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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1914.

A London Stupidity

A strange story is that of the London Daily Telegraph, which, according to a cable report, says in effect that Britain is badly in need of new warships that would cost seven millions sterling, and that she is so hard up that she cannot get the ships unless Canada provides the money to pay for them. It is a pity that a journal of the standing of the Daily Telegraph should allow its columns to be used for the publication of such rubbish, and it is surprising that the London editors, so severely critical in some directions, should allow the cabling abroad of such an utterly false representation of Britain's financial position. If the article was designed to have a bearing on questions concerning Canada's naval policy, which have been in controversy here, then it is most reprehensible, for all right-thinking people will agree that this is not the time to discuss such questions.

From an Imperial point of view the statements of the London journal are both foolish and dangerous. There is nothing to show that Britain is suffering from a lack of Dreadnoughts. On the contrary, the fleet of them which she has seems to be performing its duty most effectively and most satisfactorily. But if Britain needs more ships of any kind, and money can obtain them, she is not obliged to go a-begging for the money in the way the London paper indicates. Almost at the very moment when the Daily Telegraph was sending out this miserable assertion of Britain's poverty, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd-George, was declaring in a public speech that Britain would win in this war, in the end, if not from other causes, from her immense financial resources.

Britain is strong enough financially to provide for all her needs in this war, and sensible enough to receive in the right spirit the assistance which the overseas portions of the Empire are so heartily giving, each in the form that seems best adapted to the situation.

The London editors should keep a watchful eye on the journal that has sent this foolish report abroad. A writer who at this critical time informs the world that the British Government are so hard up that they are obliged to beg the Colonies for money is much more dangerous to British interests than many of the German citizens, who, as a precautionary step, are being placed under guard.

The Benefits of War

The war is conferring some benefits upon the people. In the first place, we are all forced to brush up our geography and familiarize ourselves with the location, spelling, pronunciation, population and industries of the various towns which are being put on the map. Our knowledge of history is being refreshed up through our efforts to find parallels for the struggle now going on in Europe. The history of the Franco-Prussian War and the Napoleonic struggles and of a half score others is being revised in an effort to keep up to date. In a commercial sense, we are taking a new and keener interest in trade returns, commercial happenings and statistics in general.

Before the war broke out few knew, and still fewer cared, what business Germany transacted with South America. To-day we can tell in glib terms almost to a cent how many dollars worth of textiles she exports to Chile or Brazil, the value of her steel exports to Argentina, and a score of other items. We even learned that Buenos Aires is now the third city in size on the American continent, with a population of over 1,700,000, that Rio de Janeiro has a population of 700,000, and that Chile has a total foreign trade of \$245,000,000. The one thing we do not feel sure of is how to spell and how to pronounce the atrocious Austro-Hungarian and Russian names, which persist in cropping into the despatches and occupying the front pages of the newspaper. Peace hath its victories no less glorious than war, and if the average citizen learns a little more about history, geography and commerce as a result of the present conflict, it will not be altogether in vain.

Germany's Food Supplies

There is a wide diversity of opinion expressed as to Germany's ability to stand a long war, especially in regard to her food supply. There seem to be a variety of views expressed. James A. Patten, the Chicago wheat speculator, who has just returned from Germany, and is supposed to be an authority, declares that Germany has not two months' food supplies on hand, and that she will shortly be starved into submission. The "Boston News Bureau," on the other hand, usually a well informed and carefully edited paper, declares that "Germany must be overcome by force of arms or not at all, and that she can hardly be starved out. The most that the deficiency of food and resources can do is to limit her supplies of food, clothing and ammunition, and to correspondingly diminish the efficiency of her troops."

It is, of course, impossible to tell exactly how Germany is situated. Germany has not been in the habit of telling the world of her plans, and it is only reasonable to believe that some of the same efficiency which went towards the building up of her great fighting machine would be directed towards the securing of an adequate food supply. In 1910, Germany imports of food stuffs exceeded her exports by \$294,861,000, or \$4.54 per capita. It should be pointed out, however, that Germany is one of the heaviest exporters of sugar, which is regarded as a foodstuff, but yet is a commodity which cannot take the place of wheat or other grains.

The blockade of German ports will diminish the income of the German people at least from fifteen to twenty per cent., while the employment of all her able-bodied men on the firing line will paralyze her industries. As stated above, it is almost impossible to arrive at an exact estimate as to Germany's situation in regard to foodstuffs, but we are inclined to the belief that starvation will be an important factor in ending the war.

Cash Counts

As pointed out a number of times in these columns, the present conflict, like all other great wars, will be settled in the last analysis by money, foodstuffs and other resources. At the outbreak of hostilities, Germany, through her better preparation, gained a considerable advantage. She was able to put more men into the field and won initial successes. Now that the Allies have had time to rally their forces, Germany is not making much of a success, and the indications are that as the conflict proceeds, she will grow weaker and weaker.

Chancellor Lloyd George, speaking of the struggle now taking place, expressed the view that cash would count in the final stages of the war. After urging upon the people of Great Britain the necessity of conserving and husbanding their resources, he said: "The first hundred millions our enemies can stand as well as we can, but the last they cannot, thank God! and therefore I think cash is going to count much more than we imagine."

"At the present moment we are only at the beginning. We are fighting a very tough enemy, who is well prepared for the fight, and will probably fight to the very end before he will accept the only conditions upon which we can possibly make peace."

"If we are wise, that is where our resources will come in, not merely of men, but of cash. We have won with a silver bullet before. We financed Europe in the greatest war we ever fought, and that is what won. Of course, British tenacity and British courage always come in, and they always will. But let us remember that British cash tells too."

Immigration and the War

Immigration to both Canada and the United States has practically come to an end as a result of the war. In 1913, Canada received 402,000 immigrants, while the United States in their fiscal year which ended June 30th last, received 1,213,000. During the same year, however, the United States had 800,000 departures, leaving a net increase of but slightly over 900,000. Of the immigrants received by the United States in that year 738,000 were from countries which are now engaged in war. Of Canada's newcomers almost two-thirds were from Europe. As long as the war lasts, there will be very few arrivals in either Canada or the United States. According to the latest reports, the new arrivals at New York have been reduced to a very small fraction of those who came a year ago.

It is only reasonable to expect that following the war there will be a large exodus from continental Europe as well as from Great Britain. In Europe especially tens of thousands of people will be left homeless and desolate as a result of the war. As these people have always been on the verge of starvation, it is only to be expected that they will take advantage of the first opportunity to get away from war-stricken and poverty-infested Europe and come to countries where there are opportunities for bettering their position. In the matter of immigration, Canada is likely to profit enormously as a result of the war.

The German navy is completely cowed. A British squadron has made a complete sweep of the North Sea "up to and into Heliogoland" without any interference on the part of the enemy.

Wounded French soldiers say that the British troops fought in the various engagements since the start of the war as if they were playing football. It is obvious that "Tommy Atkins" likes the existing unpleasantness a lot more than those who man the German navy.

It is really too bad that the Kaiser was not permitted to keep his date and dine in Paris on August 12th. Since the Allies were so unkind as to interfere with his plans, he should invite them to dine in Berlin about October 12th. They will probably be there about that time, anyway.

The splendid spirit shown by Premier Botha, of South Africa, is a striking tribute to the power and influence of British ideals. A dozen years ago he was in arms against the flag which he now is preparing to defend, and that, against a nation which is practically his mother country.

English, Irish, Scotch, Welsh, French-Canadians, South African-Dutch, Hindus, Australians, New Zealanders and Egyptians, all on the firing line, make a fine combination. The Kaiser should take note that when he takes a shot at John Bull he stirs up a real hornet's nest.

In view of rumors concerning the movements of the Princess Patricia's regiment, now in camp at Lewis, it may be well to remember that this regiment does not form part of the contingent which is being organized by the Militia Department of the Canadian Government. The Princess Patricia's are formed under the direct authority of the War Office in London, and all orders concerning them come from that source.

The magnificent series of rearguard actions fought by General Smith-Dorrien will go down to history with the best traditions of the British army. It speaks wonders for both commander and men that they were able to hold back five times their number of Germans, and after several days of defensive warfare to take the offensive and drive back the enemy. Smith-Dorrien is especially well known to Canadians, owing to the fact that he commanded the 11th Brigade in South Africa, of which the first Canadian contingent formed a part. He is a "bonnie fecther."

The situation, as reported by today's despatches, continues favorable for the Allies. The German right wing is being forced back by desperate hand to hand encounters, in which the British and French have captured many prisoners and guns, and also some standards. On the centre, the German attack is being repulsed, while the Allies' right wing is slowly but surely forcing the German army back. It will probably take several days before anything decisive occurs, but if the Germans are defeated, it will mean the beginning of the end for them.

The Admiralty has announced that one of the British naval airships will make short cruises over London in the next few days, and at night. The public are warned not to shoot at the airship.

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT.

Scottish American.
The great cry of the American people to-day, and has been for the past few years, with ever-increasing intensity, is the high cost of living. The price of food has been going up all the time, and the complaint is that the wage-earners find it difficult to live decently. There is a good deal of truth in that. But then, on the other hand, there is an enormous amount of money spent for luxuries and unnecessary, and some things that are injurious to health. Would you believe that in these days of the high price of food that the people of this country last year spent for luxuries and things not necessary the enormous sum of \$5,000,000,000? What an amount of food and clothing that would buy. It would certainly have provided food for every poor family in this country for the year. And what was this \$5,000,000,000 spent for? Here are the figures as given by Dr. Haderivoff: Jewellery, \$800,000,000; candy, \$200,000,000; chewing gum, \$21,000,000; soft drinks, \$150,000,000; theatres, \$750,000,000; tobacco, \$1,200,000,000; millinery, \$50,000,000; intoxicating liquors, \$2,000,000,000.

No one complaining about the high cost of living when people spend immense amounts of money for such things as can be done without, without depriving the stomach of necessary food.

THE MORATORIUM.

The professional humorists and cartoonists of England now have practically a monopoly of European humor, because most of their brethren on the Continent are handing guns instead of pens.

The moratorium is a constant source of enjoyment to the humorists and those who owe money. Ethel is positive that the moratorium is a big ship—one of the Cunarders. But Jack is sure she is wrong; since it was passed through Parliament, and you can't pass a ship through Parliament. Caroline, too, knows it isn't a ship. She has seen one, a sort of place where they put dead kings and wealthy people.

And this explanation by two of George Belcher's creatures.

Say, Ethel, what's this bloomin' moratorium they be talkin' so much about?

Well, ye see, it's like this: You don't pay nothing to nobody and the government pays it for ye.

Well, that sounds a bit of all right, don't it?—New York Times.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

White stockings are to be the rage next season, but not the solid, opaque sort grandma used to wear—Detroit Free Press.

It may be true, as the Columbus State asserts, that the Kaiser put the "ran" in France; but it must also be admitted that the Russians are knocking the "hel" out of Wilhelm.—Southern Lumberman.

"How's vacation, Johnnie?"
"Bully! Fell off a shed, most got drowned, tipped over a beehive, was hooked by a cow, Jim Spindles licked me twice, an' I got two stone bruises an' a stiff neck!"—Zion's Herald.

"Captain."
"Yes, madam."
"If you should encounter one of those floating mines you'd be sure to call me? I've always wanted to see one of those things."—Detroit Free Press.

Having cost \$1,500,000 in preparations, the international yacht race undoubtedly has the distinction of being the most expensive sporting event which never happened.

"How old are you, Bobby?"
"Six."
"And when were you six?"
"My last birthday."—Boston Transcript.

Sergeant (to recruit).—What would be the first thing you'd do, Jackson, if you were on guard duty at the powder magazine and the thing blew up? Recruit.—The first thing I'd do, sir, would be to fire a shot to give the alarm.—New York Post.

This story comes from the classroom on one of Uncle Sam's big battleships:
Ensign Instructor in Grammar.—What are the two principal parts of a sentence? Coal Passer (scratching his head).—Solitary confinement and bread and water.—New York Sun.

SOLDIERS OF THE KING.

Britons once did loyally proclaim
Above the waves we ruled the waves;
Every Briton's song was just the same
When singing of our soldier braves.
All the world had heard it,
Wondered why we sang,
And some have learned the reason why,
And we're not forgetting it
And we're not letting it
Fade away and gradually die;
Fade away and gradually die;
So when we say that Britain's master,
Remember who has made her so.

Refrain—
It's the soldiers of the King, my lady,
Who've been, my lady, who've seen, my lady,
In the fight of Britain's glory, lady,
When we have to show them what we mean,
And when we say we're always won,
And when they ask us how it's done
We'll proudly point to every one
Of Britain's soldiers of the King.

War clouds gather over every land,
Our flag is threatened east and west;
Nations that we've shaken by the hand,
Our bold resources try to test.
They thought they found us sleeping;
Thought us unprepared,
Because we have our party wars;
But Britain's men unite
When they're called to fight
The battle of old Britain's common cause,
So when we say that Britain's master
Remember who has made her so.

Now we're roused, we've buckled on our swords,
We've done with diplomatic lingo;
We'll do deeds to follow up our words.
We'll show we're something more than "Jingo."
And though old Britain's laws do not her sons com-
pel
To military duties do,
We'll play them at their game
And show them all the same,
A Britisher can be a soldier too.
So when we say that Britain's master
Remember who has made her so.

THE KAISER'S PRAYER.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

"And now I commend you to God," said the Kaiser from his balcony to the people in the street. "Go to church and kneel before God and pray for His help for our gallant army."

Pray that a farmer, dragged from a Saxon field shall be speedier with a bayonet thrust than a wine shaker taken from his vines in the Aube; that a Berlin lawyer shall be steadier with the rifle than a Moscow merchant; that a machine gun manned by Heidelberg students shall not jam, and that one worked by Paris carpenters shall.

Pray that a Bavarian hop grower, armed in a quarrel in which he has no heart, shall outmatch a wheat grower from Pottava; that Cossacks from the Don shall be lured into barbed wire entanglements and caught by masked guns; that an innkeeper in Salzburg shall blow the head off a baker from the Loire.

"Go to church and pray for help"—that the hell shall be better in innocent Ardennes than it is in equally innocent Hessen; that it shall be better in innocent Kosovo than in equally innocent Posen.

The pietistic Emperor of Austria commends his subjects to God, to seek divine assistance to crush the peasants of Servia, dragged from their heat field when it was ready for the scythe, and given to the scythe themselves.

STICKING BY THEIR MEN.

Here is how the British employers are meeting the war situation. About a hundred men from the Britannia Iron Works have been called out for service in the army and navy and have already left Bedford, and the following notice appears at the entrance of the works:—

"The wives of the men who were employed at these works when mobilization orders were received, and who are now serving in His Majesty's army and navy will be paid one shilling a day until further notice. The first weekly sum of seven shillings will be paid at these works on Saturday morning, August 15, between the hours of 10.30 and 11.30, when each wife must bring her marriage certificate.—J. & F. Howard.—Hamilton Times.

IMMIGRANTS LEAVING ARGENTINE.

Under date of July 31 last the Buenos Aires Standard says regarding labor conditions in that country:

"In June 8,000 immigrants arrived and 28,000 emigrants left. In May 9,000 entered and 24,000 left. Others would leave if they could."

Our advices from other Latin countries, including Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia and the Central American states indicate a very low ebb in all lines of industries, and large numbers of idle people everywhere.

JAPAN AS A POWER.

Japan's population, 67,142,758.
Approximate area, 162,000 square miles.
The empire is composed of 4,000 islands; only about 600 are inhabited.

Japan's total war strength, 1,200,000.
Peacetime strength, 230,000.
Reserves, 970,000.
Haramomyia, the emperor, supreme commander of the army.

Gen. Baron Uchiyama, war minister.
Gen. Viscount Hasegawa, chief of staff.
Admirals of the fleet, Count Ito and Viscount Inogi.

These leaders command a force of 1,200,000 soldiers, 44,000 officers and a navy of 13 armoured cruisers, four battleships and a torpedo fleet of 129. The naval force—officers and men numbers 49,389.

AUGUST TRADE RETURNS.

British imports for August decreased over \$55,000,000, while exports fell off nearly \$100,000,000. Imports of sugar dropped more than \$7,500,000, of which \$4,000,000 falls on Germany alone. Manufactured articles decreased \$42,800,000 in imports. In exports coal is down \$10,000,000 and manufactured articles \$15,000,000. Of the latter \$12,500,000 was lost on ships and war munitions, and \$30,000,000 on cotton and woolen fabrics.

THEORIES IN THE HOSPITAL.

Among the other theories that have not worked in practice are these:
1. That our modern implements of war, being so terribly destructive, have made war impossible.
2. That financiers are the real masters of Europe.
3. That the spread of socialism in Europe has made the rulers afraid to fight.

—Kansas City Star.

WAR AND FOOD.

Ever the possibility of war loomed big—a possibility now turned to certainty—the question of preventing famine at home among the industrial population has been engaging the earnest attention of the Labor movement. In parliament the Labor members have reminded the government that if hurried steps can be taken to relieve the pressure on bankers and financiers they must also be taken to stop the march of unemployment and starvation which are part of the heavy price of war. The government have taken action, and a tremendous effort will be made to organize assistance, where necessary, on national lines.—London Citizen.

GERMANY'S COLONIAL INVESTMENTS.

Should Germany lose in the present war, investments in her colonies will be "rich picking" for those powers concluding the final treaty of peace. A recently published list of capital investment of Germany in her various colonial adventures, totals nearly \$2,000,000,000. The largest are:

Brazil \$400,000,000

Africa 380,000,000

Venezuela 312,000,000

—Wall Street Journal.

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POPULATION AND WAR STRENGTH.

Of an estimated total of 454,473,000 persons in all Europe, nations having an approximate total of 372,373,000 inhabitants are fighting against each other with a total army strength in time of war about 15,480,000 men.

Nation.	Population.	Estimated War Strength.
Russia	160,100,000	5,400,000
Germany	64,900,000	4,350,000
Austria-Hungary	51,340,000	1,820,000
France	45,000,000	800,000
Belgium	39,601,000	2,500,000
Spain	24,000,000	340,000
Italy	34,000,000	270,000
Totals	372,373,000	15,480,000

AERIAL STRENGTH OF WARRING NATIONS.

Alfred W. Lawson has compiled the following approximate comparison of the aeroplane and airship equipment of the European nations at war, for the United States War Department:

Dirig.	Gas Capacity.	Aero-Expenditure	Dirig.	Gas Capacity.	Aero-Expenditure
France	22	11,000,000	1,400	20,000,000	\$2,000,000
Russia	13	8,000,000	400	20,000,000	\$2,000,000
Great Britain	3,000,000	400	15,000,000		
Belgium	2	200,000	100	1,000,000	
Servia		60	500,000		
Totals	51	20,200,000	2,760	105,000,000	\$10,000,000
Germany	40	20,000,000	1,000	100,000,000	
Austria	8	2,000,000	400	10,000,000	
Totals	48	22,000,000	1,400	110,000,000	\$10,000,000