

Will Start Bringing Soldiers Home As Soon As Peace Is Declared

HERE IS A RECORD THAT WE DO NOT THINK WILL BE BEATEN

Every Ward and Parish in St. John District Has Gone Over the Top—About One in Every Four People Bought a Bond—The Average Subscription Was \$553—Amount Subscribed Represents \$120 for Every Man, Woman and Child in the City and County.

As Regards the Province, It Has Subscribed More Than Twenty-Five Per Cent. in Excess of Its Quota, Giving a Total of \$16,518,500—An Increase in Subscribers of Twenty Per Cent. Over Last Time—For the Dominion the Total is \$676,000,000. While the Objective Was Only \$500,000,000.

Every ward and parish in St. John district went over the top. The total subscriptions amounted to \$6,437,400 from 11,627 subscribers. This means that one person in 4.6 of the population subscribed; the average subscription was \$553, and the per capita subscription represents \$120 for every man, woman and child in the city and county of St. John. If there is another city in Canada that can equal or beat this record, let us hear from you.

For the province there had been reported last night at headquarters the splendid sum of \$10,081,100, exclusive of St. John, or with the St. John figures included \$16,518,500. A little better than three and a half millions more than the quota set. Secretary Thomas said last night that at least another quarter of a million dollars was to be reported, and this will bring the total up to sixteen and three-quarter million dollars. Last year the total for the province was \$10,463,300, with 26,476 applications; this year the number of applications will be about 31,000.

THE WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR WONDERFUL NAVY

Staggering Figures Given of the Numbers of Men and the Amount of Material Conveyed Over the Seven Seas and of the Remarkably Small Losses Sustained in This War Effort.

London, Nov. 15.—During the war the British admiralty transport service conveyed by sea 22,000,000 soldiers with the loss at sea of only 4,291. More than 120,000,000 tons of naval and military stores and more than 2,000,000 animals also were transported.

The British fleet and auxiliary craft grew during the war from a total of 2,500,000 tons to a total of 6,500,000 tons, while the personnel increased from 146,000 to 406,000.

While in 1916 one hundred and sixty-nine ships were sunk by mines only 25 ships were destroyed from torpedoes by submarines or mines. Most of the vessels again were placed in commission by the British ship repairing yards.

London, Nov. 15.—Since allied shipping has been conveyed on the various sea routes leading to the principal European ports, more than twenty million tons of foodstuffs and thirty-five million tons of war munitions have been brought to England alone. The total number of vessels which have crossed the seas in convoys since the inception of the system up to a date late in October, was 85,775, with a total loss of 51 per cent.

HARBOR STRIKE AT HAVANA IS ENDED

Havana, Nov. 15.—The harbor workers, after the settlement of their strike of last week returned to work today and the situation rapidly is becoming normal. The convicts who took the places of the strikers and the soldier guards are being withdrawn. Crews on coastwise vessels demand the settlement of the question and an eight hour day for workers in harbor. A settlement is expected to be reached without trouble.

BULGARIA IS RIGHT IN IT TOO

King Boris Throws up the Sponge, Says Report, and Republic is Planned for Purpose of Dodging Punishment.

Athens, Greece, Saturday, Nov. 16.—Reports of a change of the regime in Bulgaria and of the proclamation of a republic there have been received here but official confirmation is lacking. The general opinion here is that the report that the founding of a republic in Bulgaria is a new move on the part of Bulgaria to escape certain responsibilities in connection with the coming of peace.

Copenhagen advices on November 2 reported that King Boris, who ascended the throne on October 3, has abdicated and that M. Stambulsky, the Bulgarian peasant leader, had established a peasant government. A Zurich dispatch of the same date said that Stambulsky commanded a republican army of 40,000 men.

SIZING UP HER ABILITY TO PAY

Government Agencies Figuring How Well Germany is Prepared to Meet the Demands Which Will be Made

Washington, Nov. 15.—Study of Germany's financial situation has been undertaken by government agencies with a view to throwing light on the ability of the German nation to pay big sums as reparation for devastation of invaded countries. Unofficial reports indicate that Germany's national debt, represented mainly by war bonds held within the empire, is now nearly \$55,000,000,000 or more than two-thirds of the estimated national wealth of eighty billions.

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Official Statement of Plan Which Will Be Adopted Is Now Issued by Gov't

Twenty Thousand a Month to Start, With Perhaps an Increased Speed When it is Seen How the Country Absorbs the Men—Canada Will Be Divided into Twenty-Three Districts for Discharge Purposes and Men May Be Free the Day They Arrive.

Economic Aspects Influence the Question—It Will be the Purpose of Those in Charge to Release First Those Whose Services are Required in Any Important Industries, Giving the Preference to Married Men—Not Possible to Bring Them Back by Battalions as Geographical Conditions Make Their Distribution Difficult—Women Coming Home Too.

Ottawa, Nov. 16.—The military side of demobilization of Canada's army overseas has been completed and is ready to be put into operation immediately peace is declared and the highest command of the Allies consents to the withdrawal of troops. The questions of precedence for the returning Canadian troops have been carefully gone into by the special Canadian committee on demobilization which has been working in England and Canada since 1917. At first it would appear that the first battalions on active service should be the first to be demobilized, but it has been pointed out that all these old battalions have received new drafts and the proportion of service in the first division is little different to that in the fourth division. Every battalion in the line has been reinforced to at least five times its original strength.

PRESIDENT WILSON DECIDES TO ATTEND PEACE CONFERENCE

Will Sail for France Immediately After Congress Assembles and Will be Away About a Month—Has Been Urged by Other Leaders to Visit Europe.

Washington, Nov. 15.—President Wilson will attend the opening session of the peace conference. This was announced tonight officially. He will go immediately after the convening of the regular session of congress on December 2.

This official statement was issued at the White House. The president expects to sail for France immediately after the opening of the regular session of congress, for the purpose of taking part in the discussion and settlement of the main features of the treaty of peace. It is not likely that it will be possible for him to remain throughout the sessions of the formal peace conference, but his presence at the outset is necessary in order to obviate the manifest disadvantages of discussion by cable in determining the great outlines of the final treaty about which he must necessarily be consulted. He will, of course, be accompanied by delegates who will sit as the representatives of the United States throughout the conferences.

L. W. W. BUNCH ARE LET OUT OF JAIL

Seattle, Wn., Nov. 18.—Orders for the release of eleven of the 23 alleged members of the Industrial Workers of the World, arrested here last August, were received today. They are to be paroled on good behavior. The men were arrested after the discovery of an alleged attempt to organize a strike of northwest mine and lumber workers in an effort to compel the release of industrial workers convicted at Chicago.

DISTRESSING CASE IN KENT

Father, Mother and One Daughter Found Dead in Their Home, Victims of the Flu.

SIX YOUNG CHILDREN AROUND THE BODIES

Neighbors Knew the Family Were in Need of Help, But Were Afraid to go Near the House.

W. A. COWAN OF C. G. R. DEAD AT COCHRANE

Car Belonging to a St. John Man Stolen and Police on the Lookout for Thieves—Jack the Huggler in Court.

Moncton, Nov. 15.—Flu is still ravaging some parts of Kent county, according to reports received here. Relatives here have received word that Peter Robichaud, his wife, and one daughter, were found dead near St. Mary's Rectouche, their home, on Saturday, all being victims of the deadly malady. The report states that neighbors knowing the family to be ill with the disease feared to go near the house, with the result that the parents and one daughter were found dead where the parish priest visited the Robichaud home on Saturday. Six young children survive and they are being cared for by neighbors. The case is one of the most distressing reported from this neighboring county of Kent during the flu epidemic. Edmund Robichaud, the father, is in St. John, a brother of the late W. A. Cowan, superintendent of the western division of the C. G. R. at Cochrane, Ont. Deceased was former divisional engineer of the C. G. R. at Moncton, and was transferred to Cochrane when the eastern section of the C. G. R. was taken over by the "Chief" Riddout received word from Chief Simpson at Amherst, tonight to be on the lookout for two young men who had stolen a Ford car belonging to R. W. Belyea, of Victoria street, St. John and left Amherst at noon today in the direction of Moncton. So far the police here have no trace of the thieves.

Sylvain Lasser, under arrest here charged with being Jack the Huggler, who has been terrifying women traveling between the city and suburbs, was arraigned in police court today charged with indecent assault. Several witnesses were examined and the case was adjourned for a week, the accused being let out on bail.

PREMIERS MEET AT THE CAPITAL

Delegates to the Inter-Provincial Conference Will be Welcomed Today by Sir Thomas White.

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—Sir Thos. White will tender the official welcome tomorrow to the delegates of the inter-provincial conference. It is expected that the proceedings will last three and probably four days. Subjects of great importance to be taken up in addition to a comprehensive scheme of land colonization to be submitted by Hon. J. A. Calder, Hon. Arthur Meighen, minister of the interior, will submit data in regard to work done and proposed respecting the settlement of returned soldiers on the land. A board to take this work in hand was created in January last. Mr. Meighen is understood to will have some proposed developments of the scheme to submit to the conference.

Each of the nine premiers to attend the conference will be accompanied, it is expected by two or three members of his cabinet. Owing to the

ESTIMATE DIRECT COST OF WAR NOW AT NEARLY \$200,000,000,000

For Military Purposes All Belligerents Had Spent up to Last May About Two-Thirds of This Amount, While the Balance Will be Made up in the Expenditures of the Past Six Months and in Outlays for Demobilization.

As a Result of This Struggle the Fighting Nations Will Find Their National Debts Increased Eight-Fold, Less Whatever Portion of This They Have Raised by Taxation—Bulk of the Expense Has Had to be Met by Loans—The World Hereafter Will Carry an Annual Interest Charge of Ten Billion Dollars.

Washington, Nov. 18.—The direct cost of the war for all belligerent nations to May 1 was reported at about \$175,000,000,000 by the federal reserve board bulletin, issued today, and it is estimated that the cost will amount to nearly \$200,000,000,000 before the end of this year. These calculations were compiled by the board from various sources and while their accuracy is not vouched for, the board believes the figures are substantially correct. For purely military and naval purposes it is estimated that all belligerents had spent about \$132,000,000,000 to May 1, or about three-fourths of the total war cost. The balance represented interest on debt, and other indirect war expenses. How the cost mounted as the war grew in proportion from year to year is illustrated by tabulations showing that the mobilization and the first five months of the war in 1914, cost all belligerents about \$10,000,000,000. In 1915 the expenses jumped to \$28,000,000,000. In 1916 they increased to \$58,000,000,000 and in 1917, they were estimated at \$60,000,000,000. This year expenses have run only a little above the rate last year. About \$150,000,000,000 of the total war cost has been raised by war loans of various nations and comparatively little by taxation. The public debt of the principal Entente Allies is calculated at approximately \$105,000,000,000, or more than twice as much as the aggregate debt of the Central Powers, set at \$45,000,000,000. This does not take into consideration debts incurred since last May. The enormous size of the war costs and debt is illustrated by comparison with the ante-war debt of the seven principal belligerents which did not exceed \$25,000,000,000. The cost of supporting this debt was only about \$1,000,000,000 a year. Hereafter the annual burden to pay interest and sinking fund allowances will be not less than \$10,000,000,000 and probably much more.

FIRST ENTRY OF FRENCH TROOPS INTO LORRAINE CAUSES GREAT JOY

A PAYMASTER WHO WENT WRONG

Capt. Fisher of Medical Corps is Under Arrest on the Charge of Stealing Twenty-Five Thousand or More.

Toronto, Nov. 18.—Captain G. E. Fisher, paymaster of the Canadian Army Medical Corps, exhibition camp, was arrested this afternoon at Tweed by the police of that town, on request of the Toronto detectives. He will be brought back and charged with the appropriation of army funds in pay envelopes, totalling over \$25,000, according to police announcement. He has been sought since Friday last when, it is alleged, he completed operations by cashing a pay cheque for \$1,500 at the Canadian Bank of Commerce and then fleeing. The detectives state they understand that the affair follows an unsuccessful "fyer" in stocks. The police allege there is on the books of a local stock broker \$15,000 to the officer's credit. Col. D. F. Pidgeon, general auditor, of Ottawa, and Lieut.-Col. J. R. Forbes, divisional paymaster, were at military headquarters during the day, but refused to discuss the matter, while not denying the correctness of the facts as given out by the police. The case was put in the hands of the civil police last Friday, and prosecution, so far as is known at present, will be the civil power, although court martial proceedings could be invoked later.

ANOTHER LITTLE SCHEME

London, Nov. 19.—Announcement was made in Copenhagen Sunday, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from the Danish capital, that Dr. Solt, the German foreign secretary, has declared he would propose to Denmark that a plebiscite be held in Schleswig-Holstein to decide whether that territory should remain German or join Denmark.

G.N.R. WASSON IMPROVING

Mr. J. H. Wasson, Man street, received a letter yesterday from his son, Gen. W. B. Wasson, who is serving in France with the Sixth Siege Battery. Gen. Wasson was gassed on Oct. 16th, but is coming around all right and is already much improved in health. A large number of men who were atoned, it has been decided to meet in the senate chamber. Hon. Frank Carvell, minister of public works, will preside, Col. Massey will act as secretary.

Happiness of the Day Marred by Appearance of Thousands of British Prisoners Cast Adrift by the Germans and Left Without Food to Find Their Way to France.

With the French Army in Lorraine, Sunday, Nov. 17. (By The Associated Press).—French troops made their first entry into recovered Lorraine today and were acclaimed by the population that gathered in the towns and villages to meet them. The honor of leading the advance across the recently abolished frontier fell to the famous Moroccan division, including the famous Foreign Legion. The soldiers of the legion wore their decorations, the highest accorded to any unit in the French army during the war. They also wore their new silver-tipped, or shoulder tags.

Soon after dawn the boys of Lorraine who had unearthed bicycle tires that they had hidden from the Germans during the last of the war, rode out to meet the column marching toward Chateau Salins. The French color could be seen in the early morning light flying from the first houses of the town, though the last of the German troops had not yet left. The street were filled before the troops came into sight and when the head of the column appeared with General Dogan, in the lead, it was received with shouts of joy. Old men, women and children rushed out with improvised paper flags, laughing, shouting and weeping in turn. The first automobiles containing French officers, were taken by storm and loaded with overflowing with boys and girls in their Sunday best, cheering France and singing the Marseillaise, while wheezy photographs, the only music the town afforded, executed the national anthem from records that had escaped the eyes of the Germans.

It was difficult to conceive that Chateau Salins could ever have been anything but French. After forty-seven years of German rule the town appeared even more intensely patriotic than French towns that had never known any other than French rule. General Dogan's entry was preceded by the formal surrender of the town by four German officers who had remained to turn over the official administration. The foreign legion was drawn up in the square before General Dogan, who saluted and kissed the flag held by the colonel. He had scarcely let fall the folds of the tri-color when the inhabitants rushed in and pressed the red, white and blue silk to their lips, turning away with tears moistening their cheeks.

The eyes of all again were wet when, just as the ceremony was drawing to a close, a half dozen British prisoners of war, turned adrift in Germany a few days before, hobbled into the

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