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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1914.

THE WAR SITUATION.

If the official reports issued from London and Paris tell the whole truth there is yet no decisive result from the Battle of the Aisne, although it is admitted that the allies have made some successes. Unofficial reports, however, all of which have been passed by the censors, are to the effect that the German right wing and right front is in a precarious position and it is also of interest to note that maps and diagrams of the line of battle, published by Upper Canadian and United States newspapers, show the German troops as beaten back and almost enveloped at the extreme end by the allied lines.

It was announced yesterday that the Indian troops had landed in France on Friday last, and also that some of the territorialists from Great Britain had reached Sir John French. Success in the operation, therefore, may yet go to the force which can bring up the greatest number of fresh soldiers and with the allied lines being strengthened by such prime fighting men as the Indian troops and the territorialists, it appears the advantage in this respect is with them. The Germans, however, are putting up a brave and stubborn fight and, judging from the despatches of last night, the battle may yet continue several days before it is decided.

In the East the Russians and Germans are preparing for a battle which, in number of men engaged, is expected to approach the conflict on the Aisne. The Russian ambassador in Rome announces the destruction of the Austrian army, but this has already been announced from Petrograd. The situation between Austria and Italy is unchanged, except that Austria has hastened to comply with Italy's demand for an explanation and indemnity for mine outrages in the Adriatic. Italian participation in the hostilities therefore is not yet at hand.

There seems to be some uncertainty regarding the relations of Great Britain and Turkey. Both nations declare that they are unchanged but at the same time the British naval mission which has been engaged with the Turkish navy since the Balkan war has returned to England. Whether this is or is not of importance has not yet been revealed.

There is a renewal of protest on the part of some English newspapers as to the rigid censorship. One London publication declares that the policy of "war in the dark" does not appeal to the British people, naturally consumed with anxiety, and is not calculated to create enthusiasm in recruiting. On the other hand, however, is the evidence that recruiting in Britain is proceeding with all possible speed and that offers of men and munitions of war are coming in from all parts of the Empire more rapidly than they can be assimilated. Apparently the men can be secured just as quickly as they can be organized and prepared for active service.

BUSINESS AND PATRIOTISM

It was wise to merge the local patriotic fund with the larger Dominion fund. If our fund had been maintained in its distinctive character it could have been augmented only by subscriptions from the territory it is supposed to cover, or by offerings especially designated for it. By merging with the larger fund St. John and New Brunswick will share in the advantage of the very large subscriptions received from the great Canadian corporations, banks, etc., which have been given to the Dominion fund.

The response from this city while very good, is hardly so large as in some other cities of the same size, but it is likely that there are yet many citizens whose subscriptions to date do not represent the limit of their generosity. It is well to remember, also, that there may be other calls upon the people during the winter months. There may be more or less illness, directly due to the conditions imposed by the war in Europe, there may even be some destitution and citizens fortunately situated, whose earnings show little diminution, will doubtless be ready and willing to assist those whose means of livelihood may be removed, or interfered with.

There is every reason for confidence; there may also be reason for the exercise of prudence. Eventually Canada will benefit as the result of this war, but before the end comes there is likely to be some dislocation of business; maybe a slackening of industry, possibly a lack of employment. Workmen deprived of employment, through no fault of their own, will require attention as well as families whose breadwinner is actually defending the honor of Canada and the Empire on the battlefield. It is the duty of the patriotic Canadian to aid the funds created for the benefit of

the soldiers and their dependents; it is an equally urgent duty to take measures that will, as far as possible, keep conditions in Canada near to the normal. Manufacturers and business men will not be fulfilling their whole duty if they make contribution to the patriotic funds and then curtail production and lessen employment in their own industries and then add to the distress in their respective communities. As far as can be the wheels should be kept turning.

The employee also has his duty. In times of prosperity he has had employment at good wages; now, when business may become in a condition where it will require extra care and attention, if employment and production are to continue, it is the duty of the employee to watch his employer's interests with redoubled vigilance. Canada will come out all right, but it is a time when all should work together, cheerfully, confidently, making the very best of conditions as they present themselves. This is the duty at hand; the full and complete realization will be the best test of our patriotism.

THE WAR'S END, AND AFTER.

Speculation as to when the war will end, and what will happen after, is becoming a favorite pastime with newspapers south of the international boundary line. It has not been generally indulged in in Canada. One United States newspaper has interviewed forty of the active staff of the United States army and their opinions run all the way from four to eighteen months as the period of duration. The favorite guess is one year, while six months appears to be a close second. In all cases but one the view is that Germany and Austria will be crushed. The one exception says he thinks Germany has a fighting chance to win. In the other cases it was felt the allied armies would show superiority, and the great resources of Great Britain and Russia would prove the determining factor. Resources of all kinds were held to be largely on the side of the allies.

The collapse of the German advance on Paris was referred to as an indication of what the future has in store for the Kaiser. It was felt that with equal numerical strength the allies would drive the invaders back into Germany and that the campaign would be pursued up to the city of Berlin itself before the final settlement was made.

As to the result following the war, the German loss of territory, and the reconstruction of the map of Europe, the most general opinion was in accordance with what has already been published as the view of British newspapers. One observer, who has spent years in Germany, deals with the political future in a way that seems to spell the downfall of the German empire and the establishment, in its place, of a republic. In the course of an interesting article he is represented in an exchange as saying:

"The most important result of German defeat is yet to be considered. We must believe it would be the end of the imperial dynasties of both Germany and Austria. It will be remembered that the defeat of France in 1870 made France a republic, never again to be ruled by king or emperor. We may expect a like result in case of the defeat of the present two emperors. They would have utterly lost their prestige in their own countries, and would be held responsible for loss of national honor as well as for terrible loss of property and life. It is they that have inaugurated the war; and the dynasties must suffer for it. The socialists are already strong in Germany, dangerously so, and they are already anti-imperialist. They would even now acclaim a republic. They are not so strong in Austria, but Hungary is only loosely attached to Austria, and when the political revolution comes that will make Austria a republic, it is likely that Hungary will set up for herself, as she tried to do in the early '50s under Kossuth, whose son is now a chief Hungarian leader."

A contributor to a western newspaper is seeking to prove by literature that the German hate of the English is not a recent product. He quotes a passage from Goethe, who makes one of his characters say, "Tell me not of the sullen, sordid Englishman." It is doubtful if much can be proven by such argument. At any rate it is not easy to establish that German writers have been more disrespectful to their treatment of the English, than the English poets in their references to the men of the Teutonic race. Shakespeare, in his Merchant of Venice, causes Nerissa to ask of Portia, "How like you the young German?" It may be recalled that Portia's reply runs something along this line, "Very vilely in the morning, when he is sober; and most vilely in the afternoon, when he is drunk; when he is best, he is a little worse than a man; and when he is worst he is little better than a beast." German literature contains no estimate of the Englishman that can compare with the Shakespearean "roast."

An exchange states that since the outbreak of hostilities 38,000 Germans have received the decoration of the Iron Cross, Germany's most valued war honor. The very fact that so many soldiers have been given it may detract from the prestige of the Iron Cross, as the iron cross appears to have been, it would seem cease to be the most coveted distinction that a British soldier could win.

King George is an honorary colonel in the Austrian army, and the Czar of Russia holds a similar commission in the German forces. It is fair to assume these offices have been declared vacant, or, if they have not, they will be after the war. But then there may be no German or Austrian armies after this war.

On The Way

The Canadian volunteers have started from Valcartier (the Khan).

R. K. Kernigan (the Khan). We know not where we're going. We care not how we go. To find the fruiting battlefields Of glory and of woe. Mayhap it is to Belgium. Perhaps to far Cathay. We don't know where we're going. But we are on our way.

We only know they've called us. The battle-tide is unfurled. The battle-tide is rolling. Breast high 'round the world. East or west, or north or south. We know not where we're going. But we are on our way.

Our flag is just as sacred On Belgium's fields of woe As floating o'er our village In old Ontario. So blithely we go sailing Across the ocean grey. We don't know where we're going. But we are on our way.

The flag we love is in danger; Oh, stirring days are these. The flag that braved a thousand years The battle and the breeze! We hear the trumpets sounding. Our hearts are light and gay. We don't know where we're going. But we are on our way.

We come from a throneless people To shatter a throne. Haste to the world-wide battle. Men of the Northern Zone! Crossing the deep grey ocean. Hastening to the fray. We don't know where we're going. But we are on our way!

If, in that far-off battle, I and my comrade fall Then, in that far-off battle, We answered our country's call. Dying, we both shall whisper, "We don't know where we're going. But we are on our way!"

Terrific Cost of Modern Warfare.

(Mail and Empire.)

To the average man there is just about as much difference between \$20,000,000 and \$50,000,000 as there is between a trip to the moon and a trip to Mars. One figure is as stupendous as the other, and therefore it is not surprising that the purposes of this article whether the daily money loss occasioned by the war is \$40,000,000 a day, as made by Elbert Gary, of the United States Steel Corporation, or \$51,125,000, as made by Dr. Charles Richet, statistician of the University of Paris. Dr. Richet's estimate was made before the war began. Mr. Gary's made after returning from Europe with the war raging. Another estimate was to the effect that it was costing Germany about \$30,000,000 a day. It is to be observed that no estimates are below \$40,000,000.

On this basis it is interesting to compare the money that has preceded it. In fifty-eight days, then, the warring nations have spent \$2,250,000,000. The Franco-Prussian War, which lasted technically for 405 days, cost in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000,000. The United States Civil War, which lasted for 2,466 days, cost about \$8,000,000,000, according to some estimates, and this probably does not include the pensions. If the present war were to continue at the present rate as long as the Franco-Prussian War, it would cost \$16,200,000,000, and that it may last this long is a possibility which Kitchenier is taking account of. It would appear to be a very reasonable estimate for the struggle to drag on as long as the American Civil War, but in that event it might cost in the neighborhood of a hundred billions of dollars, a total that the human mind is unable to comprehend. It is not reasonable to suppose, however, that the expenses in the last days of the war are as great as in the early stages. At least the army that is losing has fewer men to feed and pay and provide for by tens if not hundreds of thousands.

But if the present war continues for two years it will cost the nations engaged in it as much as the following wars cost: The Napoleonic Wars the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Crimean War, the American Civil War, Franco-Prussian, Russo-Turkish, Boer, Spanish-American, Russo-Japanese and Balkan. It has been estimated that these wars cost in the neighborhood of \$32,000,000,000, and that some 9,000,000 men lost their lives. It is by dividing the number of dead into the cost that some enterprising statisticians have found how much it costs to kill a man in war, and it appears that \$3,650 is necessary. It is impossible to check this estimate in the present struggle, since losses of dead, wounded and missing vary so widely. It has been announced, however, that up to the present time the British casualties have been about 40,000, but the Germans admit only about 100,000. We do know, however, that up to the present the British losses have been nearly three times what they were at the Battle of Waterloo, those of the French greater, and those of the Germans greater probably than in the whole of the Franco-Prussian War.

Reverting to the cost, Dr. Richet assumed that about 20,000,000 men would be called to arms, of whom at least half would be sent to the front. To provision them would cost \$12,500,000, he figured, and to pay the soldiers \$4,250,000, with \$1,000,000 more in wages for those at arm's length and seaports. The cost of mobilization is rated at \$2,000,000. Transporting foodstuffs and weapons would aggregate \$4,000,000, and the horses would consume \$1,000,000 in provender daily. The daily cost of ammunition is placed at \$5,500,000, divided as follows: Infantry, ten cartridges a day, \$1,250,000; artillery, ten shots daily, \$1,250,000, and the marine artillery, two shots daily, \$375,000. Dr. Richet believes that \$4,000,000 daily would be required to equip the armies, that ambulances are needed for 500,000 wounded or ill, at \$1 for each patient, and that a like sum of \$500,000 is needed for the care of the sick. The cost of the navy, then, come the figures that are not entirely caused by war, but must be figured as war cost. These include a deficit in taxes of \$10,000,000, help for the poor population, \$6,750,000, for the destruction of towns, bridges and improvements, \$2,000,000. And each of these items is for one day only.

But the difficulty of trying to figure out the losses occasioned by war is made plain when one reflects that all these estimates of wars, ancient and modern, do not include industrial losses. It is obvious that as long as Britain controls the sea Germany's losses in this respect must far outweigh those of the Allies. At the present time Germany's foreign trade has ceased to exist. Last year it amounted to more than \$500,000,000, while Great Britain's was more than \$800,000,000, which undoubtedly will be reduced to some extent. France's foreign trade must suffer grievously, even though the sea is open for her ships, because the men who maintained her industries are on the battle line. Belgium's export trade of \$65,000,000 has also been wiped out, but we should imagine that after the war it would quickly revive because of the almost universal sympathy with Belgium. We should think that for some years to come there would be few better advertisements than the stamp, "Made in Belgium."

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"What do you suppose makes the baby cry so awfully loud?"
"Why, both its parents are hard of hearing, you know."

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No, Indeed
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Dix—That's right; especially if you have borrowed it from them.

Love and War
"Want to leave me, Mary? I thought you were quite comfortable. What is it for—something private?"
"No, mum, it's a sergeant."—Exchange.

The Mother of Invention
"I say, sergeant, this meat is like a bit of leather, and the knife's blunt."
"Then why the devil don't you stop the knife on the meat?"—London Mail.

Our Opulent Help
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Lady of House—But the wages are liberal and the work is not hard.
Applicant—That's all right, mum, but you haven't any sarge for me runabout.

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