

The War Week by Week.

By OSSEBYER.

Last week was memorable as marking the close of the second and the opening of the third year of war. Naturally, we read many reviews of the past and prognostications of the future. The latter concern us most and we note, amid wide differences of opinion in detail, a general agreement among the best writers on two facts: they say that it will be some time yet, possibly a year, or more, before Germany and Austria are completely beaten, but that the passing of the initiative so entirely to the Allies makes that eventual defeat inevitable. German opinion, so far as we know it, is necessarily guarded. Their chief reliance, beyond doubt, is in the holding up of all attempts to crush in their line, leading to the recognition by our Allies of Germany's invincibility and their willingness, in the end, to treat for peace.

The military situation was marked last week by few outstanding events, but it shows definite and logical progress. The offensive has not been interrupted on any front, but both sides seem to be taking a short "breather," which we may be sure is only a prelude to the most violent activity. Each week brings a crisis nearer. On the West front, in particular, the pace cannot be maintained for long at such a height—something must crack.

On the Somme, while there is little progress to record, the fighting has been of the greatest importance and favourable to us. Pozieres is definitely in the hands of the British, but there are some outlying heights which must yet be taken before the position has its full value. But the most important fighting has been going on in the French sector, between Comblès and Clerf. The former is in a sense the key to the whole offensive, for its possession gives control of the Bapaume-Peronne railroad. At one point, known as Monac Farm, the French have actually gained a small section of the third and last German line and seem to be holding it against furious and repeated counter-attacks. We may look for continued and violent fighting all along this area, for the French and British will shortly make a most determined effort to capture and hold the vital third line of German trenches. They have done prodigies already in taking the first two lines in so many places. The latest message tells of the capture of a large extent of the German second line north of Pozieres, which will greatly strengthen the British position there.

We were reminded of Verdun once more by the announcement that the French had retaken Fleury and had resisted the capture of the French trenches of the Germans to wrest it from them. Nothing could be more significant, for if the Crown Prince's army has been sufficiently depleted here to allow the French definitely to assume the offensive, the victory of the latter will be patent to all the world. We shall soon see if this is indeed so. Another point worthy of notice is the carrying out of raids by the Canadians and others at other points of the line, quite considerable in themselves and useful reminders to the Germans of the danger of removing men to the Somme front. We should not be surprised if these mingr ac-

tivities were forerunners of an offensive at some point other than the Somme, even in the near future and despite the colossal nature of that enterprise and the effort it represents. The Eastern drama grows in interest. Since the capture of Brody we have heard little definite from this theatre, but there can be no doubt of the development of events. The Russians are across the Stokhod and have evidently approached Kovel very closely. At the same time they are nearing Vladimir Volynski from the south, and Lemberg from Brody and the south east. The Russian thrust along this line of capital importance thus takes shape from these four direct directions. Von Bothmer has been badly beaten either by overwhelming forces or clever strategy, and his retirement seems to partake of the nature of a race to Lemberg with the forces that threaten to envelop him. Petrograd is quite confident that the fall both of Kovel and Lemberg cannot long be delayed, and the retirement of the Germans to the Cholm-Brest Lovsk line. If this takes place, a crisis in the fortunes of Austria will have been reached. A theory held by many is that Germany will sacrifice and abandon Galicia, so that by holding the natural line of the Carpathians with fewer men, she may be enabled to transfer more to the sorely-pressed West front. This may be true, for Germany will likely enough soon be faced with the necessity of a choice between several evils; but it is unlikely Galicia will be lightly abandoned. Moreover, the Carpathians would be, though a difficult, not an insuperable obstacle to the Russians, and on the other side lies Hungary, the most vulnerable place in the defence of the Central powers. We may now look for renewed activity about Stanislaw and the gradual closing of the jaws of the pincers upon Lemberg.

Nothing has occurred to indicate the exact plans of the Grand Duke in Turkey, but there is little doubt that they will take the form of a systematic advance from Trebizond and Erzurum upon Sivas, the next point of importance on the road westward. In the Balkans the attack of the Serbians upon the Bulgarians has led to nothing further, but it had its significance. Possibly the general election set down to take place shortly in Greece may have some effect upon the situation here. If, as seems certain, Venizelos is returned to power, there will be no danger in the rear to the Salonika garrison, and we may see things begin to happen. In Italy great progress has been made. The clearing of the Trentino is absolutely essential as a preliminary to an Italian offensive in the Isonzo region, and the clearing is proceeding with gratifying certainty. The Austrians have been pushed back over more than half the distance of their advance in the recent offensive. "What the Italians are re-established in the important passes here and free to direct their forces to the prosecution of the attack upon Gorizia and Trieste, Austria will be distracted by another and most dangerous invasion such has merely been held in absence and will come with killing effect at a critical time.

The plainer the semarier is still the rule for motor coats.

BOWLING SHIPS.
The S. S. Portia left Channel this morning going west.
The S. S. Prospero sails north on Monday.

Rev. Dr. Cowperthwaite Delivers Pathetic Discourse

AT GOWER STREET CHURCH, I. C. M.

For over a quarter of a century Rev. Dr. Cowperthwaite has labored in our midst, and mostly in the city, and during that long period he was participant in the various sorrows and vicissitudes of the people. When fire swept our city he was with us; when the Bank Crash crushed us he ministered to us; and now with a terrible war raging through out the Empire he is still a messenger of hope and a minister of comfort. This was touchingly manifested yesterday morning at Gower Street Church, when the venerable Dr. preached, and made feeling reference to the war and its results.

Taking as his text the words of the Prophet as quoted by the Evangelist Matthew: "In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they were not." The preacher at once touched the hearts of his congregation and ere he finished his discourse copious tears had trickled down the cheeks of many present, and what added to the pathos of the moment was the presence of the volunteer lads sitting in the centre of the church. The nation's heart is now sorrowful, like Rachel of old the people are mourning, and it is not easy to comfort them. The loved boys have gone to the trenches and many of them have paid the supreme price and have fallen in the fight. The preacher knew these lads, he had ministered to them, he knew the homes from which they had gone, and knew the weeping of the mothers, and the anguish of the fathers.

Great as was the work of our soldier lads, and glorious as was their fidelity, and righteous as is the cause for which they had died, there is felt the sorrow of their loss within the heart, and the chief answer to the best words of comfort offered them was the wonder why it is. Even the glory of the sacrifice cannot heal the wound. Rachel still mourns; nor will she be comforted. But amid all this sorrow there is still the consolation of Christian faith, and there is comfort for all who mourn. "Let not your hearts be troubled" was spoken by the Divine Master to His apostles, and the same lesson applies still, for beyond the tumult of war, and above the things of time and sense, there exists the higher and future life of Eternity. Modern preachers do not speak of Heaven as much as did the preachers of the past; but we should hear a little more about it, and derive comfort and inspiration from all its mysterious experiences are past, there then remaineth a rest for the people of God; as the poet Longfellow so beautifully has expressed it:

"Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust to dust, and ash to ashes,
Was not spoken of the soul."

Note.—We understand that the sermon will be published in full in Wednesday's Daily News.

SABLE L. ARRIVES.—The S. S. Sable I. reached port this morning from Charlottetown and Sydney, bringing a cargo of produce to A. Harvey & Co. The ship brought 41 passengers, including the Rossley party of 22 who were playing in the vaudeville business around the Nova Scotian coast.

Returning Soldiers Met At Station By Thousands of Citizens -- Experiences of "Ours" In France and Gallipoli.

At 4 p.m. Saturday the cross-country express pulled into the railway station, having on board Lieut. Knight, Snow, Edgar Smith, Dulcy and Thompson, who have been transferred to assist in training the recruits. Sergt. Major Paver, Q. M. S. Oke, Sergeants Edwards and Noonan, Corporals Mals and Stonlake, Lance-Corporals Hussey and Crossman, most of whom are invalided; Privates Gladney (D. C. M.), Harris, Evans, Tompkinson, Bowring, Bradbury and Hollett; wounded Gallipoli heroes; and Penney, Jesso, Bursay, O'Dea, Kent and Stockley, who are returning unfit for active service. For two hours previous to the train's arrival thousands of people assembled at the station. Included in the number were the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, His Lordship Bishop Power of St. George's, Very Rev. Fr. Renouf, Rev. Fr. Wilson, Rev. H. Phillip, Rev. W. E. B. Cracknell, Rev. C. Moulton, Rev. T. B. Darby, Rev. H. Royle, Sir Jos. Outerbridge, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Patriotic Association; Hon. J. R. Bennett, Acting Premier; Hon. M. P. Cashin, Hon. J. D. Ryan, Hon. J. C. Crosbie, Hon. R. M. Bennett, the young hero being cheered to the echo. The boys were then placed in motor cars and driven to Government House. Our D. C. M. was given the place of honor and sat between the Acting Premier and Sir Joseph Outerbridge. His Excellency Lieut.-Col. Davidson inspected the men and in short address thanked the returned soldiers for the valuable service they had rendered the Empire, making reference to the Gallipoli campaign and the important July 1st. The "Ladies' Patriotic Association" treated the boys to cigarettes and candy, after which they were allowed to return to their homes.

Lieut. Knight, 2nd Lieut. J. Snow, Smith, Thompson, Dulcy and Edgar are all Gallipoli heroes, some of whom have been severely wounded but recovered and are home for the purpose stated above.

Lieuts. Knight, Snow and Thompson were in the big drive on July 1st, parables of which were published in this paper shortly after Lieuts.

C. L. B. in Camp.
Yesterday the C. L. B. in camp at Topsail were visited by a large number of people from the city. Included in the number were His Excellency the Governor and Lady Davidson, Sir Edgar Bowring, Mr. J. S. Munn, Major Montgomerie, Captain Abraham, Lieut.-Col. Sir Joseph Outerbridge and Lady Outerbridge, His Honor Mayor Gosling, Mrs. Gosling, Lieut. Gosling of the Canadian A. S. C.

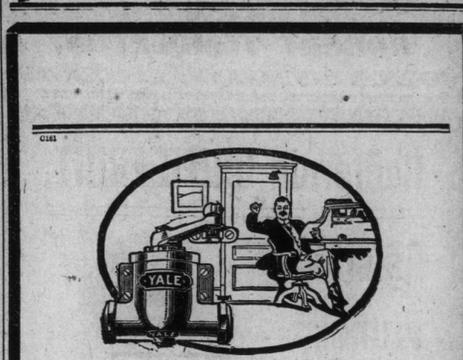
This is the Bell Island and Heart's Content Companies are in attendance and are enjoying themselves with the boys.

On Sunday the Brigade attended Divine Service at the C. of E. Church in the morning and again in the afternoon at the grounds. The morning service the preacher was the Rev. Canon Netten, who spoke encouraging words to the lads and was listened to with earnest attention by every boy. At evening service Rev. Canon Smith addressed the lads in their mess tent taking as his subject, the Prophet Daniel: "Be faithful," and in his remarks he made special reference to the heroic conduct of the older members of the Brigade now in the Newfoundland Regiment, and those who had been promoted to the Battalion Beyond the Veil. The Brigade band was in attendance and furnished excellent music during the day.

The Matatua.
Last evening Captain Brennan, representing the Dry Dock Company at Halifax, went to Peter's River. St. Mary's, to examine the S. S. Matatua which has been lying on the rocks there the past ten days. The ship is in the same position as when she first went aground. Nearly all her lumber cargo is salvaged. An effort will be made to refloat the ship as soon as possible with the aid of the Canadian tugs which are still at the scene of the wreck.

Infantile Paralysis Makes New Record.
New York, Aug. 1.—The death record in infantile paralysis epidemic reached a new high water mark Saturday. Forty-four victims were claimed at the grounds, an increase of eleven over yesterday's figures. New cases reported totalled 161 cases and it became apparent that a change in temperature makes no difference in the progress of the disease. The number of new cases today has been exceeded only twice since the beginning of the epidemic. The Board of Health weekly bulletin gave the grand total of new cases as 2,588 and deaths, 799.

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Managing Director,
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Deserved Promotions.
7th August, 1916.
Dear Sir,
I enclose copy of telegraphic correspondence between His Excellency the Governor and the Officer Commanding the First Newfoundland Regiment, respecting recommendations for Commissions as 2nd Lieutenants, which will no doubt be of interest to the general public, and shall be glad if you will kindly publish the same.
Yours faithfully,
J. R. BENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

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