

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 14, 1914

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A WAR OF IDEALS.

It has been truly said that the war which is being waged in Europe is a war of civilization against barbarism. The German system of government is a system of oppression. It places upon the people a great burden for armament, and withdraws a large proportion of the most vigorous men of the country from productive industry to prepare them for the subjection and the conquest of other countries. If Germany had been content to pursue the paths of peace and internal development she would have had no enemies, and this awful war would not have been brought upon the world. The arrogant assumption that the German people are superior to the people of all other nations, and should enforce their ideals upon the rest of the world for its good, has resulted in a conflict which will end in the utter destruction of German militarism, and the reduction of that country to a state in which its people must be content to go on with the solution of their own problems, without any foolish ambition to attain world leadership by force of arms.

How different are the ideals of the British Empire. The fact that this vast Empire has developed, and that at the threat of war messages of loyalty and devotion were sent from every quarter to the home government, is a result of recognition of the fact that the people in the main know what is best for themselves, and should not have any system of government or any national or imperial policy thrust upon them for the mere purpose of the aggrandisement of the Empire through a process of conquest and subjection. Admitting all the brilliant qualities of the German people, their conceptions of human liberty and of the rights of the individual citizen are centuries behind those entertained in British communities. Even in the case of Egypt and India the policy of the British government has not been to force recognition of British ideals, but to encourage the growth of that intelligence which would in time lead to the cheerful acceptance of these ideals, and to the gradual extension of the principle of autonomy.

If Germany were by any chance to be victorious in this war the world would take a step backward and not forward. Only by ridding the world of the spirit which has animated the Kaiser and his advisors can there be hope of peaceful progress and the guarantee of the rights and liberties of the smaller nations. They who engage in this war, therefore, on the side of the Allies, are fighting in the cause of humanity and not merely for the flag which waves over them. It is a time which calls for sacrifice, but which also marks the beginning of a new and better era in the history of the world.

THE WAR NEWS

Today's war news is of a much more reassuring nature. The fear that the German capture of Dixmude might be followed by a break through the Allied lines at that point has proved groundless, as the Allies have recaptured Dixmude, driving out the invaders, and also holding them in check at every other point along the line. The fighting is said to have been of a desperate character, and it is admitted that the casualties were large, the German loss being, however, very much heavier than that of the Allies. One report says that the force of the German attack is weakening somewhat, and the highest praise is given to both British and French troops for their gallantry in holding their position, even when the odds were heavily against them. The Germans surely cannot continue to sustain such heavy losses as those of the last week or more without its having a very serious effect not only upon the numbers but upon the spirit of their armies.

In East Prussia the Russians are making progress, and Austria admits that they are also advancing in Galicia. The military observers say that a great battle is developing in the East Prussia region, and that the whole situation from the German standpoint is such that Germany is more likely to withdraw forces from Belgium and France to meet the eastern danger than to send reinforcements from the eastern to the western theatre of war. There is nothing in the news of last night or today to cause anxiety as to the situation in either east or west. At every point the German armies find themselves unable to do more than maintain their position and they are not able to do this at all points.

A report from Constantinople lends a grim humor to the whole war situation. The Turk says:—"With God's help the enemy has been forced to evacuate his positions." Whether the allusion is to the Kaiser's God or the Sultan's God is not stated, but the frequent references by one and another of the combatants to the results of Divine interposition must have a tendency to lead the mere scoffer to observe that there are as many gods in this war as ever there were around Olympus.

The British army, including the territorialists, is to be raised to a total of 2,240,400 officers and men. The British public will cheerfully vote the enormous sum necessary to associate the

war to a successful issue. Today's news tells us that 25,000 Australian troops are on the ocean, and Canada's second contingent will consist of over 21,000. The contribution in men of the over-sea states, when we consider the immense armies which Britain is preparing to place in the field, is but small, and Canada should have at least 100,000 men in the field next summer. Yesterday's announcement that the British casualties up to the end of October amounted to 37,000 men of all ranks shows how tremendous is the strain upon British resources in men as well as money. The situation is accepted, however, without flinching, and as the days pass without the Germans being able to make any headway either in the eastern or western theatre of war the hope grows that the war may be terminated at an earlier period than at first seemed probable, for if the strain upon Britain is great, not only in relation to men, but to financial resources, what must be the condition of Germany?

An Ottawa despatch to The Standard says that the Canadian force to sail in January will amount to 21,000 men, as reinforcements for all infantry for two months, such reinforcement being calculated on the basis of twenty-five per cent per month of the original force have been asked for. This means that more men must be recruited, and will add force to the plea that is now being made to the young men of this province to enlist for foreign service.

The interview with Dr. Melvin in today's Times shows that by comparison with other cities the infantile death rate in St. John is not excessive, although he agrees that it is far too great. The important thing in his remarks is the record of good work done by the board of health to improve sanitary conditions, and he intimates that with a larger staff and better facilities more could be done. These should be provided without hesitation or delay. St. John should be made the healthiest city in Canada.

The interesting news comes from Ottawa that the names of fifteen men have been struck off the pay roll of the Canadian contingent on Salisbury Plain, as the men have been dismissed, and it is also intimated that some lieutenants have been reduced to sergeants and some sergeants to the ranks. This means that discipline is to be enforced, and that only fitness for service is recognized. Those Canadians who have protested against the canteen will consider their course justified by General Alderson's plea:—"Please ask the public to stop treating the Canadian soldiers or I must stop giving them passes."

A correspondent in today's Times charges that a mere fraction of the supplies used on the Intercolonial Railway in New Brunswick is purchased in this province. He charges that much buying for the government railway is done in cities farther west, some of them far beyond the territory served by the government railway, and he sees no reason why merchants in this province should not get a larger share of the business. No doubt the minister from New Brunswick and the members of parliament from this province supporting the government, when their attention is directed to the matter, will give it their attention.

The great patriotic meeting in the Imperial Theatre on Tuesday evening will be notable because Bishop LeBlanc as well as Bishop Richardson will be one of the speakers with Mr. Justice McKeown. The presence of the Roman Catholic and Anglican Bishops on the same platform to appeal to the people on the ground of a common patriotism will be in itself an inspiration. This will be the first public occasion upon which Bishop LeBlanc has appeared on the platform since he assumed the duties of his high office, and there could not be a more fitting occasion. A British subject of French ancestry, he is peculiarly interested in the war, and as he had visited France and Belgium just before the outbreak of the war he is in some degree familiar with the theatre of this great conflict.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

The advisability of union between Canada and Newfoundland is understood to have been urged by the British admiral in a recent conference with a Canadian statesman. Military and naval reasons were given in support of the proposal.

The house and barn belonging to I. Parker, situated between Lingley and Westfield stations, were burned to the ground yesterday morning. There was no insurance.

The Red Star liner Zealand, 12,000 tons, ran ashore in the St. Lawrence in a blinding snow storm yesterday. It is believed that she can be floated with little or no damage.

Indoor winter sports were begun in the R. K. Y. C. last evening. High scores in the spoon bridge were made by Fred McDonald, A. E. Everett, and A. H. Merrill. Pool and billiard tournaments have also been started. Dr. Wetmore, the commissioner, stated that the club would aid in the patriotic funds and on Tuesday next a concert will be held for the tobacco fund for soldiers at the

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TOO MANY CANADIAN OFFICERS AT SALISBURY PLAIN IS STATEMENT

A letter from Salisbury Plain, under date of Oct. 29, says:—"Wanted, work for two hundred Canadian officers. Apply, First Canadian Expeditionary Force, Salisbury Plain."

It is quite true. There is fully this number of officers for whom there are no places in the division. It has become quite a serious problem. Some of them may return to Canada. Some of them may apply for places in Earl Kitchener's new army, where officers are needed. And it is more than possible that a training course for Canadian officers may be established at Sandhurst or Aldershot.

Nothing is yet decided, and from lieutenant-colonels down to the unqualified lieutenants, they are all wondering what is to become of them and in what capacity they can get to the front.

At Valenciennes there were about seven hundred surplus officers. About seventy-five were brought across as a reserve, it being thought that some place might be found for them.

But when the troops arrived, the order was issued for the re-organization of the battalions on the British system. The companies were doubled up in strength, and divided into platoons. Officers are to be seen standing about headquarters. Many of them have sacrificed much to get to the front. They are most anxious to reach the firing line. Some of those who did not qualify have approached Major-General. The Hon. Sam Hughes, with the request that he try to have a training course established that they may learn the technical part of their work. They will then apply for positions in Kitchener's army.

"We want work to do," said one. "We are tired of sitting around or making application for some little place. We want to get to the front, to get into action, and we are not going home unless we do."

Mrs. J. A. Fawcett, aged eighty years, died on Thursday at her home, Temperance Vale, York county. She is survived by her husband, five sons and three daughters.

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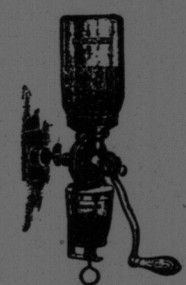
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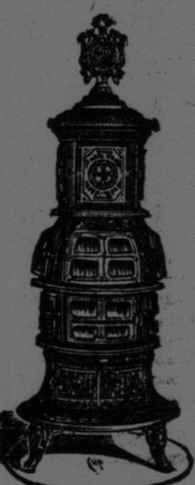
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Nice, crisp, buttered toast, piping hot tastes mighty good at breakfast time these cold mornings, but, when you make it with BUTTERNUT BREAD, you get that nutty flavor that makes it doubly delightful.

Grocers Sell Butternut Bread

John Galbraith and James Burke were committed for trial yesterday by Magistrate Ritchie, on the charge of destroying property belonging to Mrs.

William Stewart, a neighbor of the defendants. Each was allowed out on bail. J. A. Barry appeared for the defendants and U. J. Swenson for the prosecution.

WANT A SIX-HOUR DAY.

Union Carpenters Say Eight-Hour Is Too Enervating.

Philadelphia, Nov. 14—An effort to start an agitation for a six-hour work-day in all organized trades was made at the American Federation of Labor convention here.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters wants the convention to exert its weight to establish the six-hour day in all trades, upon the ground that the eight-hour day is enervating and excessive.

As were about thirty-five other resolutions offered by delegates at the convention, the resolution was referred to the resolutions committee. It is doubtful if it will get the support of the convention.

What was regarded as one of the most important resolutions offered and one which is likely to be well supported calls for the organization of an independent labor party in all states and municipalities to be financed by the allied labor unions.

Alice S. Bean, national organizer of the Bookkeepers and Stenographers Union, asked in a resolution that more determined efforts be put forward for

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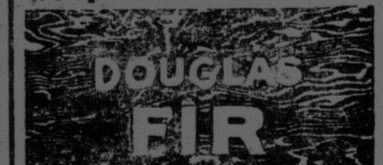
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the organization of office employees. The Central Federation Union of New York proposed to organize all typists and news writers into a union.

David Long, son of William Long, Midland, Kings county, was accidentally shot last Wednesday when a gun in the hands of William Roper was discharged as he was loading it. Dr. L. M. Macfarland, of Clifton, was called to attend the injured boy. The bullet passed through his right arm and left leg.

