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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until the purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

AN ELECTION COMING?

Evidence continues to accumulate to show that the Liberals intend to force a war time election on the people of Canada. The other day there was a gathering of the Liberal clan in the city of Hamilton, Ont., and the Hamilton Herald, an independent newspaper, claims that the purpose of the meeting was not to promote the winning of the war but rather to perfect the organization of the Liberal party in that vicinity in the hope of fighting a war time election during the coming summer. The Herald says:

"There has been a growing suspicion that the increasing activity in Liberal circles means that the Liberal opposition at Ottawa has determined to force a general election this summer. That suspicion ripens almost into certainty when one reads what Mr. Parnell, chief Liberal whip at Ottawa, said last night. 'I say to you,' he is reported to have said, 'if we are true to the trust placed in us as Liberals, to agree to the extension of the life of Parliament would make us equally criminal in the commission of these crimes—the crimes of being, according to Mr. Parnell, the Borden Government's partisanism, waste, extravagance and lack of leadership in recruiting and carrying on the war.'"

The Herald goes on to point out that the Liberals agreed to an extension of the parliamentary term in 1916 because of the war. The war is still on and the situation more critical now than in those earlier days. At that time the Empire had not gotten into its stride, and attention required to be given to that end. Now the stride has been attained but it must not slacken and consequently all attention must be given to maintaining our effort at the highest point of efficiency. In 1915 the Liberals felt that an election would be criminal. Wouldn't it be just as criminal today, or any day while the war continues, and the greatest need is for unanimity and accord without the disquieting effect of partisan strife?

But the Hamilton Herald asks an even more pertinent question when it enquires what the Liberal politicians have to propose to show that they are qualified to carry on the war with greater expedition than the Borden Government has done? They condemn the administration for its alleged slowness in recruiting, and at the same time the Liberals in the province of Quebec blame the Government because it has done too much and is too British. How do they propose to reconcile these two views, and what sort of war administration would be likely to get from a cabinet representing a party in which each was held back or pushed to the fore in turn as the exigencies of the situation demanded? The Liberals in Ontario blame the Government for lack of leadership in war measures and policy they censure it because larger numbers of recruits are not coming forward. Yet not one of those critics has raised his voice to aid recruiting, not one has attempted to assist the Government in any way. What do they offer as the basis of their claim that, given the opportunity, they can administer the affairs of the country to better purpose than the men they seek to supplant?

No one will be deceived as to the intent of the Liberal gathering in Hamilton, or the scores of similar gatherings all over the country. The Liberals have no new plan to stimulate recruiting, they have no war policy they desire to enact. Their sole purpose in this calling "the clan" is to perfect plans to plunge Canada into the bitterest form of political strife. It should not be so. Let these men who are so anxious for political battles take an hour off each day and study the casualty lists. Let them read the stories which tell of Canadian heroism on the battlefields of France and Flanders. These are the important things, the things which should claim the country's undivided attention. It is no time for elections or the promotion of partisan strife. There are weightier matters to occupy the public mind.

THE DAYLIGHT SAVING PLAN.

A movement to adopt the daylight system of time during the summer months is now receiving attention in the United States with every prospect that the new system may come into vogue. This has rather an important bearing upon New Brunswick's position in regard to the question. One of the most frequently voiced objections to the adoption of daylight time for this city is that it puts us out of joint with other parts of the province which remain Atlantic Standard. The provincial government has, on its statute

books, an act providing for daylight time which can be brought into effect upon proclamation. If the government should proclaim that act what ever inconvenience attaches to the isolation of St. John on the time question would be, in a great degree, done away with and the possibility that the neighboring State of Maine may also take up the system adds to the reason for governmental action. With Maine in line a border community would benefit. St. Stephen for instance could adopt the new time and still remain but one hour ahead of Calais, a condition which now prevails.

The case for daylight time could be much improved by government action making the system at least provincial wide.

PROVINCIAL NOMINATION DAY.

Nominations for members of the new government of New Brunswick will be filed today and as far as known there will be no opposition to Premier Foster or his advisors. Already the season is well advanced and the legislators should be at their legislative duties. By-elections would only create additional delay and besides as the electors of the North Shore of New Brunswick have the posterities a sufficient number of votes to assure them of a majority in the House it would be too bad if any of his supporters should be defeated now. Better let them get to work first and thus give the right thinking people of the province an opportunity to become well sickened of the whole aggregation. Consequently it is unlikely that today's happenings will be such as to make contacts necessary in any of the ridings and Hon. W. E. Foster's "Safety First" cabinet will probably be returned without opposition.

SMUTS'S OWN STORY OF HIS CAMPAIGN

Began Operations in East Africa Months Before War Office Considered it Possible.

Here is General Jan Christian Smuts's own story of his remarkable campaign of conquest, now in its final stages, from the northern to the southern borders of the vast wild animal paradise of German East Africa. It was told for the first time by him (outside of the fragmentary bulletins from the front and his confidential reports to the British War Office) at a great meeting of the people of Cape Town who, on Feb. 12, assembled with members of the Government and Parliament and city officials to honor the Commander in Chief on the eve of his departure for London to represent the Union of South Africa in the Imperial Conference about to meet there.

The situation was critical in the extreme when this lawyer-soldier, one of the old Boer leaders, was induced by the Imperial Government and pressure of his colleagues in South Africa to take up his position as Minister of Defense and undertake the task which General Smith-Dorrien, fresh from the battlefields of Flanders, had been compelled by illness to relinquish even as he began it. British East Africa had been invaded, and General Smuts found that he had to contend with an army of 40,000 to 50,000 thoroughly trained native troops equipped with 1,000 German, and possessing powerful artillery, a large number of machine-guns, several observation balloons, and a typically efficient commander in the person of General von Lettow-Vorbeck, aided by Captain Müller of the destroyed cruiser Konigsberg.

His story contains many details not previously made public. It shows that he liberated British East Africa and carried his operations far into enemy territory months before the time figured by the War Office as the earliest advisable moment in which to start the campaign, and in coinciding his narrative the General was very emphatic in making known that the Union of South Africa, having conquered this former great domain of the Kaiser and German Southwest Africa had well, would have a determining voice in the matter of the final disposition of these territories on her borders. Understood Task With Mingling In his narrative General Smuts said: "The enemy had found lodgment in British territory, and in fact, when I arrived there the main German army was entrenched in British territory, and they were threatening from that point of vantage, near Tlovetla, the communications of the whole of British East Africa; and, in fact, this report went so far as to say there was no solid reason why the German forces being so strong as they were, should not achieve a very considerable success, and perhaps cut British East Africa entirely off from the sea."

very grave indeed, and that every effort should be made by the Union Government to retrieve it. I went there, and when I arrived I found the situation as I have described it. So full of difficulties was it that the War Office at that time had decided not to start offensive operations until much later, after the rainy season in the June following. I went into the situation. The South Africans had a great deal to say about it. I found that I had to restore morale and not waste long months in preparations and perhaps lose many men through sickness the proper course was to start at once, and I asked the War Office for permission not to delay any longer, according to their instructions to General Smith-Dorrien, but to start at once and try to clear the enemy from British territory.

"Well, we started on March 8, and we had fourteen days of very hard fighting, and very difficult work, but at the end of that fourteen days—which will ever remain a glorious page in the history of the South African troops—the German army had not only been driven from British territory, but they had lost a very large part of their own country. They had lost the whole of the Kilimanjaro district, and we were in a position to strike a heavy blow before the rainy season was over. How hard the fighting was appears from the one simple fact that we had far more heavy casualties than during the whole of the Southwest campaign. But the work was done."

"The South Africans at that dark night stormed the heights of Taveta. When, at daylight, the enemy was still in possession of the heights and had practically driven off the rest of our forces, we went the distance of the night. They thought that night and they had heavy casualties, but next morning the South Africans were on the crest of the hills and the enemy was retreating. At that point that wonderful twilight they did their best in soaking rains, through dense forests, and over difficult mountains, with the results we have every day before us. The British Government was profoundly thankful. We had no tents, in a fortnight the rainy season was coming on, but I thought even yet the time had not come to call a halt."

Terrors of the Rainy Season

"An expedition was launched from Moshi into the interior under General Van Deventer. The enemy army had been driven from the coast, and I thought the road to the interior being opened, this was the time to launch a strong flying blow, for 300 miles that little army under General Van Deventer was to enter the country, suffering terrible hardships and privations. When General Van Deventer was well into the heart of the country a rainy season overtook us and in its violence could never have been expected. I had made the utmost diligent inquiries as to what was likely to happen during the rainy season, but no information was available as to what actually did take place when the heavens came down in floods, when the rivers filled up, bridges were washed away, large parts of the country became swamps and lakes, and for many weeks the army in the interior was cut off from our base. No doubt during that time there were grave sufferings. Many animals were lost, food they had very little left, and it was surprising that they could stand that season, but they did, and we can be proud of the work they have done."

"Training of Native Troops. General Van Deventer's division which, if we had waited until the rainy season was over, might have taken three, four, or even six months to do. When the deluge was over I went down with the main division toward the sea, along the Pangani River, and we crossed country which had seldom seen white faces in it. I do not think that upon the routes we followed many white people had ever been seen since that country was discovered. For hundreds of miles we went through country which had no road or track at all. We cut our way through the bush, we bridged the rivers, and we made passes through the mountains. The men suffered and exerted themselves almost beyond human endurance to make a path like that possible, trekking not on a plain, not in a great safari, but in the face of a resolute enemy who contested every inch of the ground."

"So it came about in due course and earlier than we had expected that the whole northern part of the country, with the Central Railway, fell into our hands. I had foreseen that a completely different campaign would begin after that. Shortly after my arrival in East Africa I warned the British Government that it was not a country for white troops to stay in long. You yourselves in your midst have seen the Loyal North Lancashire, who had been in that country from the beginning, and who were a living testimony to the ravages of fever and disease of that awful country, and I warned the British Government that it would be a dangerous policy and unprofitable to leave white troops too long in that country, and with their sanction, I started immediately on my arrival to train an African army. I foresaw that, once we had the Central Railway in our

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Little Benny's Role Book

WHY LITTLE BENNY DOESN'T GROW UP.

Ma was looking at the paper in the dining room after supper, saying, Dr. Hills article is very interesting. This evening she was about the seat of talk, he sees the sense of talk is largely imaginary, he sees we wouldn't know what we were eating half the time if we shut our eyes. Dr. Hill better go back to college, sed pop, if sum of these doctors knew half as much as they think they know, they would know 10 times more than they really know, do you mean to tell me I wouldn't know what I was eating if I shut my eyes? Well, it seemed very convincing while I was reading it, sed ma. You wimins are intirely to gullible, sed pop, now jest to prove how rong he is, I'll shut my eyes, and you take the vinegar and the wistereher sauce and put a drop of either one on my tung, and I'll soon tell you which one it is. And he put the vinegar and the wistereher sauce in frant of him and shut his eyes and put out his tung, and ma put a drop on it, saying, which one, which one? With pop started to smack his lips tasting it, saying, Vinegar, no wistereher sauce, no, wait a moment, vinegar, yes vinegar. No, sed ma. Did I say vinegar, I ment wistereher sauce, thats wat it is, wistereher sauce, sed pop. No, sed ma. With pop opened his eyes, saying, How do you mean, not I must of bin one or the other. Wy must it, it was a drop of w-trir I put on, hee hee, sed ma. Well if you think that was an exhibishn of a sense of humer, you're the one that thinks it, sed pop. And he got up mad and went upstairs.

possession, once we were pressing on to the further swamps to the south, we had to be necessary to take the white troops from the country, and to carry on the campaign, as the Germans were carrying it on, with native troops.

Army of 12,000 Natives

"That work went on while fighting was taking place in the field, and there today we have an army which will be able to take the place of more than 12,000 African trained soldiers. They are taking the place of our white South Africans, who are now coming back, and in regard to whom the greatest number are already back. When I reached the Central Railway and saw the ravages of fever among our men, I told the British Government that the time had come to put in force this new policy of which they had been warned. They agreed to it, and the result has been that since the middle of October we have sent back to South Africa from 12,000 to 15,000 South Africans, and evacuated them from that dangerous country. Their places have been taken largely by these new African troops who have been trained."

"It was at this stage, when the work was almost finished, when most of the country had been conquered and occupied—that the call of the British Government came to the effect that I should go to the War Council. I felt profoundly sorry today, I felt very sorry, as I told General Botha at a great part to play in settling it. 'My boys, the thousands and tens of thousands who went with me to East Africa, you will not keep here, I am sure, when they are restored to health and are fit men,' he said. 'They will go and they will do their duty, and I hope their action will be an inspiration to many others who have been kept here by claims on their time and activity, to the end that we, I think, about this great South Africa, will continue to play a worthy part.'"

"The enemy had a line on the Rufiji River and its tributaries which, consisting of one vast network of swamps, was a most difficult, fever-stricken, and most dangerous country, and I was afraid, as long as I left the enemy in that country, it might be said that I had not completed my work, and the last week of mine in East Africa was occupied in clearing the enemy out of the Rufiji River and the swamps. I am happy to say that today the whole German force is in retreat from the Rufiji toward the Portuguese border and, unless the rainy season, which is an awful thing in that country, seriously interferes with operations, it will not be long before that army either capitulates on the border or is driven out of German East Africa."

"The future will perhaps see more of the significance of the work which has been done by the young South Africans there than we of this day and generation. Not only have we in co-operation with other imperial forces there conquered German East Africa, but we have secured far more. Through our efforts and our sacrifices we have secured a voice in the ultimate disposal of this sub-continent. That is not a small matter. That is no small matter for South Africa. We are the only white community on this whole dark continent, and we are the only white State which, in the course of ages, has been founded successfully on this black continent, and surely as a white community, as a great civilization, we are far more interested in the future of Africa than most other countries. Now we have acquired a voice, a right to speak when the day of disposal over these things comes, and I am glad, ladies and gentlemen, that we have done the work that we have done it successfully."

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fully, and that that right nobody in future will be able to take from us. "Whatever happens to German East Africa—and nobody can say what is going to happen to that enormous country—this at least I know, that the future of South Africa is even more important than our immediate neighborhood which might prejudice our future development. What was South Africa like 100 years ago? See where we stand today after a century of progress, and who is there today, even the wisest and most far-seeing among us, who can say what this great southern continent and this great country is going to look like another 100 years hence? However, the future will not be able to blame us and may we have not done our duty and pegged out our claim, and established our right to the future development of this southern continent?"

May Command Army in Europe. It is believed in South Africa that General Smuts will command an army of Union troops on the French front. In this connection it may be significant that, in concluding his speculation as to the future of South Africa, he pointed out that, while the fighting in that part of the world was over, the great issue of the world war was still at stake and that the Union still had a great part to play in settling it. "My boys, the thousands and tens of thousands who went with me to East Africa, you will not keep here, I am sure, when they are restored to health and are fit men," he said. "They will go and they will do their duty, and I hope their action will be an inspiration to many others who have been kept here by claims on their time and activity, to the end that we, I think, about this great South Africa, will continue to play a worthy part."

St. George's Day, England's Day. Wear the flag. Remember the wounded. Instead of mixing cocoa with boiling water to drink, try mixing it with an equal amount of granulated sugar and then pouring it into the boiling water or milk in the pot, stirring all the time.

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