

CURRENT EVENTS.

A month of the war in Europe, with millions of men under arms, has brought swift movements of immense armies, and greater battles than the world has ever seen before, but no decisive results. The German armies have swept through Belgium, and now occupy the greater part of that country and the north of France; while the Russians have entered Galicia and taken possession of a wide strip of Austrian territory, and also occupy a great part of East Prussia and are pressing on towards Berlin. The war, which will, perhaps, be known in history as the Great War, is not confined to Europe. True to her alliance with the British Empire, Japan has declared war against Germany, and will protect British interests in the Far Eastern waters. She also promises to take the German province of Kiau-Chau and restore it to China; but will not at present send her ships into other seas. And wherever there are other German colonies they are open to attack by British ships; for, very literally, when the British Empire is at war all the ends of the earth are at war. A New Zealand expedition has captured the German colony at Samoa, and other German possessions in the South Pacific will probably be taken. The German province of Togoland, on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea, has been practically annexed to British West Africa. This, however, does not mean that the conquered territories will become permanent possessions of the conquerors. The ownership remains to be adjusted at the close of the war.

The first remarkable event of the war was the heroic defence of Liege (lee-ayzh) by the Belgians, which delayed the German advance for a time, while the French and British troops were preparing to meet the invaders. The Belgian resistance was at length overcome, and the enormous masses of German troops have been steadily pressing back the allies; yet the retreating armies are unbroken, and every day brings nearer the still greater armies of Russia, which, sooner or later, the Germans must meet in force. It remains to be seen whether they can conquer France and then turn to meet the Russians.

The British navy has been able to protect the routes of trade. In the few scattered encounters with German ships, the British and French ships have been always victorious, but no great naval battle has yet been fought.

Brussels being occupied by the Germans, and Paris threatened, Antwerp has been made the capital of Belgium, and the seat of government in France has been moved to Bordeaux.

The Mexican war is not yet quite settled, though it may very well be forgotten. Gen. Carranza is in power in the capital, but there have been uprisings against his rule in several places.

The opening of the Cape Cod Canal, on the twenty-ninth of July, has made available for vessels of light draft a new waterway by which they save a distance of seventy miles in coastal navigation and avoid the dangerous shores of the cape.

Pope Pius X died on the twentieth of August. It is said that grief over the outbreak of the European war hastened his end. No one who ever filled his high office won more than he the respect and affection of the world at large, and

he is generally regarded as a martyr of the war. An Italian cardinal has been chosen as his successor, and has taken the name of Benedict XV.

A special session of the Dominion Parliament has been held to pass the necessary legislation for war expenditures and other measures connected with a state of war. Sir Robert Borden announced that the term of office of His Royal Highness the Governor-General has been extended indefinitely, so that Canada may have the benefit of his advice and experience during the continuance of the war.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

The course of instruction for teachers seeking to qualify as instructors of cadet corps, which was going on in Fredericton, was brought to a sudden close by the outbreak of war, a week before the date set for its completion, as the instructors received orders to join their company at St. John.

During the past year through the efforts of the teacher Miss Margaret McNabb a Union Jack has been purchased — a flag pole put up — and single seats and desks at a cost of one hundred dollars have been placed in the schoolhouse at St. Croix, York Co.

In the Empire Day Essay Competition this year, the Lord Meath Empire Day Challenge Cup and League of the Empire personal prize of five guineas, for all pupils of the Empire between the ages of fourteen and twenty, was won by George Cooling, Boys' Grammar School, Brisbane, Queensland. The Lord Meath Empire Day Challenge Cup and League of the Empire personal prize of three guineas, for all pupils of the Empire under fourteen years of age, was won by Walter McGregor Albury, Boys' Central School, Nassau, Bahamas. Essays were received from England, Scotland, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, Cape Province, Natal, Orange Free State, Bechuanaland, Bengal, Madras, Central Provinces, Jamaica, Barbadoes, Straits Settlements, Gibraltar, British Guiana, Gold Coast Colony, and the Bahamas.

In the Milltown, N. B. Schools one new teacher is added to the staff to succeed Miss Ryder, who has resigned, namely Miss Boyd of Fredericton. Miss Thompson, who taught grade seven, will teach grade four, Miss Grace Coughlin taking grade seven. Miss Boyd will take charge of grade eight. The high school will open on Monday with Mr. Denham, the former principal, in charge.

Miss Laurestine Bailey, daughter of Dr. L. W. Bailey of Fredericton, has been appointed head of the art department of Acadia Ladies' Seminary, Wolfville.

The Centennial School, St. John, loses a valued member of its staff by the resignation of Miss Annie M. Hea.

It is said that ninety per cent of the undergraduates of Oxford University are Territorials. Among the Canadian Rhodes Scholars who have volunteered for active service are Mr. Arthur Carter, of the University of New Brunswick, and Mr. A. L. Collett, of Kings College.

Miss Leah Stickle of Fredericton will teach in Campbellton this term.