

POOR DOCUMENT

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The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 31, 1918.

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CHANGING CONDITIONS.

With that clearness and force of expression of which he is a master, Sir George Foster yesterday discussed before the Canadian Club the changed conditions, national and international, economic, political and spiritual, which will confront the nations after the war. He remarked that probably the majority of the people have an impression that after the war we shall slip back into the old conditions. Sir George proceeded to show how impossible this must be, and how essential it is that we prepare to adapt ourselves to new conditions. These we cannot as yet fully grasp, because we do not know the exact state any nation or nations will be in when the war ends, and yet the changes must not find us wholly unprepared. This is sound advice. A world greatly changed, with the relations of nations toward each other radically changed, affecting every interest—international, national and individual, will emerge from the great war. There will be no slipping back into the old ways. New trails must be blazed, new interests developed, new problems solved. The relations between the British Empire and other Allied nations will be profoundly affected by the sympathy and co-operation arising out of the common struggle for a great common cause. The relations between all of these and the Central Powers will be changed in exactly the opposite way. The relations existing between the different parts of the British Empire will also be different, though he would be a bold man who would predict what form the change will assume. So far as the Canadian people are concerned, they must look forward to these various changes, think seriously about them, and be prepared to trim Canadian sails to favoring winds on the new and untried ocean of national adversity.

Of changes in Canada itself Sir George spoke in a most interesting way, calculated to provoke serious thought. First, the spiritual change. In his view it will not be possible after four or five years of devotion to a lofty spiritual ideal to lose the power of that experience. That is at least the hope of every patriot. As to the political change, Sir George does not anticipate an end of parties, but he does hope for an end to partisanship, and he bases the hope on the fact that Canada will be confronted with such grave responsibilities, obligations and tasks after the war that the country cannot afford to let partisanship hold sway as in former years. Parties in the future, he believes, will represent bodies of differing opinion, and their object will be to find the best solution of national problems rather than to advance purely partisan interests. The people will perceive that in a gravity of the problems calls for the best brains of the nation, and the most earnest co-operation, entirely regardless of mere partisan triumphs.

That portion of the address which dealt with the new relationship between the individual and the state was of particular interest and value. The war has called a halt to that individualism which disregards the interests of the state. It has taught the lesson that there are times and conditions when the individual must consent to sacrifice that the state may be preserved. Our faith in democracy is not shaken by the fact that on occasion it enforces upon the individual a degree of self-discipline for the welfare of the state, even if the sacrifice of life itself should be involved. What has been applied in war, with satisfactory results, will not be wholly abandoned in time of peace. We have been making experiments in state socialism. There has been a breaking down of class distinctions. Labor and capital have learned to regard each other from a different angle. There has arisen a new social conscience and outlook. Women have achieved a new political status and have also gone out into the industries, doing work formerly done by men. And so there can be no slipping back into the old ways after the war. We must go forward in new paths of endeavor. Sir George Foster did not attempt to outline policies, or do more than set men thinking, which is the first essential. The war that now absorbs attention will come to an end, and the new conditions must be faced. It is well to give thought to them now, not that we can define them in advance, for we cannot, but that we may be in a measure prepared to adapt ourselves and gain for our country the largest possible measure of productive development and of national progress along right lines.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Stiffening resistance on the part of the Germans has not wholly stopped the Allied advance in the Marne salient. The Americans were thrust back at one point but made material gains at another. The French also repulsed strong attacks and strengthened their own position. One report today seems to indicate a further German retirement, but opinions differ. Fresh enemy troops were brought up yesterday, and Allied progress is necessarily slow. Prisoners taken report severe losses on the part of the Germans by the British farther north say there are thirty reserve divisions between

Amlens and the sea, but that the Germans are in fear of an Allied attack rather than preparing for a drive of their own. It becomes daily more clear that Poch's success at the Marne has completely upset the enemy's plans. The whole situation is still favorable to the Allies, but we must not overlook the fact that the enemy is still very strong, and that there is much hard fighting ahead. It is satisfactory to note that Mr. Frank H. Simonds estimates that the British have now more men, and in better condition, than are opposed to them along their portion of the front. The German divisions have been thinned of their best men to provide shock troops, and their reserves have been steadily reduced. Mr. Simonds believes, however, that the safer game for Poch at present is a waiting game, for his strength will grow in the meantime through further accessions from the United States, while Germany has no fresh source of supply.

BETTER NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

The news from Russia is significant. Berlin hears that Gen. Alexiev, former commander-in-chief of the Russian armies, controls one large section of Siberia, and Gen. Horvath, the anti-Bolshevik leader, another, and that the two are working in harmony. At the same time the Social Revolutionary and Social Democratic parties in Russia are reported to have issued an appeal to the Socialists of Europe in which they declare that "the Bolsheviks have brought widespread evils on Russia, destroyed industry, caused universal starvation, despoiled the oppressed people and are now concerned only in retaining power at all costs." From the Ukraine comes today the announcement that the German commander-in-chief and his deputy in Kiev have both been killed by a bomb. This follows news of a growing dissatisfaction in the new republic with German policy and methods. All these reports indicate a change in Russian sentiment which eventually, and perhaps sooner than now seems possible, will result in the overthrow of the Bolshevik and a drawing closer of Russia to the Allies and the cause of real democracy. German exploitation of Russia is not a lasting success. The Allies have a great opportunity to checkmate the Hun in that region.

OUR WORLD SAVERS.

That the winning of the war and the future peace of the world are contingent upon the continued presence of Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues in England is no doubt true. The little Englishmen and the little Canadians, as the Standard so clearly perceives, would be certain to upset the calculations of the Imperial government in regard, for example, to the future status of Bohemia, if Canada's gay Bohemians should pack their grips and come home. Canada can wallow along somehow, while Sir Robert and his entourage are making the world safe for us all. We can readily conceive that there are questions relating to intervention in Siberia, the campaign on the Murman coast, the situation in Albania, Mesopotamia or Timbuctoo, upon which a Canadian cabinet minister could throw a flood of light. Our statesmen have been so long accustomed to handling delicate situations in world politics that the inexperienced members of the British cabinet must have felt a sense of relief amounting almost to hysterics, when they learned that they were not to be left to face the future without proper guidance along the bayonet-brilliant path of their fate. Some persons have an utterly hopeless sense of proportion. They regard Canada as one of the smaller nations, and not as the leader in this world war. They foolishly assert that the war would go on and all would be well with the world even if Sir Robert Borden stuck as close to Ottawa as President Wilson does to Washington. Of course there is no argument with such people. Britain needs Borden. Canada must get along without him until he has saved the Empire and the rest of the world, and saving accomplished that great task he will come home and lick this country into shape in two shakes of a lamb's tail.

The German high command is said to be still trying to keep from the people the fact that American troops are fighting on the Rheims-Soissons sector. This is a fatal kind of folly that will react later.

The war correspondents agree that the Americans are valiant soldiers, doing splendid work, whether in attack or defence. They have given Germany a great surprise.

The munitions strike in England is over and the men are rushing to make up for lost time.

Mrs. Myrtle Neal, twenty-five years old, of Cheyenne, Wyo., arrived at Omaha, Neb., in men's clothing. She said she "rode the rails" of a freight train, holding her three-year-old baby in one arm, part of the way to Omaha.

The Popied Fields Of France

(Indianapolis News.)

Sir John Foster Fraser, British war correspondent, who has been lecturing in Indiana, says that it is remarkable to see the great number of poppies growing on the battlefields of Europe. Whenever possible the graves of soldiers are marked with crosses and some method of identification is employed. But they are rude graves at best, forsaken-looking and forlorn. Nature has come to the rescue. When a mother over here cannot kneel at the side of her son's grave and place a bouquet there, nature does this for her. Speaking of battlefields he had seen, Sir John said: "For the most part soldiers killed in battle are buried where they fall. Here lies one within the shadow of his broken and shell-smashed tank; another here with his gun lying near, another there, and everywhere, everywhere. And where there is a final resting place of a soldier, who has given his life fighting for the land he loves, there grows over that grave a poppy. No, they are not placed there by human hands. What we cannot do, although we would but could we, God and nature do for us. He marks the graves of our fallen men. One is reminded of a line from Omar, which says: 'Tombstones think that never blows so red.'"

On the graves of those dead soldiers—those men who have died so bravely and cheerfully—grow the bright red poppies. Waving in the gentle breeze or shaken by the breath of a death-dealing shell that comes whistling past, they bloom there, silently, yet bravely. These little red badges of courage mark the place where some buried hero has died.

LIFE

Life! I know not what Thou art, But know that Thou and I must part And when-or-how-or where we meet I own to me a secret yet. Life we've been so long together Through pleasant and through cloudy weather 'Tis hard to part when friends are dear; Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh a tear; Then steal away, give little warning, Say not "good night," but in some brighter clime Bid me "good morning."

MRS. A. L. B.

LIFE

Life I know not what Thou art, "Sweet Life" I know not what Thou art, And when-or-how-or where we meet Brings joy to me most infinite. Life we've been so long together Nor e'en eternity can sever. Oh "Heart Divine" to mine so dear Thou'lt sweeten every bitter tear. Steal me away Life without warning Love Thy time choose. Say not "good night," but in some brighter clime Bid me "good morning."

E. MacL.

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HUNGER IS BEATING FOES, SAYS HOOVER

Food Problem of Allies Had Been Fully Solved

All Anxiety is Over—American People Ready to Make More Sacrifices To Feed Europeans—Submarines Not a Menace Now

London, July 25.—Speaking at a luncheon given in his honor by the lord mayor of the Mansion House, Herbert C. Hoover, the American food administrator, gave a most reassuring review of the food situation.

"We can say emphatically that all anxiety as to the great essentials of food is now past," said Mr. Hoover, who had just come from the first session of the conference of food controllers of the Allied governments which was opened here Thursday morning.

"In practical results we have turned the corner," he continued. "Our loaf will improve in quality and we can deliver it without restriction except as to quantity to economy. Our meat and fish supplies are ample. Beyond this, we can build up reserves in North America against the possibility of a short harvest next year."

Mr. Hoover paid a tribute to the late Baron Rhonda's work in the successful rationing of the British public. "In that work," he said, "he laid down his life, but not until the national peril had been met and passed."

U-Boats No Menace Now.

Mr. Hoover said the Allies' food administration for the next harvest takes on a new phase and the submarine menace no longer threatens the day-to-day supply. Plans can be proceeded with for bringing food to the Allies in such ways and from such sources that shipping may be conserved and the matter of prime importance is wisdom in formulating plans for that purpose.

"The Allied food administrators are gathered to take counsel how best to utilize their resources," he said. "While the 200,000,000 persons in Europe and North America pined and the Germans are able to congratulate themselves on having successfully passed through the winter and entered a year of more abundant food supplies, I consider there is further cause for congratulation when comparison is made with the situation of the enemy."

"Taking a broad view, one outstanding and dominating fact is perceived within the enemy's ranks, namely, hunger. And although a body of some 100,000 persons, comprising the dominating spirit in Germany, have been able to put against the rest of the world forces of some 160,000,000 persons, they have not been able to produce the food to sustain them. The conquered people, already hungry, are being slowly but surely starved, and the loss of life through malnutrition and starvation during the period before the next harvest will be far larger than all the casualties on the western front."

Ready for All Sacrifices.

"In seeking President Wilson's counsel as to the conference of food officials which is now in progress, received from him this statement of our point of view in all our food negotiations: 'That the American people will gladly and willingly make any sacrifice in consumption and in the production of foodstuffs that will maintain the health, courage and the courage of the people of the Allied countries. We are, in fact, eating at the common table with them.'"

In a prepared statement Mr. Hoover said:

"The American agricultural population has received a stimulus which has led to a wonderful increase in swine production. 'I have in my possession the needs of the European Allies for meat,' the food administrator said. 'We can furnish this whole volume in pork alone. We can furnish the present position by stating that within the next twelve months we can, with less pressure of saving upon our people, export 18,000,000 tons, if necessary, and to this Canada will add 8,000,000 tons.'

"We are all building ships as a part of our submarine defense. We have now built up our food reserve in the nearest market as a further defense. The call for ships for food next year will be less than last, and consequently we will have more ships for American soldiers."

Reviewing what already had been done in the way of increased production and the outbreak of the war he enlisted the efforts and rallying, Mr. Hoover said the exertion of the American agricultural authorities and farmers had borne such fruit that "there will be no need during the next twelve months for any restriction on the volume of breadstuffs to be shipped to the European Allies." Continuing, Mr. Hoover said:

"It will be the joint conclusion of my colleagues in the European countries that we can get along with a less moderate mixture of other cereals in the loaf and thus provide better bread for the 200,000,000 people who are opposed to Germany."

Mr. Hoover said, however, that with restricted shipping the Allies must face a reduction in food imports and thus a decrease in animal products until the submarine had been entirely overcome and shipping restored. This degeneration in production, he added, would be continuous throughout the war. He contended that it would be good strategy to devote European land to breadstuffs production and to send animal products instead of fodder from the United States.

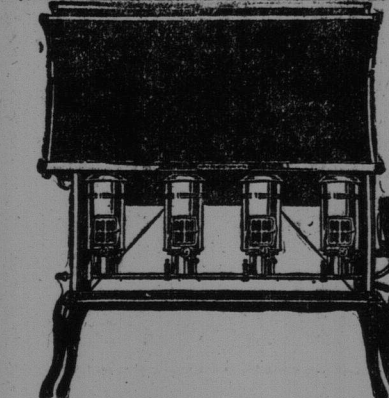
Among those attending the luncheon given by the lord mayor were Ambassador Page, the Spanish ambassador and other Allied and neutral diplomats; the Archbishop of Canterbury, Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, the Marquis of Crewe, Lord Crawford, Viscount Bryce, former ambassador to the United States; Viscount Devonport, formerly British food controller; Arthur J. Balfour, foreign secretary; Sir George Cave, the home secretary; Walter H. Long, the colonial secretary; George N. Pendergast, Labor member of the House of Commons; R. E. Prendergast, president of the board of agriculture; J. Austen Chamberlain, member of the war cabinet; John R. Clynes, British food controller; various colonial premiers and cabinet members who are here attending the imperial conference; George Crosby, financial commissioner for the United States; Major-General Biddle, commanding the American forces in the United Kingdom; and many Imperial and civic officials.

The first speaker was J. Austen Chamberlain, who said:

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Rumanian Aviator in Hospital at Coburg Has Interesting Record

Coburg, July 30.—An interesting patient at the Ontario Military Hospital here is Flight-Lieut. Theodore Goubilla, who had a most unique and interesting experience, not unlike that of the Balkan War. He and his wife are said to have been assassinated on their estate in Bessarabia by the Bolsheviks.

Leut. Goubilla was a student in law at the University of Bucharest. Upon the outbreak of the war he enlisted in the Russian Flying Corps and has served on the Rumanian, Caucasian and African fronts. On the Rumanian front, where he brought down four German machines, he was severely wounded by a German bomb. He was wounded twice again. He received two decorations for bravery on the Austrian front, also two crosses on the Rumanian front. After being wounded he was sent first to Odessa, then to Sebastopol and later to the military hospital at Tarkovsk, receiving at the latter place word of the assassination of his father and mother. On Saturday morning, October 28, 1917, when the Kerensky troops commanded by General Krasnov attacked Tarkovsk, the Bolsheviks took officers under guard and allowed them to return under guard to Petrograd. There, however, the hospital would not receive officers and Flight-Lieut. Goubilla and his wife were allowed to proceed to Vladivostok. Arrived at the latter place they found the same conditions prevailing. There also the Bolsheviks ruled and the hospitals would not receive them. After some difficulty he received a passport to proceed to China and then went to Tokyo, Japan. He accordingly sailed on a Japanese ship for Victoria.

British Protest Lodged Against Large Tract of Poppy Under Cultivation in Shensi—Government is Helpless

Peking, May 27.—(By mail).—One of the very few things which China has done well is the suppression of the opium practice with all its baneful influences. Under the spur of enlightened foreign opinion the Chinese have rid themselves of opium much earlier than was arranged for, and in their thoroughness actually defined conventions to which the British government was a party.

This in other circumstances might have awkward consequences. But those who took the risk knew that the British people would not tolerate the continuance of opium importation into China even if it did involve the violation of certain agreements.

For several years now, China has been certified as free, that is to say, the cultivation of the poppy has been entirely discontinued. Of course the habit has not been completely eliminated—that takes time and the fact that a demand for the drug still exists is sufficient temptation for greedy officials and unscrupulous speculators to connive at renewed attempts to cultivate the poppy and resume its sale and use.

The state of lawlessness which prevails in China invites disregard of authority, especially when it affords lucrative possibilities, and the continued enforcement of the administration in Peking contributes to conditions favoring the resumption of the traffic in opium.

It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that reports have been received by the British Legation in Peking of large tracts being under poppy cultivation in Shensi, a province where lawlessness is rampant and where the administration is inefficient. The reports came from missionaries and foreign travelers and naturally they could not be ignored.

Fear Opium Trade Revival in China

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Accordingly the British minister has lodged a protest with the Chinese government. Under the Opium Convention Indian opium may be imported into China as long as the poppy is cultivated in China. That is the legal aspect, but in these days of higher ideals it may be presumed that Sir John Jordan and the British government, which he represents, are more concerned with the moral aspect. His protest is not made in the interests of Indian opium, but in the hope that the national regeneration from former vice should not suffer a relapse.

The reply of the Chinese government is not known, but it is safe to infer that assurance would be given that orders would be issued to the provincial officials to enforce the law prohibiting the cultivation of the poppy. Whether these orders will be obeyed is not so certain. One of the days when edicts from Peking concluded with the warning, "fremble and obey." Then they were heeded, but now the authority of the government does not seem to extend beyond the metropolitan area, and however ready the administration may be to suppress poppy cultivation it is unable to control the more distant feudal fiefdoms. How then can a government be held responsible when it is not in a position to enforce its authority? This problem meets the treaty powers at every turn. One or several must act as did Alexander the Great when he cut the Gordian knot. Who or which shall it be?

United States government requirements for the army are expected to call for one-third of the output of canned tomatoes, twenty-five per cent. of the total output of canned peas, corn and string beans, about sixty per cent. of the salmon pack, one-half the output of canned cherries and one-half that of dried peaches.

The over-feeding of the enlisted men of the army and navy on their way to and from training camps is traced in a letter which Mrs. Alexander Trowbridge, chief of the Women's Division of the New York State Defense Council, has sent out to her co-workers.