

# The Weekly Ontario

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1915.

## THE SUPREME OBJECT.

Mr. Lloyd George, who has lately responded to the call of his countrymen to organize the new Department of Munitions has performed many notable services for the nation since the beginning of the war. Not the least of these is the admirable way in which he has visualized for Britons at home and overseas the true meaning and significance of the cause for which we are fighting. At a recent anniversary dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund, held in London, he addressed an audience largely composed of newspaper men, and delivered one of the most stirring and eloquent speeches which has ever fallen from his lips. Newspaper men are not emotional folk where oratory is concerned, but the reports in London papers tell us that many passages in the Chancellor's speech stirred his audience to the highest point of enthusiasm.

Mr. Lloyd George paid high tribute to his leader. "After long experience, and association with Mr. Asquith, I can say," said Mr. Lloyd George, "that there is no abler or more sagacious leader for a nation in trouble in Europe today." Turning to the work of the press Mr. Lloyd George said that journalism had been hard hit by the war, in common with the enlightened professions, but he was glad that the activities of the Newspaper Fund, like many others, showed that amid the cruelties and infamies of this war, kindness, sympathy and tenderness for the unfortunate had not altogether been quenched in the human heart.

The Press, he said, had never had a greater responsibility cast upon it than at the present time. Its function in this great struggle was a very exalted one. It was to inform the nation, to sustain the nation, to stimulate the nation, to inspire the nation. It is a war of nations. It is nations that will win. It is nations that will lose, and it is the heart of the nation that has got to be kept right, and there is no more potent agency for that purpose than the Press. "It is the great function of the Press to sustain the courage and spirit of the people and carry them through that they shall endure to the end. For in this war it is the nation that endureth to the end that will win."

Mr. Lloyd George preached the true doctrine in proclaiming that in this war, it is the nation that endureth to the end that will win. People were constantly asking him: "How long the war will last." The question was put to Abraham Lincoln in another war, full of trials, full of vicissitudes, full of moments of depression, and Lincoln's reply was: "We accept this war for an object—a worthy object—and the war will end when it is attained." And Lincoln added: "Under God, I hope it will never end until that time comes." This, said Mr. Lloyd George, must be the sentiment of every true-hearted Britisher today.

Mr. Lloyd George then went on to state the object for which we were fighting. That supreme object is the freedom of Europe from an organized military caste—a caste that sought to enslave Europe and shackle the liberties of the world. "They thought they had perfected a machine that would tear through Europe and leave it bleeding and crushed at their feet. The Prussian meant—means—to dominate the world. That is a mania which has possessed military castes almost in every century. Once or twice they have succeeded, and that has upset the balance of many who thought they could follow. But though they will not succeed, nevertheless to overthrow that ambition will cost Europe a ghastly price in blood and in treasure. Our share of that price we must be prepared to bear, or for ever sink into degrading vassalage—a poor end for a splendid Empire that was to lead the world in the paths of liberty, and we will never accept it."

Mr. Lloyd George quoted from the speeches of Dernburg, in the United States, to show what were the real aims and hopes of the German leaders; in particular, a speech to Americans in which he proposed reducing Great Britain to impotence. To this Mr. Lloyd George retorted: "He will not annex Britain. That is good

of him. (Laughter.) He is not going to absorb Russia nor France, but he explains that the only reason is that the meal would be an indigestible one. But the command of the seas has to be taken away from us as the price of peace. Yes, Britain is to be as Belgium, on land at the mercy of the Prussian war lords. Whenever it resists their behests, it is to be overrun and to be trampled under foot. London is to be as Brussels, Oxford as Louvain, and the tramp of the Kaiser's legions is to resound through the roads of Britain. That is the price! And is there anyone so mean as to pay that price? (Cheers.) Russia is to be broken and France, and if there is any other nation that will stand up to this mighty Power they must go. Russia, the toothless bear, chained in its pit; France with no wings to soar or spurs to defend itself; Britain, the harmless whale in the German Ocean, at only for humber for the Germans. A pretty picture.

Mr. Lloyd George paid a glowing tribute to the heroism of the "ordinary, common soldiers," who, at their country's call, left their customary vocations to carry their country's fame and honor into the jaws of hell:

"I am not talking of officers high in command, I am not talking of veterans inured by discipline to face danger. I am talking of the ordinary, common soldier, many of whom you all know. It seems but a few weeks ago when we knew them—just ordinary men pursuing in a quiet way their ordinary avocation, with nothing apparent to distinguish them in mind or heart from their fellows. In the same quiet, unostentatious way when the call came they offered their lives to their country without demonstration just as if they were pursuing their ordinary everyday task. The next thing we hear about them is that on some terrible battlefield with grim valor they are marching through horror and carnage without flinching and with thousands of men of exactly the like make carrying their country's fame and honor into the jaws of hell. (Cheers.) There are hundreds of thousands of them who have gone through this experience. There are two millions more just as brave and just as gallant."

Turning then to the duty of those at home, Mr. Lloyd George issued a clarion call to all those whose contributions to the war cannot be made in the actual firing line. "I will tell you what our duty is. Our duty is this: Each of us in his sphere—you of the press, we in our departments, people in every sphere of life—must so act that when the last of these men have left for foreign lands to fight for the flag, that it shall be said that not even then all the heroism has quitted our shores."

A nation with such a leader and animated by such a high spirit of courage and sacrifice will march forward confident of certain victory.

## "PLAY UP! PLAY THE GAME!"

There can hardly be any difference of opinion as to our duty as Canadians at this time. The Great War going on in Europe involves not only the destinies of Great Britain and the British Empire, but the whole world at large for generations to come. We Canadians cannot sit idly by as mere spectators. We must "do our bit" just as efficiently and just as courageously as if the war were taking place within our own frontiers.

The destinies of Canada and our national life as a free people are at stake at this moment as if our sons were gathered to repulse the enemy on one of our own boundaries. We cannot afford to be indifferent. We do not want to be indifferent. Every person in Canada knows that the liberty won by us by our forefathers is at stake. Our sons know it; they are volunteering and are willing to volunteer in ever increasing numbers to go to the front. Our mothers and daughters know it; they have been foremost in every good project to furnish encouragement to and comforts for their sons and fathers who have volunteered. Our fathers know it; they have generously dipped their hands into their pockets and contributed to the various funds of a patriotic nature.

It is plain then that everybody in Canada wants to see this thing through and desires that Canada shall do her best to bring the war to a speedy and successful conclusion. The trouble is that we are not doing our best. In spite of the desire of everybody to put Canada's best foot forward, the best foot has not been put forward. Ten months have passed since the declaration of war and Canada has sent less than 10,000 men to the firing line. Five times that number should have been equipped and sent. We believe that there are more than 300,000 men in this country who are eager to have the opportunity of serving their country offered to them.

Our record in the equipment and dispatch of those who have already gone is not creditable to us.

The lack of ocean transportation cannot be offered as an excuse. Ample ocean tonnage has been available to the Government ever since last fall for the transport of men.

It is idle to place the blame upon the British authorities when an energetic and capable administration would have provided transportation and landed 150,000 men in England months ago. Apparently, public opinion must make it

self manifest if we are to expect efficiency on the part of the Canadian authorities.

In England Lord Kitchener is calling for 50,000 more volunteers. These will have to be recruited and trained. In Canada we have a large number of men who have already undergone six months of training, are ready and eager to go to the front, and yet our authorities have not sufficient enterprise to send them over. Certainly something must be wrong somewhere.

Public opinion must make itself felt. The people must speak through their accredited representatives. Let every man who knows the facts write to his Parliamentary representative and impress upon him the necessity of more energetic action. Let us not suffer further under the stigma that Canada is not doing her part.

## THE ITALIAN ARMY.

Col. A. M. Murray, C.B., writing in the London Daily News, gives us some additional statistics concerning the strength and equipment of the Italian Army. The approximate war strength is set down as follows:

Officers	41,692
Active Army (with colors)	289,910
Reserve	688,979
Mobile Militia	299,596
Territorial Militia	1,889,659

Total War Strength . . . . . 3,159,836  
This total includes upwards of 1,200,000 fully trained soldiers, who have been through the ranks, with perhaps another 800,000 partially trained men, the remaining million being completely untrained men.

The organization for putting the above numbers of men into the field is as follows: The fully trained men are organized in four armies, each army consisting of three corps, one army consisting of three corps, one cavalry division, and a number of troops for the lines of communication. The twelve corps are recruited and organized on a territorial basis, each corps having its allotted area.

The Italian army corps, which is larger than that in other European armies, is composed of two active army divisions, with thirty guns each, one mobile militia division, brought up to strength from the Territorial Militia, one regiment of Bersaglieri, or light infantry, one cavalry regiment of six batteries (Corps Artillery), and other technical and administrative units. The strength of the corps amounts to 50,000 men, with 8,400 horses, and 126 guns, and this gives each of the four armies a strength of 150,000 men, 25,200 horses, and 378 guns, with the addition of a cavalry division of 4,200 sabres.

The first-line Italian army, therefore, which could be put into the field seven days after mobilization was ordered amounts to 600,000 men, 108,800 horses, 1,512 guns, and 16,200 sabres. But these cadres only absorb half the fully trained men called on mobilization; duplicate corps will consequently be formed to take the place of the twelve first-line corps as soon as they have despatched to their concentration rendezvous. It is believed that sufficient guns have now been provided for these twelve duplicate corps, but it is unlikely that more than two cavalry divisions could be formed in addition to the four divisions with the first-line armies. These duplicate corps would be ready to take the field three or four weeks after the concentration of the first twelve corps.

The above calculations show that within a few weeks after the declaration of war Italy can place in the field a force of 1,200,000 men (twenty-four corps), and would still have 1,800,000 men of fighting age left at the depots after the field armies had been despatched to the front.

The Boston Transcript speaks plainly. It says that "the time has come for our Government to define to Germany 'strict accountability' in the terms and tone of an ultimatum. Murder can be disclaimed, but it cannot be defended and it must not be debated."

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg expresses indignation because Italy would not accept at face value Germany's guarantee of the integrity after the war of certain parcels of Austrian territory. But, as the New York Tribune asks, who was going to guarantee that guarantee in case Germany and Austro-Hungary lost and the map of Europe was made over to the victorious Allies?

The announcement of the Admiralty shows that since the beginning of the war Great Britain has lost 458,006 tons of merchant shipping and 13,585 tons of fishing craft. This is a considerable loss, but, after all, it is comparatively small. It represents only 139 merchantmen and 83 fishing craft, whereas there are under the British flag more than 40,000 vessels exclusive of the Navy. Three years ago 39,345 vessels were on British registers, and since that time there have been large additions in numbers and tonnage to the British mercantile marine.

"When we are once agreed, as most of us are," says London Truth, "that the present war which has made a hell of a great part of the world, was contemplated, prepared for, and

brought about at Berlin, we are in the presence of a stupendous crime against humanity and civilization, beside which any subsequent atrocity perpetuated in pursuance of the same purpose becomes a mere subordinate incident. That apparently is exactly how they look at it in Berlin, and in Germany generally. What the sinking of the Lusitania ought to teach the world is that, the German people and their rulers being what they have shown themselves, the present war was inevitable. What it ought particularly to teach those of us who are in it is that we have got to win or to go down as the Lusitania went down, for we are fighting people who do not know what mercy means."

## MAYBE.

What are we living for? Food and drink and garments fine to wear?  
A roof for our heads, a bed for our backs, and a few odd bucks to spare?  
The price of a book and a picture sweet and a play with a thrilling plot?  
Is that what we're living for? Maybe, boy!  
Then again, maybe not!

What are we living for? Lasting fame—the applause of our fellow-men?  
The grip of a thought that speeds to its goal through a sword or a brush or a pen?  
The lure of a tale that is still untold or an I that awaits a dot?  
Is that what we are living for? Maybe, boy!  
Then again, maybe not.

What are we living for? Who can tell? And why does it matter son?  
There is joy in the doing of daily work and rest when the work is done.  
And just what more there remains in life let the wife and the babies guess!  
Perhaps they can tell you! Maybe not!—Then again, maybe yes!  
—Grif Alexander, in Pittsburg Dispatch.

## CONSIDER THE LILIES.

[Written for The Ontario by Miss Lillian Leverage, Carrying Place, Ont.]

Long ago in the golden summer,  
In a beautiful far-off land,  
Where birds sang an endless anthem  
And flowers bloomed on either hand,  
On a mountain stood the Master,  
With tenderest pity stirred,  
And preached the sublimest sermon  
That ever on earth was heard.

'Twas the grandest of earthly temples—  
That hill with its dome of blue,  
While the waves of the sea were singing  
A liturgy solemn and low.  
There were cedar censers waving  
Aloft on the fragrant air,  
Oblations of sweetest incense,  
Their balm and balsam rare.

As the Master His great truths uttered  
In language of simple guise,  
How glad was the light that kindled  
In the ager upturned eyes!  
For never man spaké like this Man—  
So gracious each golden word—  
And never so sweet a doctrine  
Went home to the souls that heard.

He told of the Heavenly Kingdom—  
Whose language and law is love;  
He told of the tender Father  
Who weareth the crown above.  
Then, stooping, He plucked a flower  
That nestled down at His feet,  
And taught a lesson of trusting—  
By its beauty wild and sweet.

For He said, "Consider the lilies,  
How gloriously arrayed!  
Yet neither by toil nor spinning,  
Then wherefore are ye afraid?  
For never a sparrow falleth,  
Or a blossom fades from view,  
But your Heavenly Father careth—  
Much more He cares for you."

And He Who taught of flowers  
Long ago in far Palestine,  
Still loveth the glowing blossoms  
Wherever their deep dyes shine.  
Wherever their stamens petals  
Stand white 'neath the stars or sun,  
In forest, or field, or garden,  
He loveth them, every one.

And we know He delights to see them  
Today in His temples here  
Where His people have come to worship  
Their Lord in His House of Prayer;  
For they carry His own dear message  
In language the least may read:  
Your God Who hath clothed the lilies  
Much more shall supply you need.

So we gather the fairest flowers  
From garden and wood and field,  
And bring them, in all their beauty,  
With the touch of the Master sealed.  
'Tis a tribute, loving and lowly,  
'To Him Who hath all things given.  
The blessings of earth to lead us  
To the infinite joys of Heaven.

## Other Editors'

### Opinions

#### RUSSIA'S PROWESS.

There is much cause for satisfaction that Grand Duke Nicholas has got his forces clear of Peremyel, and lost few supplies in the fortress. There is no repetition of the Bazaine disaster at Metz in 1870. The Russian armies are quite intact, in reality quite unbeaten, and, indeed, able to take the offensive in many places. Officially Petrograd reports an important piercing of the German lines on the lower San, and on other parts of the Austria-German flank the Russian position is strong. Whether or not the German armies get through to Lemberg, the main consideration of smashing the Russian field forces has failed.

By this time ammunition should be getting to the Russian fronts from Archangel. That port was opened several weeks ago, and was reserved entirely for Government purposes. A double-track railway is in use in place of single-track narrow-gauge line. This second door will allow the pushing of outside supplies to the troops twice as quickly as by Vladivostok, and the effect should be observable shortly in the operations. Had the Dardanelles been forced in March the opening of the route to the Black Sea would have allowed the restocking of Russian ammunition supplies in time to avert the present extended retirement. However, as the Allies on the Western front are having trouble getting sufficient high explosives, so the Russians have been handicapped in a similar way. It is doubtful whether any armies without an unlimited artillery equipment and an inexhaustible supply of high explosives could have resisted the German drive. The Russians have never had these, nor even ordinarily good equipment in these matters. The remedying of the artillery ammunition defect in the Russian armies will remove Germany's only point of military superiority on the Eastern front, and enable the Russians to make full use of their great strength in men.

The gaining of the major part of Galicia is a reprieve for the Teuton allies from their day of doom at the hand of the Slav. That is all. The intrinsic elements in the situation no more favor against the Allies now than before. In fact, with the four great countries directly concerned fighting with desperate energy, with all the advantages of commerce and sea communications with much latent power now coming into use, the campaigning is a question of duration alone. The Russian reverse has lengthened it, perhaps, but so long as Russia stays energetically in the ring the end is as sure a triumph for her as for the other Allies. Mail and Empire.

#### TOWN PLANNING.

To the average citizen the term "town planning" suggests nothing more than schemes for the beautification of towns and cities—a very narrow and inadequate conception. How comprehensive in its scope the town-planning movement has become was learned the other day by the delegates from municipalities in this district who attended the meeting held here and heard the able and inspiring addresses of the two experts who represented the Dominion conservation commission. Town-planning takes in pretty much all that goes to the betterment of urban communities. It deals not only with the aesthetic phase of municipal improvement, but with sanitation, hygiene, economy, convenience—in fact, all that makes life better for town dwellers. The organization of an association called "The Town-planning Conference of South-western Ontario" was the practical result of the meeting. It is the first step in a movement which should produce good results in the near future. The conference resolved to petition Premier Hearst to pass an act dealing with town-planning. However, we fancy that more benefit is to be obtained from the co-operative action by the municipalities themselves than from dependence upon the government or legislature.—Hamilton Herald.

Trial is Inexpensive.—To those who suffer from dyspepsia, indigestion, rheumatism or any ailment arising from derangement of the digestive system, a trial of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is recommended. should the sufferer be unacquainted with them: The trial will be inexpensive and the result will be another customer for this excellent medicine. So effective is their action that many cures can certainly be traced to their use where other pills have proved ineffective.

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