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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1915.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that 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.

THE NEXT ACT

In the present tragedy of war which has been staged by the Prussian political bosses, the world has been not a little interested in the successive acts of the play following each other in rapid succession both on land and sea. Deeds of unparalleled daring, intermingled with scenes of moving pathos, have thrilled the spectators as the giant forces of the world's greatest Empires have savagely battered each other upon the fire-swept, murderous arena.

The greatest operations of the world's historic conquerors have been dwarfed and appear little better than the insignificant quarrels of children in comparison with the colossal battles which, day after day for over six months, have challenged the laws, institutions and ideals of civilization. Millions of men have been slain and billions of treasure consumed by these insatiable and all-devouring fires. The whole commerce of the world has been upset and nations and individuals brought to the verge of bankruptcy and ruin. Neutral nations as well as the belligerent powers have been compelled to put up with great inconvenience and embarrassment and the end is not yet in sight, nor is it possible for any one to prophesy what additional and unexpected occasions of distress may at any moment be forced upon the world.

We have been told that a French officer, fatally wounded in Flanders, wrote a last letter to his fiancée, in which he related how a wounded officer of a Highland regiment and a wounded Uhlan had joined in helping him. "I wondered," he wrote, "and dare say they did, why we were fighting each other at all." This letter was found beside his dead body. Probably in every nation there are to be found thousands upon thousands of people who, when this war broke out, were entirely incapable of giving any reason for such a cruel international denouement. Certain it is that the rank and file of the common people of the several countries engaged in it had no cause of hostility against each other, and it is quite incredible that this war would have ever occurred had the final decision rested with the voice of the people. Further, it may be said, that the fact that Great Britain and France were so inadequately prepared for war is prima facie evidence that it was neither desired nor anticipated by the official governments of these nations.

The only cause of this terrible war, therefore, was official Germany which, dominated by the Kaiser and his military entourage, had resolved that the day had at length arrived when it would be possible for them to successfully achieve the first step in their well thought out programme of world dominance. For this diabolical end, Prussia had assiduously been preparing for years, and now that she has taken the field her leaders are ready and willing to sacrifice millions of the sturdy sons of the Fatherland for the fulfillment of ruthless ambition.

The world of moral and peace loving men in every nation is anxiously looking for an end of the bloody, wasteful fray; but what means is it possible to hope that this much desired consummation may speedily be attained? Must this war be permitted to extend itself month after month across Europe like some all-devouring reptile; must it be permitted to continue to devour hosts of the flower of the world's manhood, and to destroy the world's wealth until at last these Prussian war lords have no more soldiers with which to provide "cannon fodder" and until every ounce of gold earned by the industrious German people has been sacrificed to the mad and lustful ambition of these inhuman masters of misrule; and must this war be permitted to continue while, from the lands of the Allied nations, a continuous and swelling flood of recruits bears itself over to the trenches of Europe, there to disappear like water upon the sand, to return no more? Surely not. There are other methods by which the senseless brutality of the Prussian war lords can be brought to book, and these at length have been suggested to the British Parliament by the First Lord of the Admiralty.

Mr. Churchill has declared that the time is now ripe to let Germany feel the full force of the navy, and thus prevent all supplies of provisions from over the seas reaching her ports. The immortal Nelson declared that "hunger would tame the fiercest lion" and there is no reason to doubt but that his gripping phrase will speedily subdue the haughty spirit of the Prussian war hog.

Of course it is to be expected that

pro-German forces will raise a chorus of abuse of England when such a complete blockade of German ports has been imposed by her, and she will be accused of waging war by starvation upon the women and children of that unhappy land; already the German ambassador to Washington has assured the American government that his government will guarantee that all food stuffs imported from America will not, under any circumstances, be used for the supply of the army, but entirely conserved for the wants of the civil population.

At first sight such a proposal seems reasonable, but, upon reflection, the utter inadequacy of the guarantee is apparent, for, even if Germany could be relied upon to keep faith, which is exceedingly doubtful, it must not be overlooked that, at the present time, there is only so much food of various kinds in that country, and upon this quantity of food, be it more or be it less, the whole population of Germany, both civil and military, must subsist until the war is over. Hence, for England to permit food supplies to enter Germany under the agreement that such foodstuffs would be used strictly to supply the wants of the non-combatant population would, by that act, release the German government from the necessity of applying any present supplies of food there may be to meet the needs of the civil part of the population and, as a consequence, would increase by that amount those stores of food for the army, and thus the longer continue the war.

Let the next act in this all too horrible drama be essayed by famine; gaunt, lean, emaciated, and long before he has had time to drag his shivering form across the stage, amid the execrations of an aroused and outraged people, the curtain will be rung down and this tragedy of war shall end.

A CHANCE FOR THE TELEGRAPH.

The Daily Telegraph this morning has an opportunity to work off another purchasable editorial fulmination in the way of an apology for Sir Wilfrid Laurier who, yesterday, was caught red handed by Hon. C. J. Doherty, in one of the most bare-faced attempts to misrepresent facts for party advantage that has come before the Canadian House of Commons this session.

Only a few days ago Mr. Fuglesy, he of "suspense account" fame, attempted to violate the supposed political truce, and, for the sake of party capital, was quite willing that information, which at this time above all others should be regarded as inviolably confidential and private, should be paraded before the eyes of our national enemies through the medium of the American newspapers. A day or two later Mr. Carvell, the defamer of General French and the Canadian soldiers, had his little trick at the party wheel and took occasion to indulge in the old game of muck-raking in which he is admittedly proficient. Yesterday it was the turn of the "plumed knight," the alleged "Bayard" of Gritism who, when his party spleen had spent itself, stood revealed before the Canadian people as a falsifier.

Sir Wilfrid misrepresented the conditions under which Hon. Mr. Doherty had retired from the Supreme Court bench, he attempted to stir the smouldering ashes of racial passion into flame by taking a fling at Hon. Mr. Blondin, the gentleman who, as deputy speaker, proved such a thorn in the side of Laurier and his fellow obstructionists at the time of the naval debate. In short he was guilty of such conduct as one might expect from the author of the phrase "the high-brows of Downing Street," or from the man who, in his passion, declared "not a man nor a gun shall go to South Africa," but the performance was hardly creditable for the leader of the great Liberal party,—the party supported by the Telegraph, that alleged agency for public instruction which bore over its editorial columns the motto: "British connection; honesty in public life; no graft, no deals, etc., etc.," until its owners found it impossible to live up to the motto and follow the tortuous course of its political idols at the same time.

Readers of that newspaper, judging from the motto of a few years back, will certainly expect that in the interests of "honesty in public life" it will at once call Sir Wilfrid to account for an indefensible misstatement, or in its espousal of "British connection" it will even go a step farther in the interests of British harmony and repudiate the Grit leader's attempt to arouse racial strife. But, possibly the Telegraph motto of a few years ago is not the motto under which it is working

today; it may be that it is not possible to advocate the cause of "British connection" and the cause of Laurier at the same time. In any case the Telegraph's observations on Sir Wilfrid's remarks will be awaited with much interest, unless indeed it chooses to treat the Liberal leader as it did Mr. Carvell when he made his famous General French speech and to regard the conduct and statements of the "night of the white plume" as unworthy of its august attention.

A SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT.

One of the most significant features of the present war is the statement made in the British House of Commons on Monday by David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he said: "The countries fighting against Germany, Austria and Turkey, up to the present time, have thrown one-third of their strength into the field." When it is remembered that the war has already been of about six and one-half months duration, that every plan of the Empire's enemies has been frustrated, and that this has been accomplished by but one-third of the strength of Great Britain and her Allies, some idea may be gained of the magnitude of the task confronting the admittedly great power of Germany.

Already it is estimated by military observers that Germany, to all intents and purposes, has shot her bolt, and has expended by far the greater part of her resources in men, money and supplies. Weeks ago it was known that men from reserve regiments were fighting in the German battle line side by side with the remnants of the finest German regiments. Since that time the losses suffered by the Kaiser's armies have been far greater than those of the Allies and, consequently, it is but a fair inference that the Germany of today is not to be compared with the great power which so proudly and so aggressively threw down the gauntlet to the world.

To add to the powerful effect this knowledge must have on the German mind comes the information from a responsible British Minister of the Crown, that what the Allies have accomplished in the past six and one-half months has been at the expenditure of only one-third of their strength.

If this means anything it assuredly is that the Allies can still send into the field, thoroughly equipped and provided for, two men for every man who has already gone. Germany has no such reserve power. While of great resource her population is limited compared with that of her enemies. The loss of regiments, or battalions, to her, is a loss which cannot be replaced. The blockade of her ports and the cutting off of her people from their food supplies means slow but certain starvation. And this is plainly the condition with which Germany and her associates are now threatened.

That official Germany realizes this is evident from the proposal transmitted to Great Britain through the good offices of the United States Ambassador, that the threatened submarine blockade of Britain by Germany will be abandoned if Britain, in turn, will agree not to interfere with the free movement of foodstuffs to the German civil population. There is no possibility that the offer will be accepted. It would never have been made had not the Kaiser's advisers recognized that if the British threat were applied with that thoroughness which Britain can command when necessary the case of Berlin would be hopeless. Already the Prussian power is tottering on its self-erected pedestal. The complete application of the British plan must bring it crashing to earth. And with its fall will vanish the last vestige of the spirit of militarism which for the past decade has held all Europe in thrall. It is a consummation much to be desired.

MR. F. W. SUMNER

During a long public career Mr. F. W. Sumner of Moncton has given ample evidence of his keen interest in, and devotion to, the welfare of the province of New Brunswick, but it is doubtful if he has ever done a bigger thing than by his offer to serve as the representative of this province in London, and his refusal to accept remuneration for what must be very valuable work. It is eminently fitting that in such a case the people of his native city, where he has long been regarded as one of the leading citizens and business men, should unite, without regard to political affiliations, in extending to him a spontaneous tribute of appreciation of the public spirit which prompted the offer, and of the great service he is likely to render to the province.

Mr. Sumner has long been closely identified with the social and business life of Moncton, and it was a happy thought that of the Board of Trade of that city to make him the guest of honor at Monday evening's function. While Moncton will miss him from the paths of his accustomed activity, that city's loss will be a gain to the province, for there is no doubt that his lengthy and extensive business experience, his keen judgment and large fund of general knowledge, coupled with his affability and high character will combine to give to the Province of New Brunswick an ideal representative in the motherland.

Mr. Sumner knows New Brunswick, its resources and its people, and in the work to which he is devoting himself should produce highly gratifying results. The Standard heartily joins with his hosts of friends all over the

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Evvybody is glad they've got feel, but the peepil wich are awl the time dancing are gladder than evvybody elts. The feat is as useful in dancing as the mouth is in singing, altho if most peepil was asked which they woud rather lose, there feet or thare mouth, they woud probably say thare feet, awn akkount of evvybody's elts to eet.

The peepil wich have the best time at a danse are the wuns that pay to get in, beeing the dancers. She wuns wich have the worst time are the wuns that are payed to be thare, beeing the orkester. It must be feare to set thare awl site blowing a horn wile evvybody's elts is jumping around with sumbody, unless you don't no how to danse, and then I gess it dont make any diffrnts.

Thare woudent be any sents to a danse if it wasent for the orkester. If you see 2 peepil jumping up and down togethr without any musick eround, you think thare krazy, wich they probably are, but if you see 2 peepil jumping up and down to musick, you no thare just 2 peepil doing the fox trot.

Evvybody gos to dances nowdays exsept the folloing:

Peepil with roomatism.
Peepil awn crutches.
One-legged peepil.

Many peepil, inklooding my sister Gladdis, think the gratest inventors in the world are the peepil that make up new steps to do in sun danse. They probably think the next gratest inventor is Edison, awn akkount of him inventing the ferst fonograf for them to danse by.

The 3 prinsepil kinds of dances are the one-step, the waltz and the fox trot.

The one-step looks as if 2 peepil are running a race with etch uthr, the rule beeing that the wun that gets ahead has to run backwards.

The waltz looks as if they was doing the saim thing after they get a littel tired.

The fox trot looks like 2 peepil trying to learn to fly togethr without noing how. If foxes went eround like that they woud be the funnyest animals thare is.

My Farthir sees that if modern dancing is the poetry of moshin, he wants to die without seeing the prose.

province in extending to him heartiest good wishes for a safe and speedy passage to his new home, and a pleasant sojourn in the heart of the British Empire.

A Midnight Fire.

Shortly after last midnight a fire was discovered in a vacant shop in the premises owned by Henry Garnett at 120 Brussels street. An alarm was sent by from box 14 and when the firemen arrived they found a brisk blaze burning on the shop floor. It was found that the fire had started in the basement and worked up through the floor. There was a coal fire in a stove in the basement but the fire originated some distance from the stove. The basement is used by a Mr. Boyes, a milkman. With the exception of some smoke through the rooms occupied by Mr. Garnett, the damage should not amount to more than one hundred dollars.

Soldiers On a Time.

Two soldiers with a driver named Wm. Beekingham, from Glynn's stable, had a lively time of it near the One Mile House late last night. The trio had been out for some time and

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