

Mentioned in Despatches :: ::

The Australians have been winning fresh honours in France and Flanders and adding to the already enviable reputation they made at Gallipoli. Much of the success won by the Anzacs is attributed to Gen. Birdwood, their commander. Birdwood is an old Kitchener man who saw service with that man of iron, and has given an exceptionally good account of himself in the fighting along the Suez Canal, in the Dardanelles, and now in France.

The many Canadian friends of Melba, the great Australian singer, will be glad to know that she has just been left a legacy of \$250,000 by her father, the late David Mitchell, a wealthy Australian contractor. Melba's only son, George Armstrong, an officer in the British army, has been fighting at the front ever since the outbreak of hostilities. Shortly before the war Lieutenant Armstrong secured a divorce from his wife—in this respect following the custom set by his mother, who secured a divorce from her husband, C. N. Armstrong.

Mr. Mortimer B. Davis, who was elected to the Board of the Royal Bank of Canada, is the Tobacco King of Canada. He is president of the Imperial Tobacco Company, a director of the Corby Distillery Company and has been associated with many athletic and Jewish educational institutions. Mr. Davis was born in the City of Montreal in 1864 and educated at the Montreal High School. This is not his first experience on the Board of a bank, as he was for some years a director of the Union Bank, but retired from the post in 1910.

Mr. H. H. Dewart, who broke the Tory tradition of Toronto and got himself elected to the local legislature after the city had been represented for 27 years by Conservatives, is one of Ontario's best-known legal men. Mr. Dewart was born at St. Johns, Quebec, in 1861, but educated at the University of Toronto and at Osgoode Hall. In addition to his extensive legal practice, he has been prominent in politics, is a Governor of the University of Toronto and a well-known writer and lecturer. The new Member of South-West Toronto often disagrees with his party on vital questions, but in the main is a member of the Old School of Liberalism.

Governor-General.—The Duke of Connaught, Canada's Governor-General, is now saying farewell to various parts of the country preparatory to returning to England. The Duke was appointed Governor-General of Canada some half dozen years ago, succeeding Earl Grey in the position. He was to have returned home in the fall of 1914, but owing to the outbreak of war he was asked to remain for another two years. The Duke, who is a younger brother of the late King Edward, endeared himself to the Canadian people by the whole-hearted way in which he has identified himself, not only with the war and Canada's part therein, but in a hundred and one other institutions, civic, industrial, educational, and philanthropic. Perhaps his greatest service was rendered in connection with the organizing and equipment of Canada's overseas army. Here his lengthy military experience was of invaluable aid to the militia department.

Hon. Aubrey Herbert.—It is now stated that the British soldiers who were taken prisoners at Kut-el-Amara have been subjected to many hardships by their captors. Considerable light on the whole Mesopotamian Expedition has been furnished the British public by Col. the Hon. Aubrey Herbert, Member of Parliament for Somerset. Herbert is one of those pro-consuls who have upheld British power and prestige in all parts of the world. As a young man he spent some time in Turkey, where he was attached to the British Embassy, and where he mastered Turkish and Arabic. He is also equally proficient in Japanese, Chinese, and Sanscrit; has travelled all over the world, covering the entire Balkans and most of Asia alone on horseback. In the present war he has had a most exciting experience. He was wounded in the retreat from Mons, recovered and was sent to Egypt, where his knowledge of the language was of great assistance to the British staff. He took part in the fighting at Gallipoli, and when that place was evacuated was sent to Mesopotamia. When the British surrendered he was sent by Gen. Sir Percy Lake to negotiate with the Turkish commander in regard to terms of surrender, exchange of badly wounded prisoners, etc. Herbert has been Member of Parliament for the past half dozen years.

Lieut.-Col. Draper, who has been awarded the D. C. M. for gallantry in action, occupied a very quiet post in this humdrum world prior to the outbreak of hostilities. Colonel Draper was employed in the Montreal Customs House, and it was only his intimate friends who had any inkling of the man's courage and resourcefulness. He gained his military experience in the Thirteenth Scottish Light Dragoons, where he was known as a most painstaking officer and a great believer in rifle shooting. He took command of the Fifth Mounted Rifles when his Commander, Lieut.-Col. Baker, M. P., was killed.

Major-General Sir Frederick Benson, who has just died in Montreal, was one of Canada's best known military men. For the past two years he has been in charge of the Imperial Remount Commission which brought him into touch with all parts of the Dominion. The late Major-General was born at St. Catharines, Ontario, in 1849, and was educated at Upper Canada College, Toronto and Sandhurst, England, where he headed his class and also won a sword of honor, presented by the Duke of Cambridge. Sir Frederick saw service in India, Egypt and in South Africa, in all of which he won promotion and was frequently mentioned in despatches. He was a most enthusiastic soldier.

W. M. Southam, who has been elected head of the Single Taxers of the country is Editor-in-Chief of the "Ottawa Citizen," and one of the country's best-known writers. Mr. Southam comes of a well-known journalistic family, his father being the active head of the Hamilton "Spectator," and also controlling the Ottawa "Citizen," the Calgary "Herald" and the Edmonton "Journal." Wilson Southam, the head of the Ottawa "Citizen," is a Single Taxer, a free-trader, a believer in votes for women and a Radical of the first order. His paper is fiercely independent and is undoubtedly one of the most influential newspapers published in Canada. Mr. Southam is one of six brothers, all engaged in the printing and publishing business.

General Sir Henry Rawlinson, who has charge of the British Forces in the big drive at the Somme, is one of Britain's best known fighters. He was born in England in 1864, educated at Sandhurst and has been in the army since early manhood. Rawlinson saw service in India, where he was A. D. C. to the late Lord Roberts; fought in Burma, in the Sudan, and in South Africa, adding to his reputation with the succeeding years. Before the outbreak of war he was in command of the British soldiers at Aldershot, and crossed to France as Commander of the Fourth Army. He was in the retreat from Mons, and with Sir Douglas Haig and Smith-Dorrien did most effective work in stopping the German rush to Paris. When the King visited the front recently he was shown over the battleground by Sir Henry Rawlinson.

President Woodrow Wilson.—The trouble in the United States between the railway companies and their employees, which has required the attention of President Woodrow Wilson, is likely to develop into a gigantic struggle. The railway presidents are not going to yield, while the men are equally determined to secure what they claim to be their rights. One of the most active men in the negotiations is Mr. F. D. Underwood, President of the Erie Railway. Railroad presidents like Underwood, of the Erie, and Smith, of the New York Central, have a big hold on their men, not only because they are competent officials, but because they know the railroad business from the ground up. Underwood began his railway experience as a junior clerk in a railroad office, but got tired of the confinement and became a brakeman, then, after years of work on the road came advancement. In turn he was general manager of the "Soo" Railway, then general manager of the Baltimore, Ohio, and then became president of the Erie Railway. A short time ago he was elected to the Board of the Southern Pacific Railway.

Gen. Maurice Von Bissing, Governor-General of Belgium and the man in the last analysis who was responsible for the shooting of Edith Cavell and the one hundred and one fines levied against Belgian cities, has lately been adopting a new policy. Apparently the Germans have come to the conclusion that they will not be able to hold Belgium so Von Bissing has been detailed to divide Belgium into two hostile camps on racial and linguistic lines, so that the

country would be weakened in future and perhaps fall an easier prey to German intrigues. Some years before the outbreak of the war Von Bissing came under the Kaiser's displeasure and was relieved of all military duties. It was only after Belgium was over-run that he was given a post and possibly he is now trying to win back a place in the sun. It is significant that quite recently Gen. Sir Alfred Turner came out in defense of Von Bissing claiming that Von Kratchnitz, the military Governor of Brussels, was responsible for the execution of the Nurse Edith Cavell. Gen. Turner known the German officers almost better than any other Englishman, and it may be that his defense of Von Bissing has some basis in fact.

Vice Admiral Hikonojo Kamimura, of the Japanese Navy who has just died, was one of that country's leading naval men. During the Russian-Japanese war he commanded the second squadron and in the present war commanded the Japanese ships which co-operated with the British in the attack on Tsing Tao, the German stronghold in China. As a result of very excellent work he did in the Russian-Japanese war, he was created a baron, and given many other decorations. The admiral was sixty-seven years of age.

Captain Leslie St. George Cheape.—Lovers of clean, manly sport throughout the world will regret the passing of Capt. Leslie St. George Cheape, the famous polo player. Capt. Cheape was probably the world's best known polo player and played on four successive challenging teams in America for the International Cup. The English team finally carried the Cup back to England in 1914, Cheape starring in the game. Capt. Cheape is the fourth polo player of international renown to fall in this war, the others being the two Grenfell brothers and Noel Edwards.

Great Britain Heirs.—Unless the succession laws are amended fifty British peerages will become extinct as a result of the present titanic struggle. The list includes the heir of a duke, four sons of marquises, five heirs to earldoms, seven heirs to viscounties, twenty-nine successors to baronies, and so on through the list. Undoubtedly special legislation will be passed through which these titles, which bear an honorable place in the history of Great Britain, will be continued. The British peerage never held such a high place in the affections of the country as at the present time as the sacrifices made by the aristocracy have won the admiration of everybody.

Mr. G. H. Duggan, another of the new men added to the Royal Bank directorate, is vice-president and managing director of the Dominion Bridge Company, and probably Canada's best known engineer. Mr. Duggan was born in Toronto in 1862 and educated at the School of Practical Science. His engineering experience has included work with the Canadian Pacific Railway, with the Dominion Bridge Company and the Dominion Steel Corporation, from which he went to the Dominion Bridge Company as managing director. Mr. Duggan is almost equally well known as a yachtsman, having designed and sailed some of the fastest racing yachts Canada ever possessed. A few months ago he had a son killed at the front.

Lloyd George rightly comes in for warm praise in connection with his work as Minister of Munitions, but the public is apt to forget that he has had very able assistants. The chief of these is Dr. Christopher Addison, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Munitions, and a Member of Parliament for the last half dozen years. He has lately been telling about what has been accomplished in England in regard to the manufacture of munitions. At the beginning of the war there were only three important munition factories in the United Kingdom, besides a small number of private munition and armament plants. Today there are over 4,000 Government controlled factories, employing over two million workers, including several hundred thousand women. These factories are turning out rifles, big guns and shells by the million, but Dr. Addison claims that when the war is over these plants and workers will give Britain a big start in the manufacture of machinery for the arts of peace. Dr. Addison was formerly Secretary to the Board of Education and is recognized as one of the greatest authorities in Great Britain on educational matters, especially as they relate to medicine. He was formerly editor of the quarterly Medical Journal, and has written many articles on medicinal and other educational matters.

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