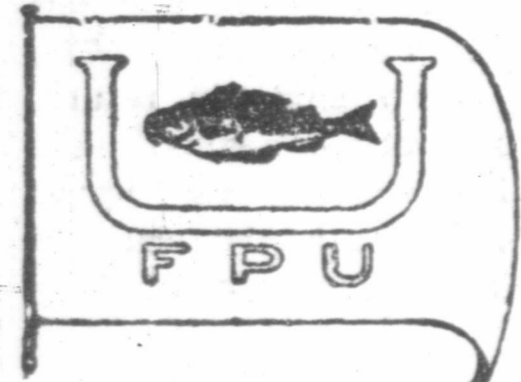


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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., AUG. 31, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

The Opening of the House

ALL the Union members of the House of Assembly will be present at the opening on Wednesday except Mr. Grimes, who is now crossing the Atlantic from England.

Mr. Winsor arrived here yesterday by the Fogota.

Mr. Stone, who was North, arrived at Catalina yesterday and will be here on Tuesday.

Mr. Jennings left Moreton's Hr. by the Clyde to-day.

Mr. Targett will be here to-morrow. Mr. Abbott is at Bonavista and will leave there to-morrow.

All the Opposition members will be present except Mr. Grimes. All the Government members except Messrs. Moulton and Young will also be present.

The session will likely close on Saturday. The lower House will not take long to get through business as most of the legislation to be enacted have been submitted to the Opposition and it is likely all contention points will be adjusted before the Bills are submitted to the House.

If the Upper House is desirous of making rapid progress and following the example of the Canadian Parliament, there is no reason why the Legislature should not be prorogued on Saturday at the latest.

We trust there will be no display of any sort on opening day, as under the circumstances there is no need of the usual ceremonies and display.

The only feature of the session that may call for criticism would be the Government's proposals for increased taxation. In this respect the Government should move very slowly and make sure that if additional burdens must be carried, that the well-to-do will be called upon to bear a full share.

Mr. Kent and Dr. Lloyd will meet the Premier this afternoon to discuss the proposed legislation and to express the opinions of the Opposition Party thereon.

The House will of course meet at the usual time next winter when the Government's common policy will receive the criticism it merits, as is the usual custom, but the approaching session will be devoted entirely to

matter pertaining to the situation caused by the outbreak of war, and as most of the business will be non-partisan there will be little room for party criticism.

Cause For Cheer

BECAUSE the allied forces have not from the beginning have not swept all before them on land, our people are showing a disposition to be depressed and discouraged. It should be remembered that the allies are fighting an army machine that is as near perfect as premeditation and long preparation can make it, but there are certain considerations that are too often winked out of sight, but which are encouraging things to remember.

One of our Canadian contemporaries sets them forth as follows: (1) This is a war fought against time. The German plan of campaign has followed precisely the predicted lines, and consists in an effort to crush France in time to turn around and face the Russian invasion. If it fails to accomplish that neat bit of "foot work," then the Germans must pretty well abandon all thought of victory. They may not in that case be conquered; but they cannot conquer.

(2) The Germans are to-day from a week to a fortnight behind their schedule time. They lost several days at the outset, Russian mobilization starting seriously before their own. Then they were delayed at Liege. The lightning-like turning movement, which was to have been accomplished down the Meuse on the western flank of the Ardennes, failed. They were compelled to carry it much further west, thus wasting time and extending their lines. In fact, they seem now to have almost abandoned it altogether, in exchange for a more direct attack east of the Ardennes.

(3) The Russians are ahead of their schedule. They began mobilization promptly at the announcement of the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia; and they are hitting much harder in East Prussia than they were expected to be able to do so early in the war. (4) Austria was looked to take the first brunt of the Russian attack. She is not doing so. She is on the defensive in Galicia, and is compelled to keep a serious army fronting the Serbs, especially in Serb Provinces, and other serious army watching the Italians. She will be of little help to Germany against the Russians.

(5) The French and British troops are fighting on the defensive. This means that they are wearing down the German superiority in numbers very rapidly. Even if the Germans do pierce their lines in places, that is not decisive. The real question is—Can the Germans endure the frightful punishment necessary to carry these powerful positions, and yet be strong enough afterward to press on and take other entrenchments—and still others. An invasion of France is not conquest—nothing short of an investment of Paris can be regarded as serious.

(6) Italy cannot afford to see us lose unless the victory wholly exchases Germany and Austria. If Germany and Austria are able to attack her within two or three years of the end of this war, her fate is certain. She will be crushed, dismembered and stripped of her Colonies. So, if it looks as if the war were really going against us, we may hope to hear the thunder of Italian guns on the flank of Austria.

(7) Britain's navy and Russia's army are not even menaced. They can fight on, even if the French defences are driven in. And if they finally bring down the foe, France and Belgium would be worthy of every reward which can be offered them for having endured the wounds of this war which, by grace of their suffering, their Allies will have won.

Splendid Work

IT is glorious news that reaches us to-day through the medium of our public despatch, news that justifies and confirms our faith in the British army.

History relates many instances in which British forces, relatively small, have added the quality of steadiness to the armies of their allies, but never with more glorious effect than at the battle of Mons, the greatest, the most terrible the world has ever known.

The Germans massed huge forces against the British troops, evidently bent on crushing them through sheer weight of numbers. Six times was the terrible attack delivered and just as often rolled back, with fearful loss to the Kaiser's troops.

And then came the most trying ordeal of all. General Joffre, convinced that the fortunes of the day called for a withdrawal of the troops of the allies, ordered a retreat all along the line.

So the hard-pressed, but unbeaten, British troops had to fall back, giving up to the enemy, for strategy's sake, positions which he could not carry by prowess of arms.

The retreat of the British was carried on calmly and coolly and with a

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DURATION OF THE WAR

(Toronto Mail and Empire)

Count de Witte, the Russian statesman, is quoted as saying that the war cannot last more than two or three months, and that at the end of that time Germany will collapse.

There is still a feeling in many quarters that the wide proportions of the struggle must curtail its duration. In the old days fifty thousand or a hundred thousand troops could keep the field for years, since there was the whole national reservoir of men and material to supply them with clothing and munitions, to replenish the wastage of disease and death.

But in this unprecedented war, as The London Standard says, there is no reserve or national power—of manpower and of money-power—upon which drafts can be continuously made. All the resources of the continental belligerents, whether human or material, are cast with reckless prodigality into the scale at the outset.

"There is no time for economy, no scope for holding back anything that can be made available at the moment. The entire adult male populations of fighting age in France and Germany are being hurried towards the points of concentration as fast as trains can take them."

The writer says: "All the energies of the nation, physical, moral, and economic, are keyed up to such a pitch that the tension cannot be maintained for long any more than the runner can start for a three mile race at the pace of a hundred yards dash. It is a desperate sprint, not a long distance contest which is attempted. Money as well as blood will be poured out like water to set the mighty machine going, to increase the impact of its stroke. All the national vitality is concentrated upon the effort."

Great Britain is the exception. She is putting forth a mighty effort, but not exhausting herself at the outset. She still possesses immense reserves of strength in the British Isles and a world-wide Empire. Her mercantile marine has the run of the sea and as long as the German fleet is blockaded her food supplies are assured. Shut in on all sides, does not Germany's only hope lie in her vaunted capacity to smash her way to victory at all costs in the next few days or weeks?

If the Kaiser's main armies are driven back or even held in check, whence is he to draw fresh strength? Whence is he to get food supplies? Can a nation, whose whole trade and commerce is completely stifled stand up for long against opponents whose coasts are unblocked, and who retain at least a proportion of their business with the outside world?

We have, however, to remember that we are contending with that continental nation which has exhibited a marvellous efficiency in every field. The Germans have led the world in music, in metaphysics, in housing reform, and other departments of municipal government. Their rise in an incredibly short time to the first rank as an industrial and commercial nation, has surprised the world. In a few years their mercantile marine sprang from nothing to second place, and to-day their powerful navy is surpassed only by the fleets of Great Britain.

Lastly, the whole German structure has been erected on the foundations of Prussian military force. The Kaiser's Empire has lived and thrived on its supreme prowess in war. It is for these reasons that prophecies as to the early conclusion of the conflict must be treated with reserve.

WE SHOULD WORRY!

Hardly, but advertisers should worry, and that's a sure thing. Almost every newsboy in town sells The Mail and Advocate, as well as a large number of shop agents, in different sections of the city and outposts.

WORLD'S PRESS ON THE BIG WAR

Might be Worse for Germany.

Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph—"Although the Kaiser has been persuaded not to go to the front it may be set down as a fact that it isn't his feet that are cold, or anyone's feet for that matter, but that simply that "cooler heads" are on the job and exerting an influence. It must be calamitous for Germany were anything to occur that should cause the vice-president to succeed to the chief place in the empire just now."

Big Battles Take Time.

Washington Star—"It is to be borne in mind that this war could not possibly be conducted throughout at the rate of speed maintained at the beginning. The physical transport of great bodies of men such as are assembling for the campaign in Belgium, Luxembourg, and Alsace, requires long periods of time. The provision of subsistence and ammunition entails tremendous efforts. Even with numerous highways and railroads the advancement of 100,000 men a matter of 100 miles it is slow proceeding. Furthermore no military campaign is ever fought continuously. There are periods of recuperation and revision of lines. What may appear in the absence of full despatches descriptive of this campaign to be battles are probably only skirmishes, exaggerated by reports into major encounters."

No Longer a Menace.

Winnipeg Telegram—"The war may last one year or ten years, but one thing the world understands that is definite. When peace is declared the German fleet and the mad man who is responsible for this war will be in a position where they are no longer a menace to civilization."

History's Wheel.

London Advertiser—"Prussians were all-victorious under Frederick the Great, forty years later they were as dirt to Napoleon and his democratic army. They were mighty in 1870; forty years after they again ran into an army of free peoples. History's wheel."

The Dead Are Fortunate.

Detroit Journal—"The dead at Liege are fortunate. The thousands of wounded, hurled cruelly against the greased steel glaives of the forts, were left for days on the field, cursing, moaning, nursing their sores. To these belong the glory and the honor."

This Wretched War.

Philadelphia Enquirer—"This wretched war, began by Austria in Serbia, is one of wide-spread death, destruction and desolation. Born in greed and lust for power and bitter hatreds, its attributes are those of hell, not heaven. And yet these war lords lift up their eyes and pray for victory for their arms."

The Crime of the Autocrat.

Providence Journal—"The present situation in Europe is a direct result of unlimited and unbridled autocracy. The immediate outcome of the fact that it was possible for one or two men, of their own volition, to draw the sword of war and let loose upon the nations of the earth the greatest calamity the world has faced for many centuries."

The Importance of Liege

Westminster Gazette: Liege is the chief manufacturing centre of Belgium, and the fears of its inhabitants may well be realized. The place is strongly fortified, and its intimate connexion with English history is shown in the capture of its forts in 1703 by Marlborough, who advanced from Liege into Germany and won the battle of Blenheim. A conflict between opposing forces here can be understood, seeing that there are a dozen forts, and in the opinion

of experts strong forces are needed to man them adequately. There are several old buildings and the modern streets have been well laid out. Liege is in the heart of a rich coal district, and its university has attained well deserved fame.

The Kaiser's Arrogance

London Express: We venture to say that never in the whole history of nations has any sovereign, not even Napoleon at the height of his greatness, behaved with the arrogance of the Kaiser during the last few days. Belgium was ordered to admit German troops within her boundaries. If she obeyed she was to be honored with German protection. If she refused she was to be treated as an enemy. To the eternal glory of the Belgians, this ultimatum was answered as only a sovereign nation, however small, could answer. Belgium will fight as well as she can to preserve her independence, and her King has called upon Great Britain to lend her aid. Great Britain cannot refuse. Her troops are mobilizing, her navy is moving and to-day she is standing with Russia and France to curb a nation grown mad with success, and eager to be master and tyrant over its fellows. German ambition has overleaped itself. It now faces half a continent in arms.

Fixing the Blame

Rochester Post Express: When historians look back upon this time when the world went mad and mighty nations made up of people supposed to be rational permitted their remorseless war lords to herd them like sheep and drive them to the shambles their first concern will be to fix the responsibility for the outbreak. They will not fail to remark that a single word from Germany would have prevented the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia, or would have induced the dual monarchy to accept the Serbian concessions as sufficient. That word was not forthcoming as they will note. Germany was as ready for the conflict as she could ever expect to be. She had just completed her Kiel Canal. She had just increased her army to a prodigious total by a special war tax in time of peace, a tax which she could never expect to repeat until war had begun. She had made all possible financial preparation for the conflict, and her store-houses were bursting with a two years' supply of war munitions and

necessities. In fine, the Kaiser, after twenty years of herculean effort, was ready for the test. He had strained the national resources to the uttermost, was as ready as he could ever hope to be, and gave the word to fire at a time when Great Britain seemed to have a rebellion on her hands which would keep her out of the conflict.

N.F.L.D. FOXES VERY VALUABLE

P. E. I. Man Secures Six Beauties in This Country

What is believed to be the most valuable six foxes ever taken out of Newfoundland for P. E. Island parties, passed through here this week, says the North Sydney Herald.

They were three pairs of beautifully-coated dark silver patches, purchased by Mr. David Hodgson, of Alberton, P.E.I., who has probably purchased more foxes in the Ancient Colony than any other one dealer. Like other shrewd Island fox magnates, Mr. Hodgson was averse to "talking" fox, and beyond stating "they are going to P. E. Island," was as dumb as a Malpeque oyster.

Experts who examined the six pairs estimated their value at not less than \$3,000.

AIRSHIPS FAIL TO DO VERY MUCH

Germans Cannot Rise High Enough to Escape French Fire

London, Aug. 26.—The French War Office intimation that the German Zeppelin No. 8 has been shot down coming from Strassburg, is another striking evidence of the failure of the German air tactics, from which so much was expected.

No Zeppelin has yet been able to rise a sufficient height to escape the French artillery fire. This is the third Zeppelin destroyed since the beginning of the war. They have been unable to venture more than a few miles over the frontier, although the Zeppelins possess motors of 500 horse-power and have a speed of 50 miles per hour.

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