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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 11, 1916.

MORE PEACE TALK

The dispatches this morning give a further hint that Germany is thinking seriously about peace. Whether the report which has reached the New York Evening Post to the effect that the United States ambassador in Berlin has been asked to convey to President Wilson Germany's desire to sue for peace is true or not, remains to be seen, but it is no secret that the German authorities have more than once put off peace negotiations.

But it is not at all likely that Germany, hard pressed as she undoubtedly is, would for some time to come be willing to agree to any terms that would be acceptable to the Allies. She is slowly but surely bleeding to death, but she remains a mighty adversary who is still capable of doing a great deal of strenuous fighting.

ON THE SOMME Sir Douglas Haig reports another day of brilliant victory on the Somme. With the French on their right, the British troops have succeeded in pushing forward their line nearly a mile and the village of le Sars, a strongly fortified position about two miles from Bapaume, is now in their hands.

Meanwhile, the fact must be overlooked that it would every where be looked upon as shrewd statesmanship if the Kaiser should sue for peace before his armies were further depleted, the national credit destroyed completely and his people humiliated to a greater degree.

It is evident that Germany has suffered much more in the Somme fighting than the world realizes. The cautious reports from the British and French headquarters have not exaggerated the German losses, although it is known that they are appalling. There never has been such an artillery duel as that which has raged on the Somme since the Anglo-French armies began their drive on July 1.

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with respect to Capital Account for the same period: 1911..... \$30,352,969 1912..... 30,939,575 Total for two years..... \$61,292,544

THE ALLIED AIR FLEET. It is announced in London that documents found on German desert show that the Kaiser's troops at the front are complaining bitterly about the vast expenditure for Zeppelins, which are of no military use, while the armies in the field are suffering frightful losses because of an insufficient supply of aeroplanes for scouting purposes.

The announcement is made that Sir Thomas White is to inaugurate in Canada a campaign of "National Thrift." Pamphlets are to be issued and speeches made urging the people to save all they possibly can. The argument is made—and properly so—that "to the group of nations possessing not only the greatest military power, but the greatest financial resources, will fall victory in this war."

THE COST OF LIVING. How much longer is the government of Canada to turn a deaf ear to the protests of the people against the ever increasing cost of living? Prices are steadily going up, and for no good reason, but Sir Robert Borden does nothing.

SAVING IN CANADA. If there is any impression that since the beginning of the war Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues have tried to save the people's money in connection with domestic expenditures that impression should be dispelled speedily. A study of the Public Accounts, which are open to all who read, will prove that in both Capital and Consolidated Accounts the government has spent much more money during the two last years than it did during the two preceding years.

ON CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT. 1911..... \$ 87,774,198 1912..... 95,161,440 Total for two years..... \$182,935,638 1913..... \$112,059,337 1914..... 127,384,473 Total for two years..... \$239,443,810 1915..... \$138,523,303 1916..... 130,560,725 Total for two years..... \$269,084,028

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selling most of his product to advantage; the war has helped him in this regard tremendously. But he is not responsible for the sacrifices which the average consumer is compelled to make today in order to live. The whole situation is one that ought to have been investigated and adjusted long ago by the government of Canada.

IN MEXICO. The Carranza Administration has confiscated French property in Mexico to the value of \$600,000,000. This high-handed robbery has created a stir in French government circles, and causes the Paris Temps, a semi-official newspaper, to mildly criticize the United States government for its spicuous Mexican policy.

NOTE AND COMMENT. The Serbians are "coming back" in fine shape. They are gallant fighters. "This attempt to wish Bourassa on the Liberal party," says the Toronto Globe, "shows, unfortunately, the grade of mental capacity by which Canada is governed today."

Lord Robert Cecil, in courteous but firm language, tells Sweden that Great Britain will permit no supplies to reach Germany through Swedish ports, no matter how vigorously the Swedish government protests against the blockade.

FOUNDERS WHILE OFF LOUISBOURG. Halifax, Oct. 6.—The tern schooner Grace Davis, recently purchased by E. K. Warren, from American owners, foundered off Louisburg Wednesday morning. The crew were saved and landed at Louisburg.

PROTECT THE BIRDS. The annual loss in the United States on farm and forest products, due to insect pests, is estimated at \$300,000,000. In Canada it is said the loss is proportionately great. This is no new discovery; it has long been known.

Germany has sprung another surprise this time by sending an armed submarine across the Atlantic to prey upon Allied shipping. This is spectacular, but it has no real bearing on the progress of the war.

Correspondents on the western front see some great exhibitions of courage on the part of Sir Douglas Haig's men—some of them rather amusing. One writer sends the following to his paper in London:

"The angriest man I have seen since the first morning of the fight was a Scotsman who was so disgusted that he had difficulty in finding words to express himself at having got a bullet through his leg before the real fun began."

Better than gold—real teeth. Hymn before battle—Here comes the bride. Eggs may be fresh, but they are never impudent. A man of mettle may have too much brass.

ITALIANS CAPTURE PEAK ONE MILE AND HALF IN THE AIR. Austrians Resist Stubbornly But Defending Force Practically Annihilated, and 20 Survivors Are Captured.

Rome, Oct. 7, via London.—A mountain peak, 6,137 feet high, at the head of the Vanoi Cismon Valley, northwest of Trent, has been captured by Alpine troops attached to the Italian army, says the official statement given out today. An Austrian attack in the Upper Boite Valley, it is added, was checked by the machine gun and rifle fire of the Italians.

"On our offensive in the rough mountain region between the Avisio and Vanoi Cismon Valley resulted in further success yesterday, when at the head of the Vanoi Cismon Valley Alpine troops captured one of the peaks of Cima Busa Alta, 2,456 metres (8,137 feet) high, the enemy, who was strongly entrenched, put up a stubborn resistance, but was virtually annihilated. Twenty survivors, including the commanding officer and some men, were made prisoners."

On the slopes of the Lesser Laga Suoi, in the Upper Boite Valley, enemy detachments attempted a surprise on our advanced lines. They were allowed to come within a short distance of the trenches, and were overwhelmed and scattered by concentrated machine gun fire.

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GOOD HORSES Some Fine Cattle —Owners of Heat After Sun

The annual exhibition City and County was held yesterday at Mooseport. The attendance was the largest since the conditions generally are most successful fair.

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