

General Castelnau Is Real Savior of Verdun Declares Swiss Paper

THE curtain falling all questions of leadership of the French troops is allowed to be slightly lifted now by the republication in Paris from the well-informed Lausanne Gazette of the story of how the Verdun situation was handled. Here is the story:

"As soon as the seriousness of the German effort was made apparent General Joffre rushed General Castelnau, Chief of the General Staff, to Verdun with the mission to examine the situation and take all necessary measures.

"General Castelnau arrived at Verdun at 3 a.m., just in time to learn that the Germans had captured Fort Douaumont.

"In these circumstances, which would have been judged so tragically desperate as to plunge most men into despair, General Castelnau, with the strength of mind and military genius which always have distinguished him in difficult situations, took command of the battle.

"Unhesitatingly he inflicted punishment where he deemed it necessary. He summoned Gen. Petain and his army, meanwhile himself preparing and hurling the furious counter-attack which again gave the French the Douaumont position.

"This counter-attack was perfectly organized and admirably timed, and it quite shattered the Teutonic onrush.

"Verdun was saved.

"History repeated itself in that the Kaiser was defeated at Verdun by the very man who checked him before Nancy in 1914.

"Both were unimpeachably bloody battles; both were witnessed by the Emperor, and on both occasions the Kaiser hoped to victoriously enter the cities upon which the attacks were made.

"When he arrived with his army General Petain took command of all the troops engaged in the battles from General Castelnau, and wiped out all further progress by the Germans, who, despite their superhuman efforts and most disastrous losses, have not gained a single important advantage from that moment."

Veteran of Mons Re-enlisted.

One of the latest recruits to be dealt with in Bristol, Eng., had fought in the battle of Mons, had received a bullet through the right arm and a bayonet thrust through the thigh, and had lost the middle finger of the right hand. He stated that he had received the D.C.M. for bringing in his officer and two other men. He had been discharged from one of the Black Watch battalions as unfit for further service in a fighting regiment, and he had had two brothers killed at Neuve Chapelle.

The man appeared before the examining doctors, and said: "I have done my bit, but I am ready to enlist again in the Mechanical Transport."

As the lost finger did not interfere with his grip he was attested. His name is Alexander Hunter, and he is certain of receiving non-com. rank very soon.

Germans and Honor Stand Apart!

With all its shrewdness, the German mind has not yet grasped the concept of honor, says a London paper. Its imagination in politics does not reach beyond the treachery of a Frederick or the forgery of a Bismarck. It knows confidence and friendship only as instruments for betrayal. That is why the egregious attempts to make Russia break the Pact of London have again been given a sanguine exercise. The insult was appropriately handled in Petrograd, for, as M. Sazonoff says, "we simply took no notice." To Russia, it is manifest that "Germany must be rendered harmless" before the sword can be sheathed.

Poet's Grandson Gone.

Lord Tennyson has received official news that his youngest son, Sub-Lieutenant Harold Tennyson, R. N., has been killed.

Born on April 27, 1896, Mr. Tennyson became a midshipman in 1913. He was promoted last September.

All three of Lord and Lady Tennyson's sons have been serving, and the eldest, Staff-Captain Lionel Tennyson, was home on short leave at Farringford Park, Isle of Wight, a few days ago.

In Denmark there are 16,000 women unionists.

Bonar Law Is Proud of the Way in Which the Dominions Did Their Bit

"If militarism according to the Prussian standard is not crushed by this war, nothing will prevent a repetition of the present catastrophe, and civilization in Europe will go down before barbarism, as did that of Rome. All the outpouring of blood and treasure which the war involves will have been in vain if the piling up of armaments which preceded this conflict is to go on undiminished afterward."

These were the words of Andrew Bonar Law, the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, to an interviewer recently. Mr. Bonar Law was in his room at the Colonial Office, which occupies one of the wings of the largest block of Government offices in Whitehall, having on one side the Foreign Office and on the other the Home Office.

The Secretary's room is as large as a small public hall, the most commodious office occupied by any Minister. It is plainly but comfortably furnished with easy chairs, sumptuous bookcases, couches, and tables, and a huge map of the world showing how the sun never sets on the dominions of which the Minister is spokesman and guardian. There are maps of all the British overseas possessions, and one

of the mural adornments is a photograph of the "cathedral of giant trees," Vancouver, behind the chair occupied by the Minister.

Mr. Bonar Law is one of the men who have made good during the war. A tireless worker, he is a member of the war council which is now directing the war, and he seeks no other position. He is above all political intrigue and centered in his work. He is one of the five most important members of the administration, and if the British people were now talking party politics he would be described as the leader of the largest party in the House of Commons, that of the Conservatives.

As soon as war was declared he loyally supported the Liberal Government, and restrained his followers from embarrassing the Government.

"The direction of the war," he said, "has at all events greatly improved. We in this country have concentrated direction into fewer hands, and we are linking up with our allies and endeavoring to get that unity of control which the enemy possesses. We must never forget," he said, reflectively, "that democratic countries are always at a disadvantage in prosecuting a war. Take ourselves; we were not prepared for war except for defense at sea. We were not organized for war. Plunged into this conflict suddenly and unexpectedly, as we were, it was inevitable that there should be mistakes and muddles and delays. Organizing for war does not mean merely gathering together great armies, training and equipping them. It means that all departments of the national life have to be brought into national unity and organized on a war basis. This takes time; perhaps it has taken too much time; but at any rate we have now changed our point of view about everything. We are living in a war atmosphere. Nothing matters except winning the war."

As Minister for the Colonies, Mr. Bonar Law naturally takes pride in the assistance voluntarily rendered by the overseas dominions.

"Remember," he said, "that the dominions were under no obligation to send a single man. We hear a great deal about the loyalty of the dominions to the Mother Country, but it is not a question of loyalty of, say, Canada to England, or of England to Canada, but a question of common loyalty to the empire and their faith in the cause, of freedom for which we are fighting. If it were a Canadian question 'in dispute' between Canada and Great Britain, Canadian loyalty would be on the side of Canada. The Overseas dominions have altogether and spontaneously taken a big view of the war, and their response has been magnificent. Canada is preparing to place half a million men in the field. Australia will contribute 10 per cent. of her population, and the comparatively small commonwealth of New Zealand more. The West Indies and Newfoundland, our oldest colony, came forward with fine contingents, and every part of the empire has given fine examples of patriotism."

The Late Captain the Hon. A. T. Shaughnessy

A severe shock was caused through the Dominion of Canada, especially in military circles, when it became known the other day that Capt. the Hon. A. T. ("Fred") Shaughnessy, of the 60th Battalion, had been killed in action. Capt. Shaughnessy's period of service at the front was very brief, as it is hardly a month since the 60th went to France, and only about ten days since they joined the forces in the trenches. No details have yet been received as to how Capt. Shaughnessy met his death, save that he was instantly killed by shrapnel on Saturday morning, that he passed peacefully away and died like a man. It is not thought that any general action was taking place, a cable was received on Saturday afternoon by Mr. A. D. MacTear, of the C. P. R., from Mr. George McLaren, Brown, the European manager of the company, stating that he had just received a cable from Lieut.-Col. Gascoigne, of the 60th, announcing the death of Capt. Shaughnessy, and asking Mr. MacTear to give the information to his father, Lord Shaughnessy.

A further message was received by Lord Shaughnessy, with the brief statement that Capt. the Hon. Fred Shaughnessy had been instantly killed by shrapnel in action. Captain Shaughnessy was buried immediately, following the custom of burying officers and men near the place where they fell. Widespread sympathy is felt for Lord Shaughnessy, and especially for Lady Shaughnessy, in their bereavement, which came with sudden shock, since Capt. Shaughnessy had been so short a time at the front, while their only other son, Capt. the Hon. W. J. Shaughnessy, heir to the barony, is also training for active service with the 19th Irish-Canadian Rangers.

The death of Capt. the Hon. Alfred Thomas Shaughnessy will cause a pang of grief to many friends, both military and civil, in Montreal. He was a very gallant Canadian gentleman in the truest sense of such a phrase, an honorable citizen, and a brave and capable officer, full of enthusiasm in his work, and full of the spirit that makes officers beloved by their men. This was especially shown during the long weeks of training while the 60th was at Valcartier, where Capt. Shaughnessy was one of the most popular officers in the camp, always of a sunny disposition, always interested in his work and his men, and invariably ready to do whatever he could to advance their interests as well as his own knowledge of work. He had little spare time there, but that little he generally devoted to study and to practicing signalling, so as to increase his efficiency. He was a splendid officer, and his loss will be severely felt by the 60th.

The late Capt. the Hon. Alfred Thomas Shaughnessy was born in Montreal on October 18, 1887, he being the second son of (then) Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, K.C.M.G., who was educated at Bishop's College and Abingdon School, and McGill University. While at McGill he was a member of the Zeta Psi fraternity.

On leaving McGill he entered the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., in order to learn business methods. He started at the bottom, first in a subordinate position in the office of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, and later in the Steamships Department, under Vice-President G. M. Bosworth, where he made himself liked on all sides, and won promotion on his merits, working through a number of departments. In 1906 he had the unusual experience of travelling around the world, from Montreal to Montreal, on the trains and steamships of the C. P. R. Four years ago he left the service of the C. P. R. and joined the brokerage firm of Charles Meredith & Co., as a member of the firm.

He had been for a number of years an active officer of the 3rd Victoria Rifles, joining that battalion as a subaltern in October of 1910. He was as one of the most promising young officers of that battalion. When Lieut.-Col. Gascoigne undertook the organization of the 60th Battalion for overseas service, Lieut. Shaughnessy joined with rank as captain, for which he, with his brother, the Hon. W. J. Shaughnessy, qualified at Halifax. He took a keen interest in recruiting and other work for the battalion went to Valcartier with them, thence to England, and finally to France for the service at the front which was to end so speedily for him. His brother-in-law, Capt. René Renaud, is second in command of his company—"A" of the 60th Battalion. He was married in April, 1911, to Miss Sarah Polk Bradford, daughter of Judge Bradford, of Nashville, Tenn., and a descendant of President Polk, of the United States, the ceremony taking place at Nashville. Two children were born of the marriage, Elizabeth, three years old, and Thomas Bradford, one and one-half years. Mrs. Shaughnessy is now in London, having accompanied her husband to England when the regiment crossed.

LORD SHAUGHNESSY'S WORDS.

"To his mother, myself and the family, the sacrifice is indeed cruel and almost overwhelming. But after all, we are only passing through the same sad experience as thousands of others in every portion of the Empire. He had a sweet wife and two little children, and everything in the world to live for, but he recognized his duty and the attendant risk. If his example among a feeling of patriotism and responsibility in those hundreds of men of military age many of whom are without his family cares, who thus far through indifference or because of bad leadership or petty local issues have failed to assume their responsibilities as citizens and subjects, we shall feel that there is additional compensation for the sacrifice."

A Three-Years' War.

We took Lord Kitchener literally, observes The London Standard, when with his usual calm wisdom, he spoke of a three-years' war. Regarding the war as a purely military problem, that estimate holds good. It was, of course, always on the cards that Germany might not consider it worth while to persevere to the bitter end, or that she might be reduced to submission by economic pressure; and those possibilities still exist. But when we reflect what defeat means to Germany, and especially to the Hohenzollern regime, it seems foolish optimism to count on any factor but sheer superiority in arms to bring about the desired result. The war is still undecided. But we have every reason to believe that the present year will see a decline in Germany's strength, and that the victory of the Allies will be organized, if it is not actually accomplished, before another winter has come and gone.

Do all the good you can and make as little fuss as possible about it—Charles Dickens.

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We Grieve for the Hero

(Dedicated to the late Captain Fred Shaughnessy)

The fairest field lily lies withered and dead,
But the hosts of its seed blossom forth in its stead;
And each drop from the heart of this flower
Of our race
Will spring up in a soldier to stand in his place.

—M. A. Hargadon.

Montreal, April 3, 1916.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson III.—Second Quarter,
April 16, 1916.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Acts x, 1-16—Memory Verses, 13-15—Golden Text, Rom. x, 12—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Leaving Peter in the house of Simon the tanner at Joppa (chapter ix, 43), we turn for a little while to the home of Cornelius, the centurion, at Caesarea, where we find a man who, with all his house, feared God, prayed to God always and gave much alms to the people (verses 1, 2). If religiousness and sincerity were all that is necessary we would think that this man was truly a saved man, but when we read that the angel said to Cornelius that Peter would tell him words whereby he and all his house would be saved (chapter xi, 13, 14) we know that they were not saved until after Peter came and preached the gospel to them. Like the treasurer of the queen of Ethiopia, he was an earnest seeker living up to the light he had, and to such God always sends more light, but there is no salvation revealed in Scripture as a result of our good works (Rom. iv, 5; Eph. ii, 8, 9; Tit. ii, 14). It is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul, and without shedding of blood is no remission (Lev. xvii, 11; Heb. ix, 22).

Here, as in the case of the Ethiopian, the principal agencies used by God are an angel, the Holy Spirit, and a man (verses 3, 19). The eyes of the Lord are looking over the whole earth for whole hearts toward Himself, and it is also written "Ye shall seek Me and find Me when ye search for Me with all your heart" (I Chron. xvi, 9; Jer. xxix, 13). Cornelius was wholehearted, according to the light he had, and was certainly a sincere seeker after God. The same Lord in heaven who saw the desire for light in the heart of the man in the chariot, saw it also in Cornelius, for he searches all hearts. So He sent an angel from heaven to the home of Cornelius, while he was in prayer (verse 30) to assure him that God had heard his prayers and recognized his alms (verses 3, 4). The ministry of the angels is always a most fascinating study. There are millions upon millions of them; they excel in strength, bear His voice, do His pleasure, go and come like lightning, minister to the saints (Rev. v, 11; Ps. ciii, 20, 21; Ezek. i, 14; Hab. i, 14). They seem easily to find any house and any person and need no doors opened for them. We shall be like them in many respects by and by, but higher than they in the glory, for we shall be like Him.

The rest of the angel's message was that Cornelius was to send to Joppa for Simon Peter and learn from him what to do. The last we heard of Philip he was on his way to Caesarea, where he evidently lived (Acts viii, 40; xxi, 8, 9), but perhaps had not reached home at this time. How easy to read that when the angel had delivered his message he departed (verse 7), but do we stop to consider that it meant returned to heaven, from whence he came a few moments before?

Cornelius was not slow to call two of his household servants and a devout soldier who waited on him continually, tell them all that had happened and start them off to Joppa.

Now we return to Peter, whom God had to prepare to go with these men to the home of Cornelius, a gentile. As the three men were approaching Joppa, Peter went on the housetop to pray. He was hungry and would have eaten, but while something was being prepared for him he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and something like a great sheet let down to the earth, full of all manner of creatures, and he was told to "Rise, kill and eat." When he objected on the ground that he had never eaten anything unclean, the voice said, "What God hath cleansed that call not thou common." This

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was repeated three times, and while Peter was wondering what it could mean the three men stood before the gate inquiring for him. The Spirit told him to go with them, for He had sent them. So, when the men had made known to him the cause wherefore they had come, he called them in and lodged them, and on the morrow went away with them, taking also some of the brethren from Joppa. The next day they reached the home of Cornelius and found that he had gathered many to hear the message.

In reply to Peter's inquiry as to why he had been sent for Cornelius rehearsed the story and then said, "Therefore are we all here present before God to hear all things that are commanded thee of God" (verse 33). This is the only correct attitude for any company of people gathered in the name of the Lord. Peter proclaimed unto them Jesus of Nazareth, in His life and death and resurrection, as the one foretold by all the prophets, and that whoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins (verses 34-43). While Peter was speaking the Holy Spirit came upon them all, and they spake with tongues and magnified God and were baptized in the name of the Lord (verses 44-48). Thus the circumcision learned that God had also granted to uncircumcised gentiles repentance unto life (xi, 18). We have combined next week's regular lesson with this one, as we purpose taking the Easter lesson next week. Give special attention to the wonderful words of verses 38-43 and note that Jesus Christ crucified, risen and returning to reign is the one great theme of all the prophets—a real person alive forevermore.

Tale of Two Rivers.

The divide between the Hudson bay and Mississippi river drainage basins shows the poor drainage of the glaciated prairies and the delicate balance between drainage systems. Though the Shenandoah and James rivers, the two principal streams of this region, flow in nearly parallel sources for 180 miles and the relief of the land between them is generally not more than twenty feet, yet the Shenandoah ultimately discharges into Hudson bay and the James into the Gulf of Mexico.

Advice From a Philosopher.

A little wayside sermon by Brother Clio Harper:

"Cut out extravagant speech. If the undertakers got all the otherwise healthy folks who were just tickled to death the cemeteries would have to be enlarged."

The Geography of Efficiency.

Definition of a successful business: A small body of well dressed men entirely surrounded by stenographers.—New York Sun.

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