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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 24, 1914.

WELLINGTON AND THE GERMANS.

The Duke of Wellington, according to Sir Herbert Maxwell whose "Life of Wellington" is famous, saw in the Germans of 1807 the same brutal and ruthless qualities which they have exhibited in the present war. The Iron Duke after some experience with a German legion with whom British troops were co-operating thus described them in a letter to his mother:

"I can assure you that from the General of the Germans down to the smallest drum boy in the legion, the earth never groaned with such a set of brutal, infamous villians. They murdered, robbed, and ill-treated the peasantry wherever they went."

A correspondent who sends this opinion of the Duke of Wellington to the London Daily Mail, adds this comment: "It is instructive to find that the advance made in a hundred years in civilization and humanity by other nations has left the Germans just as they were." Certainly the Iron Duke's characterization of the German soldiers as he knew them fits them today without the change of a word.

Mr. Twells Brex, a London journalist who visited New Brunswick last year, sends to the Daily Mail a letter reminding the readers of that journal that the astonishing blasphemies recently credited to the Kaiser in the public prints are really quite in line with his recorded official speeches. Mr. Brex quotes, for example, from a speech made by the Kaiser on September 9, 1906, when proposing a toast at a provincial banquet, when he said:

"The saying of the Emperor William the Great, 'God with us, and may all the honor be to Him,' may likewise be said at the present time, and God may be thanked for having arranged everything for the well-being and advantage of the Fatherland. Just as Frederick the Great was never left in the lurch by God, his old Ally, in the same way the Fatherland will remain near His heart." Of which Mr. Brex says: "All the parodists of the egoist of Potsdam cannot invent any wilder words than those he actually uttered."

The Duke of Wellington's forcible description of German brutality, confirmed after more than a hundred years by the conduct of the Germans in this war, and the Kaiser's amazing references to the Deity as a partner in his present enterprises—what a picture of Germany these things give the world of today!

THE FIGHTING IN THE WEST.

The British fleet, according to the French War Office statement, has greatly assisted the Belgian army in checking the German advance along the Channel coast toward Dunkirk. In what way this assistance has been given, whether the ships have gone close to shore and shelled the country for a few miles inland, or whether they have landed marines, is not disclosed. But, in either case, the assistance seems to have been effective.

The Germans are finding the road to Dunkirk a hard one to travel. Every foot of their progress is stubbornly resisted, and, although it may be that some terror-stricken inhabitants are fleeing from Dunkirk and Boulogne, the Allies are confident that they will be able to hold these towns from the invaders.

The feeling in London military circles is that there must soon be some decisive result in this field of action. That appears inevitable. Either the Germans must take the Channel ports or suffer a severe setback, for the condition of the country there and the formation of the lines make a long drawn out struggle along the coast highly improbable.

The fact that the Germans are rushing heavy siege guns to the neighborhood of Belfort is significant. Belfort is about twenty-four miles south-west of Mulhausen, and ten miles inside the French border. A strong French force is in that territory, Paris reports declare, and any attempt of the enemy to gain important ground there will be fought to a finish.

The action of the French in again occupying Mulhausen and Altkirch was probably in anticipation of this latest movement of the Germans against Belfort. One military critic is of opinion that the French who, with bull-dog tenacity have continued to hold strong positions in the Vosges territory in spite of the terrific onslaughts of the enemy, are working up a counter stroke to the German raid on the sea coast. They have probably learned that the German armies in Alsace and Lorraine have been weakened to reinforce the corps operating in Southern Belgium, and are serving notice that the German frontier is as vulnerable as the sea coast of France.

The fighting of the next few days along the entire battle front in the west should have a great bearing on the final result of the struggle that has new been continuous for so many weeks.

WHAT THE KAISER WOULD TAKE.

A leading Paris paper, L'Homme Enchaine, owned and edited by M. Clemenceau, formerly premier of France, printed recently certain extracts from a letter sent to the editor by an intimate friend, an American diplomat, in which there is amusing evidence of the amazing conceit of the Kaiser and his advisers and further proof of the dangerous scheming of the Prussian militarists.

The author of the letter who, M. Clemenceau declares, knows the Kaiser personally and has been received by him in Berlin, relates at length a conversation in a fashionable American hotel between Count von Bernstorff and a prominent American banker in the presence of several wealthy Berlin men, one of whom had just given the German ambassador a check for the German Red Cross. The Berlin man asked Count von Bernstorff what the Kaiser would take from France at the end of the war. The ambassador replied counting off the points on his fingers:

"First of all, the colonies of Morocco, entire Algeria and Tunis.

"Second, all France, from Saint Valery in a straight line to Lyons, or more than a quarter of France and having more than 15,000,000 inhabitants.

"Third, an indemnity of ten billion francs ($2,000,000,000).

"Fourth, a commercial treaty permitting German goods to enter France duty free for twenty-five years without reciprocity.

"Fifth, the demolishing of the trade conditions provided in the treaty of Frankfort.

"Sixth, the demolishing of all French fortresses.

"Seventh, the gift by France of three million rifles, three thousand cannon and forty thousand horses.

"Eighth, patent rights for German patents without reciprocity for twenty-five years.

"Ninth, France to abandon her alliance with Russia and England.

"Tenth, a twenty-five year treaty of alliance with Germany."

The American diplomat points out that the foregoing are what von Bernstorff, who has more than once been taken to task by reputable newspapers in the United States for his audacious and untruthful statements regarding Great Britain, calls "The Ten German Commandments." As to the other Allies von Bernstorff added:

"Germany will beat Russia and will finish off England. Then traitorous England will turn against Russia and both will call for our help against each other. As for France, she must be reduced, sunk forever and made another Portugal or Turkey, even if we have to kill five million Frenchmen to do it."

Count von Bernstorff has been very active in the German campaign of misrepresentation since the war began. He probably does not believe half what he says. He has many times been told that the outcome of this gigantic struggle will be the Kaiser's political death and the complete destruction of the War Lord's ideas and principles in regard to his power over his subjects.

The time is past when a man, even though he be a Kaiser, can tell another man, "You will take Paris or die." Such conceptions of human domination are not acceptable any more and must disappear entirely from the world. German militarism is the last stronghold of these theories, and it will be wiped out forever.

BRITAIN'S NEW ARMIES.

It is natural to ask how long it will be before the armies now being built up in England, including Canada's first contingent, will be ready to take the field. English sentiment will no doubt favor the despatch of the new armies to the Continent at the earliest moment. Earl Kitchener, however, and those with him in the War Office who are in closest touch with military operations, will be careful to avoid any such mistake as the throwing of imperfectly prepared levies into the battle line would be. To do that would do more harm than good.

Eight years ago an interesting experiment was carried out under the auspices of the London Spectator, which was advocating the reform of the national militia system. This experiment involved the organization of new volunteers who were put through a six months course of training by Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Pollock, by whom the scheme was suggested. He wished to prove that in six months with a free hand he could drill raw recruits and make them better trained than any company he had ever commanded. In his report printed in the Spectator of October 13, 1906, Colonel Pollock said:

"Before the training commenced I asked various officers of all ranks, from generals downwards, this question: 'If you were given one hundred recruits and a free hand, could you in six months make them as well-drilled a company and better trained than any you yourself have ever commanded?' In no case was the reply in the negative. I will now answer, after the event, the same question by asserting that only one company ever under my own command, H Company, Second Battalion, Somersetshire Light Infantry, trained at Devonport under exceptionally favorable conditions in 1895, can stand comparison with the Spectator Experimental Company in September, 1906."

But the warning was given that for the purpose of actual warfare the experimental company would have been greatly inferior to Colonel Pollock's Company H; that while the knowledge of soldiering can be learned in six months it is impossible in that time to inculcate the understanding or instinct, the experience, and, above all, the habit of discipline. Colonel Pollock in his report said further:

"The leaven of non-commissioned officers and old soldiers in a Regular company would make all the difference. Therefore let us not be deceived. The lesson of the Spectator Company is not that a fighting unit equal to the worst of Regulars can be made in six months, but . . . secondly, that we can by means of a six months' course of recruits' training, followed by say a score of drills and exercises and a week in camp annually, on Volunteer lines, produce a reserve army fit to relieve from garrison duty all Regulars on the outbreak of a great war, and after a brief final preparation, to fight European conscripts."

Coming back to the present war, it is clear that Great Britain will have to overlook, to a great extent at least, that habit of discipline which comes with years of military training. But she will be able to whip her recruits into first class fighting shape by training them six months,—the minimum of training that is essential—with a free hand, free, that is, from red tape. While some military authorities do not consider the prospects of Britain maintaining half a million men in the field before the beginning of next June as bright, they freely admit that, given that amount of time, a steady inpour of British troops into the battle line may be expected.

Bernhardi, whose hero is Frederick the Great, is a firm believer in the efficacy of morale and high training as against numbers; and in his "Germany and the Next War" he declares that Germany will certainly be outnumbered in the great test, to the extent that she must not count on Italy and cannot count too much on Austria, but that Germany must win, nevertheless, through superior devotion and efficiency. He is inclined to lay comparatively little stress on the value of Landwehr and Landsturm. Bearing in mind the success of his hero, who struck at his numerically superior enemies with a greatly superior weapon,—the Prussian army—Bernhardi calculates that the war of lightning strokes so necessary to Germany can be carried on only by an army at the highest pitch of efficiency, and that can be found only among the men actually with the colors on the outbreak of war.

Bernhardi's requirements are much astray so far as the present struggle is concerned. The events of the last three months have made it plain that the war will not be decided by a succession of lightning strokes. There is every reason to believe that one-third of the standing forces at the outbreak of the war are already out of commission, and no decision is in sight. The advantage for Germany that Bernhardi had so clearly in mind has largely vanished. The war will be decided, not by the first line, but by the reserve strength of the nations, and, as Germany is being forced like her opponents to draw upon her second and third lines, there is obviously granted to Britain the necessary respite for giving her new armies adequate preparation.

FIFTY MILLIONS A DAY.

The London Economist reckons the daily outlay on the war by the nations engaged at $50,000,000, seemingly without counting Great Britain. The Economist says:

"According to a Swiss computation, there were in Europe at the end of August about 20,400,000 men actually under arms. At the beginning of October Germany (on the same authority) had under arms twenty-seven army corps of her regular troops and an equal number of reserves, making a total of fifty-four army corps, say 2,160,000 men. Of these, twenty-four army corps were in France, six in Belgium and Alsace, thirteen in East Prussia, and eleven between Thorn and Cracow. There are, in addition, assumed to be 1,500,000 Landsturm and volunteers serving in the interior, while 600,000 fresh recruits are reported to be in training sufficiently advanced for them to be ready for service in November.

"Even the neutral states, it was estimated, had mobilized more than 2,000,000 soldiers on a war footing. For each soldier, including initial and consequent expenses, ten shillings per day is usually counted in an estimate. This gives a total daily war expense in Europe of over ten millions sterling. Of this Germany would provide for some £3,200,000 per day, Austria, for £1,600,000; Russia, for £2,100,000, and France for £1,600,000. Even Switzerland was then spending some £80,000, and Holland probably £100,000."

WORK FOR THE ARTISTS.

A large number of artists and art students are said to be returning to the United States and Canada from Paris, Berlin, Vienna and other cities in the disturbed zone of the European continent.—Christain Science Monitor.

After spending a year or two amid the natural attractions of Canada and the United States no doubt many of these artists will wonder why they ever went so far afield in their search for subjects. Where could they do better than in the Canadian East with its magnificent lakes and rivers, or in the West with its picturesque Rockies? Where could they find greater inspiration than in the Yukon and Alaska, in the Yosemite valley and the Selkirks? The East as well as the West, the North as well as the South of these countries have claims that are equal; magnificient features worthy the attention of the world's greatest painters.

If conditions in Europe now force artists to give to Canada and the United States a measure of the attention that is their due, there is reason to believe that the advantage will not be altogether one-sided. Up to this time Canadian scenery has been neglected by both the native and the alien brush. The painters forced to America by the conflict in Europe will find plenty to do.

THE CABINET SHUFFLE.

A short time ago Conservative papers prepared themselves for a general election. This was followed up by announcements that changes were about to be made in the Federal cabinet. A day or two later the people were told that the date for the cabinet shuffle was indefinite. Then there followed the announcement that changes had been made, whereby Pierre Edouard Blondin, famous for his anti-British statements on and off the public platform, and Hon. T. Chase Casgrain had been taken into the government to succeed Messrs. Nantel and Pelletier.

The real significance of the choice of Mr. Blondin is not clear. He will be remembered as the Tory anti-British candidate who, more strongly than any other Nationalist, gave expression to fiery anti-Imperialistic sentiments. It was at first supposed that a certain element in the Conservative cabinet circles intended to break with the Nationalist wing of the party, but evidently Mr. Blondin and his followers were strong enough to demand recognition.

Whether or not the cabinet changes are to be followed by the announcement of an election remains to be seen. It is evident that serious differences of opinion on matters affecting the party's welfare have arisen among the members of Sir Robert's cabinet.

CANADA'S DUTY.

Rev. Charles W. Gordon, D. D. (Ralph Connor) contributes an article to the Manitoba Free Press on Canada's Duty in which he declares that there is no place for pessimism on the part of any Britisher in this war. The outcome, he says, is assured. We shall win and win completely.

That Europe might be Germanized and a world empire established greater than the world has ever seen, was the issue upon which Germany staked her existence. Her dream was to have colonies on every sea built upon highly scienced brute force which knows no law but that of might and derides the Christian virtues as contemptible and utterly unworthy of the superman. For this enterprise, Dr. Gordon explains, the Kaiser believes himself God annointed and God appointed. With him to-day stand the haughty aristocracy of Prussia and all the war caste of Germany, and behind them united in a mad and deluded enthusiasm stand as well the German people to a man. The writer says:

"Victory for the Allies, therefore, means the dethronement of the Kaiser and his military brood, the annihilation of the war caste and the smashing of the war machine. Nothing short of this will be accepted as victory by any of the allied nations. Nothing less than this would be worth fighting for.

"But what does this mean? It means that the Kaiser will hurl into the last deadly fight every German soldier, every German ship and gun and every German dollar; for, while it is true that Germany will survive this war, the Kaiser and his caste of war worshippers will not. They will be wiped out of existence, and they know it. Hence the desperate character of this conflict. There is no truce, nor can be. No peace is possible. Two sets of principles are locked in death grips—Force as an empire builder against the Will of a free people, Justice as an international arbiter as against the Sword of the mighty, international Honor as an eternal obligation rather than as a mere temporary convenience. These things make peace impossible, and these things make the war worth while."

To those people who predict an early end of the struggle Dr. Gordon speaks as follows:

"Those cheery optimists who foresee a speedy end to this strife, and who picture a joyous jaunt unter den Linden for the Allies, can hardly be regarded as harmless lunatics, for harmless they are not. The sooner Canada realizes that this war is a stern serious business and that it will grow in desperation as the long weary months drag their terrible length through winter and through summer and through winter again the better it will be."

What then, the writer asks, is Canada's immediate duty? It stands clear, he says, as the morning sun above the prairie rim. The Empire stands to-day for liberty, justice, honor among nations as among men; and Canada stands with the Empire for these. Dr. Gordon points out that which has so often been pointed out, that it is no longer a question of a colony giving support to the Motherland, but a question of whether Canada shall stand with the free nations who believe in government by free choice, justice among nations, honor as an eternal obligation, and with her last man and her last dollar fight for these things that determine a nation's character and its place in history. He adds:

"I am no pessimist, but I confess that that long, swaying line of men, locked in deadly embrace on the French frontier, is ominous of possible disaster; these daring raids of German submarines are suggestive of dangers in a direction where we thought we were invincible. So far the war has gone well, but after all what signifies the loss of a few hundred thousand men to Germany out of her eight million soldiers, not to speak of the uncalled multitudes available out of her sixty-five millions of people? It is the commonplace of war that battles are lost before they are fought. Let Canada wake before it is too late. Regrets are cheap and, however bitter, are unavailing. Let Canada prepare eagerly, swiftly, surely prepare to-day, that in the last deadly crisis of the desperate fight she may be able to throw the weight of her young might upon the wavering line of battle and help to hurl the enemy backward in defeat. The final touch may be Canada's. There is no place for hysteria, but there is place for haste. Not a contingent but the whole nation will fulfil Canada's obligation; and not when the cry comes for help but now should the preparation be made."

As Dr. Gordon says, when once Canada has clearly conceived it as her obligation to throw her entire national life and resources into this conflict, the problem then becomes a very simple one, namely, one of administration. The concluding paragraph of his article will strike to the heart of every loyal Canadian:

"With a clear conscience and a stedfast heart we can invoke the God, not of battles, but the God of Righteousness and Truth to our aid, but only after we have made our full preparation; and if by God's good hand our men should not be needed the loss is small, but if the day should come when there was desperate need for our men and we be found unready, not even God could help us then. The which may God forbid."

With calm, deliberate, clear-eyed purpose, Canada must resolve that she is committed to this conflict to her last man and her last dollar. It is not a fight for the Empire's sake alone, but for her own sake and the sake of her national ideals.

BREAKING THE CROSS IN TWO.

A correspondent in the London Times recalls a prophecy by the great German poet, Heinrich Heine, which has unfortunately met with litteral fulfilment. Heine wrote about eighty years ago: "Christainity—and this is its highest merit—has in some degree softened, but it could not destroy that brutal German joy of battle. When once the taming talisman, the Cross, breaks in two, the savagery of the old fighters, the senseless, Berserker fury of which the northern poets sing and say so much, will gush up anew. That talisman is decayed, and the day will come when it will piteously collapse. Then the old stone gods will rise from the silent ruins, and rub the dust of a thousand years from their eyes. Thor, with his giant's hammer will at last spring up and shatter to bits the Gothic cathedrals."

Thor with his giant's power has wrecked the Reims Cathedral—a unique jewel which can never be replaced. There is no act of pillage, of vandalism, or of outrage at which the Germans have hesitated, once the taming talisman had been cast aside and the Cross broken in two. Few can recall the name of the master-builder who imagined the Cathedral at Reims. The majestic beauty and thrilling associations of this foremost fane of the Christain faith had become the common property of humanity, and in this sense of common possession the name of the benefactor who planned its towers and sculptured stone was forgotten; but the dullest memory will preserve for uncounted years the name of the cruel battle hero who hammered its ancient glory into rubbish.

Westminster Abbey is not more sacred to Britain than was Reims Cathedral to France. Clovis was baptized there, and in this Cathedral Joan of Arc crowned a king of France. It took one hundred and fifty years in building and was respected by conqueror and conquered during the countless wars that swept over France for eight centuries. It was perhaps the noblest heritage of that great age of the world when men wrote poems in stone, and its destruction is a monument of sacrilage and of German barbarity.

Heine foretold that at the head of the new barbarians would be found the disciples of Kant, of Fichte, and of Hegel whose philosophy began to deprive the 'talisman' of its power. Mr. Lloyd George gives the same explanation for the excesses of the Germans when he says, in a recent speech: "More than that, the new philosophy of Germany is to destroy Christainity—sickly sentimentalism about scarifice for others, poor pap for German mouths. We will have the new diet, we will force it on the world. It will be made in Germany—a diet of blood and iron. What remains? Treaties have gone; the honor of nations gone; liberty gone. What is left? Germany—Germany is left—Deutschland uber Alles. That is all that is left."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Belgian army splendidly distinguished itself in the fighting yesterday. Its spirit and resourcefulness has many times been referred to by General Joffre and General French.

* * *

The German cruiser Emden has again been heard from. This time she has sunk four or five British steamers and captured two others. But the Emden's sphere of activities is narrowing, and soon or later she will be put out of business for all time.

* * *

Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, has been telling the people of Wales about the causes of the present struggle in Europe. He is not unmindful of the fact that the more the people know about the causes of this war the greater will be the sacrifices they will be prepared to make.

* * *

The people of Winnipeg are justly proud of the loyal spirit shown by the young men pursuing their studies at the University of Manitoba. A movement is on foot in Manitoba to form a regiment of university and college men nearly a thousand strong, provided, of course, that the authorities sanction the formation of such a regiment. McGill University is recruiting a regiment, and the idea of college men all over Canada enlisting together seems to be spreading.

* * *

The furious fighting along the whole battlefront in France and Belgium has not yet resulted decisively for one side or the other. The fierceness of the struggle indicates that both armies consider it strategically essential to maintain their present positions. Confidence is expressed in the official reports from Paris, and the Petrograd statement tells of a Russian victory over the Germans who menaced Warsaw. The fact that the Germans have nowhere been able to break the Allies' lines is in itself most encouraging.

* * *

To arm for the Empire and for France! Let us see that we have issued from a race which fights for noble causes. The atrocities committed by the Teuton hordes demand human vengeance. Their punishment should not be long delayed.—Montreal La Presse.

The loyalty of the French-Canadians offered their lives for the Empire's cause, offered their lives to the Empire's cause, are worthy of the best traditions of a brave people. They have nobly responded to the call of duty.

* * *

Addressing the Toronto Canadian Club last week, Professor Wrong, of the University of Toronto, said:

"One hears often the phrase that Canada is helping Britain in this war. In reality Canada is helping herself. It is her war as much as Britain's, and she is called upon for the same sacrifices."

Canadians must realize fully that this war is our war. Our cities, our ports, our coasts and our ships are just as open to attack by the enemy as those of Britain. This country is at war, and when recruiting is earnestly begun for the second contingent the men from coast to coast will show how clearly they understand that Canada is one of the Allies.

* * *

In these days waiting England hears little else from the North Sea but of disaster to her ships.—New York Sun.

On Saturday she heard something else. She heard of four German ships of war being sunk by a British cruiser which escaped unharmed. A few days before that she heard of the successful visit of a daring British submarine to hostile waters. She is continually hearing of the capture or destruction of German merchant ships by British cruisers, whose good work has made it possible to continue with almost perfect safety British commerce on all the seven seas. As a whole, what Britain has heard regarding the activities of her fleet has not been disheartening.

* * *

In the desperate fighting Tuesday in West Flanders and Northwestern France, the Allies succeeded in beating back the Germans. The enemy's attempt to break through the British and French line at the bend, presumably near Noyon, was not successful, which shows that no matter what the Allies have done to strengthen the line running to the Channel coast, they have not sacrificed the safety of their main front. The fighting Tuesday seems to have been particularly savage, due to the determined efforts of the Germans to find some weak spot in the allied front which would be unable to withstand their smashing drives. The Allies were always ready for the advancing German host, and repulsed them.

* * *

Sir George Paish, adviser of the British Treasury Board, and Basil B. Blackett, one of the Treasury officers, were asked in New York the other day when the London Stock Exchange would be reopened. Mr. Blackett in reply said: "We do not want to commit ourselves to any definite time for the reopening of the London Exchange, but the moratorium will be off on November 4, and the general expectation is that before that time some plan will have been arranged whereby the London Exchange may be opened." Sir George Paish said that financial conditions in London were practically normal, and while he would not speculate as to the time for opening the New York Exchange, he could see no reason for heavy liquidation from abroad. He said gold was plentiful in London, and that no trouble was expected at the end of the moratorium.

The Crown Prince.

(The popular new French nursery rhyme, translated by Ooh Sa, the famous black fighter from Senegal, and revised by Professor Le Beau, of the University of Paris, and by Professor David B. Jones, of the University of Dlanllyrstw at Wichydlfawr, Wales.)

The Crown Prince, the Crown Prince,
Of royal blood is he,
In every way it's higher
Than that in you or me;
It gushes thro' his system
In such a royal way
That you and I must wonder
Without a word to say.

The Crown Prince, the Crown Prince,
Came riding thro' the land,
With horses and with soldiers,
In manner very grand;
He came to Chateau Baye,
In the sunny land of France
He came to Chateau Baye
For to do a lively dance.

The Crown Prince, the Crown Prince,
He came to Chateau Baye,
And quite forgot his manners,
Behaved in shocking way;
He hunted out the art works
And stole them every one,
He packed them all in cases
Then off upon the run.

The Crown Prince, the Crown Prince,
He is an awful thief,
No lawyer would defend him,
But down he'd throw his brief;
Oh, he's a caricature
Of what a man should be,
Be thankful he's a German,
No kin to you or me.

Boers Loyal to Britain.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

The Boers could hardly be expected to have the same loyal feeling for the British Empire which the Australians and the Canadians have shown. They do love liberty, however, and General Smuts has a clear view of the situation when he writes to General Beyers, the German sympathizer, "The British people gave us a constitution which allows you to write with impunity a letter for which you would without doubt be liable in the German Empire to the extreme penalty." The "square deal" of the soft word unaccompanied by a threatening big stick is making the majority of the Boers loyal subjects of King George.

ALLIES PLACE BIG ORDERS IN CANADA

Millions of Dollars to Be Spent on Supplies for the Troops

PRICES ALL FIXED

More Than $4,000,000 for Saddlery Alone—British War Office Agent in Ottawa Looking Over the Ground—Many Other Articles for the Armies to Be Made in Dominion.

Ottawa, Oct. 19—Contracts for the supply of 50,000 military saddles for Canada, Great Britain, France and Russia have been placed with Canadian saddlery firms from the Atlantic to the Pacific, according to a statement made by Hon. Robert Rogers to your correspondent this evening. These contracts will cover an order for 15,000 saddles from France, an order for 10,000 from Britain, an order for 20,000 from Russia, and the requirements for Canadian use, aggregating from 5,000 to 6,000 saddles.

It is stated by Mr. Rogers, who is head of the contract sub-committee of the cabinet, that not a single saddlery firm in the dominion has been overlooked in the letting of the contracts for this formidable order. "The representatives are all here," said Mr. Rogers. "When the Russian order of 20,000 saddles came in, I held a conference with the representatives of the companies. I told them it was up to them to supply the order, and they one and all declared that it would be done."

When the value of the contract to Canadian saddlery concerns is not definitely given, it is computed that in saddles alone the contract will aggregate over $2,000,000. The contracts include bridles, etc. Some estimate of the price paid for each outfit may be gathered from the fact that the French saddle, owing to additional fittings such as water bags, rifle buckets, etc., will cost from $12 to $16 more than the British saddle.

In addition to the orders placed for saddle outfits, large orders are being placed with Canadian firms for artillery harness, single harness, etc., and these also it is stated will be divided among the various companies.

"It is not a matter of any one man pulling for a contract," said Mr. Rogers. "It is a matter which must be decided by the firms themselves as to how many they can supply. The price and specifications are set, and they decide as to how much of the order they can fill."

There is no demand for Canadian boots either in France or England, as both countries are in a position to supply the demand. The Canadian military boot, it is stated, is much more expensive and of a higher standard than any used by the allies. Though no orders have been placed by the countries, however, substantial contracts have been let to Canadian firms for the Canadian troops.

T. W. Stobart, purchasing agent for the imperial government, who is now in Ottawa, has instructions to place orders with Canadian firms for sweaters, shirts, socks, gloves, and other miscellaneous articles, and to ascertain further what articles, in addition, may be economically supplied by Canada. He was in conference with officials of the government today and will also visit the United States in the near future.

It is stated here, on good authority, that the appointment of Mr. Stobart was an indirect result of representations made to the imperial government to the effect that many articles which had been ordered by the British from the United States could be supplied as economically and in as good quality from Canada. The range of articles needed may be very much extended when Mr. Stobart has had an opportunity to investigate conditions.

It is believed here that as a result of war contracts which will be placed in Canada from the other side of the Atlantic, many important industries throughout the dominion will be in a position to keep their men in steady employment during the coming winter.

THE DUGAL REPORT.

When asked Monday as to when the report of the royal commission on the Dugal charges would be made public, Lieut.-Governor Wood said the report was still in his hands and would not be given out for sometime.

A "Defensive War."

(Manitoba Free Press.)

On July 30 the Russian Ambassador at Berlin presented to the representatives of all the Powers the following:

"If Austria declares herself ready to eliminate from her ultimatum the points which are an infringement of the sovereign rights of Servia, Russia undertakes to cease her military preparations." (No. 60 yellow paper).

On July 31 Germany declared war on Russia.

Yet Germany calls upon the world to support her in her "defensive" war against "aggressive" Russia.

Strictly Neutral.

(From a letter to the Editor of the New York Tribune.)

Isn't it glorious for our country that while we are sending gifts to the orphans of Germany and Austria we are sending their enemies enough war material to kill a million more fathers? Isn't this in keeping with all our "peace prayers"? Not only perfidy and murder, but blasphemy, I call it!

Saddening, But Not Weakening.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

England expects just such tragedies as the loss of all but fifty men on the Hawke. Any nation going to war expects them. They are saddening but not weakening to national spirit. They may even make recruiting easier by stirring the public to fuller realization of the national crisis.

Why?

(Montreal News.)

F. Hopkinson Smith, the American engineer and author, says he believes Germany is preparing an air fleet to destroy London, next month. Should Germany try anything like that, Uncle Sam would most likely join in this war in spite of fate.

Montreal, Oct. 20—Employes of the Intercolonial, the Canadian government railway, have subscribed $20,150 towards the Patriotic Fund, according to the announcement of F. P. Gutelius, general manager of the system, in this city last night.