

Second Anniversary
of Marne

FRANK SIMONDS, the leader of the American war communists, is strongly pro-Ally, but has a very low opinion of the British army. According to him the British army was not engaged in the battle of the Marne at all, and it was due to French's blunders that this battle was not a decisive victory for the Allies. He says that General French apparently failed to understand the whole situation and permitted von Kluck to withdraw a large part of his army from the British front and then it safely away, leaving only a screen of cavalry in front of the British. Had French understood what was happening it might have been possible for the Allies to inflict a crushing defeat upon the Germans at the Marne and prevent them from digging in at the Aisne. It will be a main for future historians to discuss the part the British played at the battle of the Marne, which is already recognized as one of the greatest battles in the history of the world, if not, indeed, the greatest.

Mr. Simonds' review of the battle on its second anniversary is interesting, even if it does disparage the part played by the British. He was in France a couple of months ago, and had the advantage of interviews with leading French officers as he went over the ground. He says that several legends have grown out of the battle which historians must disregard. One of them is that of the army in taxis that Gallieni sent from Paris. It is true that Gallieni did send this army, but it was not to the battle of the Marne. It was to the battle of the Ourcq. He does not believe the assistance rendered by Gallieni, for it was Gallieni who discovered the intentions of the Germans and informed Joffre, thus enabling the French commander to alter his plans and defeat von Kluck. Another legend is to the effect that the Marne several hundred thousand beaten Frenchmen turned savagely upon the enemy and defeated him. The French were never defeated. They had retreated according to the plans of Joffre, and when the moment arrived they turned, as Joffre had planned. There was no question of recovering from a rout. He says that in the early days of the war the whole strategy of the French armies was to remain intact, and to retreat before the invader until it was understood what he was trying to do. It was only after several battles, offensives by the French, and so forth, that Joffre was playing a waiting game. The French were outnumbered, but Joffre was planning that they should be outnumbered at the points where the real battles were to be fought. It was beyond his power to remain not outnumbered at all points, for the Germans had in fact the numbers of the French retreated. They were within 20 miles of Paris two years ago. It was a tempting bait, and Joffre hoped that a Kluck would take it, but Kluck refused. He knew that to capture Paris would take time, and would weaken his line. But having gone this far in the pursuit of the retreating French armies, he had no choice but to continue. He made a dash for the left wing of the French field armies.

Thus he had to march past Paris. The move was safe if the Paris garrison was small; it was dangerous if it was large. Paris was a large enough army to rally forth and threaten his flank. He did not know that near Paris Joffre had concentrated a new and strong army, that of Manoury, and he labored, too, under the delusion that he was pursuing beaten troops. Up to the time he had been driving upon Paris. Now he was swinging away, and Gallieni informed Joffre that the French generalissimo then issued his famous order to the effect that the time had come for the French to strike, and that those that could not go forward should die in their tracks. Joffre calculated that while the main armies engaged, Manoury's army from Paris would strike at the German flank. At the beginning of the action Manoury had only 100,000 men, but this force was doubled before the engagement was over, and it fell as Joffre predicted. Kluck was caught on the flank and had to retreat. In summing up the results of this battle Mr. Simonds says: "We have more men, better guns, better troops, we are in a position of neutrality of Belgium, turn the French fortresses, and, arriving in the plains of Northern France, we will destroy the French armies, take Paris, and then turn east and dispose of Russia. We shall win the war in six weeks and take Paris in seven. We shall hold France to ransom and dispose of the French danger for all time." Not one detail of this grandiose plan was realized. Not one detail has been realized after two years of war. We all see that if France had failed Russia would have been conquered, and even the British Empire would have come to the edge of ruin. But France did not fail. She won her greatest victory in a wonderful history, with the least possible support from Britain; she saved herself, Britain, and Russia, and after the Marne the war had new dimensions and different possibilities. Thus in every sense the battle of the Marne was one of the few truly decisive battles in all human history, a battle whose consequences, though we may not yet accurately measure them, seem at the distance of two years incomparably greater than on the day when the world first learned that the German invasion would not reach Paris.

Girl Town Officer.
The fifteen-year-old daughter of the Thetford town clerk has been appointed to fulfill her father's duties during his absence in the army.

Below: There Rural, Kington, only parts of the scene. There Agriculture, in Prescott, these Comrades, that

HERO TURNED
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BULGAR PRINCES
ADMIRE FR-CH

They Had an Unexpected Reply For King Ferdinand.

WATCHED VERDUN BATTLE

After Several Weeks Spent Behind the German Lines in France, Prince Boris and Prince Cyril Say Most Admirable Thing They Saw Was Resistance of French.

THE two sons of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria have returned to Sofia after several months passed on the French front and, with their eyes opened to the real situation, have told their father some truths that must have sounded unpleasant to his ears, according to reports circulated in the European press.

Prince Boris and Prince Cyril, sons of "Tsar" Ferdinand by his first marriage with Princess Marie Louise de Bourbon-Parma, young men 22 and 21 years of age, were invited by the



PRINCE BORIS.

German Emperor about the middle of February to take part in the capture of Verdun, which was set for February 25. It seemed to them that the Kaiser's invitation was rather lacking in tact. The young men and their elder sister, Princess Eudoxia, have little sympathy with the Teutons, their mother's family being closely connected with French nobility and traditions. Nevertheless King Ferdinand did not dare refuse the Kaiser's invitation.

Prince Boris and Prince Cyril therefore left for the German general headquarters. There they remained for weeks, silent, timid, and haughty about. Finally, the Germans, not having entered Verdun, they went back to Sofia. When the King asked them what they had admired most during their sojourn with his good ally, they answered:

"The resistance of the French." The other prince nodded his head in assent and a sparkle of joy lighted up the eyes of Princess Eudoxia, who was present at the family gathering.

Taken From the Mail.
The most interesting museum in London is closed to the general public. It is the museum of the censor, where various attempts to get past the blockade are exhibited. Its contents have come chiefly from the United States.

Among other things it contains: A packet of pure rubber done up in the form of a sausage bulb, which the postman was \$5.

A forty pound side of bacon sent from St. Louis, on which the postage was \$5.

Letters written on sheets of pure rubber.

Shoes, some of them wrapped in sole leather.

Sausage-shaped rolls made to look like bundles of newspapers, but containing in some cases rice, rubber, tobacco, or sliced ham.

These bits of contraband are not confiscated, but will be sent on when the war is over.

An Australian Pioneer.
Now that Sir Horace Tozer is dead, there is probably nobody left who can tell us tales of the wild pioneer days in Australia as he used to do during his long residence in London—long, that is, for an Agent-General, for he represented Queensland over here for eleven years.

His father took him from New South Wales, where he was born, to Queensland, while he was quite a boy, and he was the first to turn up at Australia's first railway, witnessed the departure from Sydney of the last batch of Imperial troops—the old 77th; and, later, led the way in providing Queensland with the first free library and her first public art gallery.

Princess Volonsky. Twenty-two years of age, whose husband, father, and brother were killed early in the war, but her hair adopted men's clothing, enlisted as a private, and fought on the southern front for several months. Her sex being discovered she was sent to Kiev to be discharged, but she eluded her guards and returned to the fighting line. Now she has just been discovered wounded in a Kharkoff hospital.

THE KHAKI VOTE.

How British Columbia Polled Her Soldiers on Active Service. The London (Eng.) Times, in a recent issue says:

"A correspondent, who had a unique opportunity of studying the recent polling of the Columbian citizens in this country, sends us the following interesting account of the process. The presiding officer was Mr. Mackinnon, of Peterhead. 'British Columbia has sent the poll of those among her citizens who were last week camped at Bramshot. The camp authorities offered for a polling booth a large gambrel, and the poll was open from 5 till 9.

"On Monday the presiding officer had the assistance of three clerks, and on the two following days two clerks and six clerks were employed. Posters were exposed, showing the 39 electoral districts of the province and the names of the candidates in each. The number of votes to be cast in each district was also shown. Different constituencies were set out by the name, rank, and battalion of the voter; a statement that he had resided six months in British Columbia, his place of residence and his electoral district, and a ballot set out that he had not voted previously in this election, that he was a male person, and a British subject. This form was duly filled by one of the clerks, signed by the voter, and taken to the presiding officer. He administered an oath to the voter that the statements of the affidavit were true and the signature was his. The voter then received a ballot paper for his own district, and also two voting papers for a Referendum and Prohibition, which was being taken at the same time. These and his envelope, he retired to a side table and marked his voting papers. These he then placed in the envelope, which he sealed and returned to the presiding officer. On the back of the envelope was a declaration by the presiding officer that the vote was properly and legally received. The Agent-General's representative took possession of the envelope.

"The proceedings took place without a hitch. About 1,600 or 1,700 recorded their vote, and perhaps there were not much more than 3,000 qualified electors in camp, all told. In the minds of some voters there was some doubt as to the electoral district in which their home was situated, and the political views of the respective candidates were not always well known. Some had registered before leaving home; some had not. With these, however, the wearing of the khaki was held to constitute a sufficient claim.

"But, considering the fact that the whole thing was an experiment, and that the poll had ultimately to be taken in haste, there can be no question of the success of the operation from several points of view."

Two Hohenzollern Stories.
Two stories, one concerning the Kaiser, the other the Crown Prince, just brought by members of the Swiss Red Cross party from Germany, are worth telling. On the Imperial birthday the Kaiser suddenly decided to visit the prisoners' camp at Alton-Grabow, near Berlin. In traversing the camp garden the Emperor noticed that many of the French prisoners belonged to a regiment which had taken part in some fierce fighting early in the war near Stenay, on the Meuse.

"So some of you were at Stenay," he said, stopping before a group. "My son is now there. He is doing an excellent time there. A pretty town is Stenay. I believe all the girls there want you back again."

The second story refers to the interview before Verdun between the Crown Prince and Major Raynal, the heroic commander of the fort of Vaux. "My felicitations," said the Crown Prince, and seeing that the prisoner lack a sword he took one from a German officer standing near and handed it to him.

"Your resistance has been splendid," went on the Crown Prince, "but you cannot stop up a case of champagne. I shall be in Verdun before the end of July." The bet has not yet been paid.

Ferdinand's Viewpoint.
King Ferdinand of Roumania, who has just celebrated his fifty-first birthday, is a near relative of King George and is married to the King's first cousin. Among his other near relatives are the King of the Belgians and the Tsar of Bulgaria, who are both first cousins. Though King Ferdinand is himself a Hohenzollern, he is not a member of the branch of that house of which the Kaiser is the head; and, further, he has never shown any sign of partiality for things German since his accession in October, 1914.

He has visited Britain frequently, before and since his marriage to the prettiest of the four handsome daughters of the late Duke of Edinburgh. Queen Marie of Roumania is said now to be the handsomest royal personage in Europe. Their marriage was the occasion of a great royal gathering at Bucharest over 20 years ago. King Ferdinand's aunt, the Queen Dowager, is known all over the world as Carmen Sylva.

"One Gun One Vote."
The Daily Express congratulates the Canadian Minister of Militia on showing the way in regard to the enfranchisement of the men in the trenches in connection with the British Columbia elections and expresses the hope that Canada's lead will be followed by the British Government. "One gun, one vote," is the Canadian War Minister's motto.

In urging the Cabinet to see that the British fighting men are not deprived of their votes, the Express asserts the country will never submit to a system that gives preference to the peace crank, the slacker, and the conscientious objector.

NATIVE DYES.

England is Talking of Introducing Vegetable Colours Matter.

In England there has been much talk of introducing natural vegetable dyes which heretofore have not received much attention because of the cheapness and reliability of mineral dyes. Large quantities of the lac dye, which is the basis to a fast scarlet, may be obtained from India, where it is now only a waste product of the shellac industry. Certain roots are found in quantities in the East Indies are Bakau and Tugah. The cutch made from the Tugah variety is superior for dyeing and commands a higher price. There is a factory in British North Borneo which now turns out about 160 tons of Tugah cutch a month and will shortly have an output of 250 tons or more. The process in the immediate neighborhood shows no indication of exhaustion.

Chinese manufacturers of vegetable dyes have been induced to revive the manufacture of vegetable dyes which had been almost wholly suspended. The higher prices being paid for these dyes at present is said to have made possible the organization of the business on sound economic principles. Large quantities of the dyes have already been shipped to the United Kingdom, where they are said to be giving satisfaction. There is practically no limit to the supply, provided the price paid is commensurate with the cost of production. In Japan, before the introduction of mineral dyes, there were probably more different vegetable dyes used than in any other part of the world. Few of the dyes, however, were strictly fast, and the only thoroughly dependable black was the one made in the Kyoto district and used largely in dyeing the haori, the short, jacket-like garment worn by Japanese men and women.

With these, however, the wearing of the khaki was held to constitute a sufficient claim.

Some Conservatives see in Sir Adam Beck a chance to regenerate the party and provide it with a new premier that will be more in touch with the people. But the Queen's Park bunglers don't see it that way. Sir Adam is the last man they want to look at. Sir Adam may consider himself passed up. He is too rotten.

The thing the Ontario Government chooses to potter with most is prohibition. So far as we can see from where we are sitting now prohibition is a thing of the past. The Ontario Government has been pottering with the remodeled Government which succeeds this one when Premier Heston is heard, by being made a judge or being otherwise suitably interred. The frame-up is to retire Heston and appoint somebody who has not made personal enemies of the House of Commons. Perhaps the Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Mr. Ferguson deserves premature burial for his bonehead plays during the De-war election, but his heart is in the right place when it comes to being a friendly booze, so he is to be kept on and perhaps promoted. Besides he is a handy man to have around. He makes himself generally useful and fairly dotes on the Hon. Frank Cochrane.

It is on the cards that the Ontario Temperance Act will retain its present form no longer than the next session of the Legislature when it will be amended to provide wine and beer licenses for the bars, full licenses for the shops, and the removal of irritating restrictions from the clubs. The reason will be that it was intended as a war measure and that a three-year-war measure is no longer needed because the war is within six months of its end. They don't want the Ontario Temperance Act hitting up the place after the war is over. Meanwhile, as they will point out, the Act will have done some good in shaking up the worst class of saloon-keepers and leaving the business in the hands of the real hotel men. Of course this right-about-face will result in a loss of prestige by the Government, but what is loss of prestige as compared to the loss of its job by a Government which makes that its sole aim in life?

The Hon. William Hanna, who is credited with possessing most of the savings now extant in Queen's Park, doesn't care very much what his colleagues do. He is going to drop out anyway. He can have a better time and make more money following up his profitable connection with the Standard Oil Company. He has already taken a suite of offices in the new Imperial Oil Building on Church street, Toronto, Imperial Oil being John D. Rockefeller's alias in these parts.

Meanwhile the Ontario Government continues its pottering in regard to the fire policy in New Ontario. The salutary regulation which was the outcome of previous fires—namely that no town should build within a mile and a half of the bush—has not been observed. Lumbermen have been allowed to leave their slash lying about and the settlers to make fires to clear their land without taking the stipulated precautions. While the great fire in progress the Provincial Fire Marshal was in Toronto dashing

Rebel Shot in a Chair.
In the British House of Commons, replying to Mr. Ginnell with reference to the arrest, trial, and execution of Thos. Kent, of Fermoy, the Prime Minister stated that Kent was convicted by field general court-martial of taking part in an armed rebellion. In the interests of public safety the public were excluded from court, at which no counsel appeared for Kent. Kent was not wounded. He was given a chair at his execution owing to his nervous condition. A priest attended him before and at the execution and at the burial.

New Iron Duke Chaplain.
Sir John Jellicoe's Jutland battle despatch ends in connection with the announcement that a new chaplain the Rev. Francis Horace Jones—has just joined the Iron Duke. The Rev. John Gay, who has been in the famous ship since the day of the vicissitudes of that gallant crew in the North Sea, is leaving them. The new chaplain has spent 12 years among the ships of the navy, notably on the Hampshire and the Highflyer.

"Scots Wha Hae."
Carlyle said that "Scots Wha Hae" was the finest war-song ever penned by man. It was composed on horseback whilst Robert Burns was crossing a wild moor in a thunderstorm.

But it has never become a real war-song like the "Marseillaise," which has had power to fire the French to a white heat of patriotism for more than a century, and which still retains its hold upon the nation.

GADSBY'S LETTER

O T T A W A.
Sept. 9.—
What is now happening to the Ontario Government is exactly what has been happening to every Conservative Government in Canada since the war began—it is tottering. When it isn't tottering it's pottering. It takes it day about one day to potter, the next day to totter. It is making good on both jobs.

Nothing has been said about nickel since Hartley Dewar was elected in South-West Toronto. Naturally the parcel of village outcrops in Queen's Park want to forget all about that. It makes them nervous to have the thing mentioned when the boss is around. The Hon. Frank Cochrane is the boss and he is none too pleased with the mess his naughty boys made of it in South-West Toronto. By their blundering they have drawn attention to the fact that the Ontario Government is owned—body, bones, and breeches by the Nickel Trust operating through the Minister of Railways at Ottawa. This close connection with Ottawa is not a good thing for the parcel of country law-yeas who constitute a Cabinet afraid of losing its job in Queen's Park. It gets them into a lot of trouble. It threatens to send them all back to the bush and take them out of major league company. The last thing they want to talk about is nickel. They would rather talk about hydro-rail, unwelcome as that subject is.

A belated announcement is made that the Ontario Government will spend \$1,300,000 on hydro. This is another case of pottering. They are supposed to potter that much to keep from tottering any farther. Since the events in South-West Toronto they have seen a new light on hydro-rail. They are going to love it from now on. That is to say they are prepared to go through the motions hoping that an opportunity will offer, somewhere, sometime, to give the cause of public ownership a kick in the pants by way of a coroner's Council or something like that. How the \$1,300,000 is to be spent nobody knows. It's a safe bet that the nickel string on it. Where the \$1,300,000 comes from nobody knows. It is probably part of the three million dollars excess taxes fleeced from the people of Ontario as they pass the nickel tax and then diverted to other purposes. The one sure thing is that it will be handled in the way best calculated to do the most harm to Sir Adam Beck and the project he is pushing.

Some Conservatives see in Sir Adam Beck a chance to regenerate the party and provide it with a new premier that will be more in touch with the people. But the Queen's Park bunglers don't see it that way. Sir Adam is the last man they want to look at. Sir Adam may consider himself passed up. He is too rotten.

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Turks Determined Syria Shall Starve
The American Embassy at Constantinople cabled the State Department at Washington recently that the Turkish Government again has refused to permit a neutral commission to investigate food conditions in Syria or otherwise interest itself in the situation there. Abram I. Elkan, the new ambassador to Turkey, has been instructed to renew the United States Government's efforts when he reaches Constantinople.

Prize for Bringing Down Zeppelin.
A handsome sum of money, estimated at between \$10,000 and \$15,000, will come into the hands of French to prove his claim to have brought down the Zeppelin at Cuttew a few days ago. Several prizes have been offered for various individuals for the job.

Taking Vote for B.C.
The War Office intimates they have no objection to the votes of British Columbia soldiers being taken at the front in the Provincial election. Sir Richard McBride, therefore, is attempting to arrange for returning officers, scrutineers, etc., to proceed to France forthwith. The party will number about ten. Four thousand votes have already been polled in one day alone at Bramahott.

May Exchange Civilians.
The thousands of civilians interned in Germany and England may be released and the difficult problem of concentration camps solved altogether if a plan now under consideration is adopted. The idea is to exchange all civilians on parole to serve during the war.

For some time the German and British authorities, through the intermediation of the United States Ambassador at Berlin, James V. Gerard, have been working on a proposal to exchange all interned civilians above the military age, forty-five. It was recognized that this was only a half-way measure, which would leave unsolved the larger problem of the thousands of civilians below that age whom neither Government wishes to retain and support at great expense, although neither is willing to release them as possible recruits for the other's army. While negotiations in regard to exchange of the older men were hanging fire and new difficulties and delays were arising constantly it was suddenly discovered the German authorities were willing to take into consideration a proposal for a general exchange under parole.

There still remains a long and difficult road to be traveled, and Great Britain's attitude thus far has not been made known; but it is felt here that the simplicity and completeness of the solution may appeal to the British as it has to the Germans.

Why Woman Was Shot.
In view of recent German comment on the execution at Marseilles recently as a spy of Felice Pfalt, certain details of the case were made known authoritatively recently. The statement that the woman was a German is denied, and it was said that the comparison of her case with that of Edith Cavell, the British nurse who was put to death by the Germans at Brussels, was unwarranted.

According to this information, Felice Pfalt was a Frenchwoman, born at Nancy in 1890. She went to Metz in 1914 and later received permission to visit her mother in Belgium. While there, it is said, a German official proposed that she gather military information in Paris. She spent three weeks in Paris and then reported the results to Germans, who, she admitted, paid her 5,000 francs to undertake another mission.

Returning to Paris from Lausanne, Switzerland, in July of last year, she was expelled by the prefect of police. She went to Marseilles, where she boarded at a house frequented by army officers. She was caught in the act of spying and admitted she had been commissioned to gather military information. On July 10 she was unanimously condemned to death by a court martial.

Surrender Drill!
An officer and 90 Germans surrendered in a body near Guillemont. They were put out as usual with orders to stick under the British shell fire and against British infantry attacks to the last man. But when the British worked their way up on either side of the exposed trench they held their run up a white flag without making any fight of it. They said that they had suffered enough hardships and had had enough of war and preferred to be taken prisoners.

The heavy downpour of rain continued all day, making ponds of the shell craters and turning the trenches into mud holes.

The British who have received the surrender of Germans say that with characteristic organization they now have what the British call a "surrender drill" when they come out of their dugouts to give themselves up, as in the case of the body referred to, they have all their letters, papers, and valuables in their hands, ready as a peace offering to their captors.