

The Weekly Ontario

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1915.

"BEYOND RECKONING."

Mr. John Buchan, in the latest volume of his scintillating "History of the War," makes reference to the tremendous energy which Germany put into winter development in the provision of munitions. "The quantity of the shells," he says, "produced in the winter's work, which Germany produced is beyond reckoning. When we remember that she supplied 900 miles (with some distance from Austria) on the East, more than 9 miles on the West (and equipped Turkey for a Dardanelles campaign, and that her use of shells was five or six times more lavish than that of her opponents, we may get some notion of the magnitude of the national effort. It was more impressive in its way than the muster of great armies in August. Mr. Buchan thinks that Germany's losses by the beginning of April are little less than three millions.

Mr. Buchan makes interesting mention of the coming of the German poison fumes at the second battle of Ypres when the Canadians saved the situation:

About 6.30 (he says) our artillery observers reported that a strange green vapour was moving over the French trenches. Then, as the April night closed in and the great shells still rained upon Ypres, there were strange scenes between the canal and the Pilkem Road. Back through the dusk came a stream of French soldiers, blinded, and coughing, and wild with terror. Some black devilry had come upon them, and they had broken before this more than human fear. Behind them they left hundreds of their comrades stricken and dead, with froth on their lips and horrible blue faces. The rout surged over the canal and the road to Ylamerlinghe was choked with broken infantry and galloping gun teams lacking their guns.

No discredit, adds Mr. Buchan, attaches to those who broke. "The pressure was more than flesh and blood could bear."

In an account of the second gas attack, Mr. Buchan says:

The gas was pumped from cylinders, and rising in a cloud, which at its maximum was seven feet high, it travelled in two minutes the distance between the lines. It was thickest close to the ground, and filled every cranny of the trenches. Our men had then no knowledge of it, and were provided with no prophylactics, but instinct taught some of them what to do.

A wet handkerchief wrapped round the mouth gave a little relief, and it was best for a man to keep on his feet. It was fatal to run towards the gas. Mr. Buchan goes on to explain, for that matter, the soldier followed the gas zone, and the exertion of rapid movement compelled deep breathing, and so drew the poison into the lungs. Its effect was to fill the lungs with fluid and produce acute bronchitis. Those smitten by it suffered horribly, gasping and struggling for breath, with blue swollen faces, and eyes bursting from the head. It affected the sight, too, and produced temporary blindness. Even a thousand yards from the place of emission men were afflicted with violent sickness and giddiness. After that the vapor dissipated itself, and only the lanced herbage marked its track.

DANGERS OF PESSIMISM.

Lord Robert Cecil, who is a member in the National Government of the United Kingdom, said in a recent speech:

"Then we are told, sometimes by British writers, that this country is in a terrible condition. By reading some of them you would almost think we are a nation of drunken snickers, led by a series of Ministers and Generals who are either incompetent or corrupt or both. We read effusions of this kind, we know what they really mean, we value them at their true value. But all foreigners do not understand our ways of going on, and the harm that is done in foreign countries by statements of that kind it is not easy to exaggerate. I do not know if writers realize that every violent attack on the artisan or on the millionaire, on the soldier or on the politician, is immediately reproduced in the German papers. They are spread throughout the world and it is said: 'Look at the miserable condition England is in! How can you venture to throw in your lot with England? How can you trust in England's victory? You see what

their own papers say about them.' The harm which is done is incalculable. Let those who write or who speak in public have perpetually before them the question: How would this appear if this were reproduced in Berlin?"

What part, it may well be asked, did the pessimism of the Northcliffe press—a pessimism calculated and designed to further personal and political ambitions—play in enabling the German Government to convince the King of Bulgaria that it would be safe for him to openly espouse the cause of the Central Powers? The pessimists are doing incalculable harm everywhere. Without minimizing the gravity of the situation we need not hesitate to believe that we are going to win this war.

Germany is now playing her cards to drag Spain and Sweden into the hangman's net that is tightening around her. If their rulers are wise they will spurn the tempter.

Says the editor of the New York Outlook: "If the Outlook seems to be sympathetic to England in her contest with Germany it is because the battle for freedom of the mind was first fought and won in England."

The activity of the British submarines in the Baltic shows that the British Navy is once more striking what is left of German commerce in a very vital channel. There are, of course, no German ships in the North Sea against which British submarines can operate. The British undersea craft have made their way into the Baltic through the difficult waters of the Skager Rack and the Cattegat, and without adopting any of the murderous methods of the Huns, are attacking Germany in a very effective way, for it is through the Baltic that she is able to draw her supplies from Sweden and other neutral countries. Once the British submarines pass the Scandinavian narrows they are able to operate from Russian bases. It may be that before very long the eastern end of the Kiel Canal will be sealed up as effectively as the North Sea end. Notwithstanding all that is heard about German submarine warfare, the finest feats performed by undersea craft are to be credited to the British Navy, first in the Dardanelles and now in the landlocked waters of the Baltic. The stranglehold upon Germany's sea commerce is being tightened from day to day, while British ships are as free to sail the ocean as ever.

Signs are beginning to appear in England indicative of coming trouble over the supply of fuel for the war. In a speech delivered last week, Lord Kitchener plainly hinted at conscription. The armies now being sent into the field must, he said, be maintained in full strength to the very end of the struggle. To this end, he declared, there will be required a large addition to the numbers of recruits now joining and the problem of how to secure these is, he said, engaging the attention of the Government. Col. Lee, M.P., who was at one time British military attaché at Washington, put the case much more clearly. The number of men required cannot, he said, be obtained under the present system, and he declared conscription absolutely necessary.

The London Daily News adds to this that Lord Curzon, Lord Lansdowne, Bonar Law, and even Lloyd-George favor conscription, and that some members of the Coalition Cabinet, presumably these, are ready to resign in order to force their colleagues to accept their views.

What organized labor will say to this proposal was made clear by Mr. Thomas, a labor member of parliament and assistant general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants. He declared that every lodge of the Railway Union had informed the Executive Committee that on the introduction of conscription the men would stop work. "If the conscriptionists want an industrial revolution," he said, "let them proceed with their agitation."

TROUBLE COMING.

I have been a-havin' lots of fun,
Not jest a little bit;
I been a-doin' everything,
Until I'd want to quit.
I been a-goin' anywhere—
Play ball or swimmin' pool—
But I can't do it any more—
I gotta go to school.

There hasn't been no one to say,
"Now, James, you may recite."
I haven't had to learn a thing
From mornin' clear till night.
An' now I guess I'll have to learn—
Jest like I was a fool—
A lot a kid don't wanta know—
That's what kids do at school.

Doggone it all! I wisht that I'd
Been borned a Injun kid,
If any teacher touched me, he'd
Be sorry that he did.
I'd do the things I wanted to
And nothin' do by rule;
And then I'd tell the other kids:
"Ain't goin' to be no school!"

Mr. J. J. B. Flint Writes on His Trip to New York City

My Dear Sir,—

Many persons have great difficulty in getting round New York. It is exceedingly simple if you will remember that the streets run east and west and the avenues north and south. At the south there is the ocean, at the north Central Park, and the park known as the Bronx. The Hudson on the west and the river separating Brooklyn from New York on the east. You can take a boat at the Battery, at the extreme south on the ocean, and completely encircle the Manhattan island, which constitutes New York. With the subways, elevated roads and surface cars, you can reach any point speedily. Of course, it is necessary to know the routes. The four largest buildings are the Woolworth, the Metropolitan Life, and the municipal building. At the south, there are a large number of streets, which bear names and not numbers. Streets begin to number if I remember correctly, at Fourteenth street, and goes on up to the Bronx, and possibly beyond. The great Brooklyn, Williamsburg and Manhattan bridges are very wonderful. They amply repay a careful study, as I believe there are few greater in the world. Many suburbs are occupied almost exclusively by foreigners and it is in these thickly populated centers that Tammany has its great strength. The system of parks is wonderful. There are many in the city and nothing can be more delightful than a walk, or a drive through them. You see beautiful lakes with swans and aquatic birds. Many grey squirrels will come close to you, looking for nuts, which the children give them. They seem devoid of fear. You will see beautiful deer, with the large black eyes, sporting the fields, scores of boys and girls playing on the grass. For ten cents you can take a boat ride over the lakes. You can sit down quietly, and watch the procession of motors, cycles, carriages, horsemen, all bent upon enjoyment. What a heaven of relief it must be, for poor people on the hot summer days to come into these beautiful cool, and shady parks to listen to the bands of music, songs of birds, see the beautiful flowers, and foliage all free to every one. The museums afford the keenest enjoyment to those who are fond of pictures, of bric-a-brac, of all the wonderful productions of distant lands, mummies, etc. from Egypt, steel and brass work from China and Japan, wonderful tapestries from the looms of Paris and Brussels, galleries of paintings from many countries. The fact is that it is a liberal education to wander through these wonderful collections. Take the collection of the late J. P. Morgan. You can see pictures costing thousands of dollars, gems of purest ray serena, worth immense sums, and innumerable objects of great beauty. The picture galleries are wonderful. You can see the original of Ross Bonheur's Horse Show, originals from Sir Joshua Reynolds, Turner, Landseer, Manesky, landscapes and sea-scapes. In fact description is impossible. The Natural History exhibit, American Museum of Arts and Sciences, the Brooklyn Museum, the great rival of the Metropolitan. The aquarium with its fishes, seals, immense turtles and fish of singular forms and colors, the electric eel, which if touched, will administer an electric shock, which will almost destroy life. Then, the shipping, the great liners belonging to the Germans and now interdicted. The steamers going out into the ocean, and coming into port. Then the Coney Island, Brighton Beach, Rockaway, and Sheepshead Bay coast, swarming with thousands of bathers. Coney Island glowing at night with innumerable lights. A hundred shows of all kinds, attracting thousands of spectators. Then the great stores such as Wannamakers, Macey's, Altman's, Lord and Taylor, Gimbels, Sterns, Tiffany's. These great stores sell all kinds of curios, and almost rival the museums. Just now, the public seems excited over the meetings held by an evangelist named Al Jennings. This man was a lawyer, but became a wild west bandit, and robber. He was the leader for a number of years of the Jennings gang, which frequently indulged in holding up the Wells and Fargo express, holding up trains, and robbing the express cars. Lives were lost and Jennings was sent for life to a prison, but after a number of years was pardoned. It seems something of a jump from a highway robber to an evangelist.

I am yours,
J. J. B. Flint

Died

STEPHENSON — In Belleville Hospital, Monday, Oct. 18th, 1915, Frederick A. H. Stephenson, aged 67 years.
KNIGHT — In Belleville, Oct. 19th, 1915, Henry P. Knight, aged 74 years.

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The shrapnel that the enemy is using is filled with the most extraordinary collection of scraps of everything likely to hurt. Nuts, bolts, scraps of iron, even marbles and chips of flint are common.

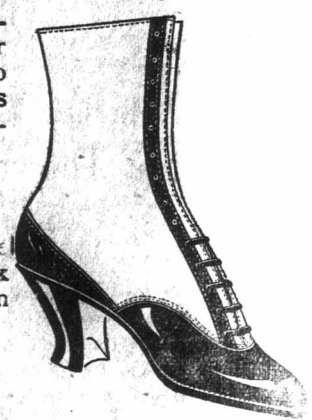
Bombarded 288 Times.
Rheims holds the record of being the most heavily bombarded town in France, having been bombarded on 288 occasions.

The Ontario Government has placed an order with the University of Toronto calling for delivery of 1,000 syringe packages of tetanus antitoxin every month. The order also calls for almost immediate delivery of \$5,000 worth of the material.

—A Bright Prospect.
"For five years," said the commercial traveler, "I had called upon a certain draper in Scotland and never got an order. I mentioned it to the head of the firm. 'We've dealt w' B. & Co.," he said. "Their traveler ca'd for twenty years before he took an order, and he still continues to call for twenty years. It's no use but ye may get one."—Manchester Guardian.

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FROM B Miss Anna the Tour Panama

The Panama-Pac Exposition has been the past as far as the party is concerned each one of us will We left Belleville thanks to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. ed with the feeling would be both pleased and no one has On Tuesday morning Chicago and sent in LaSalle where we spent the morning gallery, public library, Fields, where we had motored out Michigan Park, and the Zoo. the LaSalle at 5.30. Power and Mrs. Stee see us. We were glad from Belleville and were also Mr. Lane'er and they had dinner College Inn, where, staid during dinner skaters. It certainly vely to see ice in A lent orchestra furnish one might dance but we did not indu left for Omaha on the waukee and St. Paul, about nine next morn at the Rome. Omaha 200,000 population. city from the twelfth Union Pacific Building pies ten acres. This company make all prints for all their stores are very la dental section beautiful most beautiful home Mrs. Gallagher, a form who is always glad one from her home to next morning we found in the snow-capped m 7.30 we were in Denve claimed "What a be The buildings are all ment and with the gr lawns and parks, mal ture in entering it contains 324 acres and State Museum of N Zoo and several tennis up by the city. We and R. Grande for Co After lunch we starte Park. The motor win mountain scene plac letter 'S'. It looks there seems nothing

Pr

