

MARGINAL NOTES

By Commentator.

THE WAR.

It is still the prelude. The last tremendous act of the great drama has not yet opened in earnest. To those who know in their hearts what will contain, how terrible, because it must be final, it will be, each day of waiting is a dreadful suspense. The hosts—I can hardly call them armies—facing one another in a great line, unbroken, except for a short distance, stretching from the Atlantic to the Adriatic, seem to hesitate, compare each of the other's strength, before coming to grips in the last deadly encounter, from which one will emerge the victor, the other vanquished beyond hope of recovery. But the day may see the end of the waiting. Either side is trying out the strength of its arms in raids which are frequently of considerable magnitude, carried out at widely separated parts of the front. Nothing has yet occurred to indicate which side will take the initiative, or offensive, or whether the Allies may attack at one point and Germany at another, a possibility which the evenly balanced forces make by no means remote. I shall be surprised, however, if Verdun does not soon become the scene of another German effort, where the desire to restore lost prestige is likely to be added to strategic advantages which a big victory in that part of the line would give the enemy. If the surmise is correct, it is likely that our new Allies will not have to wait long to prove their mettle, for the Americans seem definitely to have been posted at the eastern wing of the Allies' line in France. In the eastern theatre the situation in Russia is for the moment less interesting and probably less important than that in Siberia. If Japan once takes a hand in earnestly, at Vladivostok, and it seems now inevitable—the consequences are not likely to stop there, and the German press already betrays apprehension. One thing seems certain—the rule of the Bolsheviks will not last much longer, and though Germany reaps so great a present advantage from the seeds of anarchy which she has sown in Russia, she may have to reckon before the end with a harvest from the same sowing not so much to her liking.

THE FLORIZEL INQUIRY.

While the general public are being well served by the very full and, on the whole, accurate reports of the evidence given on this inquiry, as indicated they are entitled to be by its great importance, it is as well to bear in mind the necessary reservations with which these reports must be accepted. Everyone will, consciously or unconsciously, form his own theories from reading them, and it is not all who have the wisdom to keep them to themselves until judgment has been delivered by the very competent court which is hearing the evidence. While many of the explanations and ideas that are being circulated on the foundation of the published reports are natural enough and none of them can do any positive harm, it should be remembered that the reports themselves are of necessity incomplete, and so misleading. Such a consequence is inevitable when, as in this case, the answers of witnesses are thus reported, and the questions

which elicited them omitted. And in many instances, most of them slight but some important, actual inaccuracies have crept in which may easily have given quite wrong impressions. Anyone, therefore, who forms any conclusions in his own mind, particularly if they be of the nature of criticism, should be most careful, first that he has got all the facts, and second, that he has got them correctly. And that, I need hardly say, is an advantage which can be enjoyed only by those present at the inquiry itself.

ONLY A CYEPHER.

While I am speaking of errors, I wonder how many of the Herald's readers noticed the amusing and quite inexcusable one made by an English writer in an article which it reprinted a few days ago? Speaking only from memory, I believe he was reading England a lecture on her neglect of the Newfoundland fisheries, and quoted Sir Edward Morris, as he then was, as stating that we were selling our fish to our consumers for \$28.00 a quintal (112 lbs.), or a little over a penny a pound! A little, yes—to be exact, over ten times as much, or twenty-five cents. As the argument seemed to derive its force from the cheapness of this neglected supply, it rather lost the greater part of it through the writer's mistake in calculation. Really, these free-lance economists should be a little more careful.

SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

It is a little refreshing to see our local papers wrangling for once over a question so scientific as an economic principle, though it was only to be expected that the Advocate should take sides against it, as it would against a theorem of Euclid if it suited its purpose. I shall not discuss here the stale subject of last year's price of fat, for which the Union Trading Co. coolly claims the credit, since all who know the true facts know that that company had no hand in the matter whatever; but I would like to adopt the Advocate's own argument and ask it a simple question. It calls "supply and demand," in Thursday's issue, "an iniquitous injustice in many cases, and simply an excuse for profiteering," and states that where this theory has been allowed free scope, "it has revealed men who are equal to the Kaiser in their methods." Precisely, but will the Advocate tell me what other agency than this iniquitous supply and demand has raised the price of our fish so high? Is not Newfoundland, with its fish, an island of profiteers, of men equal to the Kaiser? No arbitrary limit whatever has been placed on that price; Newfoundlanders, fishermen and merchants alike, have been permitted to get their full pound of flesh and a little over, and it is all a right and proper thing. But when the American farmer seeks a like benefit, it is iniquitous, and his demands are ruthlessly curtailed by law. I know which paper would be the first to raise an outcry if the same treatment were meted out to our farmers of the sea.

Pickled carrots served with mayonnaise dressing on lettuce leaves make a good salad.

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Thoughts Upon the Times.

(BY PATRIOT.)

Whilst preparations are going on for a big drive on the western front on a stupendous scale, nothing is being done by the authorities to provide for reinforcements for our Regiment which we are sure to need, sooner perhaps than we expect. What is the cause of this and how much longer is the country going to tolerate it? Is it fear, or indifference, or lack of patriotism on the part of the members of the Government that is holding them back? What is His Excellency the Governor doing in order to inspire his advisers with a proper sense of their duties as responsible Ministers of the Crown?

The officials responsible for the administration of the Military Service Act in Canada are constantly complaining of the poor state of health in which they find the young men of that country. The same complaint comes from the United States. The National vitality seems to be degenerating. Especially is this the case in the large cities. There the young men are found in poor physical condition. The causes attributed to this condition of affairs is the excessive use of cigarettes and the lack of outdoor exercise. The former habit certainly does not tend to improve the physical condition of any man, young or old. Look at the boys and young men on

To Stop a Persistent Hacking Cough

The best remedy is one you can easily make at home. Cheap, but very effective.

Thousands of people normally healthy in every other respect, are annoyed with a persistent hacking or bronchial cough year after year, disturbing their sleep and making life disagreeable. It is so needless—there's an old home-made remedy that will end such a cough easily and quickly.

Get from any drugist 2½ ounces of Pinex (50 cents worth), pour it into a 16-oz. bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. Begin taking it at once. Gradually but surely you will notice the phlegm thin out and then disappear altogether, thus ending a cough that you never thought would end. It also promptly loosens a dry or tight cough, stops the troublesome throat tickle, soothes the irritated membranes that line the throat and bronchial tubes, and relief comes almost immediately. A day's use will usually break up an ordinary throat or chest cold, and for bronchitis, croup, whooping cough and bronchial asthma there is nothing better. It tastes pleasant and keeps perfectly.

Pinex is a most valuable concentrated compound of genuine Norway pine extract and is used by millions of people every year for throat and chest colds with splendid results.

To avoid disappointment, ask your drugist for "2½ ounces of Pinex" with full directions and don't accept anything else. A guarantee of absolute satisfaction or money promptly refunded goes with this preparation. The Pinex Co., Toronto, Ont.

our own public streets who are addicted to this habit. But what is most serious is the boy of tender age—from nine to fourteen—who is a victim of the cigarette habit. We have all remarked how quickly our young volunteers have been transformed by their military training from the pale, round-shouldered, spiritless lounge of the street corner, into the bright-eyed, alert, upstanding and self-respecting young soldier. They soon take on a healthy color, and in a short time become physically and mentally fit for the arduous life of the soldier.

To be healthy, bright-eyed, alert, and robust, is what nature meant we all should be. If then we are not in this physical condition the cause must be with ourselves. It must be because of some law of nature which we have ignored or outraged. We can never trifle with the laws of nature without paying the penalty sooner or later. But to go back to the subject. We should give this question of National vitality serious consideration. Only a few months ago we had some very able men here from Canada and the States who gave us some excellent advice along these lines, but there are no indications yet to show that we have profited by their visit.

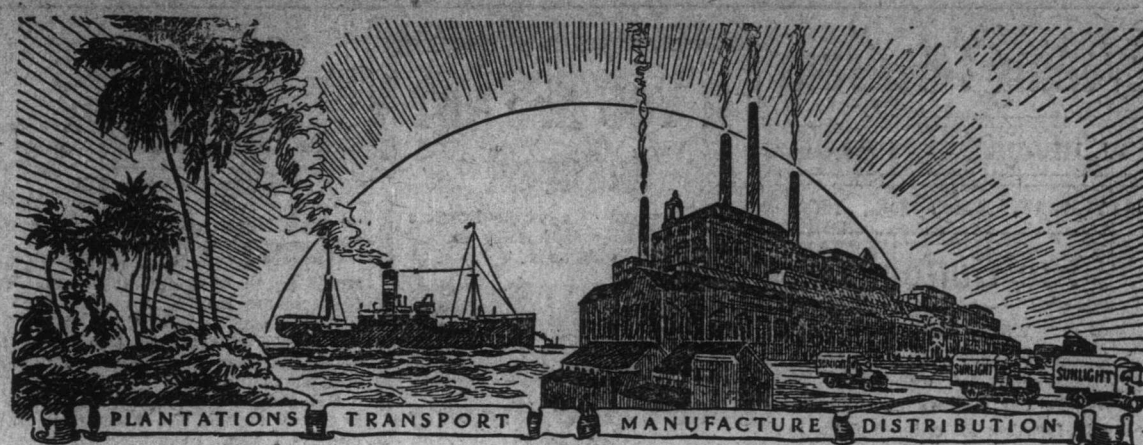
Most people do not seem to realize what the peace between Russia and Germany means to the whole world. It is a triumph for the German militarists. The man in whom the Russian people, or more correctly speaking the Russian mob, placed their trust, signally failed. Compared with the German Von Kuhlmann, Trotsky was a fool. According to his own statement the results which Germany have achieved are the following:

All that territory along the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea to the seaport of Revel; Courland and the Moon Islands in the Gulf of Riga; nearly all the provinces of Grodno, Kovno and Vilna, besides four billion dollars (\$4,000,000,000) indemnity. This more than offsets the loss of the German colonies which Great Britain has conquered.

Most people outside of Europe have not yet grasped what this swallowing by Germany of huge portions of Western Europe means to the world at large. Germany will no doubt begin immediately in Russia that organization work for which she has become famous. It is hardly a year ago that Germany took over the oil wells and wheat fields of Roumania. Yet to-day, so remarkable is her genius for organization, that steady supplies of oil and foodstuffs are flowing into Germany from Roumania.

Many well-informed writers believe that the great preparations made by Germany on the western front is mere "camouflage" on her part to conceal her intentions with regard to Italy. It is believed that the next really great drive will be on the Italian front, as the policy of the Central Powers seems to be to subdue their opponents one by one, and the weakest first. No doubt the Allied chiefs are on the alert and are prepared for any eventualities.

The Railway Passengers Assurance Company, the oldest Accident Company in the world, with combined Assets of \$27,000,000, is, notwithstanding its heavy losses in the recent disaster, still writing all classes of Accident Insurance. Ask for Prospectus. HENRY C. DONNELLY, General Agent for Nfld., Board of Trade Building. mar7,aod,lm



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A Survivor's Tribute.

Editor Evening Telegram.
Dear Sir,—Now that the first shock of that terrible and ever memorable disaster, which plunged the capital of this Dominion into mourning to a greater extent than any previous one, has passed away, and the survivors have recovered from their trying experience, it is perhaps fitting to pay a tribute to those men, those brave men (for they were all heroes) who accomplished what was thought to be the impossible on that ever memorable day, February the twenty-fifth, 1918.

The suddenness of the calamity with its appalling and irreparable loss of life will lead, no doubt (and how can it be otherwise), to a tendency to forget those to whom survivors owe more than ever hope to repay. The rescue of forty-four survivors from the ill-fated Florizel called for men of a mighty strong calibre, possessing the qualities of good seamanship as well as a great personal bravery, the latter being most essential, and without which it is doubtful if the writer would be penning this eulogy just now. Only one tribute can be written of these men and that is one which has become very familiar in these troublesome times—"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"; for while no man lost his life, Mr. Editor, they certainly went there to "do" or "die" (and what man can do more). Heroes! we are grateful, and while we are helpless to have your work recognized, we feel sure your devotion to duty, your fearlessness in the face of death, your bravery in those boiling and rushing waves, your gallant efforts to save life, will not pass unnoticed but will be placed before some humane society for recognition.

One of the brightest pages in our island history will be "The rescue of the survivors from the ill-fated Florizel". Special mention has been made in one or two cases, but is it not a fact, Mr. Editor, that some of the greatest acts of bravery pass unnoticed? I mention no names for I feel that every man deserves the highest reward that the State can bestow upon him for meritorious service in saving human life.

I would also like to express my appreciation and deep sense of gratitude to the officials and members of the rescuing ships who did everything in their power to make us comfortable and help us forget the gruesome experience which we had gone through by their many deeds of kindness extended to us on our "return" trip to St. John's.

I believe I am voicing the sentiments of all the survivors when I extend to the sorrowing relatives of those who have gone on that journey from which there is no return, our sincere sympathy in their sad bereavements, as well as gratitude to those men who braved such danger and almost certain death amid roaring billows, in order that the ever hungry sea did not take a fuller toll of life in this great disaster.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, in anticipation of space,
I am, sir, very truly yours,
ARCH E. GARDNER.
St. John's, March 14th, 1918.

Here and There.

When you want Sausages, why—get ELLIS'; they're the best.

BODIES UNRECOVERED.—Only 14 bodies remain unrecovered from the wreck. To date 80 bodies have been recovered.

When you want Roast Beef, Roast Veal, Roast Mutton, Roast Pork, try ELLIS'.

PERSONAL.—Reservist Jack Harvey, son of Mrs. John F. Harvey, of the Southside, who has been home on a short vacation, left by yesterday's express for Halifax.

Stafford's Drug Store, Theatre Hill, is open every night till 11.30.—feb23,t

Here and There.

BELL ISLAND CURLERS COMING.—Arrangements are being made for the Bell Island curlers to play a visit to the city next week and play a series of games with the citizens.

Silk Hats, White Bows, White Kid Gloves, etc. G. KNOWLING, Ltd.—mar15,2i

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR G.P.O.—The P.M.G. had some temporary electric fixtures installed yesterday for the convenience of the officials in delivering the mail which arrived last night.

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