

The Daily News

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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Published during the afternoon of each day, except Sunday, by the News Publishing Company, Limited, at its office in the McKenzie Block, Ninth street, Brandon, Manitoba.

TELEPHONE CALLS

Advertising Manager.....463
Circulation Manager.....463
Editor-in-Chief.....548

Subscription rates, \$3 per annum, 25c. per month.
Advertising rates furnished upon application.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1914

BLACK FRANCE AT THE FRONT

Despatches from the seat of war seem to indicate that France has brought to her support not only her black legions from Tunis and Algeria, but also troops from Central Africa. The experiment will be followed with a good deal of interest by military men.

To adjust the balance between herself and Germany, owing to a lower birthrate, France has found it necessary to call upon her black reserves. From the meagre accounts that trickle through from the front these black troops have displayed great dash and courage in attack, particularly in bayonet work. It is not known how many or what races arrived from Africa after the outbreak of war, but the fighting value of these colored ranks aided the Allies materially in the early stages when the odds were in favor of Germany. Of more value in attack than defence, owing to their fierce impetuosity, these French auxiliaries should prove an even greater strength now that the Germans have to be cleared out of entrenched positions. This is not the first time the black soldiers have aided France. They were employed to a limited extent in 1870, when Germany criticized the resort to "savagery." But the black troops of France are not savages. In addition to the Turcos there are twenty thousand Senegaliens or Sudanese, wearing the dark blue French uniform with red sash and red belt. Half this corps, established in 1910, were stationed in West Africa, and the other half in Algeria and Tunis. The Sudan, it is interesting to know, provides the majority of France's black army.

The Sudanese is naturally a man of war. It is in his blood. He is remarkable for his adaptability, readiness to obey orders from his officers, and his uncomplaining endurance of hardship and privation. In the regiment his tribal instincts find full expression. "Senegalian," the generic term, is no longer correct, for the regiment now includes the natives of most of the French settlements in tropical Africa. The Senegalian has lost to a great extent his military instincts and has turned to more peaceful pursuits. Bambaras, Toucoulers, natives of Guinea, of the Ivory Coast, Houssas from Dahomey—these constitute the famous "Tirailleur Senegalian," the last word in French military training in darkest Africa. These are not to be confounded with the "Turcos" or Algerians, who would be the first to be called to the colors in France, and who are known to be at the front. One of the greatest enemies of the Sudanese soldiers is consumption, which they quickly contract and spread over a wide area. Another difficulty is that the Sudanese is a better fighter when allowed to take his wife and family along. Without his wife to mend his clothes and look after his creature comforts he loses in fighting efficiency. In the greatest war in the history of the world white and black fight side by side. This companionship in arms must greatly enlarge the black man's horizon and power fully affect his whole outlook on life.

HELP FOR PROSTRATE BELGIUM

The greater part of Belgium lies prostrate beneath the heel of the invader. Where a few weeks ago were picturesque villages, smiling fields ripe for the harvest, and hundreds of thousands of prosperous and happy people there is nothing today but desolation and the horrors that follow upon the passage of contending armies. Thousands of brave Belgians lie in the trenches they so bravely defended till death overtook them, and their widows and children are homeless fugitives.

Sir Lomer Gouin, Premier of Quebec, deeply moved by the thought of what the approaching winter must mean to the people of Belgium, has asked Sir Robert Borden and the Premiers of the various Provinces to join in taking measures toward lessening their sufferings. The response should be prompt and immediate. Public opinion would warrant the Governments in at once making a very substantial contribution toward the help of the Belgian refugees. It is pointed out that many of the Belgian widows are skilled in embroidery and might do much if settled in French Canada to introduce there the industry of lace-making, for which Belgium has been so long famous. That is a side of the problem which may be considered more fully later on. The immediate need is for food and clothing and shelter for women and children whose only shelter today is found in the blackened and roofless ruins of what a few weeks ago were happy homes set in a smiling landscape. The Government should send a prompt reply to Sir Lomer Gouin's appeal for help.

CANADIAN BEEF FOR EXPORT

The price of Canadian beef for home consumption is determined by the price obtainable for the beef that is exported. For all practical purposes the price of Canadian beef cattle is determined in the Chicago market, and the price of beef in Chicago is determined by competition in the markets of Europe. The United States, Canada, and Argentina produce, or can produce, far more than their own people are able to consume, and the surplus must find consumers on the other side of the Atlantic, especially in Great Britain.

If the price of beef falls low in Europe the farmers of America will curtail production until the price goes up again; if it rises high the farmers will increase their output until it begins to fall. In other words, the amount of beef production in Canada depends on the relation between demand and supply in Europe. For some months past there has been fluctuating rise in the price of beef cattle in Canada, and for fifteen years past the price has been much higher and steadier than it had been for the previous decade. The increase extending over so many years with a fair degree of steadiness was of course due to some steadily operating cause; probably the fact that the urban population of the United States has been increasing more rapidly than its rural population.

Among the questions thus raised is the expediency of producing more beef cattle and paying less attention to dairying and mixed farming. In this matter each farmer must in the last resort settle the question for himself, but in order to be able to decide to his own advantage he should know something about the history of beef cattle prices and also about the present conditions that regulate the demand for beef. Among these conditions is one of recent introduction: the pending war, which converts vast numbers of men in several European countries into non-producers, while they remain consumers. Obviously the tendency of the war will be to lessen the supply of beef, while it will increase rather than lessen the demand for it, and the effect will be to raise the price unless more labor and capital are applied to the beef-producing industry in American countries.

A like remark applies, of course, to dairy products, to other eatable animal food, and to roots, fruit, and grain. In short, the present conditions, war included, are likely to give at least a temporary impulse to agricultural operations in general, and perhaps to beef and wheat in particular. If this turns out to be the cause the war must be credited with at least one benefit conferred on American countries that should quite outlast the war itself.

NOTE AND COMMENT

One of the new Parisian fashion fads is a bonnet with a long tassel.

While other towns were oblivious of danger, Lemberg was the first to scent trouble.

We hear a great deal about the "wings" of the army, but little about those of the flying squadron.

German bomb droppers will never drive the inhabitants of Paris crazy. They always take a Seine view of the situation.

The Chicago Tribune calls President Wilson the international policeman. All the world is telling him its troubles.

Owing to the European war there is a crisis in the Brazil coffee market which will take time and eggs to settle.

Should Newfoundland decide to enter confederation the two extreme fish-producing Coast provinces would balance the scales to a nicety.

Grandstand reservations are now being made for the next Mexican battle. Small extra charge for bulletproof boxes. No rain checks issued.

Gasoline is an important factor in modern warfare. The allies are assured of an abundant supply from America and India, but the Austrian oil fields in Galicia are in possession of the Russians, while Germany's supply is limited to the stock now on hand. When exhausted the aircraft and military motors will be practically useless.

It is proposed to form a huge pyramid of the baggage abandoned by tourists in their hurried flight from Europe. It will be the highest peak in the Alps and is to be called Mount Saratoga.

A Montreal Fenian raid veteran suggests that each veteran contribute one dollar to the war fund. If all the applicants for the government bounty of \$100 respond the fund would amount to about \$50,000.

Cheese factory patrons in the dairy districts of Ontario are arranging to give one day's output of milk free, the proceeds to be donated to the patriotic fund. By doing this they feel that they are giving their mite for a good cause.

The marine playlet, "The Cat and the Mouse," is having a prolonged run on the North Sea. The German dock rat is the shyest rodent that frequents the waterfront and refuses to even nibble at the abundant supply of "rough on rats" with which Admiral Jellicoe is prepared to regale it.

CORDIAL AND CAUSTIC

Comment on Matters of Some Importance, and on Some of No Importance

Emmett Pankhurst gives warning that when the war is over, the suffragettes will resume their militant methods. The worst is yet to come so to speak.

Shing shots being used against birds was what we saw one afternoon this week at the south end of Ninth street. Some of the Boy Scout missionaries should get after those lads.

The price of tobacco in Edmonton has been reduced to less than before war prices on account of a quarrel between dealers. Wish some one would get in a fight here.

The farmers here are still reluctant to sell their wheat. With the way the market is going one certainly has to catch it on the jump to get the price that looks promising.

Peterboro, Ont., has lately taken over the Light and Power Co., of that city; from private ownership and an immediate reduction to consumers is promised. This is a habit municipally owned power companies have.

No one need sit up nights yet figuring how the spoils of war will be divided.

Jewish merchants must be given credit for their consistency and faith when they close their business houses for days of account of religious festivals. We don't know many gentiles who could spare an entire day for prayer either in supplication or thanksgiving.

After a few days of training in the Y. M. C. A. classes, some of our business men are going to be fit as fiddlers and then some.

The consumer of Canadian made goods helps himself as well as helping others.

Even non-commissioned officers are a step beyond privates so that it would seem that a number of Brandon soldiers deserve and have received promotions.

It begins to look as if it were quite the right idea to have some of those old partitions in the City Hall torn down. Any time the city has money there are enough standing for further improvements to take place.

A later hour for opening stores in the morning means that Brandon employers have consideration for their employees.

A New York paper publishes the information "the unemployed in Canada will be very many this winter for reason of the general depression the war has created and the burdens of the cities will be great beyond precedent." Isn't it swif the way our neighbors will worry about us.

The accepted belief that the Rockefeller are the greatest owners of bank stock in the U. S. has been exploded. George F. Baker has shares in banks estimated to be worth \$12,000,000. We don't know George but we're willing to bet.

In the meantime the U. S. is trying to clean out some of its graft ridden commonwealths—a common employment just before the fall elections.

One young man in the centre of the city complains feelingly that once a day or oftener he is besought by loafers or vagrants for a small piece of money, and he objects to the annoyance. On the other hand look at the complaint they pay him, for surely he has every appearance of prosperity, to be so diligently pursued by the mendicants. It must be that nobly tan suit.

The nurses at the Brandon hospital might join in a chorus and sing the new addition to the nurses' home "we have waited honey, waited long for you."

SWEDISH OPINION

DECLARES ALLIED POWERS DID NOT DESIRE THE WAR

Stockholm, Sweden—Every effort is being made in responsible quarters in Sweden to secure the complete neutrality of the country, both in letter and in spirit.

Commenting on the situation in a recent issue, The Dhagens Nyheter, an important Liberal journal, insists that this attitude is being observed in the press, in spite of the fact that the large amount of news of German successes which has appeared might at first sight give an impression of bias.

The Dhagens Nyheter points out that the expression of opinion in the press as to which group was the aggressor in the present struggle does not constitute a breach of the spirit of neutrality. The Stockholm journal points out further that Sweden has always extended a sympathetic welcome to refugees of all nationalities who have passed through her territory.

Discussing and comparing the two white books, the German and the British, which appeared shortly after the outbreak

Occupying a Trade Vacuum

THE withdrawal from the Canadian market of much merchandise that prior to the war came from Continental Europe left, as it were, a trade vacuum, and a vacuum is abhorrent alike to Nature and to business.

The ceaseless effort on the part of business to expand itself has already led many a Canadian manufacturer so attempt to fill the void caused by the stoppage of imports from the countries at war.

The Spinners and weavers of cotton are finding new and surprising uses for cotton as a substitute for jute. Manufacturers of electrical equipment are fast finding substitutes for materials and parts hitherto obtained from abroad. The growing of sugar beets and the making of beet sugar will be stimulated in Canada as a consequence of war. Yarns, hosiery, underwear, gloves, and garments for women and children, aforesaid imported, will now be produced in Canada. And so one could go on and on in illustrating the triumph of human energy and genius over disabilities and disorders.

Watch the advertising columns of the public press for proofs that Canadian manufacturers are making efforts to fill the trade vacuum.



Best For Frying

The goodness and delicacy of fried foods depends upon the fat used for frying.

Swift's Silver-Leaf Lard

may be heated to a high degree without scorching or discoloring. This puts a delicate, brown crisp crust on the food so quickly that it prevents its becoming greasy, soaked, and it enables you to use Swift's Silver-Leaf Lard many times for frying before clarifying.

It is economical, pure, efficient and does not flavor the food cooked in it. Canadian Government inspected, put up always in tight covered, new tin pails, 3 sizes.

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of hostilities, the Dhagens Nyheter considers that it is impossible to say that Great Britain and France and Belgium desired war, and points out that they did everything in their power to avert it. Germany, Russia and Austria, and even Serbia, were, in its opinion; the principal parties to the making of the struggle.

In conclusion, the Stockholm journal expresses the opinion that from the telegrams exchanged between the Emperor Nicholas and the Emperor William about Aug. 1, it was obvious that mutual distrust rendered anything in the nature of an agreement impossible.

"RULE BRITANNIA"

Who wrote this ode, "Rule Britannia?" No doubt nearly every one will answer, James Thomson, and I dare say that is the correct answer, says the writer of

"Sub Rosa" in the Daily News and Leader (London.) But there have been disputes about this, for the ode forms a part of a mask dealing with the fortunes of Alfred the Great, and written by James Thomson and David Mallet in collaboration, and there have been people who have contended that Thomson does not deserve the sole credit. We are indebted to a certain extent to Frederick, Prince of Wales, son of George II, and father of George for the renowned ode. George II. had no real British sympathies, and in those days it was customary for a Prince of Wales to hold and express views opposite to those of his father, and so Frederick was markedly pro-British in his tastes. He lived at Cliefden, on the Thames and he resolved to give a splendid entertainment there in honor of the accession of the House of Hanover and to celebrate the birthday of his little daughter Princess Augusta. So he called

led to his aid David Mallet, James Thomson, and also John Rich, who was a famous and successful actor manager, and they were set to work to produce something worthy of the occasion.

It was on Friday, Aug. 1, 1740, that the mask "Alfred" was produced at Cliefden. The famous ode was sung in worthy style when heard for the first time; as the solo was taken by Thomas Lowe, of whom the celebrated Dr Burney had said, "Lowe has the finest tenor voice I ever heard in my life." And when at the end of each of the six stanzas as the chorus broke in with the refrain those who were present knew that they had heard something that would last. It has lasted and it will last. Southey had a great regard for the ode, and declared it to be the political hymn of Britain as long as she maintains her political power.