

TOPICS OF THE DAY

EXPOSURE AND DEFEAT The military achievements of the summer, in which our own Canadians have played so brilliant a part, make it clear that the Allied cause is now more than ever assured of victory. The German rush is not only stayed but is being beaten back, and though the official reports issued from enemy headquarters are designed to make it appear that he is quite content, for strategic reasons, to be getting further and further away from Paris, he is really aware that his war-machine is showing signs of grievous wear and tear, and this at a time when internal conditions in both the Central Empires are aggravated by the growing consciousness of military failure and defeat. He also knows that no overtures from him will be favourably considered, if considered at all, till he has been driven back to his own western boundary. What a triumphal coincidence it is that our military successes should have been achieved so soon after the whole world, outside the Fatherland, had come to be convinced of the fact that the war originated in a gigantic lie! First it was Prince Lichnowsky whose involuntary disclosures did tardy justice to the British efforts for peace, and robbed the German "Hymn of Hate" of any solid foundation. For telling the simple truth, in memoranda not intended for publication, Lichnowsky has been degraded and has lost his seat in the Prussian Chamber. And, more recently, there has been published one of the most remarkable books of the year, the "Diary" of Dr. Wilhelm Muehlton, who as a Director of Krupp's in August, 1914, knew what was going on behind the scenes in Berlin, and was in close and intimate personal touch with those who are responsible for the war. "Our irruption into Belgium," says Dr. Muehlton, "means fearful moral injury to ourselves; our action is more unscrupulous than anything ever done by Bismarck or anyone like him, and even a victorious war would not restore to us the confidence of Europe and the rest of the world." By