

him a fighter, and his childish joy in carrying arms leads him to attack the first man who comes along, without any especial enquiry as to whether he is friend or foe.

After various marches, delays, retirements, and adventures, we returned to Basra, where we spent armistice day with such rejoicings as the place afforded.

We visited Bombay on the way home, and spent Christmas Day at Port Said—the meeting place of eastern trickery and western vice—where we had a very enjoyable time with the Australian Light Horse. We were at Taranto on New Year's Day, and arrived home on January 14th of this year.

As a military expedition the trip was defeated in its object by the defection of an ally, but as an experience in varied travel and interest it was worth while.

Peace Conference and Economic Interests.

FROM J. W. DAFOE.

PARIS, March 2nd.

The economic interests of all the British Dominions will be well looked after by carefully chosen representatives who will serve upon the two powerful committees which are being constituted to deal with these questions. Last week the Empire delegations, under the chairmanship of Lord Milner, gave detailed consideration to the best means by which these ends could be served. Sir Robert Borden and Sir George Foster attended on behalf of Canada. It was arranged that five British members of the Supreme Economic Council should be drawn from the panel upon which all the British Dominions would be represented; and that in addition there would be brought into being a special all-British Committee, which would collaborate with the British representatives upon the Council in suggesting policies and formulating machinery to achieve the purposes for which the Council has been appointed. Sir George Foster will represent Canada on the British panel, and when matters specially affecting Canada are being dealt with, he will serve on the Council. The functions of the Council are of first importance. It controls, for the period of the Armistice, shipping, the extent and character of the blockade, the distribution of food to all European countries, and the allocation of raw materials and rebuilding supplies; and has now been charged with determining to what degree this control should be continued during the reconstruction period to follow the signing of peace.

Canada, as a source of food, raw materials, and supplies for rebuilding, is vitally interested in the policy of the Council, and the right to representation which has now been conceded has been strongly pressed.

Upon the Economic Commission yet to be appointed to decide upon the economic provisions of the general peace, there are to be two representatives of the British Overseas Dominions, and it may be assumed that Canada will supply one of these representatives. This Commission will have a number of sub-committees, one of which will have to report on the future status of pre-war commercial treaties to which enemy countries were parties, and among the law officers to whom this work will be remitted will be the Hon. C. J. Doherty, Canadian Minister of Justice.

Changes in the Map.

Before peace can be signed there must be extensive alterations to the map of all the continents except the Americas; and these questions, among the most difficult before the Conference, are now being attacked. The three most dangerous, relating to the Adriatic, the west bank of the Rhine, and a Polish port on the Baltic, are to be taken up this week by the Council of the Great Powers, while lesser problems are being considered by sub-committees, which are expected to make definite findings within the next fortnight.

The disposition of the territory that was Russia is a huge, complex problem, for which no solution is in sight. The suggestion that the various warring Governments should confer together with the Great Powers as umpire has been abandoned. The Conference will aid in the creation of an independent Finland, Esthonia, Lithuania, and Poland, and with respect to the remainder of the problems await developments.

Germany will lose Alsace-Lorraine, and perhaps the Saar Valley, to France; probably the Belgium cantons about Malmédy to Belgium; Northern Schleswig, and perhaps Middle Schleswig, to Denmark. She will hold her territory west of the Rhine on terms that will make its use impossible as a jumping-off place for aggressions. The disposition of the German Colonies has already been pretty clearly indicated.

Serbia, which less than a year ago was officially declared by Germany to have ceased to exist, will have a population of over twelve millions, with the inclusion of the Jugo-Slav States. Bulgaria, for its perfidy in the war, will lose its window on the Aegean. Bulgaria will be much the smallest and weakest of the Balkan States. There is a possibility that the Turks will retain most of Asia Minor if they will submit to a protectorate by one of the Great Powers. All their other possessions will be taken from them. The whole vast territory from the Taurus Mountains to the Southern seas will resume its ancient status as the home of Arabic and Semitic States, living for the time being under protectorates, but foreshadowing ultimate union by federation. Armenia, with territory from both the Turkish and Russian Empires, will become a nation, with a sea-port at Trebizond under the tutelage of the United States if they will accept the responsibility, failing that the mandate will probably go to Italy. Constantinople and the passage from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean will be internationalised.

—From *Canada*.

A Drama in One Act.

Time: 1919. Place: Seaford.

Dramatis Personæ—Veteran 1914; Recruit 1918.

Veteran, 1914—"I think the —th were as fine a body of men as ever left Canada."

Recruit, 1918—"I think the Umpty-umph were the best bunch that ever left Canada."

Veteran, 1914—"Well, I guess you should know, as you saw them all leave."

[Collapse of Recruit, and Curtain.]

Sergt.-Major to Sanitary Fatigue: "What's the meaning of this? neither shaved nor washed? Look here, young fellow, you'll have to smarten up and keep yourself cleaner, or you'll go into the cook-house to work."