighting power for such magnificent ends. As Foch thought, determined and ordered, the blows were struck in Macedonia, in Palestine, in France, in Belgium, in Italy. Everywhere the enemy was pushed back, and back, and back. The tide of victory turned. Bulgaria asked for mercy, groveling. One prop was knocked from the strange war fabric called Mittel-Europa, and the whole edifice crashed to the ground, as every unseasonal empire built on military power is sure to do. Turkey followed Bulgaria on her knees, then Austria-Hungary, then the architect of all this ruin—arrogant, brutal Germany, whose avowed aim was domination of the world. The Central Powers were granted an armistice such as the world has never heard of before. It was the humiliation of a great fighting nation without parallel since the Caudine Forks. As climax to the triumph of Right, the German High Sea fleet surrendered without firing a shot. "Our future is on the water," said the Kaiser, and the sailor became a German war-cry. The German fleet was on the water. At the predestined day, November 22nd, seventy-one of their war vessels steamed as prisoners to their anchorage of the Firth of Forth between two lines of British ships and hauled down their flag. It was written.

"As thou wast constant in our war, so joyous in our loss" is what Britain may now say to Canada. Be it permitted once in ten years to rehearse the steadfastness of our people. Canada never hesitated for a moment what part to take; she flung herself into the fray, bucking on her armor as she ran. Britain will never forget the speed with which the First Division reached the old homeland. Canada never flinched nor faltered when the First Division was cut to pieces at Ypres, but "saved the situation," or when the Second was annihilated June 2nd, 1918. She never ceased to send men, and ever more men. When voluntary enlistment ran out, she enforced conscription, just like Britain and the United States. The hand on the helm of the ship of state was firm. Treasure flowed as freely as blood. Never a loan to the government (ourselves) failed; never a war-charity demand was made which was not met and more than met. Never once from east to west was there a flutter of the white flag. There was no "defeatist" or pacifist party in all the breadth of the land. The attitude of our Canadian press from first to last was beyond praise. Hope is an ingredient of our clear Norland air, and in the darkest days "our leaders of thought never 'despaired of the republic.'" The party truce was loyally kept. That will be the verdict of history.

Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war. Canada has less to pay her war debt, to bring back her fighting men to their places in the commonwealth as citizens, to whom we shall look for guidance and ideals, to build up the waste places in the land, and to set shining examples of wise, progressive democracy. And, if she can escape the curse of narrow party politics, Canada will meet the days of peace with the same triumph as she met the days of war. Therefore, let us keep our New Year's royalty, in the church and in the home, with hope and joy; and let us pledge ourselves to make the Canada of the future worthy of those heroic sons who have given their life that she might live.

THE GERMAN EMBROGLIO. Recent despatches from Berlin state that it is believed by some that the majority socialists will retire from the government and leave the independents in full control. The independent socialists and the other socialists have had much in common. Only slight differences divided them, the independents being more inclined to the side of the extremists than their fellows. It is now up to both sides to get right together and fight the Bolshevik over, who will do their utmost to overthrow even an independent socialist government. Dr. Carl Liebknecht and George Ledebor, the leader of the sailors, who head the Spartacus or Bolshevik party, appear to be gaining daily in influence and power, and they may give the moderates who wish to save Germany a rough ride. But those who know Germany declare they cannot believe the sober people of that country will allow their native land to fall a prey to the crazy un-German rule of Bolshevism, whose utter hopelessness is daily becoming more apparent in Russia.

DROP RESTRICTIONS ON IMPERIAL TRADE

Many Prohibitions Withdrawn Since the Signing of the Armistice.

Montreal, Dec. 29.—Mr. G. T. Milne, Imperial Trade Commissioner in Canada and Newfoundland, has received from the Imperial Department of Overseas Trade in London, the following cable despatch, relating to the withdrawal of restrictions against the shipment of certain commodities: "Since the armistice was signed, many restrictions on commerce have been withdrawn, while in the case of those which remain, licenses are being granted much more freely than previously. Particulars regarding these relaxations will be published weekly in the Board of Trade Journal, the official organ of the Imperial Government for notices regarding trade."

The following relaxations in particular should be noted: "1. Permits to manufacture and priority certificates in connection therewith are no longer necessary. "2. Firms are at liberty to accept civil or commercial orders for immediate execution, thus freeing the engineering industry, among others, for commercial work. "3. All the principal kinds of raw materials may now be used for the commercial manufacture of goods for export, but these raw materials themselves may not be exported in certain cases without licenses. Among these to which this condition applies are the following: Aluminum, antimony, brass, copper, iron, lead, nickel, spelter or zinc, steel, tin. "In general, restrictions on the export of manufactured goods have been removed, while they have been retained in the case of raw materials.

From the People PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of The Gleaner. Sir,—I am very glad to see that Citizen in your last issue admits that the Prohibition Act is not popular with the public in general. Anyone with an atom of brains can see that the Act is an impossibility and will only tend to continue to create a bad feeling. In fact, any Act which is not purely democratic will surely die. You cannot make the whole of the people swallow a few narrow, bigoted opinions. We are today, I presume, paying the heaviest war taxes on the very necessities of life, and that means making the rich richer and the poor poorer. Therefore, I calculate, if I am not mistaken, that so long as the Prohibition Act continues to misrepresent public sentiment, it should be cast from off the Statute Books, for the workings of the Act do not come up to the standard of democracy. I should be very sorry indeed to know that some of the members of Parliament have given their pledge in writing to uphold any such Act, and no doubt they will think better of it when the time arrives and act in a fair and impartial manner. Yours, FREDERICTON, DEC. 21ST, 1918.

"STERLING" ENOUGH.

The estimates of the sum to be paid by Germany as indemnity all speak in terms of "sterling" value, and the word is interesting because it is of Teutonic origin. Indeed, it was literally brought to England by North German merchants, who were known to the inhabitants here as Easterlings, and the coins which they used were termed "sterlings." So soon the word sterling is added to every written on cheques, and the receiver may require the money to be paid to him in coin and not in bank notes. Today, however, the British Treasury notes are "sterling" enough for everybody, thanks to Tommy Atkins and Jack Tar.

BOSTON INDOOR GAMES

Boston, Mass., Dec. 31.—The Boston Athletic Association announced today that it would hold its annual athletic indoor games March 1. The meeting will be the first of importance in the east this year, it is said.

The Stock Market

(By private wire to J. M. Robinson and Sons.)

New York, Dec. 31.—Cross-currents and irregularly are expected to continue in the market owing to the conflicting news. Talk of gross miscalculation because of the big volume within a narrow range is upset to a large extent by the great confusion introduced by factors such as the taxation inferences, delay in revenue law, revival of the Sherman law against price agreements, Germany's intimation that it will pay no war bills outside of damage done, Clemenceau's rebuke to Wilson, rumors of unreasonable Italian demands. More liquidation is predicted in Kennecott, short covering is found in American Beet Sugar; Car Foundry is being strongly taken on all 1918's contracts. The market for Tobacco Products is reported, a good demand is noted for Feb. Realizing is found in Rubber on rallies. More stock is for sale in Anaconda. Some long accumulation is again reported in New Haven, the buying of Railway Steel Springs is considered good, while cross currents are prominent in U. S. Steel.

DISABLED SOLDIERS.

[London Times.] A strike that has broken out at a tobacco factory in London raises a very important point of public policy. Two disabled soldiers have been dismissed because in the opinion of their employers they were no longer efficient workmen. Their fellow-workmen contend that the firm should carry these men on its back, as they owe their disability to their public service. On the other hand, the firm holds, that however deserving the men may be, it is not justified in carrying passengers. On this issue the strike has been joined. On the one side you have the keen, humane sympathy that working people always show to each other, on the other the plea is raised of maintaining the efficiency of industry. Here we have a question of public policy which it is ridiculous to leave to the settlement of sporadic strikes. Who should bear the burden in cases like this? If you leave it to the working of pure unadulterated economic forces, this war is going to throw up a mass of human wreckage that will surpass anything known in history. If you leave it to the State unassisted by public spirit, you may make new jobs for the disabled, and you may make pensioners, but you will not fit into your new round holes and will be a standing reproach to our civilization, having given more to the State than they have received.

THE RUSSIAN ENIGMA.

[Chicago Tribune.] Lenin wants to fess the archives in the waste basket and get Trotsky back to tarry and see what happens. The German soldiers, far from throwing the double eagle into the discard and adopting the crimson standard, are ignoring the soviets and supporting what they conceive to be responsible government. There have been several twilights affecting the cratic solar systems, but none, we opine, will be less murky than that which envelops the violent tumult of Bolshevism.

KING GEORGE'S GIFT.

London, Dec. 31.—King George has presented a magnificently bound and illustrated history of Windsor Castle to President Wilson, as a birthday gift, according to the London Daily Mail.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

AFTER FEBRUARY 1st On and after February 1st, 1919, the subscription price of The Daily Gleaner will be \$4.00 per year mailed to all points outside the city of Fredericton (but within the postal union). This increase has been made necessary by the steady and constant advance in the cost of everything entering into the production of a newspaper. All subscriptions expiring previous to February 1st will be renewed at the old rate.

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New York, Dec. 31.—The following were the stock market quotations today: American Beet Sugar 62, American Sugar 111, American Car Foundry 93, American Steel Foundry 86 1/2, American Tel. and Tel. 100 1/2, American Can 47 1/2, American Locomotive 60 1/2, American Smelters 75 1/2, American Sumatra 96 1/2, Anaconda 59 1/2, Atlas-Climax 32 1/2, Baldwin Locomotive 73 1/2, Bethlehem Steel B. 60 1/2, Butte & Superior 18 1/2, Crucible Steel 67 1/2, Central Leather 5 1/2, Copper 17 1/2, Distillers 51 1/2, Erie 18 1/2, Gas 96, General Motors 139, Industrial Alcohol 43 1/2, Kennecott Copper 32 1/2, Marine, preferred 112 1/2, Marine, common 26 1/2, Mexican Petroleum 173 1/2, Midvale Steel 43 1/2, Northern Pacific 93 1/2, New York Central 74, Norfolk 106 1/2, Pennsylvania 44, Rep. 20 1/2, Reading 81 1/2, Rep. Iron & Steel 74, Rubber 79 1/2, St. Paul 38 1/2, Southern Pacific 101 1/2, Southern Railway 29 1/2, Studebaker 50 1/2, United States Steel 94 1/2, Union Pacific 123 1/2, Willy's Overland 25, New Haven 35.

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There is nothing quite the equal to a good softening, soothing and healing Gold Cream—one that will clean the pores, keep them healthy, and remove grime, grease and dust. HUNT'S ROSE COLD CREAM. Answers all these requirements. It is used by the most discriminating people. It is impossible to procure a more perfect toilet preparation. Keep a jar on your dressing table. Price, 35c. a jar. HUNT & MACDONALD DRUGGISTS - PHONE 63

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THE INVESTMENT MARKET PLACE

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Notice to the Buyer

Just a word to let you know that our Closing Up Sale is still going on, and will continue until everything is sold. We have a comparatively large stock yet to choose from. Prices are lower than you could believe they could be. WE THANK YOU for your kind patronage during the past year and heartily wish each and every one a HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. C. D. Holder New Idea Patterns, 20c. each. GEO. R. THOMPSON DOWN TOWN. Get the Habit Of calling up Buzzell's Dye Works when you have anything that requires cleaning or dyeing. We specialize in Dry Cleaning Ladies' Suits and Dresses and Men's Suits; also Goggles, Feathers, Ribbons, Curtains, Portiers, Mantle Draperies, Carpets, Rugs, etc. Prompt and careful attention given to all orders. Buzzell's Dye Works. F. H. Richards, Prop. 279 Queen St.

NINETEEN-NINETEEN 1919

We extend to All our Friends and Customers who have co-operated with us in making the past year our most successful one in Business, Our Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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