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Special Articles

The Struggle for Eastern Supremacy.
By W. W. SWANSON.

Conditions in the West.
By E. CORA HIND.

Book Reviews.
By HOWARD S. ROSS.

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Peace May Not Come Soon

THE hour of apparent victory is sometimes an hour of much danger. Victory is almost, but not, achieved. But the notion gets abroad that the contest is ended, and there may be a slackening of the battle. We must be on guard against this danger. The war news from day to day is glorious — almost all that could be desired. All along the line the Allies are pressing the Germans back. Cities in Belgium and France which have been in German hands since the first stages of the war are now in the hands of the Allies. The Germans are retreating from the lines which they defended so vigorously for many months. "The Germans on the run" is the heading of many despatches. All this is very gratifying. But let us not make the mistake of assuming that the end of the war is at hand. A retreating army is not always a defeated army. The German Government, if they can check the tendency towards revolution at home, will endeavor to establish new lines of defence, possibly on their own boundaries, and fight on, not in any hope of ultimate victory, but for the chance of something happening to better their position in negotiations for peace. The shortest and the surest way of the Allies to a real peace is by a steady prosecution of the fight against Germany. On every front, in every field of operations, the battle must be carried on until the Germans are ready for unconditional surrender. The American Government are making no mistake on this score. The last note of President Wilson to the German Government was accompanied by a declaration of Mr. Baker, the Secretary of War, that the United States would continue to send a quarter of a million soldiers across the Atlantic every month. All the Allies must act in the same spirit. To slacken effort, as respects men or money, would be a fatal mistake.

The Money is Needed

WHETHER peace is to come as soon as some people expect, or is deferred for a considerable period as many have good grounds for believing, there should be no relaxation of effort to make the new Victory Loan a success. Even after peace is proclaimed the greater part of our war expenditure will have to be continued for a considerable time. Many months will elapse before our army can be brought back from Europe. The machinery of warfare cannot be set aside in a moment. To meet expenses already incurred and expenses which must yet be met, the Government will need the money for which they are calling, and the Canadian people must supply it. While the question of peace is still in the balance, the best possible way to promote such a desirable end is to continue every effort that is being

made for the vigorous prosecution of the war. All the arrangements for the raising of the Victory Loan should be continued and no effort spared to make the movement a grand success. "Save for the loan" is a slogan that should be heard unceasingly until the necessary funds are assured.

Two Disappointments

IN many of the calculations made as to the conditions that are to arise in Canada at the close of the war there are two features which are likely to prove unwarranted. One is that Canada will receive a large stream of immigration. It is assumed that after this dreadful war-experience a large part of the European population will desire to come away from the old countries, that they will wish to make their homes in the freer air of the American continent, and that Canada will be able to offer such advantages as will attract the stream to our shores. Our part in the war will have left a heavy burden of debt. We shall need as many backs as possible to bear the burden. The expectation of a large immigration is therefore an agreeable one. But a careful examination of the situation does not tend to a confirmation of such hopes. It is probable that after the war the work of reconstruction in the devastated regions will offer such abundance of remunerative employment as will make the people content to stay in Europe for a period. And where, from any cause, there is a disposition to emigrate, it will find itself confronted with laws designed to check the movement. Even in Great Britain, from which country we would naturally desire to draw our immigrants, there will be a strong desire on the part of the British Government to make conditions attractive enough at home to induce the people to remain. It is unlikely, therefore, that in the period immediately following the war there will be found the stream of immigrants that has been hoped for. In later years, if all goes well in Canada, we may hope that the abundance of good land in the Dominion will draw immigrants of the most desirable class. But for that happy condition we may be obliged to wait a few years.

The second point on which there is likely to be some disappointment is the expectation that our returned soldiers will be drawn into the pursuit of agriculture. That the work on the land offers the best field of operations for those who like it may easily be admitted. The arguments in support of such work have been freely presented to soldiers who have already returned, but with very limited success. Officers who have done their utmost to induce returned men to turn their attention to the land frankly admit that they meet with little favorable response. Among the thousands who will return later there will undoubtedly be