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"No Thief, No Deal, No Deal."

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 14, 1914

WAR COMMENT.

What does it look like to the German now that we are well into the fourth month of the war? This is a question that those should ask themselves who sometimes feel discouraged over what they are tempted to regard inaccurately as the slow progress of the Allies.

Germany went to war deliberately, and at first with national enthusiasm. The great mass of the population knew very little about the prospects, but they were told that Russia was disorganized and could never place a million men on the Vistula. Russia, therefore, was not to be regarded as formidable. The British had no army according to the German theory, and the French army was beaten more easily than in 1870-71. These were the statements made everywhere in Germany by officers and politicians, and consequently there arose an expectation that Paris would be besieged after a brief and triumphant march of the German army through France. That was what Germany expected. Doubtless the more sober minded men anticipated some stiff fighting, but they had little doubt about the result of it.

But now we have come to the second week in November and the main German army in the west is much further from Paris than it was in August. While it has been attacking from day to day recently these attacks have really been part of a general defensive movement, for the Allies have been slowly pushing the German army back toward the frontier, and it has really been on the defensive since the Allies' victory at the Marne.

German success against the Russians early in the war must have raised high hopes in Berlin, but today Russia, which has only now developed its attack in full strength, is gaining ground rapidly in East Prussia, has cleared Poland of the enemy and penetrated German territory, and has the Austrians in full retreat further south. The great army in the centre, having driven the Germans back for more than 100 miles from the Vistula, is now for the first time ready to push along the road to Posen and on toward Berlin. As one military observer says of Germany's outlook:

"Taking the situation in Poland in conjunction with the situation in the west, the fourteenth week of the war closes ominously for the Kaiser. At the beginning of the war it was assumed that the Allies in the west must play the anvil to the Russian hammer. Both functions have been reversed—the French and English by holding stubbornly, the Russians by hitting hard."

In the countries of the Allies no attempt has been made to disguise the fact that our losses are heavy, and that they must be even more severe before the war is fought out to the end. It is expected that as the German and Austrian forces are gradually pressed into a narrow circle that they will for a time at least put up a most desperate struggle. But Germany and Austria face the struggle of the future with a daily diminishing strength, while the Allies, particularly Great Britain and Russia, have yet inexhaustible forces from which they can draw. The New York Evening Post has been giving editorial consideration to Germany's losses and to the effect of them upon the people of Germany, as the casualties become

known and as the German people realize that their great armies have been beaten on both fronts. The Post well says:

"How long the German people can bear up under the psychological strain of the terrible losses they are sustaining, both on sea and on land, is one of the most interesting questions pertaining to the war. We know that multitudes of Germans in public and private have said that they will fight to the last man—but that is one thing. No nation can do that. The feeling of those who stay at home is bound to be a factor of enormous importance in deciding the length of the conflict, for they have not the relief of being at the front. At first the casualty lists were published in full. Now they are so tremendous that they can be printed only in abbreviated form, the local names appearing. Every day the Berlin Tagessblatt prints a list of the well-known poets, architects, doctors, lawyers, professors, teachers, members of the aristocracy, government officials in every walk of life, and the list is staggering. On a single day a well known bank announced the deaths of twenty-three employees. The Ninety-first Infantry Regiment reported the loss of no less than twelve officers killed and sixteen wounded, together with 204 men killed, 1,202 wounded, and 114 missing in seventeen days' fighting in Belgium and France. Other regiments have suffered worse, in shorter times but as the casualty lists are printed a month after the period covered, the worst is yet to come. A private letter from Munich tells not only of the growing anxiety of the public over the long delay in coming the battle of the Alps, which Major Morath, the military critic of the Tagessblatt, has admitted, but speaks of the innumerable hospitals springing up everywhere in the mudrooms, and over-crowded the instant they are opened. How long can a nation like Germany endure this?"

Germany may endure it for many months, but the Allied nations, because they have greater resources in men and in money and because their spirit is no less stern and their willingness to pay the awful cost of victory is undoubted, will press on to victory. The British fleet, which some thoughtless critics accuse of insufficient enterprises, has really been thus far the greatest contributor to the success of the Allies. Its business is twofold: first, to keep the German fleet bottled up at Kiel, or to defeat that fleet in a general action if it finally offers battle; and, secondly, to keep the English Channel open so that men and supplies can be transported to France in an endless stream. The British navy, there is every reason to believe, is fully equal to these great tasks. Meantime Great Britain is training an army powerful enough to turn the scale on the Continent when its magnificent weight is added to that of the Allied forces already in the theatre of war.

Truly, from Germany's standpoint this must already appear definitely to be a lost war, and already there must be over Germany and Austria the shadow of the awful punishment coming in its train.

Meantime, the need is for more men—more men from Canada and every other British country, to support the brave men already in the field and decisively beat down the desperate foe. There is no other way. Victory can only be won by patriotic sacrifice. Those who are of the active service age cannot serve by deputy. They must themselves go where duty calls.

THE WAR.

The British navy has scored again. The German cruisers Emden and Koeningberg have been put out of business after many daring and successful raids on British merchant ships. Germany now has no warships left outside her home waters, except the squadron in the Southern Pacific and the Ketchikan somewhere off the Atlantic coast of South America. It is but a matter of time before they, too, will be destroyed or driven to neutral ports to be dismantled.

Those who have been impatient that the Emden and Koeningberg were able to escape their pursuers for so long a time should have realized the wide scope of the oceans on which these ships operated. Guided by commanders of great skill and daring their hide-and-seek game was cleverly carried on, but the Ketchikan was eventually driven to destruction or destruction was daily looked for.

The fine work of the light cruiser Sydney in overhauling and destroying the speedy Emden brings credit to Australia, whose fleet has done splendid work in home waters since the war began. It is a matter of great regret that Canada has not similar light and fast cruisers.

Since the naval battle off the coast of Chile ten days ago, when the British cruisers Good Hope and Monmouth were destroyed, Germany is known to have lost four valuable cruisers—the Yorck, blown up by a mine at the home base; the Geier interned in Honolulu; and the Emden and Koeningberg. In addition to these, it is possible that the Dresden and Leipzig were sent to the bottom by the Good Hope before she foundered. Altogether, Britain's navy is relatively stronger than it was when war was declared. There practically no longer outside the countries of the enemy, that the Allies' ships cannot go to with perfect safety. In other words, the British navy is in complete command of all the seven seas.

It is not only the navy that is scoring against the enemy. On land the allied armies are putting the Germans on the defensive in both the eastern and western theatres of the war. While the reports from the front are conflicting, it is plain that the balance of the great struggle is clearly on the side of the Allies. Russia is moving towards Posen with wonderful rapidity and everywhere the outlook is decidedly better than it has previously been since the outbreak of hostilities.

But this success cannot be continued without more men. Premier Asquith and Lord Kitchener in calling for more intensive recruiting have made it very clear that the whole fighting strength of

the Empire must be brought to a high state of active service efficiency at the earliest possible moment. With a steadfastness and endurance worthy of the best traditions of both France and Britain their soldiers are slowly pushing the enemy back, but in doing so they are losing heavily. Whatever the sacrifice, the ranks must be kept up to full strength. More than that, there must be a steady flow of new forces to the front if the Allies are to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

A DANGEROUS MALADY.

The epidemic of foot and mouth disease among cattle now causing so much anxiety to the authorities in the United States is the most severe that country has ever experienced. Although it is not known that any cases have been found in Canada, the disease is a greater menace to the Dominion just now than the possibility of a German raid from across the border.

A quarantine order sent out from Washington yesterday prohibits all shipments of live stock from Canada to the United States. This action was taken to prevent infected cattle sent here for sale from being returned. In view of the fact that information may be expected that the Federal authorities at Ottawa will take every precaution to keep the disease out of Canada. The infected cattle will no doubt be traced and promptly looked after.

The foot and mouth disease is one of the most obnoxious and fatal maladies known to cattle raisers. It came originally from western Asia, where it is known by the name of "mad disease," and was brought to America by that route. In 1870 infected cattle were carried through Canada from Europe and in 1884 and 1892 the disease caused much suffering and loss in Maine. About twenty years ago it swept through Germany and attacked more than 150,000 farms with an estimated loss to the owners of \$37,000,000. It has not done much harm in England, but also, too, has had its experience, though for the past dozen years it has not appeared there.

When the outbreak was discovered in the United States last week the federal and state authorities acted promptly. Every known method of sanitation, effective quarantine and eradication of the disease was put into effect. The gravity of the situation is in the widespread area in which the disease has been discovered, although the number of animals infected is comparatively small. At Chicago, where the greatest stock yards are located, no chances were taken, and nearly 600 acres were sprayed with disinfectant, or more than five-alphas of a square mile. Thirteen thousand pens, 728 chutes and twenty-five miles of water troughs were involved in the process, and at present no cattle are being received there.

The disease has made its appearance in Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Massachusetts and other states.

Unless it is promptly checked, it travels with great rapidity, and wherever it has appeared the expense has been heavy. While it is transmissible to nearly all domestic animals, its ravages are most severe among cattle, sheep, goats and swine, and human beings are also liable to infection. The treatment consists in strict segregation and care for the utmost cleanliness. Canadian cattle raisers will feel relieved when the United States is again rid of the disease.

GERMANY'S ADMISSIONS.

It should no longer be necessary to argue concerning the cause of the war, or to say anything more in support of the undoubted justice of our cause; yet there has been so much misrepresentation in connection with the matter from German sources that perhaps it may be well to refer again to a statement issued by 117 British scholars and men of science recently. This statement was intended at once to refute certain definite German misrepresentations, and to reaffirm the magnificent moral position which Great Britain occupies. The list of signers includes practically all of the famous men of science and leading literary men in the United Kingdom, among them Sir James Clerk Maxwell, Sir William Crookes, Sir Francis Darwin, Sir William Osler, Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, Sir C. B. Bell, Sir Thomas Barlow, Sir William Turner, Sir Frederick Pollock, Sir Edward J. Poynter, Professor A. B. Dacey, Sir Oliver Lodge, and Professor Gilbert Murray.

These men point out that Germany has officially adopted the propriety of national aggression based on the threat of war, as advocated by such writers as Von Treitschke and Von Bernhardi. They record the fact that it is the German armies alone which have deliberately destroyed or bombarded such monuments of human culture as the library at Louvain and the cathedral at Rheims and Malines.

These British scientists and men of letters set forth that while the German White Book contains only the limited and carefully explained selections from the diplomatic correspondence which preceded the war, reference to the full correspondence would tell another story. If the German scientists would examine the full correspondence, and were able to form an independent judgment, they would see, the British writers contend, that while Great Britain strove steadily for peace, the one nation which could by a single word at Vienna have made peace certain refrained from saying this word. This was Germany. Continuing, the British statement contains these striking and important paragraphs:

"Germany in her own defence—incomprehensible that she should be so—pretend that she strove for peace. She only strove for the localization of the conflict. She claimed that Austria should be left to 'chastise' Serbia in whatever way she chose. At most she proposed that Austria should not annex a portion of Serbian territory—a futile proposition since the execution of Austria's demand would have made the whole of Serbia subject to her will. Great Britain, the rest of Europe, recognized that

whatever just ground of complaint Austria may have had the unprecedented terms of her Note to Serbia constituted a challenge to Russia and a provocation to war. The Austrian Emperor in his proclamation admitted that war was likely to ensue. The German White Book states in no many words: 'We were perfectly aware that a possible warlike attitude of Austria-Hungary against Serbia might bring Russia upon us, and therefore involve us in war. We could not, however, advise our ally to take a yielding attitude not compatible with his dignity.'

The German government admits having known the danger of the Austrian Note beforehand when it was concocted in all other Powers, admits backing it up after it was issued, admits that it knew the Note was likely to precipitate war, and admits that whatever professions it made to the other Powers in private it did not advise Austria to make one jot of her demands. This, to our minds, is tantamount to admitting that Germany has, together with her unscrupulous allies, planned the war from the present war. On point we freely admit, Germany would very likely have refused not to fight Great Britain at this moment of her peril. But she was still up to the last moment a strong desire to preserve British neutrality if it could be procured without dishonour. But Germany herself made this impossible.

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