

The Weekly Monitor

AND Western Annapolis Sentinel

VOL. 42

BRIDGETOWN, ANNAPOLIS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA, JANUARY 6, 1914

NO 39

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Report of Mr. P. F. Lawson on Condition in Belgium

The following report to Arthur S. Barnstead, Secretary of the Belgian Relief Committee, Halifax, from P. F. Lawson, who went as a Nova Scotia representative in the "Tremorvah" taking relief supplies to Belgium, is released for publication:

I wish I could expressively convey to you and through you to the people of Nova Scotia the gratitude I heard and saw expressed when the Tremorvah reached the European continent. I consider it a high privilege to be able to tell the people of Nova Scotia that their gifts are reaching the people for whom they were intended and that this little Province has done much toward saving the Belgian lives, giving comfort to Belgian soldiers and dispelling the almost hopeless gloom that hangs over homeless families.

I sailed from Halifax on October 29th on board the first Belgian Relief ship to cross the Atlantic, the "S. S. Tremorvah." Returning I reached Halifax on the morning of December 19th on the Allan liner, "S. S. Carthaginian." A many pagged book could be written on the experiences of the intervening weeks but in this letter I merely want to state a few outstanding facts which might stimulate anew the generosity of Nova Scotians towards the Belgians for, the need is great and as Britons our debt is also great.

The arrogant Prussians advanced on Belgium and the able-bodied men left their families and took their place in the firing line. The old men, the women and children were left in the humble homes. Belgium was a nation of humble homes. On came the Germans in thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions. The story of Leige has taken a place in history but Liege stood as a place since while the awful horde rolled on and over the country. Bravely the Belgian army fought and here and there amongst the civilians' pistol and rifle tried to stop the ruthless invaders. It was contrary to the rules of war but we should honor them for it. "What business had the civilians to shoot?" asked Germany. The best reply is another question: "What business had the Germans in Belgium?"

From German headquarters came the order to wreak revenge on every town or village showing any resistance and the order was to the liking of an army trained as were the Germans. From afar the German artillery wrecked mansion and cottage, sparing none, while on their raids the Uhlans and the infantry resorted to the most shocking brutality. I have seen handless children, I have talked with wounded Britishers who arrived too late to prevent women from being slaughtered and disembowelled. I have listened to tales of the fiendish actions of the German soldiery and I have seen babes born since the war began whose fathers were not slain on the field of battle but were murdered by the invading assassins.

And now we have nearly seven million Belgians dependent on the people of this continent, Canada and the United States can supply the food to keep away starvation and clothing to protect from winter's chill. On Canada the responsibility is great, for Belgium is our

ally. Without the assistance of the United States, however, our help would avail but little. We would not be in a position to place the help where it is most needed.

The Relief Commission to whom the cargo of the Tremorvah was consigned is practically a United States organization and some of the best business brains of that country are directing the work. The commission proposes to put into Belgium eighty thousand tons of food stuffs each month and not one pound of this food is to go down a German throat. I had the privilege of seeing the agreement entered into with the Germans and while events have shown how lightly the land of the Kaiser regards a "scrap of paper," yet it is certain that Germany is most anxious not to antagonize the United States. If one lighter load of one carload of relief goods is requisitioned by the German military authorities it would be practically a declaration of war on Uncle Sam.

The Tremorvah, the Dorie, the Calcutta have been practical expressions of our appreciation of the Belgian stand. The Tremogios, I understand, is now being loaded. Nova Scotians have done, and are doing, nobly and well. They would do even better could they fully appreciate the great need.

"Just who furnished this cargo?" was asked me by a member of the Belgian Chamber of Deputies, as we deck during the unloading. "I stood talking on the Tremorvah's deck," said I in reply, "if you could find a single home in Nova Scotia, no matter how humble, that did not in some way contribute a share." Impulsively he exclaimed: "N'est-il pas magnifique?" Certainly it was a magnificent revelation of the big heartedness of our people and it was with no small amount of pride in Nova Scotia that I told him our cargo was but a beginning.

I shall be pleased to answer any letters of enquiry from any part of Nova Scotia and I have already agreed to give a talk before the various organizations interested in Belgian Relief. I hope to see our people continue the good work even after the Tremogios is loaded and away for there are millions to be fed and clothed and even if the Germans who have overrun Belgium were willing to help they are not able to do so. Let us then do our utmost for the little country on which is being staged the world's greatest war.

P. F. LAWSON.
Beverly, Dec. 21, 1914.

Annual Meeting of the Alert Bible Class.

Tuesday, December 29, 1914. "The Alert" Union Adult Bible Class of Upper Granville, held their annual social and business meeting at the home of the president, John Harris. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—
President—John Harris
Vice-President—Gordon Phinney
Secretary and Treasurer—Laura B. Phinney
Social Committee—Mrs. Alex. Fraser, Miss Cora Parker, Mrs. F. W. Harris, Mr. Hubert Bent, Mrs. W. Woodward.
Sick Committee—Mr. Crowell, Mr. Horton, Mrs. R. L. Woodward, Miss Genie Troop, Mrs. Abner Troop. A very pleasant evening was spent. A collection of four dollars and sixteen cents was received for the Belgian Relief Fund.

Laura B. Phinney,
Secretary-Treasurer.

THE WEEK'S WAR NEWS

Situation on the Yser Better Than at Any Time Since the War Began

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Times correspondent in Northern France telegraphs:

"The fighting on the Yser again has been in the last day or two mainly into artillery duels. The Germans have lost a certain amount of ground at Nieport and St. Georges and to the South of Dixmude and have been expressing their discontent by shelling everything within range.

"The situation on the Yser is better than it has been, since the battle began. The French and Belgians are progressing excellently at St. Georges. At Dixmude the Germans are held off on the farther side of the town and their hold there is counter balanced by the secure position, which the Belgians won on the Eastern bank of the Canal, just to the South of Dixmude, and their hold on this bridge head will become more and more valuable.

"The French have been fighting desperately toward the South under the most trying conditions for weeks. The tale told by men returning from that part of the front never varies. There is always the same story of hours spent in trenches full of water, fierce charges under withering fire, of seige laid to German supporting points, in isolated places, or on a few yards of rising ground. Progress is made only step by step, but if gradual it is actual and as pressure continues to be exercised elsewhere it will go faster."

NAIROBI, British East Africa, via London, Jan. 4 (11.17 p. m.)—The British battleship Goliath and light cruiser Fox have carried out a successful operations against Dar-Es-Salaam, Capital of German East Africa. The warships bombarded the town, inflicting considerable damage. All the German vessels in the harbor were disabled. Fourteen Europeans and twenty natives were taken prisoners. The British losses were one killed and twelve wounded.

Dar-Es-Salaam, the best built town on the coast of German East Africa, is a military station, with an excellent harbor, situated forty miles south of Zanzibar. It is the terminus of an important caravan route, the residence of a Governor, and has large commercial interests. The white population in 1909 was estimated at 1,000; the total population at more than twenty thousand.

WAR BRIEFS

The Duchess of Connaught has sent a box of maple sugar, as a Christmas gift, to every Officer and man of the Canadian Contingent at Salisbury Plains, also to the Royal Canadian Regiment now at Bermuda, and to the crews of the Royal Canadian navy on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts.

The third steamer with supplies for the Belgians left Halifax last week. Her name is Calcutta. She was loaded chiefly from Ontario and the West, but had goods from Nova Scotia to the value of \$8,500. A pig was sold at Reading, England, for the benefit of the Belgian Relief Fund and brought 625 dollars.

A rush of recruiting followed the dastardly work of the German raiders on the Eastern towns of England.

In Russia food is cheaper since the war began than before, the result of inability to export as much as usual.

Most of the cables connecting Germany with other nations have been cut or interrupted, thus isolating Germany from the neutral nations.

Some German women were so eager to cut buttons from the British prisoners at Essen, and so determined to persist when they had been reprimanded that they were sent to the military prison and compelled to peel potatoes.

Despite the presence of German cruisers on the oceans East and West, not one soldier of the thousands transported to the war from Algeria, Tunis, Morocco, East Africa or elsewhere, has been captured, so efficient has been the work of the allied navies.

It is announced in Constantinople that a German Field Marshall has been appointed military Commander of Constantinople and acting Minister of war, and a German Admiral has taken over the Ministry of Marine.

Premier Asquith has appointed a strong Committee to inquire into the breaches of the laws of war charged against Germany.

As a proof that Germany had an eye on Switzerland as well as Belgium, stamps have been found with "Schweiz" marked across them. The German casualties in the war are now admitted to be 1,200,000. Of these one million are Prussian and Bavarian, the remainder chiefly from Saxony.

Mr. Lloyd George says Great Britain has at present 2,000,000 under arm, and in addition to the enormous increase of funds from the new income tax, a new loan of \$2,000,000,000 is being turned into the war treasury.

An examination of the German and Austrian casualty list shows that the average daily loss during the past four months has been about 20,000.

A German lieutenant says that when an officer enters a room, he does not say, "Good day," but, "God punish English," to which the response is, "May he punish her." "O, it does German cars good to hear it."

In the rush to get away from the German bombs two men fell over each other, one sitting directly on the bomb. It exploded: when the smoke cleared away it was discovered that this man had received very slight injury, but that his trousers were torn to shreds, at which all his companions laughed.

An infantry officer walked up to a German trench and found all the occupants asleep. As a memento of his visit, he carried off a bayonet. It is believed that Germany has been trying to stir up trouble between Finland and Russia, and between China and Japan, in its own interest.

A Colonel of Artillery says, "The thing that strikes one most about here (the war zone) is the calm way the country folks are taking their troubles. They are all housing refugees and feeding them and helping us in every way."

A table has been compiled of injuries inflicted on Belgium by Germans during the first 82 days of the war. It totals over \$1,000,000,000. This has since been much increased.

Another interned German wrote to his sister in Wurtenburg. After writing with the usual ink, he violated orders by adding in invisible ink. This was discovered, and he was sentenced to hard labor for two months.

Monitor's Belgian Relief

Last week we intimated that the Monitor Belgian Relief Fund should reach the \$500.00 mark by Jan. 1st. Well January 1st came without a hitch, but the amount we aimed at is still on the way. However we are optimists, and we believe that contributions will come along with the first month of this New Year, until that \$500.00 is doubled. We have confidence in the generosity of the good people of Bridgetown, and the neighboring towns and villages, and we feel sure that they will do the right thing by those suffering Belgians. The trouble is that we have not yet become fully awake to their great need, and our obligation to meet it. Let us give this matter more serious thought, and although it may be somewhat disturbing to our comfort, try to picture to ourselves the condition of those we are asked to help.

Theodore Waters of the Christian Herald Relief Fund, writes to his paper from Belgium. "In Antwerp I saw over one thousand poorly clad women, some in bedroom slippers, standing shivering in the snow and slush, waiting for food to be doled out to them, and this under the shadow of a big hotel where well fed, well clad soldiers (German) drank and made merry. In Mallores, under the shadow of the Cathedral, its walls caved in, its old stained glass windows now but ragged remnants of a beauty that can never be replaced. I saw men, women and children gazing dismally at the ruins of houses that once were theirs; poor people who begged something to eat of us as we passed. On the road to Brussels we passed thousands of refugees tramping dejectedly along, weary and forlorn, returning to villages and towns where there is not food enough to sustain the people already there.

"In Brussels we saw women holding babies snuggled to their necks, standing on cold street corners begging a centime for food. We visited the distributing stations, and saw the food sent over from America being handed out in all too meager rations. They came in droves, these people from all directions, and the clatter of their sabots on the pavements was a sad accompaniment to their sadder thoughts, for none spoke except to murmur thanks as each portion was handed out."

Here is a statement of the condition of the Belgian refugees in Holland, from the report of an United States naval officer, who personally investigated them:

"A large near Rotterdam contained about 400 men, women and children. At Dordrecht a long low building contained 700 men, women and children. At Bergen op Zoom a camp of tents held 3000. There was no heat in some of these. The barges are long iron lighters, and the people are stowed in the holds. There is no heat, the hatches leak, and the place is constantly damp from the leakage and from the sweating of the iron hull. There are neither windows nor skylights, and one kerosene lamp lights each hold, which is otherwise dark day and night. Wooden bunks in two tiers are in each hold, and tables are roughly constructed. There was not sufficient straw to cover the boards of the bunks. The place was therefore in a state highly dangerous to health, and the people suffered intense misery with the thermometer standing several degrees below the freezing point. Little children were constantly damp and their feet wet. There was no fire to dry them."

Send in your contributions this week, and thus do what you can to meet this most tragic catastrophe of the ages, a people turned out of home and country to starve and perish.

Previously acknowledged.....	\$282.30
Daniel Murtha, Bridgetown.....	1.00
A friend.....	1.50
Fred E. Rath.....	5.00
Alert Union Adult Bible Class.....	1.50
Upper Granville.....	4.16
Arminson Mitchell and family.....	2.16
Hampton.....	4.50
Mrs. Edw. Daniels, Lawrencetown.....	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Bent.....	4.00
Belleisle.....	1.00
Stanley W. Bent, Belleisle.....	1.00
E. Elroy Bent, Belleisle.....	1.00
Proceeds of tea held by the Red Cross Society, Paradise.....	12.00
	\$361.28

Proceeds of Concert held under the auspices of Red Cross Society.....	24.12
Paradise.....	4.00
Mrs. Logan, Paradise.....	4.00
Mrs. H. W. Longley's S. S. Class, Paradise.....	2.60
Mrs. Harry Longley's S. S. Class, Paradise.....	1.60
Mrs. L. W. Bishop's S. S. Class, Paradise.....	1.50
Mrs. J. H. Ray, Granville.....	5.00
Ios. Mitchell, Hampton.....	5.00
	\$361.28

Meeting of Annapolis County Farmers' Association.

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of The Annapolis County Farmers' Association was held at Paradise on Monday the 28th inst. The President, Robie S. Leonard, read his address which was very interesting and accurate resume of past years from a farmer's standpoint. The Secretary presented the report of the work of the Association.

The number of members for the past 127. Amount of Receipts and expenditures about \$75.00 each. Number of Institute meeting 21. Speaker, W. H. Woodworth and L. D. Robinson. Financial statements read and approved. The list of directors was revised. Officers for the ensuing year were elected, viz:—R. J. Messenger, Lawrencetown, President; S. A. Patterson, Wilmot, Vice-President; L. W. Elliott, Clarence, Secy-Treasurer.

At the Evening Session, Dr. C. B. Simms, V. S., read a very excellent address, and G. E. Sanders of the entomological station a very instructive talk on the enemies of our fruit and the remedies.

L. W. ELLIOT, Secy.

Fire at Albany.

We are sorry to report the loss by fire of the house of Miss Carrie MacKeown of Albany, on Dec. 31st, at 2 A. M. The house was totally destroyed with all its contents, Miss MacKeown was also badly burned and is now under the care of the Doctor at the home of her sister, Mrs. Borden, in Bridgetown. A gentleman, Mr. B. McGuinness, who was boarding with Miss MacKeown, was also a victim of the fire and lost all he possessed. Miss MacKeown and Mr. McGuinness, also Mrs. Borden, wish to thank their friends in Albany for their kind hospitality and care of them after the fire. All are now at the home of Mrs. C. B. Borden, Bridgetown.

There is a small sized epidemic of cerebro spinal meningitis among the Canadian troops at Salisbury Plains. Seven deaths have been reported.



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The Bank of Nova Scotia

Capital..... \$ 5,000,000
Surplus..... \$11,000,000
Total Resources..... \$16,000,000

BRIDGETOWN BRANCH
J. S. Lewis, Manager

by Rev. A. R. Reynolds and Mrs. A. R. Reynolds. Each number was enthusiastically received, and was in every way worthy of its reception. W. M. F. R. Beckwith who was master of the ceremonies, is to be congratulated on securing such charming talent, and preparing a program without one dull or even merely ordinary number on it.

An item of the program in which all took part most heartily, was the repeat, in every way worthy of the occasion.

After brief addresses by Capt. J. W. Salter and Mr. F. R. Beckwith, "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem were sung, and the gathering dispersed. Among those present from out of town was that veteran Mason, Mr. John Hall of Lawrencetown, and Mrs. Hall.

Belgian Relief Fund

The treasurer of the local Committee (Rev. E. Underwood) hands us the following:—

Previously acknowledged.....	\$263.73
'A Friend', Belleisle.....	1.00
Mr. Ernest R. Wade Granville Centre.....	5.00
Mrs. Frank Bent, Belleisle.....	5.00
Young's Cove, Pie Social, per Mr. Bernard White.....	25.00
Miss. Enos Munroe, Young's Cove.....	1.00
	\$300.73

Are you fully informed on the pre-cooling of fruit, on Orchard heating as a protection against spring frosts, or Apiculture? Do you know what competition you are likely to meet ten years from now in selling your apple crop? Do you even know all you want to know about spraying and fertilizing your orchards, or of the profits in small fruits? If you cannot answer all these questions in the affirmative you are missing something if you do not attend the Fruit Growers' Meetings at Middleton.

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