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# SIDNEY AND ISLANDS REVIEW

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## VOLUNTEERS ARE WANTED

ELEVEN HUNDRED SOLDIERS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR CONTINGENT.

Ottawa, Oct. 20.—In accordance with Sir Robert Borden's statement the following details of the apportioned quotas of infantry by divisions and districts and provinces have been furnished by the acting minister of militia, Hon. J. D. Hazen:

Divisional areas—First, Southern Ontario, one battalion. Second, Western Ontario, two battalions. Third, Eastern Ontario, one battalion. Fourth, Southern Quebec, two battalions. Fifth, Northern Quebec, one battalion. Sixth, Maritime Provinces, two battalions.

The Quebec quota includes the French-Canadian battalion already organized.

No. 10.—Manitoba and Saskatchewan, two battalions. No. 11.—British Columbia, two battalions. No. 12.—Alberta, one battalion.

Total battalions, 14, with 16,000 men.

Each military division and each province is to furnish its quota as given above. Divisional headquarters are to be at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary and Victoria. While New Brunswick is not the headquarters of a division, recruiting will also be carried on there, probably at St. John.

In the analysis, the plan means that in less than a year 100,000 Canadians will be under arms, and that they will be sent across the Atlantic constantly but gradually. The installations will number 10,000 each. It will be observed that this is somewhat of a change from the recently announced plan of dispatching the second contingent of 22,000. It is estimated that by the first of the year there will be 80,000 men on the payroll of the Canadian army, and that the daily war bill to the Dominion, which is now about \$60,000 a day, will be more than \$100,000 a day.

There are now 33,000 Canadians in England, 1,000 at Bermuda, 8,000 on guard in Canada, the complements of the Niobe, Rainbow, Canada and two submarines, and 30,000 to be raised.

The lowest pay is \$1.10 a day, the rate of privates. Colonels get \$6.50 per day.

It is estimated that the equipment of each soldier, from bayonet to boots, with summer and winter kit, costs \$300. The force that has left has cost \$10,000,000.

The \$50,000,000 which was voted by the extra session in August is becoming exhausted. There is not enough of it left to finance the raising and equipping of the second expeditionary force. When parliament meets there will be a vote of at least \$50,000,000 more asked for the war budget, and probably there will be further war taxation imposed.

### THE WAR SITUATION.

The Daily Times of Wednesday last contains the following comment on the war situation:

"The censors have dropped the curtain on both battle fronts today. This is an indication that operations of great importance are pending or are in progress. Favorable reports continue to be featured in the British and Parisian press concerning the outcome of the struggle in Northern France and Southwest Belgium. One of these rumors, from a Holland source, states that the Germans have evacuated Bruges, about twelve miles due east of Ostend. If this were true it would prove that Ostend had been

reoccupied by the allies, but the French official bulletin, announcing that the allies had repulsed particularly violent attacks on the line of Neuport to Dixmude, lends no support to these stories received from Northern France and Holland. At the same time it would be well to bear in mind that the first inkling of what has transpired will come from the press and not from the official bureaux.

All the newspapers agree, however, that the German attempt to outflank the allies by a plunge along the coast has failed so far and those failures must have resulted in a forward movement on the part of the victors if the nature of the ground has not proved unfavorable to an advance in force. Nothing has been heard of the wedge driven by the allies to Roulers in Belgium, eighteen miles north of Lille, and the raising of the curtain may disclose some surprising developments in that direction. The further progress of this operation would present a formidable menace to the Germans along the coast as well as to the Germans at Lille.

The Germans' attack along the whole line, particularly on the western wing, shows how seriously they regard the situation. Having failed at Tracy-le-Mont, Noyon, Lassigny, Albert, Arras and Roye, farther south, they have concentrated their blows upon the allies' lines at La Basse and Lille. These are two danger points for the defenders, but General Joffre has been rushing reinforcements to the scene and it is not likely the Germans will make much headway there. Joffre knows the ground thoroughly, having been military governor of Lille. In fact, he has an intimate knowledge of the entire region of Northern France and Western Belgium.

The rebellion in South Africa seems to have petered out. Colonel Maritz has skipped into German territory and most of his commando has either been captured or has voluntarily surrendered. The fact that so rabid an Afrikaner as General Hertzog, Botha's strongest and most consistent opponent, who left the Union cabinet because he could not accept the doctrine of imperialism, so stoutly championed by the Boer premier, has expressed a desire to commend a British force is very illuminating. What would have happened if Britain had adopted the recommendation of Arthur J. Balfour and withheld self government from the conquered South African Provinces?

### OFF TO THE FRONT.

Harry P. Allberry, the energetic secretary of the North and South Saanich Agricultural Society, has enlisted in the 50th Regiment for foreign service. Harry, who was in Sidney for a short time Thursday, is feeling good over the prospects of getting to the front.

### TRAFALGAR DAY.

London, Oct. 21.—By far the most impressive note in this year's Trafalgar celebrations is the inscription by the Navy League paying a tribute to the French sailors at Trafalgar. The inscription reads: "Respect and homage to the gallant sailors of France who fell at 'Trafalgar.' A wreath has been received from the people of Toronto and another from the Dominion Government.

Trafalgar Square has been thronged from early morning. The people had climbed on the rims of the fountain basins till these were wholly occupied. From this position they strained to get a clear view of the decorations about the plinth of the column.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose and we shall now lay down our arms until the purpose has been achieved—King George." This appears in great letters on one of the sides of the plinth. The heroic dead from the days of Trafalgar to a week ago are celebrated. There are wreaths to the brave Britishers, Frenchmen and Spaniards who fought at Trafalgar, and a model of the Aboukir in white and purple flowers. The French colors are entwined with our as a sign that there is now a blood brotherhood between the two great nations.

## CANADIANS ARE READY TO GO

CALL TO ARMS FOR SECOND COETINGENT IS QUICKLY ANSWERED.

Ottawa, Oct. 20.—Recruiting sixteen thousand infantry to be raised immediately was commenced throughout Canada last night. According to advices received by the militia department recruits came forward at all points in large numbers. Officials state that the number of men required will be secured in a very short time. This will be due partly to the circumstances that thousands who volunteered when the first overseas contingent was raised, and who were not accepted are still eager to go to the front.

Owing to the decision to place the details of the work on the shoulders of the officers commanding the various military districts there will be considerable less strain upon the headquarters staff at Ottawa than there was in connection with the organization of the first contingent.

When that work was under way every body from the minister of militia down was worried with individual applications for enlistment and other small matters of detail of which they are now relieved by the staffs at divisional headquarters.

The new plan is expected to work with much less friction and to bring about more satisfactory results. It is explained that the selection of the officers provisionally will be made by district officers commanding, but that these selections will later on have to be confirmed.

Officials of the militia department are not surprised at the cable reports telling of the time it has taken to transport the troops from Plymouth to Salisbury Plains. They say it emphasizes the difficulties experienced in connection with the work, and makes it clear that Canada's record in connection with the handling of so large a body of troops was not a bad one.

London, Oct. 20.—Dealing with Sir Robert Borden's announcement that Canada will keep 40,000 volunteers continually in training, the Pall Mall Gazette to-night says: "The Dominion has not joined in the war under any glamour of adventure. Canadians understand, like ourselves, that it is a fight for the Empire's existence and are preparing themselves for whatever length, strain and sacrifice may be required to win."

### UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.

The Colonist says that yesterday's reports from the Meteorological Bureau indicated that the people of Eastern Canada are experiencing unusual weather conditions at present. A warm spell is sweeping over Ontario and parts of Quebec. At Toronto the thermometer registered 80, which must be almost a record for this season. The mercury stood at 75 in London, at 75 in Ottawa, and at 70 in Montreal. Throughout the Pacific slope the storm of a few days ago has been followed by fine weather, accompanied by light winds. The summary of conditions for the week ending on Tuesday night shows that Vancouver had 14.24 hours of sunshine, with 2.71 inches of rain; that Victoria's hours of sunshine were 27.33, with 1.39 inches of rain; that in Nanaimo there was 14.42 hours of sunshine and 2.41 inches of rain. In Kamloops the sunshine registered was 30.54 hours, with 10 inches of rain. This illustrates that Victoria stands well in comparison with the centre of the "dry belt." In Prince Rupert during the same week there

were 2.60 inches of rain. In the Yukon the weather remains mild.

### HEAVY POTATO CROP.

The Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Agriculture, reports a very heavy potato crop in the Okanagan district this season. At Vernon the succulent tuber is sharing the honors with apples. Digging and shipping are in full swing and "f.o.b." prices around \$20 a ton are being secured. In the Vernon district production was heaviest in the Livingston and Coldstream sections. Some farmers estimate the average yield at seven tons per acre. Owing to the potato digging and apple picking, the surplus of labor, never very great in the Okanagan, is not so noticeable as it was a month ago.

### FOR PANAMA FAIR.

The Provincial fruit exhibit for display at the Panama exposition at San Francisco, which opens in February, has been prepared under the direction of officers of the Department of Agriculture. The exhibit includes every kind of fruit grown in British Columbia and in addition hops, table corn and celery. Five hundred jars have already been prepared, and many of these are of the size of the trunk of a full-grown man while others are smaller, according to the fruit to be shown. All of these specimens have to go through three processes before they are ready to be put in the exhibition jars. The coloring is true to nature. The jars are ready or packing and will be shipped to their destination at an early date.

### DEVELOP IRON ORES.

Advices have been received at the Mines Department of the Provincial Government that, pursuant to a request made to the Dominion Government for some measure of assistance towards the development of the iron ore mining in Canada and in accordance with the statement of the Minister of Finance in his last budget speech, a committee has been appointed to inquire into the situation. Every owner or operator of an iron ore property in Canada should communicate with the Deputy Minister of Mines at Ottawa, who will furnish a schedule of questions covering the information desired. The personnel of the committee is as follows: Messrs. O. E. Leroy, G. C. McKenzie, E. Lindeman and J. McLeish, secretary.

"I presume your father encouraged you, when you were young, to strike out for yourself?"  
"Yes, I remember the day quite well."  
"What did he say?"  
He said, "Son, you've had your last free meal, at home."—Bermingham Age-Herald.

## COMMITTEE APPOINTED

MEMBERS TURN OUT IN FORCE TO MEETING OF BOARD OF TRADE.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Sidney Board of Trade was held on Tuesday evening last in Berquist's small hall, and was well attended. The most important item of business transacted was the appointment of a committee to canvass the business men and other residents for funds to again secure the lighting of Beacon Avenue for another twelve months. The president informed the members that he had already had a promise of \$15.00 towards the fund, and as that is about one-fifth of the amount required it was thought that very little trouble would be experienced in obtaining the remainder.

The Sooke Development League asked the Board to endorse a request of that body asking the Council of Public Instruction to adopt some work (Begg's preferred) "History of British Columbia," and teach British Columbia history in the public schools of the province. The communication was received and filed, the members being of the opinion that the teaching of Canadian and English history was sufficient.

One of the members brought up the subject and a discussion took place with reference to the holes in the oil roadbed of Beacon Avenue, and the sidewalk crossings, particularly on Fifth street, where it was stated that a resident living near there had taken up a portion of the sidewalk and used the lumber for a culvert. These matters will be brought to the attention of the road superintendent.

A by-law was passed making a slight alteration to one of the standing by-laws.

### SOON IN OPERATION.

In a short time the third unit recently installed at the plant of the Vancouver Island Power Company, at Jordan River, will be placed in operation. The work of installation was recently completed after several months of labor, and as soon as the tests are made the unit will be available for the delivery of power. The tests already made have proved quite satisfactory.



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