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ST. ANDREWS, N. B., CANADA.

Saturday, 19th January 1918

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

[January 10 to January 16]

NOT for very many weeks has less news been received of the progress of hostilities than during the period under review; and yet, though the news has been meagre, the heavy casualty lists indicate that the fighting has been more fierce and extensive than the brief mention of it suggests.

In the Western campaign artillery action seems to have been on a reduced scale, but trench raiding was a conspicuous feature of the week on nearly the whole front from Alsace to the coast. The initiative was reciprocal, and the results gave no marked advantage to either side.

There was no fighting on the Russian and Rumanian fronts, the armistice being still in force. As to Russia, the internal conditions had not improved, but rather the reverse; and rebellious outbreaks took place at several points, notably at Sebastopol. But news was meagre and unreliable. The peace pourparlers were resumed at Brest-Litovsk, but no satisfactory results seemed likely to accrue, as the Central Powers seem altogether unwilling to accede to the Russian demands that they vacate Russian territory. It was announced that a separate peace had been concluded between Russia and Bulgaria. The way out of the Russian imbroglio is yet far to seek.

No news was received of the Mesopotamian campaign; and of the campaign in Palestine it was reported that General Allenby's forces continued to make satisfactory progress north of Jerusalem, and that they had made successful air raids as far north as within thirty miles of Haifa, and as far east as the Hejaz railway.

The operations in East Africa were reported to be completely transferred to Portuguese territory, where British and Belgian troops from the north and from Lake Nyasa were cooperating with Portuguese troops from the east coast in rounding up the last remnant of the German forces, now broken up into small parties.

While activity was reported in the Balkan campaign, no important results appear to have been attained.

Fighting in the Italian campaign was somewhat less intense than in the preceding week, chiefly because of the severity of the weather. The Italians, aided by the British and French, held their ground, and at one or two points, notably in the north, made some advance.

A successful air raid was made by Entente aviators on Karlsruhe in Baden, and much damage was done by bombs to military works.

The coast town of Yarmouth, in Norfolk, was bombarded from the sea by a German destroyer, presumably, on Monday night. About twenty shells fell in the town, and three persons were killed and ten injured. The bombardment lasted only about five minutes, at near 11 p. m.

German submarines were active during the week, but secured only a diminished number of victims. Very few disasters to shipping by mines and submarines were reported during the week, the censorate having been most rigorously enforced.

Scarcity of food was being keenly felt in Great Britain, and more rigorous rules as to its conservation and distribution were being promulgated and enforced. Food conditions were believed to be much worse in Germany, where a political crisis also was reported. All of the warring nations would be glad of peace, but there can be no real and lasting peace until the militarism of Germany is crushed forever. So it is that the prospect of peace is yet remote.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE County Council convened late on Tuesday under the worst possible weather conditions, a heavy snow and wind storm prevailing. The biennial election having taken place since the previous meeting, considerable changes have taken place in the personnel, and a few of the Councillors are holding office for the first time. Mr. John A. Grant, from St. Stephen, was elected Warden in place of Mr. A. B. Hawkins, from Pennfield. M. N. Cockburn, K. C., having tendered his resignation as Auditor of the County accounts, it was understood that

Mr. F. L. Mallory would be appointed in his place. Mr. E. M. Webber, editor of the "St. Croix Courier," St. Stephen, was again appointed official reporter of the proceedings, and his reports will appear in the "Courier." We have reprinted, in another column, from our esteemed contemporary the official report of the proceedings of the opening day, and shall print the remainder of the report as it appears in next week's "Courier."

Mr. J. T. Whitlock was present at Thursday's session and urged the Council to give an increased grant to the Chipman Memorial Hospital, but it is believed his appeal was not successful. On Thursday afternoon Prof. Kierstead was to have addressed the Council on the subject of the cultivation of wheat in 1918, but he was storm-bound in Woodstock and could not get here; but Mr. R. E. Armstrong, Secretary of the St. John Board of Trade, who was to have spoken in support of Prof. Kierstead's appeal, delivered the message on his own behalf and that of his absent colleague.

In consequence of Kennedy's Hotel being closed for the winter the Councillors had to go elsewhere for quarters, and they have been fortunate in their quest. Some were accommodated at Miss Cathcart's establishment, and others at that of Mrs. John Russell, so their comfort has been assured. The moving picture shows and the entertainments provided by the philanthropic and patriotic societies have afforded amusement and recreation for our guests. But the work of the Council is heavy and important, and the Councillors have found their time pretty well occupied. We fancy, too, that the prolonged and terrible war in which this country is involved in its struggle for freedom gives an added seriousness to the Council in its discussion and consideration of the public questions with which it is concerned; and we are sure that it is the wish of all that before the next annual session comes round peace will be restored and the cause of humanity and justice will have triumphed.

THE WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

January 19.—Nicholas Copernicus, German astronomer, born, 1473; William Congreve, English poet, died, 1729; Tsar Peter II of Russia died, 1730; James Watt, Scottish inventor, born, 1736; General Robert E. Lee, Confederate commander, born, 1807; Edgar Allan Poe, American author and poet, born, 1809; Ciudad Rodrigo stormed, 1812; Hon. Sir William Mulock, Canadian statesman, born, 1843; Gold discovered in Coloma Valley, California, 1849; Rt. Hon. Augustine Birrell, British statesman, born, 1850; David Starr Jordan, American author and educator, born, 1851.

January 20.—St. Fabian. Isle of St. Jean (Prince Edward Island) granted to Capt. Doublet, 1663; David Garrick, English actor and dramatist, died, 1779; Great Britain acknowledged the independence of the United States, 1783; Paul Cambon, French diplomat, born, 1843; Richard Le Gallienne, English journalist and poet, born, 1866; Jean François Millet, French painter, died, 1875; Edward A. Sothorn, English comedian, died, 1880; Mersey Tunnel opened, 1886; John Ruskin, English art critic and author, died, 1900; Eruption of Mt. Colima, Mexico, 1913.

January 21.—St. Agnes. Isandulu, 1879; King Henry VII of England born, 1456; Miles Coverdale, English translator of the Scriptures, died, 1568; Joseph Scaliger, Italian scholar and editor of classics, died, 1609; King Louis XVI of France beheaded, 1793; General Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall") Jackson, Confederate commander, born, 1824; James G. Blaine, American statesman, born, 1830; Great Fire at Constantinople, 1839; Admiral Sir Henry B. Jackson, British naval commander, born, 1855; Henry Hallam, English historian, died, 1859; Eleventh Parliament of Canada opened, 1909; Lord Strathcona, Agent-General for Canada in London, died, 1914.

January 22.—St. Vincent. Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, English jurist and philosopher, born, 1561; South Sea Company inaugurated in London, 1720; Gottfried Lessing, German dramatist, born, 1729; George Gordon, Lord Byron, British poet, born, 1788; Edward Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, died, 1820; Richard Westall, English painter, died, 1850; Maurice Hewlett, English novelist, born, 1861; Charles Keen, English actor, died, 1868; General election in Canada, 1884; Queen Victoria of England died, 1901.

January 23.—Spion Cop, 1900. Royal Exchange, London, opened, 1570; William Pitt, English statesman and Prime Minister, died, 1806; Sir Francis Burdett, English politician and financier, died, 1844; Charles Kingsley, English divine and author, died, 1875; Gustave Doré, French artist, died, 1883.

January 24.—Dogger Bank, 1915. Charles, Earl of Dorset, English poet, born, 1637; Frederick the Great of Prussia born, 1712; Joseph H. Choate, American diplomat, born, 1832; Schleswig-Holstein annexed to Prussia, 1867; Edith Wharton, American novelist, born, 1862; Laura Mapleson, American prima donna, died, 1894; Lord Randolph Churchill, English statesman, died, 1895; Sir David Gill, British astronomer, died, 1914.

January 25.—Conuratum at St. Paul. Marriage of Henry VIII of England and Ann Boleyn, 1533; Robert Boyle, Irish physicist and chemist, born, 1627; Robert Burns, Scottish national poet, born, 1759; Sir Francis Burdett, English politician and financier, born, 1770; James Hogg (the Ettrick Shepherd), Scottish poet, born, 1772; Benjamin R. Haydon, English painter, born, 1785; Daniel Maclise, Scottish artist, born, 1811; Princess Royal of England (mother of the Kaiser), married, 1859; Lord Leighton, English painter, President of the Royal Academy, died, 1885; Louise de la Ramée ("Ouida"), English novelist, died, 1908.

THE HARVEST OF THE SEA

ANY one who can suggest a rational method of increasing the nation's food-supplies deserves an attentive hearing. We would therefore direct attention to a most suggestive and entertaining article by Mr. Moreton Frewen in the current *Nineteenth Century* on "The Ocean, the State, and the Fisherman." Mr. Frewen takes as his text a statement made many years ago by the late Sir John Lawes, the agricultural chemist, to the effect that "the meat yield of an average acre of ocean off the Nore was greater than the meat yield of a hundred acres of the best Northamptonshire pasture." The statement may not be literally true by any means, but it reminds us very forcibly of the immense potentialities of our fisheries. Mr. Frewen proceeds tentatively to estimate the possible value of the Irish fisheries under proper control, not at a hundred times the value of Irish pastures, but at £1 per head of the population or about £5,000,000 a year. He reminds us that "the present gross return from the fisheries of the British Isles is over £10,000,000 a year, and the total capital they have been able to attract is only a paltry £12,000,000." Mr. Frewen's point is that the yield from the fisheries might be increased to an almost unlimited extent, if the Government took a more active interest in the subject, and he proceeds to give some very remarkable evidence from Canada and America to support his contention. He tells us that while Great Britain "spends all told on its fisheries less than £50,000 a year," Canada spends over £250,000 a year, while the United States spends at least five times as much as Canada. It might be thought that North America, which can feed its hundred millions from its own wheatfields and also export vast quantities of corn to Europe, could afford to neglect its fisheries, and that we, on the contrary, who cannot feed half our people from the produce of our soil, should cultivate our fisheries with the greatest zeal. But this is, unfortunately, the exact reverse of the truth.

America was awakened to the importance of the question a generation ago by the efforts of Mr. Spencer Baird, who, unlike Frank Buckland, contrived to enlist the intelligent support of the officials. The Federal Department of Fisheries came into being, and began to restock the polluted rivers of New England with the salmon that had deserted them long since. Salmon ova were brought from Canada at £9 a thousand, which is equivalent to £135 for the ova of a twenty-pounder, and were hatched in the Penobscot River. When Mr. Frewen visited the Maine hatchery in 1899, four hundred salmon of that size had been bought from the Penobscot fishermen for twelve shillings apiece. The river is still polluted and obstructed, but every year two million salmon fry are released in its tributaries, and the annual catch is about ten thousand salmon averaging fifteen pounds each. The annual expenditure on the hatchery is only £800, so that the cost of the salmon to the State is less than three-halfpence a pound. Mr. Frewen estimates that in our rivers a larger percentage of the fry would survive, and, allowing twopenny a pound for the cost of netting, he declares that "the market price on our slabs for this fine fish should not be two shillings a pound, but fourpence." Every one has heard that mediaeval apprentices in England used to stipulate that they should not be expected to "eat salmon every day of the week, so plentiful was the monarch of fishes in our rivers. There would be nothing unnatural or fantastic in an attempt to revive our salmon fisheries on a large scale. On the Pacific coast the fishery experts have worked marvels. The States of Oregon and Washington in 1900 released over a hundred and twenty million salmon fry at a cost of £17,000 a year; the annual value of the salmon canned in these States was over £2,000,000. In California, the salmon harvest of the Sacramento River was increased by over four million pounds in weight; it was officially stated that an expenditure of £720 on the hatchery had returned nearly a hundredfold, although the retail price of the salmon was only threepence-halfpenny per pound. The Germans have taken the hint from America and tried to restock the Rhine and the Weser. As long ago as 1901, it was said that if only three out of every thousand fry released in the Weser survived, three salmon averaging twelve pounds each were a good return for an expenditure of seven shillings and sixpence. California has not confined its attention to the salmon. In 1879 the California Fish Commission transported about a hundred bass from the Atlantic and released them in the Pacific. Nine years later such vast quantities of bass were being netted that the State Legislature thought it necessary to prohibit the sale of any bass weighing less than eight pounds, lest they should be exterminated. But the bass flourishes, and a single boat has in a day taken fifteen hundred bass weighing nine thousand pounds. Another important food-fish, the American shad, which used to be regarded as a luxury on the Atlantic coast, was introduced in 1882 to the Bay of San Francisco. It is now so plentiful all along the Pacific coast that its retail price there is only half what it is in the Eastern States. The California Fish Commission not only stocks the sea and the rivers, but it also sees that the

public benefit by its labors. Colonel Winstock, the Commissioner, is now the "only licensed buyer and seller of ocean fish," and is trying to break down the "Rings" in the fish trade, which would rather destroy cargoes of fish than lower the price. Similar methods, it seems, have been adopted in New South Wales and in Ontario, to the entire satisfaction of the consumer.

Lord Dunraven's fishery programme, to which Mr. Frewen draws attention, would unquestionably enlarge and cheapen our supplies of fish. His first proposal, for the artificial propagation of fish fry to restock our inshore fisheries, must command universal assent. The methods are well known, and the results are certain. His next suggestion is, when peace returns, to convert to peaceful uses the numerous armed trawlers and minesweepers employed against enemy submarines, and to enrol their crews as a Royal Naval Reserve with co-partnership in profits. Our fishing fleets would thus be greatly increased. Lord Dunraven would not leave the catch to be dealt with, according to market methods, by the trader. He has quoted a statement made in the House of Commons by a Scottish Member, well acquainted with the fishing industry, who deprecated State loans to fishermen on the ground that an increased catch would ruin them—

"Indefinite expansion of the fleet means congested markets and ruin. Last year was one of the best for fishermen, and it is significant that in Yarmouth on one day the price (of herrings) was 40s., while on another day owing to the glut they were sold at 2s. 6d. It must not be forgotten that as soon as the question is settled in favor of State Loans for Scotland you have got to face the same question on a bigger scale in England. Then ruin and disaster is before the industry."

That is to say, the interests of the trade and the public are in direct opposition. The consumer wants more and cheaper fish, but the trader thinks that he profits most by a limited output at a high price. To meet this evil, Lord Dunraven has proposed that the State should fix wholesale prices for fish, according to its value and quality, and, further, that the State should provide cold storage in every town and reduce the railway rates to a minimum. It will not do merely to label this scheme as "State Socialism," and to regard it therefore as beyond the pale of discussion. Admittedly fish in this country is relatively scarce and dear, even in the best of times, and therefore forms far too small a part of the national dietary. Mr. Frewen declares that the average daily consumption of fish is barely an ounce, out of a total of forty ounces.

Given a price such as fourpence (a pound) and a supply unlimited and in perfect condition all the year round, might it not be possible to expand consumption to eight ounces a day and pay the State for its services a penny per pound? Here is the prospect of a reserve item of nearly forty millions sterling annually—the Naval Estimates provided, so as to speak, by that Ocean which under the keels of our Dreadnoughts, and also the nation's butcher's bill economised by perhaps one-third. It sounds far too good to be true, and yet it is not by any means a fairy-tale, for it is a logical deduction from the experience gained by America, Canada, and Australia in dealing with the food supplies of the sea and the rivers. "You can have fish as cheap as you please if only you will eat more fish," said the California Fish Commissioner; and the British public would, we are sure, respond to the cheerful invitation as readily as the Californians have done. It is probable that when our men come home from the war, they will have something to say in this matter. Great quantities of fish are now being shipped from Canada and Newfoundland to the Western Front, as an agreeable variant to "bully beef," and many men who when at home could not afford to buy fresh fish may contract the fish-eating habit and insist on continuing it when they return. Granted a sufficiently active public demand for more fish and cheaper fish, the Government might be induced to give serious attention to this really important and interesting problem.—*The Spectator*.

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ST. ANDREWS, N. B., Jan. 16, 1918.

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Social

Mr. Lloyd Muir home in Antigonish. Dr. Roy Grimmond home in Hempsdale accompanied by Grimmer.

Miss Alice Grimmond friends this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. turned to St. Stephen. Owing to the Tuesday the attendance party in the Over \$10 was closed by Miss Elsie Handy.

Mrs. Bertram guest of her cousin Mr. J. T. Whelan a visit to St. Stephen.

The Y. W. P. A. Sarah Richardson making the coffee for their patronage.

Messrs. Kennet Stickey left on Saturday military duty in St. Mr. R. E. Armstrong in town this week Councillors.

The Misses Anderson left on Wednesday, to be with W. Richardson, wife. Mrs. George Laing her aunt, Mr. turned to her home.

THE RED

The Red Cross its gratitude for contributions to its fund and Mrs. Key \$1.51; and Mrs. Out...

ICE CUTTING

The cutting at Chamcook Lake has last two weeks, and a particularly good excellent quality, the surface, and i...

THE NEED

Mayor Greenlaw loving letter, which Mayor St. Andrew Please insert in Reconstruction C only require ca plumbers with too require no common require any further Notify all Mills to inch boards, plane stock and what pr at Halifax.

TOWN

Town Hall, A quarterly meeting was held this day at 8 o'clock, p. m.

Present, the Mayor and Aldermen Douglas Gilman, Malpas, M. Absent, Ald. C. Communication vising acceptance Auditor, etc., was Communication Clerk Executive C order-in-Council, made by Province Canadian Patriotic wick, etc., viz. Andrews \$3,646.

On motion, second communication w The Mayor proceeded to appoint Moved by Ald. Ald. Malpas, that Richard Keay and appointed Assessor and that each rec dollars (\$40) for Moved by Ald. Ald. Denley, the Moving Picture S be reduced to fifty year 1918. Carri

On motion se following bills w viz. A. Meats, labor, S J. Dougherty, t Vernon Malloch, t Hope McQuoid, la Wren Drug Store, H. O'Neill, supplie Arthur Thurber, B F. H. Grimmer, B J. A. Shirley, sup do do do do

Minard's Linn