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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1914.

TWO MONTHS OF WAR.

On August 4th, two months ago, yesterday, Great Britain was forced into a declaration of war against Germany as the result of the violation of the principle of Belgian neutrality. Since that time the world has witnessed a conflict of arms, in comparison with which all wars of ancient or modern history pale into insignificance. The greatest nations of the world have been locked in a life and death struggle from which some will emerge to eventually become stronger and more powerful than ever, while others will be humbled and crushed to a state from which it is doubtful if they will arise.

The people of the British Empire have been called upon to make sacrifices in the last eight weeks such as they never dreamed would come to them. France has seen her interests jeopardized and her country pressed by the foot of an invading enemy for the first time in forty years. Russia has witnessed a remarkable welding of ordinarily opposed factions and the gathering of an army unparalleled in her history. Belgium has been ravaged and ruined, some fear almost beyond restoration. The work of centuries has been destroyed in days. The universe has felt the sting and pressure of war, and all with the object of forever ridding the world of the tyrant of Prussian militarism, who was responsible for the war, and who, in loosing his legions to murder and destroy, signed his own political death warrant.

While the forces fighting the battle of liberty and right have unquestionably suffered severely during the period of conflict, it is gratifying to know that their suffering, hardship and loss is not to be compared to that which they have inflicted upon the enemy. With the possible exception of Belgium, none of the nations engaged in war have suffered so terribly as Germany. Her commerce has been wiped from the seas, her bravest soldiers decimated, her great industries paralyzed and her people impoverished. And with it all she faces the certainty of defeat and ultimate annihilation; her dream of world empire or domination forever shattered, she must in future, exist as a second rate power, if at all.

In the early stages of the campaign it seemed as if the fortunes of war favored the Kaiser. The Germans entered upon a movement having as its end and object the capture of Paris. For a time, while opposed by forces far inferior, numerically, they made good progress, then, suddenly, the tide turned and today their campaign is less advanced than it was a month ago. The great battle of the Aisne, which has waged unceasingly for twenty-two days, is slowly turning in favor of the allies. Today the German forces are a little more weary, a little more disheartened, a little less strong and less able to stand up under the terrible attacks of their determined enemies than was the case yesterday, or the day before. Tomorrow, unless the signs fail, will see them pressed still nearer to their own boundary, eventually, they will be forced to fight in defence of their own homes and lands and then will come the attack on Berlin, and with its close the cessation of hostilities and the forcing of Germany into a position where she never again can menace the peace of the world.

Germany may succeed in saving from the wreck shreds of her original empire, but it cannot be for long. If the present system of government is not stamped out by the demands of the conquering allies it must fall as the result of the dissatisfaction of the German people themselves. They who had been taught to regard their Emperor and themselves as invincible will have learned a terrible lesson, and with knowledge will come disillusionment and the determination that the old order of things must pass away and a new and better structure be erected in its place.

The German people will be the real gainers by this struggle, they will be forever removed from beneath the oppression of their over-lord and will be able to give attention to the reconstruction of their affairs along the lines of progress. The day that sees the passing of William of Germany will mark the birth of an era of liberty such as his subjects have never known.

For the allied nations the future holds every promise. The first force of the German attack broken and spent and the invading armies steadily forced back across the country over which they triumphantly passed a few weeks since; the vaunted German fleet slinking under the fortifications of the Kiel Canal and unable to protect the commercial interests of the flag it flies; while Britain, France and Russia are still doing business with other friendly lands; the British fleet mistress of the seas; the British army steadily gaining strength, for the invasion of German territory; Italy marshalling her troops and drawing daily nearer to the time when she must enter the fray as an enemy of Germany; the Kaiser's sole ally beaten and on the point of collapse; every German colony gone and German ports practically closed to trade, the two months of war have been productive of nothing but disaster for the man who dreamed of European conquest. It is well that it should be so. Terrible as the sacrifice has been, it will be more than justified in the end. There is every reason for the British people to feel well satisfied with the result of two months of war; there is as much reason for the Kaiser and his advisers to dread the days to come. Germany has already been checked, two more months may see her beaten.

ONTARIO'S NEW PREMIER.

In the stress of the war news, the Canadian public has lost sight of the fact that, during the past week, an important change has been made in the administration of the province which claims to be the greatest in the Dominion of Canada. Ontario has a new premier, succeeding the late Sir James P. Whitney, who for many years was the greatest figure in the political life of that province. The succession to the office so worthily held by the late statesman has fallen to Hon. W. H. Hearst, who for three years has successfully administered the portfolio of Lands, Forests and Mines, and in that capacity accomplished such measure of effective work that he was chosen, with the unanimous approval of his colleagues as the man to lead the new government. A native of Ontario, and long prominent in its affairs, Hon. Mr. Hearst takes the premiership with a record which, while not as long as that of some of his colleagues, is none the less interesting, inasmuch as it tells a story of good work in every position to which he has been called.

By profession, a barrister-at-law, he was appointed an agent for the Whitney Government in connection with the big guarantee loan to the Lake Superior Corporation and that position he held until 1908 when he resigned to contest the Sault riding, and was elected by a majority of about 300 over his Liberal opponent. He sat as a private member of the Ontario Legislature until Hon. Frank Cochrane resigned to enter the Borden Ministry, when he succeeded to Mr. Cochrane's portfolio and for three years has administered it successfully.

It is said that Mr. Hearst is not unlike his titled predecessor in his rugged, outspoken honesty. Generally regarded as a strong man and enjoying the esteem of his colleagues in the cabinet and legislature, it is expected that he will successfully continue the administration of the province along the general lines adopted by Sir James Whitney. Judging from his record Ontario is fortunate in its selection of premiers.

Truly misfortunes are piling up on the Kaiser. Not only are his crack troops unable to make headway against the allies in France or the Russians on the eastern frontier, but the Russians who have captured his pet stock from his farm in Eastern Prussia are teaching his parrots to swear in Russian. If the Kaiser ever gets them back they will be able to enliven his solitude by communicating to him some of the pet phrases in which Russians refer to him, and can do it in the original tongue.

The Saturday Evening Post, founded by Benjamin Franklin, is an excellent publication, and, undoubtedly, has a large and profitable clientele in Canada. Possibly its proprietors do not care to cater to Canadian business; if they do, it would seem that the present is a particularly inopportune time to select for the publication of grossly insulting remarks concerning men whom the whole Empire loves and honors. In last week's issue of the Post appears the following: "Marlborough's amazing rascality makes him rather interesting; but Nelson off the quarter deck was a vain sentimentalist of unsteady character; and Wellington was a stodgy Tory squire." For a publication of the Post's pretensions the remarks quoted are singularly out of place as, not only are they coarse, but it is doubtful if they can be supported by the records of history. Marlborough and Blenheim, Nelson and Trafalgar, Wellington and Waterloo, stand for what is best in British bravery and courage. Until the United States possesses a soldier whose deeds can be mentioned in the same breath with any of them the Post's comment is in decidedly poor taste.

Had To

"What do you suppose makes the baby cry so awfully loud?"

"Why, both its parents are hard o hearing, you know."

"Want to leave me, Mary? I thought you were quite comfortable. What is it for—something private?"

"No, mum, it's a sergeant."—Exchange.

The Kaiser Is On the Warpath.

The Kaiser is on the war path, to arms boys is the call,
We must be up and doing, or our great Empire will fall.
The Germans laugh to scorn that the English would not yield,
But we'll prove our old traditions, when we meet them on the field.

Chorus:
Hurrah! Boys, Hurrah! for the flag that makes us free.
Hurrah! Boys, Hurrah! for the Mistress of the Sea.
Every Briton will do his duty, and he'll do it with a will,
And he'll show the world his mettle, in this row with Kaiser Bill.

When the Kaiser started his war campaign, he planned for many years,
He had little dread of England's arms or the home volunteers,
But when she drew the sword, her Honor to defend.
He saw the power from overseas, on which she could depend.

From Yukon's icy mountains to India's coral strands,
Reaches the mighty Empire that British rule commands,
When the Kaiser challenged the Motherland; that's but an island small,
But he trembled at the mighty force that answered to Her call.

When the Kaiser made a speech on war, it was always me and Got,
He dreamed of glorious Victories and Battles never fought,
But he'll find it quite a difference, when he's up against the lead,
And knows his men in thousands, on the battle field lie dead.

—James Doherty, Randolph, N. B.

Comradeship in the Field.

English newspapers which have been received contain a pleasant anecdote of the fighting at Mons. It comes from the French paper the Liberte, and concerns a Scottish regiment which is not named. This regiment was occupying a trench, swept by violent rifle fire and artillery fire, when two privates noticed that a Frenchman attached to the battalion as interpreter occupied the most exposed spot in the trench. One private said: "The Frenchman is badly placed; let's widen his trench," and during a minute, paying no attention to the hail of bullets and shrapnel, the privates deepened the trench, and with the same calm resumed their places.

"Itching for a Scrap."

Here is a cheery letter from a midshipman in one of the British battleships that are waiting for the German fleet to come out of hiding; it appeared in the London Morning Post:—"A rumor got about that we had been sunk, some wooden gear that we had thrown overboard being found. We have not been sunk yet, nor, I am sorry to say, have we sunk any Germans. By the time this fetches up, however, I hope we shall have met them, captured most of them, and sunk the rest. We are all itching for a scrap, and this routine is getting rather monotonous. We go to night defence—stations for three-and-half hours every night, and sleep in our clothes during our watch off and after daylight. We go into harbor to coal every four or five days. In the daytime at sea we have nothing to do except to rig night defence gear (searchlights are stowed below at daylight), do physical drill, running round the ship, etc., to keep ourselves fit, and occasionally going to action stations. Of course there have been various alarms, when we have had to rush to our stations. But they are generally caused by some hamhanded horse marine firing a gun by mistake, or by some swivel-eyed lookout seeing one of our own ships and thinking it the enemy, or mistaking a treacle tin for the periscope of a submarine. Anyhow, none of them have come to anything; but they tend to relieve the monotony, although at the expense of sleep, which is a rare luxury, especially at night. We have to sleep in the signal house so as to be near our searchlights, and are waked up every two or three minutes by signalmen coming in and falling over our feet (I can imagine you saying it serves me right for having such big ones?) It is the only place where they can switch on a light to read signals. But in spite of these little inconveniences, I dare say we come off better than you. I am very sorry for everybody left at home; the war must affect them much more than it does us. I expect Hal is taking the war very seriously and thinks it 'balmy' that he can't go to the front or come to sea? I am not allowed to tell you anything, and so will write no more nonsense."

Sea Power.

(The Indianapolis News.)

Never was there a more convincing proof of the value of sea power than that furnished by the present war. But for Great Britain's command of the ocean Germany might conceivably by this time have been the victor, at least as against France. If she had had the British fleet bottled up in some northern or western port she might even have sent an army against London. If her fleet had been the equal of the British fleet it is unlikely that a single British soldier could have been landed in France.

As it is, Great Britain has transported probably 300,000 men across the Channel and will send more. Germany has not been able even to threaten their safety. Seventy thousand Indian troops are probably now in France, after a journey of thousand of miles over the ocean. Canadian and Australian troops are on the way, and no difficulty whatever is anticipated in their transport. And all the while the British Isles are absolutely safe aginst invasion, except by airships. Such an advantage easily is worth thousands of soldiers.

Within two weeks of the outbreak of the war British trade routes were practically as safe as in time of peace. British liners are running to and from New York much as usual, while the great German liners all have been withdrawn. England has uninterrupted communication with every part of her Empire, the United States and the whole of South America. The food that she cannot raise she can buy and deliver without the least difficulty. The Mediterranean is little more than a British lake, with the Suez at one end and Gibraltar at the other.

The power which Britain wields through her fleet is, as every one must now realize, simply enormous. The kaiser would no doubt be willing to swap several army corps for such a fleet as that which has served his enemy so effectively in this great crisis. And the bargain would be a good one for him. As it is, he is powerless beyond the boundaries of continental Europe. One does not wonder that the English swear by their fleet. In this war it has been not only their protection, but a mighty weapon of offense. If peace were made tomorrow Great Britain would lose nothing and might gain much—all because of her fleet.

GERMANY CANNOT BE STARVED OUT, OPINION OF VICE CHANCELLOR

Economically and financially in position to carry war to successful conclusion, he says.

Berlin, Oct. 3, 3.30 p. m., by way of The Hague and London.—Germany's position economically and financially is such as will enable her to carry the war to a successful conclusion, in the opinion of Vice-Chancellor Clemens Del Brueck.

The country cannot be starved out, declared the vice-chancellor, in an interview.

The unemployment was steadily decreasing with from five million to six million men in the field, he said. Many industries were working overtime on war orders and measures had been taken to divert labor from idle branches to busy departments until now the unemployed number only from six to seven per cent. of the workingmen in the country.

Measures have been taken also to put the finances and the credit of trade and industry on a war footing and these have been so thoroughly successful that a general moratorium undoubtedly will be warded off during the entire war, said Herr Del Brueck, placing Germany in a far better position after the war than will be the case with states whose industrial life is affected by a moratorium.

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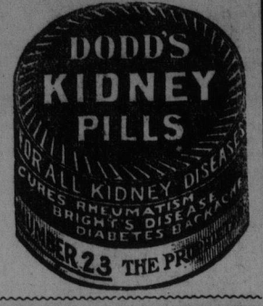

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