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## THE CANADIAN FORWARD

JANUARY 10, 1918.

### (Continued from Page 7).

other day, "Who are the Liars?" Nor can I unedrstand his statement that "personally he had made up his mind that, unless some change were effected, he could no longer remain responsible for a war direction doomed to disaster for lack of unity." When, and why, did this change of attitude come about? When did Mr. Lloyd George come to the conclusion that we were "doomed to disaster"? In Februaryafter the Rome Conference-we were told that "the Balkans were the only part of the whole battlefield which for the moment need cause any anxiety to the Allies. On the Western Fronts -France and Italy-we have driven the enemy back in battle after battle." That was in a speech at Carnarvon. Then in July, at Dundee, we had a scathing reference to the "rabbit tactics" of the enemy, and were told that we were "pounding a sense of inferiority into every pore of the German military mind,' and, finally, that when a proud army like that of Germany was driven to burying itself in the ground, "it was the beginning of the end." And, of course, we were assured that in France and Russia and Italy "men of every shade of opinion were co-operating to ensure victory against the common enemy." Well, that was July. Now we will come to Augustto the anniversary of the war. What was the position then? Listen-this was at the Queen's Hall, London: "No one has any idea-no one in Britain, France, Italy, Russia or Germany, nor in Austria, how near the top we may be." What the dickens has happened to alter the whole mental outlook of the Premier? No reference to the Italian reverse can possibly explain it, for now even our victories in the West are belittled-if, indeed, not sneered at. In fact, there is one phrase so sinister that I want it explained. Mr. Lloyd George spoke about our "hammering at the impenetrable barrier in the West." What does that mean--that, in his view, Haig is merely wasting time and life and money in France and Flanders? It almost looks like it, for this is what followed: "When we advance a kilometre into the enemy's lines, snatch a small shattered village out of his cruel grip, capture a few hundreds of his oldiers, we shout with unfeigned joy."/ What fine reading for Berlin!

from positions in which every advantage rested with the enemy, and hampered and delayed from time to time by most unfavorable weather, you and your men have nevertheless continuously driven the enemy back-with such skill, courage and pertinacity as have commanded the grateful admiration of the peoples of the British Empire and filled the enemy with alarm. I am personally glad to be the means of transmitting this message to you and your gallant troops, and desire to take this opportunity of renewing my assurance of confidence in your leadership, and in the devotion of those whom you command." And now it appears that all the time we were just "hammering away at an impenetrable barrier"; that our plans were all choatic and "doomed to disatser," and that the Prime Minister-whilst telling us that we were witnessing "the beginning of the end," and that no one knew "how near the top we may be" -and that all the Allies were working harmoniously together as the result of "most businesslike" Conferenceswas imply indulging in a game of "make-believe," and was actually thinking of throwing up the sponge! It is all very mysterious-and very disconcerting. I can only express the hope that the debate which will take place whilst these lines are being printed may clear the air.

#### What He Did Not Say.

But what about the things he left unsaid? Why no rebuke to his colleague in the War Cabinet-the only military member-General Smuts, for telling us that "the war is over"? Why no castigation of Admiral Jellicoe, Chief Naval Adviser to the Admiralty, for "the war is all but won"? Why no denial of the report that in the opinion of the High Command in the West, given favorable weather, the enemy must collapse by the end of the present year? And why nothing about the ever-growing menace of the Pacifist, movement? How do you think the Government is to-day dealing with it? I will tell you: by voting public funds to organize a campaign to counteract it! Very little notice was taken of certain proceedings in Parliament a week ago, on a "Vote for Expenses of the National War Aims Committee." Defending the expenditure of public money for that purpose, this is what Sir Edward Carson said: "An organized system of misrepresentation by

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have been made in vain. The matter is far too national a one to be left to any one class of rich subscribers." It was suggested that the Party funds might be utilized-but such an idea was ruled out as too preposterous. Those funds are sacrosanct-for use after the war! And so you and I have to pay to fight the Pacifists! Nor was a word spoken about the peril of the enemy in our midst-nothing about the denationalization of the alien. Nor anything about the scandals of certain recent appointments to new posts of wicked and dismal failures. Nothing either about the hushed-up scandals of Mesopotamia and the Dardanelles; nothing about those wonderful Paris resolutions of many months agowhich were to be put into immediate

chester Guardian, in a clumsily concealed threat, suggesting that if the Prime Minister's enemies are not careful, he will turn round; and, by the disclosure of official documents, rend the Generals in the field. A pretty threat, truly! If it means anythingand the Guardian and the Prime Minister are close friends-it means that an attempt is to be made to shift the responsibility for all past blunders on to the shoulders of the soldiers. Indeed, there is the most cynical and callous recognition of this policy by the Manchester Guardian itself, which tells us that "it is unlikely that there is any popular force which could be mobilized at this stage for the "Hands off the Army' policy." Isn't there? I venture to htink that Lord Northcliffe

has ever echoed from the mouth of hostile statesman." As recently as the 16th October last we had the Prim Minister sending this cable to S Douglas Haig: "The War Cabinet de sire to congratulate you and the troops under your command upon the achievements of the British Armies in Flanders in the great battle which has been raging since July 31st. Starting	he of way—that where they find families ne afflicted by the sacrifices that they have made during the war, they do not he hesitate to enter into the homes of very many humble people, trying to he influence them against the carrying on in of the war, which, if successful, would have the result that the whole of the	more than anything else the position of the Pren The Old Game Thus, all around us see signs of the old Pa with its inspired press the Daily News, Star, other "anti" Lloyd Geor the strict official Libe the other hand, we h	hier. Again. we once more rty intriguing, progaganda in Spectator, and ge journals, of tral type. On	when, in his fine letter to Mr. Lloyd George, he says: "We have the most efficient army in the world, led by one of the greatest Generals." Heaven forbid that we should once more have the cry of "The People versus the Army." Remember that to-day, the Army is the People—and woe to the man who belittles it! Let the Prime Minister beware—Hands off Haig!— from "John Bull."
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