

## London Advertiser

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 31.

## ENTER THE TURK

TURKEY'S entering the war opens up a black prospect. As the situation in the Balkans exists today, it can hardly mean anything else than a general conflict throughout that section of Europe. The last two campaigns in the Balkans by their ferocity terrified the world, but backed by the great powers involved in the main struggle, this time the horrors are likely to be greatly prolonged. Rumania, as a side partner of Russia, can hardly be kept out of the melee, while it is inevitable that Greece shall again, claim with her ancient enemy, the Turk, to share in the spoils of the war, and, with her well-trained army of seasoned fighters, should prove a powerful support wherever she places her active sympathies. Finally, Italy, with her interests so closely allied to the Balkans, may have to cast aside her present neutrality. Should all the little Balkan nations and Italy be involved, the balance of strength would be greatly in favor of the Allies, for while looking their wars, the different combatants would be indirectly with one or other of the great powers already up to the hilt in a life-and-death struggle.

Probably the soundings of Germany and the ambitions of the Young Turk party, which at present rule Turkey, are responsible for the action of the Porte in plunging into war. Germany's idea, no doubt, has been to create a diversion, particularly one that would heavily engage the Russian army. Unless she obtained the most sweeping victories over Russia, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro and Rumania, Turkey would be unable to send armies to the help of Austria and Germany. But it would be possible to stop up the Russian advance through East Prussia by using Turkey. It seems a rash step for the Turk, thoroughly hated as he is on all sides. The ultimate result of the war can be little less than his expulsion from Europe. Germany's bribe must have been a particularly big one, or is it Muslim fatalism that is responsible?

Great Britain evidently has foreseen the present situation and has taken extra precautions to preserve her interests in the eastern Mediterranean. Only by leave of a British fleet can an Ottoman warship or transport come out of the Dardanelles, while the forces in Egypt have been strengthened by many thousands, and the Suez Canal completely safeguarded against destruction. So far as Great Britain is concerned the entrance of Turkey into the monster struggle will not modify to any appreciable extent her operations in Belgium.

## THE NAVAL CONTROVERSY

DESPITE the agreement to drop controversial matters between the two political parties of Canada, there are some Conservative newspapers ready to throw out insinuations, and make misrepresentations, with a view to discrediting the Liberals. This is especially true in connection with the naval policy of the two parties, and the course taken by them in Parliament. It is of frequent occurrence that one of the papers will come out with an expression of regret that the Borden policy had not been carried out; that the senate should have refused to give Britain the money for three Dreadnaughts, which would now be adding strength to the British North Sea fleet; that it not only deprived the empire of aid which would now be of great value, but that it led Germany to believe Canada was not loyal, and could not be depended on if war broke out. We are not disposed to let this kind of talk go without contradiction. Our silence would be accepted as a confession that the Liberals were wrong in their policy, and that the empire suffers from their neglect or misconduct.

The senate did not reject the Borden contribution policy. It only maintained that this was inconsistent with the policy agreed on by both parties; that it was a new idea which had never been discussed, and that the people should be allowed to vote on it. The Liberals maintained that Canada should provide a local navy, and support it, for use in Canada in time of peace, but to be at the disposal of the empire in time of war. That the Borden policy was approved by the Nationalists who opposed Laurier as too British and too imperialistic, is the best evidence of its true character. The Liberal Government had started a Canadian navy that would in time have been of material service. The Liberals were quite willing to increase the appropriations of public money on that line. They were willing even to build two Dreadnaughts for home defence. The Liberal policy was to do something. The Conservative policy was to say something.

As to the statement that if the contribution policy had been adopted we would now have three Dreadnaughts in the North Sea, or anywhere else, that is all nonsense. It takes more than two years to build a Dreadnaught, and it is not two years since Sir Robert introduced his contribution policy. And

the British shipbuilders were busy two years ago, and we were told they could not take any fresh orders. If the senate had passed the thirty-five-million contribution there is no probability that the construction of Dreadnaughts would have commenced much before this year, and no likelihood of their being ready for service before 1916. From a naval point of view, we would have done nothing, while the appropriation of so large a sum of money would have seriously hampered us today in the heavy expenditure we are taking on ourselves for military purposes. Fifty millions on top of thirty-five millions would have looked rather serious, and we will probably need another fifty millions before we are done with it.

Had the Conservatives remained true to the Canadian policy they first endorsed, and upon which both parties were agreed, not only would the Niobe and the Rainbow have been ready for active service the moment war was declared, but we would have had twice or three times the number of cruisers, and we would have had a well-trained band of seamen. They would have been scouring the seas, on the Atlantic and the Pacific, last August, and would have been rendering material aid to the British navy. Three months have passed, and the Dreadnaughts of none of the warning nations have been heard from. But their battle cruisers, like our so-called "tinpot" navy, have been active, and their submarines have been doing effective service. A Canadian contingent on the ocean might have been taking its share in naval operations if the Liberal Government had remained in control of affairs.

## A RAINBOW.

It is agreed that the war is the most disastrous and terrific that the world has ever experienced. Is there any reason to hope for peace? Is there any rainbow visible?

My heart leaps up when I behold  
A rainbow in the sky,  
So was it when my life began,  
So is it now that I'm a man.

There is no more pleasing sight than a rainbow, and millions of people are looking anxiously every day for some glimpse of one in the war-clouded sky of the world.

The military experts state that the war will be a long one. Lord Kitchener agreed to give three years of his time to war if it should last so long, and Lord Charles Bessford says it will take six months to put the Kaiser on his back. The Kaiser did not intend to fight England, France and Russia, nor did he intend to fight without Italy on his side. From the beginning his calculations miscarried. He had no doubt that his great army could easily take Paris. He has ascertained that to take Paris is beyond his power. He expected to possess Paris before his strength would be needed against Russia, but he has been disappointed here, too. Russia with its millions of soldiers is too strong for any force he can bring against it.

Germany has failed in its expectations on land and the British navy has kept the German navy in hand so successfully that the world's commerce has been protected. The few German boats at large and the damage done by mines are unworthy a great nation. When we remember that the water on the earth's surface is twice as great as the land we can see, to some extent appreciate the value of Britain's navy.

It is necessary, then, to smash Germany completely before peace is restored? This seems to be the view held by many. It should not be forgotten that nearly one-half of the Germans are Socialists and averse to war. It will be said they are in the fighting line, but how could they escape that fate? They are held by the military laws of their country. They are not free. The war has continued long enough to convince even the Kaiser that he has made a mistake. He has succeeded only against Belgium, and that will cost his country a tremendous sum to repay. The ocean is closed to him and he will be soon confined to his own land and fighting for that.

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## GERMAN DIPLOMACY.

ONE of Germany's little schemes in foreign diplomacy has been to encourage or allow her ambassadors to say things personally which they could not say officially. For example, according to the Belgian Grey Book, Herr von Bellow Saliske, the German minister at Brussels, assured the Belgian Government on July 31 and again on August 2 that everything was all right, that Germany's support of Belgium neutrality, announced to Belgium privately in 1911, was still unaltered. No public declaration had been made, of course, as that would be a guide to France's plans. But Saliske was "certain," he said, that Germany's attitude was unchanged, though, "he had not been instructed hitherto to make an official communication." However, "Belgium knew his personal opinion upon the security Belgium was entitled to feel in regard to her eastern neighbor."

This last remark was made on August

## --and the Worst Is Yet to Come



## PRESS COMMENT ON THE WAR

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER.

(La Presse.)

Do not let us forget that every German or Austrian who is guilty of espionage here works for the ruin of our two mother countries and the death of our brothers.

## A CIVILIZING MOVEMENT.

(New York Tribune.)

It is announced from Petrograd that the Russian Government will never again embark in the manufacture and sale of alcoholic drinks. A "war for civilization" that has banished vodka and abstinence may be credited with one sobering step up to that end.

## KITCHENER KNEW.

(Brookville Times.)

When Lord Kitchener grimly spoke two months ago of the war lasting for two or three years or more, some people were moved to scoff at the idea of so long a struggle. They are beginning to realize that Lord Kitchener knew what he was talking about.

## PURPOSE OF THE CENSORSHIP.

(London Times.)

In this country we are not used to a censorship, and the public are sometimes a little inclined to misunderstand its object. Rightly controlled, it is not in the least intended to prevent Great Britain, at any rate—to prevent the dissemination of news of an unfavorable character. Such is very far from its intention at this juncture. Its sole purpose just now is to preserve the reticence enjoined by imperative military requirements. It postpones the publication of news until such news can no longer be of value to the enemy.

## NO NEED FOR MISGIVING.

(St. John Times.)

No British subject need have any misgiving as to the final result of the war. All should urge, however, that every effort be made in every part of the Empire to recruit and train men and have them in readiness, so that no recruits may be sent to the front line. There will be black days before the sunshine of peace warms and brightens the world. That dawn may be hastened by hurrying the equipment and training of the British armies which

## An Open Letter to American People

(BY JOHN COTTAM.)

Free people, free institutions and free nations look anxiously to God! They are tottering, bleeding to death in the sudden, traitorous grip of a blood-drinking monster! In its blasphemous "divine right" this predatory super-beast is smothering nations in human gore, wallowing in Red Seas that gush from the mutilation of our women, their little children and their husbands and fathers, our good brothers inadequately armed against a "Kultur" nation with its scientific perfection in butchering humanity.

Thousands of human lives are broken and crushed each day for a vintage of fresh blood to glut this Kaiser-thirst, to intensify this Prussian lust! And now, after three long, long months of super-hell, certain nations still stand apart from these free people so sorely stricken. Aid and comfort from some nations may not be expected. But if the same blood flows in men's veins and if they hold ideals of freedom and progress together in common, little wonder that they expect to stand shoulder to shoulder in times of stress! Little wonder if there be regret and disappointment when the powers of power and influence of such a nation seem to spend itself in merely considering how best to play the neutral!

A neutral or neutral according to the Century Dictionary, is a nation occupying an indifferent position.

Great God above and in us all! The land pre-eminent throughout the world for freedom! Shall the "Land of the Free" stand indifferent while the home lands of democracy are drenched in human blood, while the mother of free men is so sorely harassed and oppressed by stricken neighbors innocent of all offence? Shall the Free States of North America be neutral while the home coasts of the Pilgrim Fathers are threatened and fouled and devastated? Under the stars and stripes shall a hundred million free people, with re-

tent with the German Chancellor's publication of the German ultimatum showed how secure Belgium was entitled to feel on the strength of his personal opinions. He had to explain that as some Frenchmen had thrown bombs over the Franco-German frontier, France was certain not to respect Belgian neutrality, and therefore Germany must protect this neutrality by forestalling France in its violation. There is nothing in all history quite to match this reasoning except the old story of the wolf and the lamb, and we are not told that the wolf had sent ambassadors to coax the lamb to the stream and tell him anxieties by "personal assurances." These fair-spoken, friendly German ministers are a slimmer lot than, even the spies, if they are really distinguishable from them, and they are almost to be classed with the German gentleman who was entertained for some time by an English host and departing just on the eve of the war spat from the train into the face of his whistling entertainer and called him a "English pig." It is a pleasure to have read that this fellow was jerked from the car and is convulsing in an English hospital.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Turco battling with Turk may soon be an incident of the war.

Hauptmann's lying assertion that Belgium was France's tool and therefore rightly invaded is, of course, incon-

sistent with the German bobby quarreled with the Frenchman he fired a bullet right through Belgium's head at the Frenchman who happened to be partly behind their joint war.

## A CRUMB OF COMFORT.

(Philadelphia Record.)

The carnage is appalling enough at best; it is consoling to learn, from Dr. Osler that it is not so bad as it might be. He says that of 700 wounded soldiers in an Oxford hospital only one has died, and his death was due to lack of food. He believes that this war will establish a new record for low rate of mortality from wounds. This he attributes to the antiseptic effects of high-speed bullets and to the efficiency of the field hospitals. This is a crumb of comfort amid the horrors of the greatest of wars. It is also gratifying to learn from Dr. Osler that he has seen no wounds caused by dum-dum or explosive bullets. Field surgeons on both sides have said the same thing.

## MILITARY CAENTEENS.

(La Patrie.)

Nobody will be surprised to learn that the English military authorities have thrown to the winds the order of Col. Hughes forbidding soldiers to take drinks. In England the soldiers have the right to have what they want. In France rations of wine and brandy are distributed to the soldiers. Why should Canadian volunteers be treated differently than the soldiers of England and France? Will our military authorities profit by the lesson which comes from the mother country, the source of all our liberties?

## NEW CRISIS APPROACHING.

(New York Evening Sun.)

A new crisis is approaching. In the next few days on this hundred-mile front between Arras and Dunkirk there is to be decided the question whether the soil not being very deep, varying from a foot to a foot and a half, whether the Kaiser's army has still the power to strike again toward Paris, whether his masses are still strong enough despite losses and exhaustion to deal another terrible blow to the British army. The Normans are not, it is plain that presently more numbers will put them permanently on that defensive, in German military literature so despised, so abhorred.

## Salisbury Plains—The Camping Grounds of the Canadian Contingent

To the Editor of The Advertiser:

No doubt the above-mentioned plains situated between the towns of Salisbury and Devizes in the County of Wiltshire, are of great interest as the place where the brave boys of Canada are encamped for training and drilling to fit them to take their places in the firing line of this terrible war raging in France and Belgium.

Many a father, mother, wife, sister and sweetheart will look with great interest and concern to the time of the postman's call, hoping they may get a letter telling them of the welfare of the men in camp.

It may not be out of place to describe the plain a little. To the north the approach to the plains, which are really the south downs of Wilt, we have to make quite an ascent, as the downs are quite elevated. We first travel over the macadam roads going up and up where there is a change from flint to chalk most white, but once on the plain you can see for miles over gently rolling ground mostly used as sheep pasture. A little to the north of the camp, from three inches to a foot and a half, which is hard chalk, making a natural drainage. The grass seldom or ever grows, making good pasture for sheep but not much good for cattle.

The Bostard Inn.

There are few houses or villages on the plains. One of a great deal of interest is the old hostelry called the Bostard where in the good old days of the stage coaches there used to change horses, replenish the inner man on the way from Devizes to Salisbury and vice versa. A driver of a coach and four at that time was some personage, quite above looking after his horses. When arriving at a changing post he simply flung the lines to the stable boys and marched into the house, generally to the bar to await the change of horses.

By the way when taking dinner at the Bostard we did not have a menu card to select from, but large joints of different meats were placed on the table with various vegetables and carved and served as they would be on one's home. After dinner the men enjoy their church warden's, filled from a box of tobacco which takes a halfpenny to open. After a man has helped himself he shuts it up and passes it to his neighbors. They take something else too, as well as a smoke.

On the plains is one place of great historic interest, namely, Stonehenge. About midway across is what is left of a Druid temple. The Druids roamed the plains before the Norman conquests nearly two thousand years ago, and a very strange people, they were. They built their temples in a circle of very large stones of immense weight, two standing perpendicular and one horizontally, reaching from the top

## Salisbury Plains—The Camping Grounds of the Canadian Contingent

of one pillar to the other, forming a sort of unfinished doorway. There are a lot of these at some distance apart, forming a circle, their religious exercises having been conducted in the middle. These stones are granite brought from the north of the island, and it has always been a mystery how the Druids hauled or transported these immense stones to where they are, and placed them in position. A good many of them have fallen, some have broken, but what is most strange about it is that there are no stones of a like kind to be found anywhere within miles of Stonehenge, in fact it is hard to find a stone at all. The hills are all coarse chalk. What requires about forty horses to haul one of the three or four times as much from the quarry to where they are. It is a great place for the hares and rabbits. I expect many a nice hare will be found at the officers' mess without the gamekeeper's knowledge, this being the season for them. Many a good day's sport I have put in coursing the hares with greyhounds.

As a camp ground the plains cannot be better, as it is nearly always dry even after a good rain, and far better than Aldershot, being much larger. The Government also maintain an aviation ground there.

The Bostard Hotel gets its name from a bird something like our wild turkey and of course the Bostard Camp is near.

Two County Towns.

Just a word or two about the two towns, Salisbury and Devizes, the latter the place of my birth. Both are county towns, Wiltshire having two. There is a very fine cathedral at Salisbury, of its population is about 20,000. Devizes is a very old town about 12,000 population, has a castle built during the time of the conquest, and has walls of great thickness, also a keeper. It is very fine, standing on a hill that commands the country for miles around. It is one of the towns that Oliver Cromwell and his ironclads could not take but not for want of being besieged. Oliver Cromwell planted his batteries on Roundway Downs, now known as Oliver Cromwell Castle, to the north, bombarding the castle over the town. Evidence of the bombardment is still there on the tower of St. James Church on the Green in the shape of shot marks. But the castle guns drove him out, killing a lot of his men who were buried there. About 1838 the people who own the hill, when doing some excavating came across several coffins, among others an officer's of rank who was buried with orders, the hilt of his sword being set with jewels, some of which had become unstrung. My father, who was present at the time obtained two stones, which he had made into a scarf pin which I still have.

During the time of the corn laws in England the price of wheat went beyond the reach of the poorer classes, who often made up clubs to buy a sack of wheat (4 bushels) and take it to the mill to be ground, then divide the proceeds.

A Devizes Monument.

One such club was formed on the market place of Devizes. On market-

day one of the women was to be the treasurer and buy the wheat for the farmer. When it came to paying for the wheat she had already paid for it, but the farmer denied it, when she held up her right hand and said she was a widow, God would strike her dead if she lied. She immediately died, the money being found after in some position, a borough erected a fine monument on the spot as a warning to others to be honest in their dealings, with a description of the death of Ruth Pierce, which is about forty feet high, built in the centre of the market place, which is of the large number of sheep brought to market. This may seem like a fairy tale to some but can be testified by the minutes of the borough council of that time.

There are some splendid estates in Wiltshire, including Marlborough, Farnborough, and others. One of the best, owned by the Prince of Wales, where a fine herd of red deer are kept. Roundway after in fact, on the stones, with a fine herd of fallow deer and various others.

In conclusion, I hope the boys will enjoy themselves with the monasteries of Wiltshire and when the time comes for them to take an active part in this being found after in fact, on the stones, with a fine herd of fallow deer and various others.

Yours,

W. G. FRANCES.

London, October 20, 1914.

There are few houses or villages on the plains. One of a great deal of interest is the old hostelry called the Bostard where in the good old days of the stage coaches there used to change horses, replenish the inner man on the way from Devizes to Salisbury and vice versa. A driver of a coach and four at that time was some personage, quite above looking after his horses. When arriving at a changing post he simply flung the lines to the stable boys and marched into the house, generally to the bar to await the change of horses.

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of one pillar to the other, forming a sort of unfinished doorway. There are a lot of these at some distance apart, forming a circle, their religious exercises having been conducted in the middle. These stones are granite brought from the north of the island, and it has always been a mystery how the Druids hauled or transported these immense stones to where they are, and placed them in position. A good many of them have fallen, some have broken, but what is most strange about it is that there are no stones of a like kind to be found anywhere within miles of Stonehenge, in fact it is hard to find a stone at all. The hills are all coarse chalk. What requires about forty horses to haul one of the three or four times as much from the quarry to where they are. It is a great place for the hares and rabbits. I expect many a nice hare will be found at the officers' mess without the gamekeeper's knowledge, this being the season for them. Many a good day's sport I have put in coursing the hares with greyhounds.

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During the time of the corn laws in England the price of wheat went beyond the reach of the poorer classes, who often made up clubs to buy a sack of wheat (4 bushels) and take it to the mill to be ground, then divide the proceeds.

A Devizes Monument.

One such club was formed on the market place of Devizes. On market-

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One such club was formed on the market place of Devizes. On market-

day one of the women was to be the treasurer and buy the wheat for the farmer. When it came to paying for the wheat she had already paid for it, but the farmer denied it, when she held up her right hand and said she was a widow, God would strike her dead if she lied. She immediately died, the money being found after in some position, a borough erected a fine monument on the spot as a warning to others to be honest in their dealings, with a description of the death of Ruth Pierce, which is about forty feet high, built in the centre of the market place, which is of the large number of sheep brought to market. This may seem like a fairy tale to some but can be testified by the minutes of the borough council of that time.

There are some splendid estates in Wiltshire, including Marlborough, Farnborough, and others. One of the best, owned by the Prince of Wales, where a fine herd of red deer are kept. Roundway after in fact, on the stones, with a fine herd of fallow deer and various others.

In conclusion, I hope the boys will enjoy themselves with the monasteries of Wiltshire and when the time comes for them to take an active part in this being found after in fact, on the stones, with a fine herd of fallow deer and various others.

Yours,

W. G. FRANCES.</