

The Daily News

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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LEARN TO USE THE RIFLE

Ability to shoot may continue the safeguard of national independence and personal liberty for many years. A generation ago proficiency with the rifle was much more general in Canada than at present. Almost every rural household had its rifle and shotgun, and in towns and cities the possession of guns was encouraged by many opportunities for their use in successful sport. The training and traditions of pioneer times were active influences, and the average boy, gaining inspiration from fireside stories by parents and elder relatives, was ambitious for distinction in the quest of game, large and small. Conditions have changed. Cities are peopled less from the pioneer farms and more from foreign centres, where opportunity for marksmanship in any form is limited. With the change has come a need for the encouragement of rifle practice on the part of civilians and greater concentration on this department of military training. Men must become proficient in the modern art of national self-defence.

Modern inventions and improvements have greatly increased the direct efficiency and comparative importance of the small arm in warfare. Its range has been greatly increased and its trajectory or curve in the bullet's course has been flattened so that the point-blank range is greater and the effect of errors in judgment as to distance greatly lessened. The rapid-fire of the magazine type gives an additional advantage. All these changes tend to make the soldier with his 120 rounds of ammunition a more formidable factor in war. Accuracy of aim is an essential requisite of efficiency. Its importance is indicated by the abandonment of massed formations and cavalry exposures which would make it easy for the unskilled to do effective work. Open formation is now adopted wherever possible, and the individual soldier's effectiveness depends on his ability to select and hit his mark. The consciousness of this ability has also a direct effect in strengthening courage and imparting confidence.

Skill improves rapidly with continuous daily practice under competent instructors. When confidence is gained by success at the short ranges the range may be increased and the bullseye reduced to regulation size. Practice at small objects, moving objects, and targets that appear and disappear is essential. In this way men learn to meet demands similar to those of actual warfare. As skill improves the individual soldier feels a growing confidence in his ability to cope with a skilled enemy. His proficiency is the essential foundation of military training. When it is acquired the work of the expert instructor passes to a new stage, which includes training in field firing by squads, by platoons, and by companies. It is well that Canadian military authorities recognize and appreciate the prime importance of efficiency with the rifle, and are directing both training and expenditure toward that end. Civilians are also becoming alive to the wisdom of acquiring the skill essential to self-defence. It is a moral effect on the civilian as well as on the soldier, and may lessen an unhealthy tendency toward helpless dependence on official care.

IDLE BATTLESHIPS

Naval strategists are puzzled by the minor part the dreadnoughts have so far played in the war. Comparatively little fighting has been done by the navies. The main German fleet is bottled up in the Kiel canal where it is closely watched by the British sea sentinels. Each are waiting for the other to make a false move which will be promptly taken advantage of. Little has been heard of the French and Russian fleets, and Austria's ships are afraid to venture from the safety of their harbors. In the few clashes that have taken place only cruisers figured.

Harbor fortifications, submarines and mines have held up the giants of the sea. The British fleet lies before Heligoland and the German fleet lies at anchor protected by the guns of the fortifications. The greatest service so far performed is the elimination of German commerce from the seas, while that of the allies is comparatively free. It is an all-important service, that will be a deciding if not a spectacular factor, in bringing the enemy to its knees.

WAR AND TALK OF PEACE

War is the one compelling fact: Peace is the one constructive hope. Not for the sake of War is Canada justified in involving America in the madness of European strife, and in sending tens of thousands of Canadian citizens to line up against citizens of Germany on battlefields in France and Belgium and on to Berlin. That were a national crime, an apostasy from Canada's national ideal, an outrage upon humanity of which only barbarians could be guilty. But for the sake of Peace, for con-

serving the honor and the integrity of Britain, for protecting the national rights and interests even the very national existence of Belgium and for making possible an enduring and a righteous peace for all the defenceless little peoples of Europe and of all the world Canada is taking no more than its share of a free nation's burden in pledging to the full the strength of the Canadian people. For war brutal, cruel, selfish nothing but denial and refusal; for Peace, free, unchallenged, righteous, everything the people can do and the nation can give.

It is of vital importance to Canada that this distinction be kept unobscured in the motives and purposes of the nation. If the thought of War is uppermost in the minds either of the soldiers in the regiments or of the citizens at home, and if the motives of War are dominant, there will come inevitable and irreparable damage to all those ideals and feelings and sentiments which distinguish civilization from barbarism. It was in this very crucial thing Germany failed through a whole generation and now suffers, and must suffer more, in national collapse and catastrophe. Men like Nietzsche and Treitschke and Bernhardi thought a great world-war for more than thirty years. They and a thousand of their disciples in military circles talked it for a score of years. It permeated the higher schools and universities. Young Germans were taught that Germany's true destiny, to impose German civilization, German culture, and German ideals upon all the world, must be fulfilled through war. A literature has been put forward, and a cult has been organized, the spirit and purpose of which are in dogmatic teachings such as these:

"War is a biological necessity." "The maintenance of peace never can or may be the goal of a policy." "The inevitableness, the idealism, and the blessings of war, as an indispensable and stimulating law of development, must be repeatedly emphasized." "What we now wish to attain must be fought for, and won, against superior force of hostile interests and Powers." "Our next great war will be fought for the highest interests of our country and of mankind. 'World-power or Downfall' will be our rallying-cry."

Those were the ideas with which young Germans were impregnated. The result was inevitable. There grew up a generation with the arrogant fanaticism of Bernhardi in their blood. They loathed the Slav as a savage. They scorned the Anglo-Saxon as a degenerate. They set themselves and the military autocracy of which they became the ruling element to plan for world-power by the instrumentalities of political chicane, international intolerance, and brute force. In the end they won in Germany. Now it is Germany against every other free people in all the world.

Knowing the issues at stake Canadians join with British people everywhere in the resolute struggle to "see this thing through." Peace is the end, a larger, truer, more righteous Peace than this world has ever known. Peace is the constructive hope of this war. It is the motive that drives and the purpose that directs the nation. By that motive and purpose the moral character of the nation is saved. No patched-up settlements of political opportunists will suffice. Because Peace is so great a thing, so absolute, so truly the enfranchisement of all the nations, there can be in this struggle no sham-peace. The nerve of War must be drawn and its power broken forever. For that the Canadians go out to fight. In that resolve the soul of the Canadian nation lives.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The days are getting shorter and the intervals between "war extras" longer.

The German cavalry makes frequent charges on the British lines to prevent the men from obtaining rest. More horses from Ohlans return from these attacks.

The Toronto women's rifle club ought to be a success. As a rule they generally accomplish their aim, with the possible exception of throwing a stone at a hen.

The kaiser is reported to be suffering from a severe cold. Hot foot baths and an ice pack around his throbbing brow might give temporary relief.

The German-American paper, "The Fatherland," has been excluded from the Canadian mails. The circulation of the German steamer Vaterland is also confined to New York harbor.

Canadian soap manufacturers are already on the market with brands formerly imported from Germany. This is a forward step in washing our hands of any truck or trade with the kaiser's land.

Money is the sinews of war and thousands are battling day and night to get their share of the sinews.

The Canadian troops now on the Atlantic will be given an opportunity to demonstrate that they are good sailors as well as good soldiers.

Aviation is becoming such a hazardous exercise in the war zone that aeronauts are liable to be hanged in their own hangar when they land.

The German ambassador at Washington states that Germany will not consider any peace plans which require her to cede territory. A considerable portion of her possessions have already gone to seed, the rest will follow in due time.

CORDIAL AND CAUSTIC

Comment on Matters of Some Importance, and on Some of No Importance

What a long breath we shall draw when the war is over.

The white topped or very light colored top boots for the ladies have not yet appeared in Brandon but we understand they are coming.

The lights have to be turned on for tea or dinner at night but the inclination is to get outdoors again for several hours, once the meal is eaten. The poet who inquired "What is so rare as a day in June" should see some of Brandon's rare nights in September and we hope October.

September has been a prolific month in weddings in Brandon and October generally maintains a good record in the same way. "Go to it Buddy."

Some of Canada's national advertisers are putting out slogans and illustrations that are bound to be remembered and this means that their goods will be called for. "Made in Canada," is a trademark that should be continually exploited by manufacturers and consumers.

October will be just as popular if it doesn't furnish any of the spectacular storms that September did.

Its most time for the hammocks to be brought in from the verandas

Edmonton is printing highly complimentary notices about the MacDonald, the new Grand Trunk Pacific hotel that will soon be opened. Edmonton may have our unenvious congratulations because the Canadian Northern a little more than two years ago provided Brandon with a hotel, that hasn't many peers.

The Daughters of the Empire surely showed remarkably good sense and discernment in the sort of gifts that are acceptable to them at the front. Moreover the Brandon boys have been prompt and appreciative in acknowledging their thoughtfulness.

If there are any Brandonites who have never been in a steam at sea, they can get a pretty good idea of what it is like by taking a ride on the street railway from 10th to 18th streets on Victoria avenue. The switchback railway isn't it in it—and no extra charge is made for the sensation. Experimenters however, should not risk it directly after a meal.

Some day women are going to demand footwear that will fit their feet. When that day comes every shoe manufacturer in this continent will have to revolutionize his factory. The movement might just as well be started in Brandon.

Nine months of 1914 have gone. Does any one remember his New Year's resolutions?

New York women say American designed and American made gowns will be the fashion this year. Will they stick to that decision when the Parisian designers get back from the front?

We often wonder what we used to do in the days gone by when there were no moving pictures to give us a literal idea of what other countries look like and the great events that are taking place in them.

The Toronto Saturday Night which to our mind always had a grudge against Saskatoon, says they are taking town lots out there in payment for groceries. Well, even groceries must get value received for what they disburse, so it follows the town lots are worth something. In these days when the high cost of living is a burning question, it takes considerable collateral to make a good showing in foodstuffs.

The Patriotic concert by the 99th regiment band will be a meritorious affair in itself while its object makes it doubly incumbent upon every one in this city to attend tomorrow night.

Three children of Capt. Lionel Guest, of Lord Kitchener's staff were held up by the immigration officers in New York lately when an inquiry was held to ascertain if there was any likelihood of their becoming public charges. The children, each possess one hundred thousand dollars in their own right so they were admitted to "the land of the free and the home of the brave." One hundred thousand each ought to be barrier between them and the states' charity.

MUNICIPAL WAR FUND

Berlin, Germany—The formation of a municipal loan fund, proposed by the magistrate of the town of Charlottenburg, has been ratified by the municipal council. The fund is not intended for a distress fund in the usual sense of the word, as actual necessities cases will not be dealt with; it has rather been formed to give aid to traders, to enable them to carry on their business.

A capital of 500,000 marks is considered to be sufficient, at least for the present. Single loans are not as a rule to exceed 3000 marks.

Deserters

ARTEMUS WARD, the famous American humorist, whose humor sometimes was a lance-thrust, once said that he was willing to sacrifice all his first wife's relations on the altar of his country. Many a man has been willing to let others do his fighting for him---willing, also, to share the rewards of peace and victory. Men of this type belong to the deserter class.

In Canada are hundreds of business firms striving with all their might to make better times for themselves and their communities. To them all honor.

But there are other firms—manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers—who are "standing pat," "playing safe," doing absolutely nothing to build up business. They are mere lookers on, not participants in the valorous struggle of their brethren to maintain and establish good times.

Look about you and you will find in the advertising columns of this and other newspapers many messages from firms with a sturdy confidence in the future.

Lifter or Leaner---which are you?



Best For Frying

The goodness and delicacy of fried foods depends upon the fat used for frying.

Swift's Silver-Leaf Lard

may be heated to a high degree without scorching or discoloring. This puts a delicate brown crisp crust on the food so quickly that it prevents its becoming greasy soaked, and it enables you to use Swift's Silver-Leaf Lard many times for frying before clarifying.

It is economical, pure, efficient and does not flavor the food cooked in it. Canadian Government inspected put up always in tight covered, new tin pails, 3 sizes.

Swift Canadian Co. Ltd.
Toronto Winnipeg Edmonton
No. 4

Ask Your Dealer for Silver-Leaf

FAMOUS SIEGES

The defense of Liege by 30,000 Belgians against three German army corps numbering 125,000 reminded one of the famous battle sieges of history.

The Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 was remarkable for its sieges. Bazaine held out at Metz against the Germans for nearly two months, and finally surrendered, with 6,000 officers and 178,000 men. For this he had to submit to courtmartial and was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

Afterward came the siege of Paris, which lasted six months. Thousands of shells were rained on the city every day by the Germans and no fewer than 40,000 of the inhabitants succumbed to disease and hunger.

That lengthy sieges are quite possible even in these days of huge guns is illustrated by Churki Pasha's gallant defense of Adrianople last year for 155 days. Then there was the comparatively recent great siege of Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-5

which finally capitulated Togo for 210 days. The name of Gen. Stoessel will rank with those of the greatest soldiers of modern times.

In Ottoman and Russian military history there has never been a siege like that of Plevna in 1877, when Osman Pasha defied the Russians for 144 days, and finally surrendered on December 10, with 30,000 men and 100 guns, owing to provisions and ammunition running in short, the same year Kars, long the bulwark of the Ottoman empire in Asia, was stormed by the Russians after a siege of five months.

Twenty two years earlier the fortress had been brilliantly defended for eight months against the Russians by the Turks under Gen. Williams, who had but 15,000 men against 50,000.

These sieges, however, are insignificant when compared with some others. The longest siege occurred in the American Civil war, when the Confederates defended the town of Richmond for 1,455 days, or over four years.

Sevastopol in the Crimean war, held out for 11 months while Gen. Gordon defended Khartoum against the Sudanese for 300 days. The sieges of Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking in the

South African war, lasted 120, 123 and 261 days respectively.

There is probably no siege which Britishers like to read about so much as that carried out by France and Spain in their endeavors to carry the Rock of Gibraltar, 1779-83. Altogether, the siege lasted nearly four years, and as the world knows, resulted in a complete triumph of British arms, in spite of the fact that the enemy numbered 30,000 to 40,000 men, while the defenders could only muster 7,000.

WRITING TO GERMAN SOLDIERS

Dartmouth, Oct. 1.—In Dartmouth an arrangement has been made which will doubtless be of the greatest assistance to the villagers and others living in the neighborhood. The post office authorities have set aside a room in which letters may be written to soldiers. Number of schoolmasters in the town have undertaken to give instructions free at this room to those who are themselves unable to write. These will be shown how to address letters and parcels whilst in the case of those not knowing enough to express themselves on paper, letters will be composed by the schoolmaster in attendance without any charge whatever.