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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 3, 1915.

THE WAR.

While there has been no official announcement that Greece has agreed to the demands of the Entente Powers, it is believed the diplomatic difficulties of the Allies in the Balkans will be adjusted soon. Italy's clear-cut notice to the world that she will fight to the shoulder with the nations associated with her in the war disposes of all talk of a separate peace, and her decision to send an army to help the Serbians is expected to have considerable influence with Greece.

For the purpose, apparently, of presenting their case to neutrals in as favorable a light as possible, many reports regarding their military strength are being sent out by the Germans. One of these quotes German experts as saying that they do not believe Great Britain can raise an army of 4,000,000 men. These critics also profess to doubt the ability of Russia to provide officers for her new millions. If the German General Staff is really of this opinion it will be given a great surprise. It was surprised in the early days of the war. It was surprised when it attempted to cut a way to Calais; when it failed to get to Riga; when the Russians returned to the attack with new spirit and new equipment. And it may be that the greatest surprise of all will come in the spring. Time is fighting with the Allies, and during the months of snow and ice that delay military operations on all the battlefronts the Allied armies will be adding hundreds of thousands of men to their ranks, and piling up an enormous supply of ammunition for use when the time comes for the great drive.

Meantime Roumania hesitates, and Greece continues to discuss the Allies' offer. Roumania is afraid of Germany, but she is equally, if not more, afraid of Russia. As to Greece, it would be difficult to understand how she could think of joining the Central Powers. She would no sooner do so than her thousand sea-washed arms would be bombarded by Allied ships. Five-sixths, if not more, of the German frontier faces the sea. It is estimated that the merchant fleet of Greece consists of 800 sailing vessels and 800 steamers, totalling one million tons. In addition to this the coasting trade is enormous. It is unthinkable, therefore, that Greece could fail to meet the Allies' demands.

But while these matters are being straightened out it remains for Canada to raise as many men as possible. There must be no delay in filling the new battalions. And after they have been brought up to strength we must raise others to follow them across the sea. In no other way can the war be won.

THEN AND NOW.

It is reported that the government of Germany has suspended the publication of several important newspapers which persisted in printing the truth about the food shortage in Germany after they had been warned not to do so by the military authorities. There is reason to believe that for a time these newspapers and others were permitted to discuss the food scarcity with considerable freedom, possibly for the purpose of preparing the public for harder times to come. The order against publication of such discomfiting news may now have been issued because of its extremely disquieting effect on the people, and on the Roumanian and Grecian minds as well. The fact that many papers have kept on publishing these reports after they have been ordered not to do so is a striking indication of the seriousness of the situation. The Voessische Zeitung, with what was believed to be the official sanction, recently said:

"Every serious plan for early peace will find us ready and eager to give it our instant consideration. Germany is prepared at a moment's notice to accept a peace which shall correspond, to some extent at least, with the enormous sacrifices which the war has imposed on her and which, at the same time, shall be commensurate in a certain degree with the results obtained."

This followed certain articles in Maximilian Harden's newspaper in which he pointed out that Russia was still formidable and that Great Britain was "not even seriously wounded." Such statements are in striking contrast with German newspaper comment following the first rush of the German armies in 1914. For example in September of that year the *Kriegs Echo* in comparing the progress of the campaign up to that time with the "glorious victories of 1870," said:

"The German army has crushed all that from the Alps to the North Sea

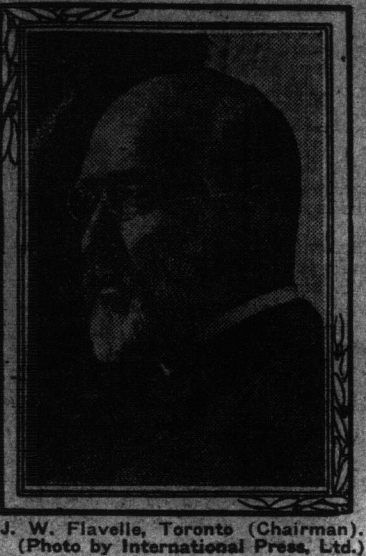
MEMBERS OF IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD



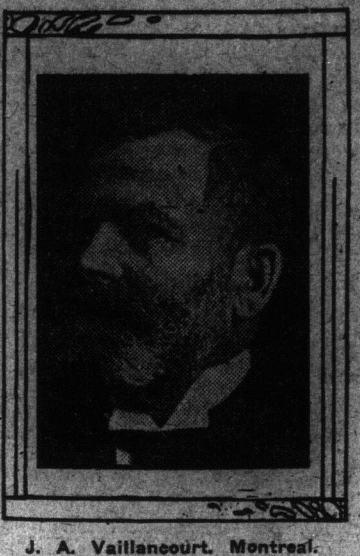
C. S. Gordon, Montreal.



E. R. Wood, (Photo by International Press, Ltd.).



J. W. Flavell, Toronto (Chairman), (Photo by International Press, Ltd.).



J. A. Vaillancourt, Montreal.

stood in its way. Armies, fortifications, armored trains, French, Belgians, English, Russians—nothing could resist it. Nothing has been realized of the plans made for years by the enemy. Nothing has been able to deflect the fatal blow struck at France. The fall of France also ruins the cold calculations that had drawn England into the struggle. Already its best troops, its most costly mercenaries, have been swallowed up in the storm of French defeat, and the German armies are joyously getting ready to deal the same fate to the next expeditions that may be sent against them. The hordes which are approaching from the infinite depths of the Czar's Empire alarm us no more. The greater the numbers the more vigorous will be the answer, the more glorious the triumph, the more abundant the booty. * * * Nothing seems impossible after what we have achieved in these last weeks."

It is interesting to read the foregoing paragraph and then to pass on to the following, taken recently from the *Volkzeitung*, one of the leading German newspapers:

"However, we still have to reckon with Russia, who, notwithstanding the tremendous losses that she has suffered, is recovering with stupefying rapidity. All the same it is to Germany's advantage of a favorable situation to start pourparlers for an early peace. If she allows the present opportunity to pass it will be too late."

Notwithstanding the temporary success of the Teutonic armies in the Balkans Germany is rapidly awakening to the mistakes of its Prussian leaders, who entered the war underestimating the resources of the Allies and their ability to stand up before the highly trained Prussian machine. Faith in a smashing victory for the Central Powers is rapidly giving way to doubt. There are unmistakable signs that Germany would welcome an early peace, that the silent pressure of the British fleet has placed the empire on the verge of starvation. But there can be no peace until the Prussian spirit, which is responsible for the war, is crushed forever. The Allies have made that very plain. A premature peace would be nothing short of a crime.

TWO OF A KIND.

The New York Evening Post points out that when Emperor William of Germany visits the Sultan in Constantinople it will be necessary for him to forget what has been written in Germany in the past about the perfidious Turk. The Post recalls that on August 11, 1877, Bismarck wrote to the old Emperor in connection with the Russian reverses in the war with Turkey, as follows:

"It is impossible without deep sympathy to read of the misfortunes of these brave and friendly soldiers, or without indignation to learn of the shameful outrages committed by the Turks upon the wounded and helpless. With such barbarians it is difficult to be on good terms diplomatically, and I think that all Christian Powers must be indignant. * * * For the Russians, there lies in these events evidence that, in this war, they are the champions of Christian civilization against heathenish barbarism."

The Post goes on to say that when Bismarck declared that it was difficult even to keep up diplomatic relations with Turkey he did not dream that "the German Kaiser would one day be in alliance with a blood-stained Sultan," and entirely ready to overlook the Turkish crimes which have shocked and are now shocking the civilized world.

Bismarck never could have foreseen such a thing, but to the present generation there is nothing surprising in an alliance between the Kaiser and the Sultan. It would be unjust to the Sultan to say that he has been responsible for more or greater crimes against humanity than the Kaiser. The wholesale massacre of the Armenians is not more revolting than the sickening crimes committed by the German soldiers in Belgium or the slaughter of innocent women and children on the high seas. The Bryce investigation and other investigations of its kind, have revealed conditions in Belgium quite as shocking as the Armenian crimes. And it is to be remembered that the Belgian outrages and the practical warfare on unarmed merchant ships are the results of direct orders from the Kaiser. There is much in common between the Emperor of Germany and the Sultan.

THE GALLANT SERBIANS.

History records nothing more heroic than the conduct of the Serbian people in this war. Driven from their own country, which is now in the hands of the enemy, these gallant fighters, who have suffered all the tortures of war, refuse to acknowledge defeat and declare their intention of fighting to the last man. They deny that there will be any capitulation. They do not know the word. "There the people either win or die."

The Serbian Ambassador to Rome declares that after the lull which has followed the retreat across the Montenegrin frontier, Serbia will return to the struggle with a fresh army of 200,000 enthusiastic men. Military observers in that theatre of the war say the same

thing. The need of arms and ammunition is great, but this need will be supplied. And when the new army strikes once more it will be in conjunction with powerful Anglo-French and Italian forces on the south and Russian troops on the east. No matter how badly the Serbs have been beaten their territory will not be allowed to remain in Austrian hands. The Balkan Slavs would not stand for that, even if the Allied nations should not succeed in doing what they fully expect to do soon as they have completed their plans for a vigorous Balkan campaign.

There is a great deal in the statement of the Serbian minister for Canadians to think about. "The Serbian people and government," he said, "are irrevocably determined to fight to the bitter end." No one doubts that they will do this, and their attitude, after all they have gone through, cannot fail to fire the young men of Canada—whose homes have not been touched by the hand of war—with a determination to do all in their power to bring this struggle for the liberty of the race to a successful issue. Lord Derby is making an earnest appeal to the young men of Great Britain to rally to the colors and show to the enemy and to the world that the British need no compulsion. His appeal extends to Canada. We must take a serious view of the situation as it is today; we must heed the call from the trenches. They know where what the obstacles in the way of victory are, and they are calling for assistance. We must show them that they are not calling in vain. This can best be done by quickly bringing the new battalions up to strength.

SUBMARINES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

The British naval authorities are in no way disheartened by the activity of Austro-German submarines in the Mediterranean, although they realize that possibly heavy losses must be expected during the coming months. The Teutonic submarine activity in the Mediterranean is, of course, closely connected with developments in the Balkans. Great Britain found little difficulty in transporting hundreds of thousands of troops across the narrow English Channel, but sending Allied troops to Saloniki on a scale demanded by the seriousness of the Serbian situation imposes a great strain upon the Allied fleet. It was virtually impossible for a hostile submarine to reach a transport in the English Channel, surrounded as it was by several fast destroyers and other ships of war. It is different when it comes to a long sea voyage from England to Mediterranean ports.

But while it is true that with the larger transportation of troops now going to the Near East, and the German admiralty transferring its important submarine operations from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, the toll paid by the Allies is bound to rise, there is every reason to believe that the same methods for capturing or destroying submarines adopted by the British in the North Sea will be utilized in the Mediterranean. It takes a week for passenger ships in time of peace to travel from Marseilles to Saloniki. From Alexandria to Saloniki is three days. This makes the guarding of troopships a serious matter, but a favorable feature of the situation is that German submarines in order to replace the boats that are captured or sunk must make a perilous trip from North Sea harbors to southern waters.

In this connection it is interesting to note the remarkable development of the submarines during the last year and a half. Necessity is the mother of invention, and the demands of this war have caused ideas from fertile brains to flow out in immeasurable quantity. Submarines are no longer a purely torpedo craft; the larger underwater boats are now armed with heavy guns which have proved in many ways a more effective weapon. Some naval experts predict that it will not be long until the submarine will become a match for destroyers and light cruisers. The encouraging aspect of the case is the favorable position of the British submarine in relation to that of German and Austrian craft. The British boat is quite as up to date as the German boat. When it comes to means of capturing submarines by the use of steel nets and other inventions, the British are greatly in the lead.

SYMPATHY WITH ALLIES.

A private letter from a prominent American in Virginia says:

"What I cannot get over is the fact that we here in America, whose war we are fighting are sitting by and looking on. I feel a sense of indignation over the attitude of our country. It may be wise and cautious, and it may be justified by the event, but it certainly is not justified by those instincts that lead real men to take desperate chances where dearer things than life are at stake and dearer things than life are at stake for

us in this awful assault on the fundamental principles of our civilization."

While we in Canada do not know how general is the feeling in the United States expressed by the gentleman in Virginia, we do know that many of his fellow citizens, including Colonel Roosevelt, have protested vigorously against the apathy of the Washington administration in its dealings with Germany and Austria in cases of gross violation of American rights. In this they have been supported by the largest and most influential newspapers in the land. But while that is a matter that must be settled by the United States people themselves, such expressions of opinion as that which comes from Virginia are striking proof of the sympathy of thinking American citizens for the cause of the Allies. Canadians are taking a prominent part in this war for humanity. They are helping to fight the battles of freedom and righteousness. They are giving their lives in the struggle against German savagery. It is this savagery that caused the loss of the Lusitania with scores of America's men, women and children, including some of her most prominent citizens; it is this savagery which is responsible for the massacre of American citizens on other unnamed merchant ships on the high seas. The Allies are fighting for the life and rights of neutral nations as much as they are fighting for their own rights. Therefore it is pleasing to be able to believe that a great majority of the American people are solidly with us in this war.

WAR COMMENT.

Germany's Serbian campaign is described as "a sortie," by Frank H. Simonds, editor of the New York Evening Sun. As an incident in the war, he says, this campaign is a German success, and a marked one, but its relation to the whole war must not be exaggerated. "But naturally the Germans will seek to make of their success something which it is not. They will see in it the final proof of success, and there is not the remotest warrant for such a conclusion. The Germans have followed the Napoleonic precedent in Spain. Precisely as Mackensen has crushed Serbia, Napoleon crushed Spain and drove Sir John Moore's British army to their ships at Corunna. For many months Spain was almost completely under French control, and it was not until this year had begun to collapse that Wellington reached and passed the Pyrenees."

"But the fate of Napoleon was not settled in Spain. The Iberian phase was but an incident. It was in the Moscow and Leipzig campaigns that French reverses were suffered, and the end made inevitable. It is in Russia and in the Franco-Belgian fields that the war will be decided today. Only a few thousand Allied troops have been engaged either in Macedonia or Gallipoli. If they are compelled to quit the Balkans altogether and defend Egypt or Suez, the actual military effort will be slight. "The present war will hardly be won now, even by a colossal Russo-German campaign in the winter or next spring. All observers, save Teutonic, believe that there will be lacking to Germany numbers for an offensive in the spring, but if they are wrong then the slight Western Russia will probably all the news reports of next summer, for no one believes German advance in the west is now possible."

General Gallieni, the French war minister, speaks most confidently of the number of men and the supply of munitions now at the command of the Allies, and says nothing but lack of tenacity on our side could save the Teutonic countries from defeat. And there is no lack of tenacity. There will be none. "At the front," says General Gallieni, "as in Paris, in the towns as in the country, you will see in the eyes of everyone the unchangeable will to persevere to the very end—to a complete victory."

If Germany has crushed Serbia, what are things like in Germany? The Nation publishes this summary of the signs of the times in Germany:

"There have been manifestations varying in violence from peaceful processions to open rioting in all the big cities: food riots in Cologne with women cursing the Kaiser and the war; in Berlin outside the War Office, with windows broken and the crowd dispersed by the police; in many cases shops rushed by the people. In upper Silesia Vorwaerts discovers a feeling of most intense bitterness among the miners, exhibited in continual isolated strikes. Upper Silesia is feeling the effect of the loss of food imports from Galicia and Russian Poland, and unless either prices fall or wages are raised, a dangerous labor conflict is likely to occur. The Muenchener Neueste Nachrichten reports the plea of the Non-Socialist Union of Railway Workers—106,000 men—in their address to the Chancellor. Meat has been reduced to 30 per cent of the former level—and even this percentage is inferior in quality. The consumption of butter has practically ceased. Vegetables of all kinds, eggs, rice, barley, etc., as well as milk, food and puddings, have disappeared from the diet of the railway worker. 'Every one of the members questioned has lost weight.'"

Germany, it is true, has still food enough to keep on fighting; but the time

is coming when she will have neither food enough nor men enough. The Allies, on the other hand, will have both men and food enough, this year and next, and longer if need be. That is what Gallieni means when he says tenacity on the part of the Allies means certain success. That is what Simonds means when he says the Serbian campaign is a German sortie only and that the war must be decided upon one or both of the main fronts.

EXAMPLES.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 2.—How a mare which was once traded when it was fifteen years old for \$40 "on time," was later sold to J. R. Falls for the Government for \$165 was told when Sir Charles Davidson today took up the inquiry into the purchase of horses in Peel County. The mare had been traded by John Ferguson to J. W. Fleury for \$40, who had afterwards traded it to Fraser Hunter, of Brampton, for a horse for which Hunter had paid \$75. Fleury received also a set of new harness to boot.

When the notorious horse purchases in Nova Scotia were exposed by the Davidson Commission it was suggested by apologists for the government that the men with horses to sell had callously victimized the purchasers and that they ought to be very much ashamed of themselves. The country at large knew, of course, that if old and useless horses were unloaded upon the government the sales were brought about by collusion and dishonesty. The earlier disclosures would have prevented many other crooked transactions if the guilty had been punished as such guilt has been punished in Great Britain and France. In this country there was no adequate punishment because the same rotten policies which made the crookedness possible, which, in fact, encouraged it, shielded the guilty men from anything like the punishment due.

It now appears that there still is work enough in sight to occupy the Davidson Commission for a long time. Presumably the men exposed are not to be punished. That appears to be the rule up to date.

THE MAIL SHIPS.

The country is not yet permitted to know the result of the visit to Ottawa by a delegation of very earnest and somewhat agitated business men from Halifax who sought the immediate discontinuance of the mail service to this port, the one confessedly nearest the heart of the country.

The Shaughnessy letter—which becomes a public document of immense importance to the whole of Canada—brings into sharp relief the geographical advantage of St. John, an advantage which neither time nor politics can remove; though political manipulation, as the Gutelius agreement proves, may for a time at least neutralize it. It is now for St. John to be on its guard against any repetition of that manipulation which resulted in such manifest injustice, not to this port alone but to the country at large.

Under the pressure of war conditions Sir Thomas Shaughnessy put the case bluntly. He makes it clear for all time that were political pressure absent, were the greatest question of national traffic, mail and freight, to be treated on its merits, St. John would get and hold the business. And in the light of his letter the country now sees the real nature of the Gutelius agreement, which St. John recognized long ago.

To ask the government to compel the mail-carrying ships to make Halifax their port under threat of discontinuance of the subsidy is a large order. If justice can be done under war conditions there is no good reason for doing injustice in time of peace. The question of the steamers is essentially national, not local. St. John is chosen as the best port on broad national grounds. If any effort is made to set this port aside on other grounds the case must be tried publicly in the House of Commons. And the most important evidence to be submitted would be the Shaughnessy letter.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Allies have given a most emphatic answer to the peace feelers from Germany. There will be no peace until Germany is beaten; until the Allies are in a position to dictate its terms.

The United States government has displayed great patience in the case of Captain Boy-Ed and Captain Von Papen, naval and military attaches respectively of the German embassy at Washington. From the earliest days of the war these men have openly and flagrantly violated the laws of the United States. It is difficult to understand why their recall was not demanded long ago.

Nowhere in Europe would Mr. Ford and his "peace" companions get a more chilling reception than in the trenches

of the Allies. The thing that he seems to overlook entirely is that the hearts and souls of the Allied soldiers are in this struggle for the rights of mankind. These men are fighting to crush German savagery, which sent scores of Mr. Ford's own countrymen to a watery grave. They know what is right and what is wrong quite as well as Mr. Ford knows, and nothing that he can say or do will dampen their spirits in the slightest.

A despatch says that only five Wisconsin hunters were killed in the northern woods this year hunting deer. They were five too many. If examples were made of careless individuals who go round in the woods shooting at anything they may see without waiting to find out whether it is a deer or not, there would be very few hunters killed. The New Brunswick authorities ought to take this matter up in earnest before another big game season opens.

Mr. Henry Ford has given up his idea of "getting the boys out of the trenches by Christmas." Now if Mr. Ford would only give up the preposterous idea that he can stop the war by taking a shipload of people who have no official status to small neutral countries in Europe, he would save his own nation from some embarrassment and worthy Americans in Europe from much undeserved humiliation. But of course, if the trip were abandoned, there would not be so much free advertising for Mr. Ford.

In the future the eye test for recruits is to be less severe. This will permit a large number of very desirable young men who have hitherto been debared, to enlist. In scores of cases recruits have been rejected because the sight of one eye is defective. Otherwise they are physically fit, and no one can doubt that they would make excellent soldiers.

A military writer who describes the fighting in the mountainous Trentino as "desperate and bloody, almost past belief," contends that the Italians have not received the credit due them for the fury and tenacity of their tactics to win the key to Trieste. It is doubtful if the difficulties of their campaign have been generally understood. But the Italians are waging a great fight and the fall of Gorizia is looked for any day. Italy is taking a noble part in the war.

Day after day comes the announcement from some one of the Allies that there must be no patched up, inconclusive peace. And very few of these announcements are less emphatic than the following from the London Times:

"In France, as in England, the whole mind of the people is set upon victory, and victory which will secure for them and for Europe the ends they grow more and more determined to achieve. The French are as opposed to any premature or patched-up peace as we are. Their losses have been far heavier than ours, and they have had the same effect on both sides of the Channel. On both, those who mourn their dead are determined that they shall not have died in vain."

There have been few attacks on any of the battle fronts during the last few days. The reason is not plain, but no doubt the weather has interfered considerably with military operations. Lulls of this kind usually are followed by stiff fighting.

Mr. James R. Falls, M. P. P. for Peel, testified that he purchased horses from farmers after the animals had passed the Government inspection and resold them to the Government, making private profit. "So the farmers got less and the Government paid more for our intervention?" said Sir Charles Davidson, addressing Mr. Falls.—Toronto Globe.

Meantime Mr. Falls keeps the money and his seat in the Ontario legislature. It all sounds very much like New Brunswick.

Ignoring the advice which was tendered by leading citizens and newspapers in the United States, Henry Ford has departed for Europe "to stop the great war." Americans of knowledge and breadth of vision are deeply annoyed and chagrined by the Ford fiasco. They feel that the United States government ought to make it very plain to the Allies that it is in no way responsible for such impudence. That seems hardly necessary. Mr. Ford's foolish talk already has convinced the world that no responsible government would lend its support to such folly.

Lord Cromer, writing to the National Review, points out that the German idea of what is right in time of war is based upon the following simple code:

Art. I.—The duty of a nation at war is to conquer.
Art. II.—In order to achieve this object all measures, however indefensible in time of peace, are justifiable.
Art. III.—All engagements taken in time of peace lapse when war is declared.

Lord Cromer goes on to say that the only satisfactory method of dealing with a nation which acts on these principles is to so cripple its military strength as to prevent it from ever again plunging the world into war.

Military critics do not look for much heavy fighting in the Balkans for some time. One observer says:

"The Franco-British army in Macedonia has no longer any reason for moving hastily, and Russia and Italy will not be in a position to join in a combined converging movement from south, east and west until February or March. The interval will be occupied in preparation for the final assault on the Balkans. Before the general advance begins the Franco-British base at Saloniki will be cleared of Greek troops, and the harbor will be absolutely under control of the allied fleet. Only under these conditions could an advance be made with confidence."

Extract from a schoolboy's Bible examination paper—Q. "What does Scripture say of a lie?" A. "A lie is an abomination to the Lord, but a very present help in time of trouble."

REGARDING POSTAGE TO BRITISH AND CANADIAN TROOPS.

To the Editor of The Telegraph.
Sir,—With reference to the letter dated Nov. 19, 1915, from Mr. W. F. Noble, headed "Postal Rates on Matter Sent to the Troops," which appeared in the St. John Daily Telegraph issue of Monday, the 22nd ultimo, I beg to submit herewith a statement of the facts of the case which, it is hoped, will make the situation clear.

The rates of postage to British and Canadian troops are as follows:
Letters to England, two cents per ounce.

Letters to France, two cents an ounce. The war tax stamp of one cent must be added to each letter, in addition to the ordinary postage.

Newspapers in England, one cent per four ounces.

Newspapers to France, one cent per two ounces.

Parcels to France, 1 pound, 32 cents; 2 pounds, 40 cents; 3 pounds, 48 cents; 4 pounds, 56 cents; 5 pounds, 72 cents; 6 pounds, 80 cents; 7 pounds, 88 cents; 8 pounds, \$1.02; 9 pounds, \$1.10; 10 pounds, \$1.18; 11 pounds, \$1.26.

Parcels to members of the Mediterranean expeditionary force: One pound, 32 cents; 2 pounds, 40 cents; 3 pounds, 48 cents; 4 pounds, 56 cents; 5 pounds, 72 cents; 6 pounds, 80 cents; 7 pounds, 88 cents; 8 pounds, \$1.02; 9 pounds, \$1.10; 10 pounds, \$1.18; 11 pounds, \$1.26.

The rate of postage on newspapers and parcels is determined absolutely by the location of the addressee. If he is known to be in England, the rate to England applies, but if he has removed to France, the rate to France applies. All mail for the troops whether in England or France must be addressed to the care of the Army Post Office, London, England. The fact that it is so addressed, however, does not in any way whatever affect the rate of postage to which it is subject. Special treatment is given soldiers' mail both in the Canadian and British post office, and it is all sent to the Army Post Office where it is specially handled no matter whether it is for soldiers in England or in France. The public is asked to include the words "Army Post Office" in the address simply in order that they may be given an opportunity of obtaining the most rapid delivery of their mail. This insures special treatment, as the minute the words "Army Post Office" catch the eye of the post office sorter he knows immediately what to do with the item of mail so addressed.

The impression seems somewhat prevalent that the department has control of the rates of postage on mail for the troops, but this is not so, as the question of postage is fixed by international agreement.

The charges in the case of parcels are the same charges which existed for years between Canada, England and France before the war, and are the result of an agreement or convention made between these countries and Canada, and as these countries have not agreed to lower their rates between England and France, Canada has to pay them the same rates as before the war, and must charge the same postage.

The rate of postage on newspapers addressed to Canadian soldiers in France and Egypt is fixed by international law at one cent for two ounces. Canada in common with other countries has subscribed to this international rate on papers passing between the different countries of the Postal Union, and it is not within the power of the government nor any other country to change the rate.

If the addressee is in France or Egypt, the international printed matter rate of one cent per two ounces applies. If the addressee is in the United Kingdom, publishers are being allowed to take advantage of the special agreement with the United Kingdom whereby Canadian domestic rates apply to papers passing from Canada to the United Kingdom, but this department has no power to extend this to other countries unless these countries show lower rates with the United Kingdom, and this they have not done.

In instructions issued in October last by the British Post Office in regard to mail for the soldiers at the front, it is explicitly stated that the rate on newspapers from the United Kingdom for the troops is one cent for two ounces, that is, is the fixed international rate. Canada, therefore, has no option and must charge the same postage.

As regards the rate on letters, it may be explained that the British Post Office was charged with the duty of securing and this enabled Canada to lower its rates which otherwise would be five cents for the first ounce and three cents for each subsequent ounce. There has, therefore, been a substantial reduction in this respect.

Although under international law, provision is made for the free transmission of correspondence for prisoners of war, this privilege does not extend to correspondence to troops engaged in active service, and it is not within the power of this department to so extend it.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
A. W. THROOP,
Secretary.

Ottawa, Dec. 1, 1915.

"For All We Have and Are."

(By Rudyard Kipling.)

For all we have and are,
For all our children's fate,
Stand up and meet the war,
The Hun is at the gate!
Ours is the name that's away
In wantonness o'erthrown.
There is nothing left today
But steel and fire and stone.

Though all we knew depart,
The old commandments stand:
"In courage keep your heart,
In strength lift up your hand."

Once more we hear the word
That sickened earth of old:
"No law except the sword
Unsheathed and unconquered!"

Once more it knits mankind,
Once more the nations go
To meet and break and bind
A crazed and driven foe.

Comfort, content, delight—
The ages' slow-bought gain
They shrivelled in a night,
Only ourselves remain.

In silent fortitude
Through perils and dismays
Renewed and re-renewed,
Though all we made depart,
The old commandments stand:
"In patience keep your heart,
In strength lift up your hand."

No easy hopes or lies
Shall bring us to our goal,
But trust and sacrifice
Of body, will, and soul.

There is but one task for all—
For each one life to give.
Who stands if freedom fall?
Who dies if England live?

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