

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1917.

STIRRING SPEECH IN THE DOMINION
HOUSE BY MR. W. F. COCKSHUTT M.P.

Aid in Winning the War is the One Object Which Should Animate Everyone—Leaders in Quebec Should Put the Matter More Strongly Before the People—The Interfering of President Wilson—Member For Brantford Believes That Steps Should be Taken With Regard to Food Prices and Food Export

Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, Brantford, Ont. Speaker, I desire to make a few observations upon the speech from the Throne, which is now before the House, but before doing so I presume I may be allowed to concur in all the flattering expressions of hon. gentlemen with regard to the Speaker, of the mover and seconder of the Address, and to our distinguished Governor General. I will not take up the time of the House elaborating in that regard.

The War
After another year of war we find ourselves confronted with a situation perhaps, as serious as any that has confronted this Empire in modern times. I do not desire to be either a pessimist or an optimist in the few remarks I shall make in regard to the war. I look upon the war as the supreme question that is before this country, just as it was a year ago, and the winning of the war should be the first duty of all Canadian citizens. The men who are out to win the war are the men that ought to be esteemed for their work's sake, and any Government that leaves anything undone that could be done to win the war will not commend itself to the people of Canada, or of the Empire. In reviewing the operations of the past year we find that comparatively little progress has been made on either land or sea. That, we confess; and where progress has been made it has been made more in the wrong direction than in the right. The losses of the various belligerents are staggering, simply astounding. I have not heard any gentleman who has spoken so far attempt to tell the House how many the total casualties have been. We have heard the Dominion casualties placed at about 70,000, but the casualties of the two great contending parties have not been mentioned so far as I know. I made a rough estimate a few weeks ago and tried to be conservative in my figures. I figured that up to that time the casualties on both sides amounted to sixteen and a half millions. That seemed an astounding number, and I was afraid that I had over-estimated it. A few days later, however, General Von Hindenburg, who has been heard of considerably during the war, gave an interview to the press in which he stated that the losses to the Allies alone amounted to fifteen millions. When I saw that statement, I began to think I had been fairly conservative in putting the figure at 16,500,000. The casualties on the German side, which are all published, amounted to upwards of 4,000,000 at the beginning of the year, according to their own lists. The French casualties are not reported, and therefore we cannot very well tell what their figures are. The Russian casualties have run into several millions, probably 6,000,000 to 8,000,000; for it must be remembered that Russia is holding almost entirely alone about 1,000 miles of battle front with the assistance of only a small country, Roumania. The recent entry of Roumania into the war has not brought that advantage to the Allies that we perhaps at first expected, and I very much regret that her entry into the war should have been signalled by such severe losses as they sustained almost immediately and which they apparently have continued to sustain up to the present time. Evidently they were not prepared for the encounter. Who was their adviser and why they entered before they were ready, will be revealed later on, and I think it

will appear as it has appeared on many other occasions, that some one has blundered. Our hon. friends on the other side of the House, who have pointed out a good many of what they consider blunders on the part of this Government, must admit that those blunders are very small in comparison with the blunders that have been committed across the water by almost all the countries engaged in the war. But what is to be expected? It is only natural. All men are human, and all err more or less, and it is to be expected that in so great a matter as this mistakes will be made. My hon. friend from North Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt) who has just spoken—and I give him credit for making a speech that was fair; he has not tried to be unfair, I am sure—has told us of a few blunders that he thinks the Government has made, and among others he mentioned Camp Borden. I do not know whether he ever visited that camp or not. I hardly think he did, or he would not have made the sweeping statements he did. Personally, I spent two days at the camp and they were two of the worst days of the summer when the temperature was between 90 and 100 in the shade, and from my experience I can tell my hon. friend that he vastly over-estimates the damage which he thinks was done recruiting by reason of the existence of Camp Borden.

A Good Camp
As camps go, it is an excellent piece of ground, and those who put in the winter at Salisbury Plains could tell my hon. friend if he has not heard from them already, that it would be like an oasis in the desert as compared with the mud that they endured for about six months at Salisbury Plains, and that even at the camp near Quebec, Valcartier, that he has referred to as being very adequate and efficient, the mud conditions were just as bad as were the dust conditions at Camp Borden. We all regret that stumbling blocks have come in the way of recruiting, and it is only just that a good deal of attention should be paid to it. The matter of recruiting should cause us all a good deal of thought at the present time. The figures that were presented by my hon. friend from South Simcoe (Mr. Boyd) a few minutes ago and which I now hold in my hand, are worthy of the study of hon. gentlemen, and I can scarcely see, when we are enlisting under the voluntary system, why any member from any particular part of the Dominion should feel sensitive when the figures of his constituency or his province are mentioned, unless he himself feels guilty that he has not done what he should have done with regard to his own community and has not taken the leadership of the men in his community to enlist in this great struggle. That the figures speak for themselves is evident, and they tell this lesson, that while the voluntary system may be all right for a small war, there are a great many citizens in every country who do not realize the value of freedom, who are not prepared to make the necessary sacrifices for freedom, but who would rather stay at home and pile up wealth at their ease and let the other people do the fighting. I do not wish to speak about anything I may or may not have done in the war; I have tried to do my duty, but I am proud to say that I belong to the only division in that list, Division No. 2, of the Province of Ontario, that has

furnished its full quota of the 500,000 promised.

Mr. Broder: I think No. 3 has done so, also.

The Good Record of Brant

Mr. Cockshutt: Unless No. 3 has caught up very recently, No. 2 is the only one that has completed its full quota. Toronto, of course, is a big town and is capable of taking all the bouquets that may be thrown to it, but Brantford is also in No. 2 Division, and it has helped Toronto a little, and so has Hamilton, which is not a small town, and so has St. Catharines. The result is that from that district we are credited with \$1,531,000 to the end of the year. No. 1 Division, in which London is the centre, and No. 3 Division, of which Kingston is the centre, have both made an excellent showing, and the figures are such that they can be read with satisfaction by any member from any part of the province. The figures for the whole province are 148,914. Since the end of the year, of course, there have been further additions, and I think the total is now nearly 150,000. Six per cent of the population of 2,500,000 would make 150,000, so in the whole of Canada, if we are to raise the whole of the 500,000 promised, the proportion should be not less than six per cent.

The County of Brant from which I have the honor to come, is named after the great chief who led the forces under the British over a hundred years ago and maintained the British flag in the western part of the province of Ontario, and saved a great part of Canada to the Empire at that time. The first men from the County of Brant who fell in the present war were also named after the Brant, and was an Indian from the Six Nation reserve, showing that there are some people in the Dominion of Canada who although they do not have British blood in their veins know a good government when they see it. An Indian from the Six Nation reserve, showing that there are some people in the Dominion of Canada who although they do not have British blood in their veins know a good government when they see it. An Indian from the Six Nation reserve, showing that there are some people in the Dominion of Canada who although they do not have British blood in their veins know a good government when they see it.

As camps go, it is an excellent piece of ground, and those who put in the winter at Salisbury Plains could tell my hon. friend if he has not heard from them already, that it would be like an oasis in the desert as compared with the mud that they endured for about six months at Salisbury Plains, and that even at the camp near Quebec, Valcartier, that he has referred to as being very adequate and efficient, the mud conditions were just as bad as were the dust conditions at Camp Borden. We all regret that stumbling blocks have come in the way of recruiting, and it is only just that a good deal of attention should be paid to it. The matter of recruiting should cause us all a good deal of thought at the present time. The figures that were presented by my hon. friend from South Simcoe (Mr. Boyd) a few minutes ago and which I now hold in my hand, are worthy of the study of hon. gentlemen, and I can scarcely see, when we are enlisting under the voluntary system, why any member from any particular part of the Dominion should feel sensitive when the figures of his constituency or his province are mentioned, unless he himself feels guilty that he has not done what he should have done with regard to his own community and has not taken the leadership of the men in his community to enlist in this great struggle. That the figures speak for themselves is evident, and they tell this lesson, that while the voluntary system may be all right for a small war, there are a great many citizens in every country who do not realize the value of freedom, who are not prepared to make the necessary sacrifices for freedom, but who would rather stay at home and pile up wealth at their ease and let the other people do the fighting. I do not wish to speak about anything I may or may not have done in the war; I have tried to do my duty, but I am proud to say that I belong to the only division in that list, Division No. 2, of the Province of Ontario, that has

der the voluntary system, are not doing their duty. I am sorry to say that, but those of us who have made the sacrifice—and I come from a community that has done so both in men and money—and have filled up the full quota, think it is up to other parts of Canada, if recruiting is slack to be getting busy and doing something. I have had the privilege of being in close communication with many men from the front ever since the war began, not only members of my own family and immediate circle, but many officers who have gone from the city of Brantford and county of Brant. I have had from them accounts of everything that is going on, but I have yet to meet the first man or to receive the first letter that has not spoken in the highest terms of commendation of our valorous ally, the French, as they are found in old France. The feeling that is in the hearts of the boys who have gone from Canada is that, although British has done well and although Russia has done well, the honours of the war, so far as the Allies are concerned, must be yielded to the glorious land of France. Some of our boys too, very fond of our own flag, and very fond of the flag that waves now, are just as ready to fight under the tri-colour of France in this war as they are under the Union Jack, and will give just as good account of themselves. But when I say that, Sir, I want you to understand that it is the tri-colour as it is unfurled by such men as Briand, Joffre and Nivelle at the front, and not the tri-colour as it is waved by such men as Bourassa, Laverge or Cannon. That is the tri-colour that our Canadian boys are ready to fight under; it is the tri-colour as it is waved in the land of France, the land of chivalry, the garden of romance, as we are told by the poet, which in this war has laid on the altar of her race every man, woman and child that can do a useful service.

As To Quebec

When this war broke out I said: At last Canada will be a united country; nothing can keep Canada from doing her full duty to the Empire now. I said that. I am sure my charrin, fancy my surprise, when I read the figures that show what our neighboring province is doing in recruiting when the land from which their forefathers came is bleeding to death and is calling for help from her sons on this side of the water. Surely they have not forgotten the hole of the pit from whence they were dug. Surely a call such as this should resound throughout the province of Quebec. I call on the leaders of that province, while it is yet time—I only regret that I cannot speak French or I should be glad to go there and speak—to give their help that the dear old land of France may be brought from under the foot of the enemy. I think this call has come to them as strongly as it has come to the British province of Ontario or to the plains of the West. I believe it does, but it has not been carried into that province as it has been carried throughout Ontario. In our province, every school-house, every cross-roads, every platform, every pulpit, has been made use of for recruiting meetings. In the county from which I come we have recruited almost ten per cent of the total population, and most of these men are at the front or across the water. If this were done everywhere there would be no call for more men to-day. The Prime Minister has given us the figures, and for my part, I think they are optimistic, yet they show that we are nearly 100,000 men short, and I think even that does not fully allow for wastage. So, there is still more to do. Men of Canada, every where of every race and creed, let us get together to win this war. For hon. gentlemen opposite will not be in power, nor shall we be in power, if we let the Germans win the war, you can bet on that—there will be no government of this kind in Canada in that case. The appeal comes to us now, while the war is yet in the winning, to see to it that the boys at the front are supported, and that the necessary recruits shall go across steadily and freely.

The Glory of French Arms At Verdun

I have spoken of the valor of France. It is written on Verdun. Verdun is the proudest spot in the whole history of the Allies in this war. I do not know whether you fully realize what the French did there but I will occupy a few moments—and I do not often trouble the

House—to read something of what Verdun has meant:

The execution of the coup was entrusted to General Mangin in charge of four divisions respectively commanded by General Muteau, Guyot de Salins, Carnier, du Pleiss, and Passaga. The opposing German forces consisted of five divisions, the attack being timed for 10 a.m. on December 15. The French went through the Germans like butter, despite their inferior numbers, and simply shattered the enemy. They took between 11,000 and 12,000 prisoners, including nearly 300 officers, capturing several seemingly impregnable positions, of which Pepper Hill was the centre, and regaining all the ground they had lost since February 21. In addition the German killed and wounded amounted to over 30,000, no fewer than 160 guns were taken or destroyed, while the most marvellous part of this great feat of arms was the French losses, which all told, did not exceed 1,500.

A Proud Story

This is a piece of work, there is something to be proud of. I would like to have that story told at every cross-roads in the province of Quebec, to show that the old race from which the people of Quebec have sprung is more than a match for the French in this country any less able to meet the enemy in the gate than are the French of old France? I am glad to see that my right hon. friend who leads the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) nods to me. I am sure he knows that the French race are as valourous as any race in the world, and as valourous as they have proven themselves on many a battlefield of the past. This quarrel is more France's quarrel than Great Britain's. France has more to lose in the war to-day than has Great Britain. Britain has been immune, not one enemy has set foot upon her soil except as a spy or prisoner. France, at this moment, finds her most valuable territory in the hands of the enemy. Nine millions of her people have been barred from their homes and driven to other places in which to rest their heads. Their coal and other mines, requisite for a great industrial people, are in the hands of the Germans. Is it a time yet to talk of peace? I like the style of our good friend, Colonel Denison, in a crisis such as this, to believe he sent a cable across the Atlantic to this effect: Tell Emperor William we will not discuss peace until every soldier is withdrawn from Belgium, and France, and Serbia, and all the resources of these countries given back to those to whom they belong.

The Making of Peace

It seems a big proposition to make the war; it is going to be a bigger proposition, or at least quite as big, to make peace. When you consider the confusion into which the world has fallen, you cannot but wonder how this turmoil can be brought to an end. I believe that our Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden) is going to England to attend a conference in which, possibly, peace may be discussed. Though I am not a believer in the immediate advent of peace, we cannot forget that some day the peace that we hope will arrive. I desire to say a word on the making of peace.

As To President Wilson.

I was brought up in the old school; I was brought up largely on oatmeal porridge and the Scriptures and I have not forgotten some of the things that were put into me in both respects in my early days. I was taught that the man who will not work shall not eat. And recently, in discussing the position of our neighbors to the South and the stand taken by President Wilson, I thought a parallel might be made to those Scripture terms and that as we say that he who will not work shall not eat, so we might say: He who will not fight shall not say. In other words, I believe that the entry of President Wilson into the war at the present time with his pen is not opportune. That is my opinion; it may be wrong. I have some press clippings here, and I am going to read two or three of them. It appears to me that the idea that President Wilson has launched is most inopportune and most inapplicable to the situation as we find it. He told us in the document that was issued in December that he could see no difference between the aims and objects of the two sides. Well, I am rather sorry for a man who cannot see the difference, and I think that if we

Continued on page 14.

We have just received a shipment of

Burr's Moulders
Tools

You will find your requirements in this line in stock at any time in the future.

Howies
EST'D 1888

Successors to Howie and Peely

Temple Bldg.

76 Dalhousie St.

The Great
EDISONEdison's Name is a Guarantee of the Best.
Is in a class ahead of all others.

You have only to compare the different makes to be convinced.

LOOK AT THIS LIST OF
GREAT ARTISTS

Anna Case (The Miracle Girl of the Metropolitan.)
Albert Spalding (America's Premier Violinist)
Marie Rappold (Prima Donna Soprano of Metropolitan)
Thomas Chalmers (Baritone of Boston Opera Company)
Otto Goritz (Baritone of Metropolitan Opera Company)
Zenatello (Recently Knighted by the King of Italy)
We may also mention Martinelli, Bonci, Cisneros, Karl Jörn, Heinrich, Carl Flesch, and many others.

Edison Phonographs are sold by—

H. J. Smith & Co.

112 Colborne St.

Open Evenings.

ROSE BUSHES

The Brantford Horticultural Society
offer Merryweather's Famous
English Roses at

Four for \$1.00

Make your selection and leave it with
the Secretary, H. S. Tapscott, 24 Market St., NOT LATER THAN FEB. 15.

FIREMAN KILLED

By Courier Leased Wire.

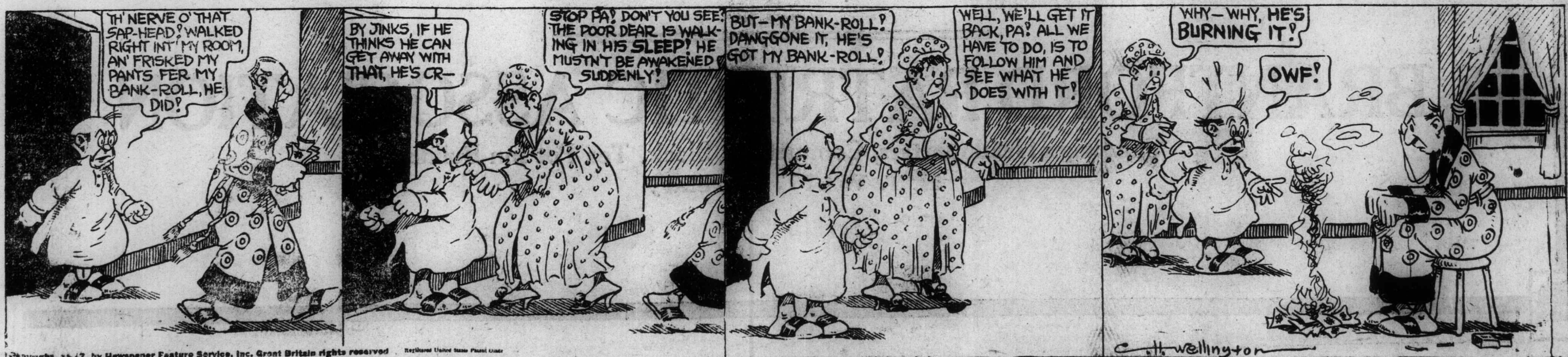
Quebec, Feb. 2—Adelard Filion, fireman for the I.C.R. was instantly killed at seven this morning in a collision between a light engine and a sub-train taking workmen to Levis. The damage was slight and there were no other casualties.

CATHEDRAL DESTROYED

By Courier Leased Wire.

Kenora, Ont. Feb. 2—St. Albans Cathedral, Anglican, here, was destroyed by fire this morning, causing loss estimated at \$15,000. The fire is supposed to have originated in the furnace room.

Cedric's Sleep is an Expensive Luxury



Copyright, 1917, by Newspaper Feature Service, Inc. Great Britain rights reserved. Reprinted under license from the author.