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British Aerial Superiority

The great world war now in progress has brought into play many hitherto unheard of methods of conflict. As a matter of fact the greater part of the fighting has been according to plans and movements formerly little known in warfare. For years at a time, the forces of the contending nations have faced each other in trenches, very short distances apart. There has been comparatively little open fighting, such as we had been accustomed to read of in all previous wars. There has been, as already said, the trench warfare, then the submarine warfare, and the aerial warfare. It has been a war on land, on sea, under sea and in the air. In none of these new methods of warfare has such marvellous advancement been made as in the fighting in the air. At the beginning of the war travel in the air had made but slight progress. This was especially true of Great Britain. The Germans had much the advantage in this peculiar phase of warfare, for some time after the titanic struggle had commenced, but the Allies soon caught up to their enemies in this respect, and have by this time, far surpassed them. There is no doubt at all that now superiority in the air, clean cut and unquestionable, rests not only with the Allies, but especially with the British flying men. Periods there have been during the progress of the conflict when it seemed a very slight supply of additional strength to one side or the other might tie up the balance temporarily, but that cannot be said now. British air-men are supreme. Not only have the King's flyers recently maintained a decided superiority in the intense air fighting, but the work of British bombing squadrons has far exceeded that of the enemy in vigor and result. If we turn to the main spectacular field of aeroplane operation, we will find that the British have grounded hostile pilots until the greater part of the battles have occurred east of the German lines. In many engagements staged from day to day, when the weather permitted, great numbers of hostile machines have been destroyed. One British aviator alone, has sent 25 crashing to the earth in the last few months and others of his comrades are not far behind him. In the first of this year, fighting that has steadily grown in that connection with the work of bombing squadrons, and in this the British have reached farther and farther into the German back areas in search of military objectives. There has been no let up; day and night squadrons of the British planes have maintained an almost endless bombing of enemy positions, and their accuracy in bombardment is testified to in photographs of destructive hits. Not only have railroads, air-dromes, and other vital objectives been effectively bombed, but the loss of life among German troops in concentration camps has been exceedingly heavy. Captured documents bear testimony to this and prisoners admit it. The British have constantly conducted their raids from an exceedingly low plane, not unfrequently descending to within 50 ft. of the ground to loose bombs. The Germans, on the other hand, very

seldom venture below 10,000 ft. because of the dread of the British anti-air craft defences, which have reached a state of perfection never before achieved. The difference in the accuracy of the two services in bomb dropping thus has an obvious explanation. The straight shooting British bombing is exemplified by the work of one man, who attacking two trains near Hermonis a few days ago. He secured a direct hit on the first train and then blew up the track in front of it, descending on another train, nearby, he knocked tow trucks off the track with explosives. Having thus stalled the trains, he proceeded to wreck them with his machine gun. He opened a fire with this gun on several other trains shortly afterwards with good results. All this will afford evidence of the marvellous progress that has been made in aerial warfare by the Allies, and especially by Great Britain, during this tremendous struggle.

Dominions To Be Consulted

The governments of the British dominions will have a voice in determining the terms of peace according to Mr. Lloyd George. The prime minister made this statement in a speech at a dinner given in honor of the Canadian editors who are visiting England, at which Lord Beaverbrook was host. "This is a war in which we engaged the empire," said the premier, "when we had no time to consult the dominions as to policy and it is perfectly true that the policy which we adopted to protect small nations in Europe was a policy which we embarked upon without any consultation with the dominions. But you approved of it. Henceforth you have the right to be consulted as to the policy beforehand, and this is the change which has been effected as a result of the war. "The contributions which you have made to enforce these treaties have given undeniable right to a voice in fashioning the policy which may commit you, and for that reason an imperial war cabinet is a reality. "Another point in which you must have a voice is the settlement of the conditions of peace. We have discussed war aims and the conditions under which we are prepared to make peace at the war cabinet. We arrived at an agreement on the subject last year with the representatives of the dominions, and we shall reconsider the same problems in the light of events which have occurred since—and we shall consider the whole of these problems, I have no doubt, in the course of the next few weeks. "Canada and Australia and New Zealand, yes—and Newfoundland—they have all contributed their share of sacrifice and they are entitled to an equal voice with the representatives of these islands—will determine the conditions under which we are prepared to make peace. Unless I am mistaken, we are pretty well in agreement upon them.

"There must be no haggard-mugger peace. It must be a real peace. We are not waging war for the sake of killing or of being killed, but for the sake of establishing a just and durable peace for the world. You cannot make peace unless it is both just and likely to endure. "We in this country who have lost hundreds of thousands and have had millions maimed, and slain, whose casualties have amounted to scores of thousands—and Australia too has played her share in these things—are not making these sacrifices in order to establish a fraud on this earth, and anything less than a real peace will be defrauding, not this generation, but the next generation; it will be defrauding humanity. "Germany has waged three wars, and each time she has added through these wars to

her strength, to her power, to her guidance, to her influence, and each successive war she has waged has inevitably encouraged her on to the next. If she had had one check you would not have had this war. If this war succeeds in adding one square yard to her territory, of adding one cubic to her stature, of adding a single iota to her strength, it will simply raise their idea of militarism, for which the world is being sacrificed at the present moment. "The god of brute force must this time forever be broken, and burnt in its own furnace."

Voluntary Rationing Plan.

Keen rivalry exists among the provincial committees of the Canada Food Board, that are vying with one another in drafting provincial voluntary food regulations for the homes. Following out the policy which has proved so effective in Great Britain of decentralizing food control, the chairman of the Canada Food Board has delegated to each provincial committee the task of submitting for approval definite and concrete schemes of voluntary food rationing for the homes, that will conform intimately with local conditions. It is obvious that those who, as members of a provincial committee, are daily in touch with consumers in their province, and know the particular food needs and possibilities, are best fitted to suggest plans of voluntary rationing that will most effectively achieve the object of conserving food and creating surpluses for export overseas, as well as that of providing wholesome and seasonable food for provincial consumption.

It is manifestly difficult for the central Canada Food Board to designate lines of action that will comprehend all local conditions, for each province has its own special conditions which a general order might disturb. Because of the widespread demand on the part of consumers that they be told what they should eat and what they should not eat, and what distinctive foods should be consumed and what left alone, the new policy of endowing provincial committees with more discretionary authority has been instituted. Happily it has been received throughout Canada with every evidence of satisfaction and each provincial committee is exhibiting a praiseworthy pride in drafting regulations that will measure up to the splendid spirit of self-sacrifice and self-denial of the consumers.

Especially are the women of the different provinces keenly interested in the results of the new policy, because it has been due to their insistence that the new regime has been brought into being. And the food ideals of the women of Canada are those that will dictate the provincial voluntary rationing regulations. The aim appears to be that while the general orders of the Canada Food Board are considered excellent, yet each province desires to put itself under more rigid food discipline in conformity to its particular conditions.

How well the new policy will work out will depend upon the energy and enthusiasm of each provincial committee and the local committees at each point, which may be immeasurably helped by suggestions and constructive criticism from the consumers. It will be interesting to compare the food regulations of the different provinces when the committees shall have completed their work, and there will then be afforded an opportunity of estimating how one province exceeds another in its determination to make food control an effective engine of war.

It is the duty of the consumers in each province to see that the standard set up is in keeping with the spirit of Canada pledged to fight this war to a finish.

Record that is a Promise

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York, one of the most powerful financial institutions upon this continent, has been issuing a series of papers dealing with the war reconstruction plans of various countries. In its latest print it deals with Canada, and it is highly pleasing to note that such experienced observers do not contain the blue-ruin, pessimistic feelings with which some of our wailing Jeremiahs view the future prospects of this country. "Noting the remarkable changes wrought by the war in the financial and industrial structure of the Dominion, and the methods that Canadians are adopting to increase their economic advantages, particularly in foreign trade, the circular declares that the record of the past is a promise for the future and continues thus:

"Here is a country that has crowded into a few years an experience usually timed by decades and generations. Under ordinary circumstances the transition from agriculture to industrialism, from the subjugation of nature to the thorough development of her resources, from separation to nationalism, from colonialism to internationalism, is a matter of steady growth, of conscious striving along carefully drawn lines, or of an accommodation to circumstances enforced by the irresistible workings of economic laws. The most enthusiastic Canadian does not maintain that anything like a complete transformation has taken place in the economic life of his country, but it is submitted that the necessities of the world struggle have forced changes in the relative importance of varied activities, and that if suggestions available in contained are judiciously availed of and the actual accomplishments sustained and broadened, Canada will move forward to a new and unassailable position among the manufacturing and trading nations of the world.

"Her (Canada's) hopes for the future are measured by the proportion between what she has done and what it was thought she was capable of doing less than four years ago. Canada's record is a summary of her promise."

If anyone four years ago had predicted that Canada, then borrowing in the markets of the world at the rate of one million dollars a day, could actually be transformed in the face of war from a debtor into a creditor nation, that her people should be able to lend more than \$770,000,000 to their own Government and provide credits for Great Britain as well, and that her trade should be expanded by over one billion dollars, all within four years, he would have mostly been regarded as a proponent of an asylum for lunatics. Yet all these things have come to pass and are now accepted almost without comment by our people. Surely then, as the Guaranty Trust Company of New York submits, such a record is an assurance for the future. The same men who in 1914 saw only financial chaos and ruin before us, are now picturing a dire future of debt and commercial and financial stagnation, but when Canadians look back across the brilliant achievements of four years past, when they contemplate what pluck and perseverance and enterprise have accomplished for the country since August 1914, it is their right and duty to face what is to some confident and unafraid. —Ottawa Journal Press.

Newfoundland's conscription law, which went into effect six weeks ago, has operated so effectively that now the Newfoundland regiment is recruited to full war strength. It is not expected that a second draft call will be made until autumn at the close of the season for fishing. Newfoundland's vital industry. Women have replaced men on the farms, but as this is not possible on the fishing boats the man power for military service is limited.

Editorial Notes

According to the most recent order of the Canada Food Board all licensed dealers in selling for private consumption up to July 15th shall sell one pound of substitutes with every nine pounds of standard wheat flour. On and after July 1, the law was that all householders baking for private consumption as well as bakers, etc., must use in making bakery products one pound of substitute to every four pound of wheat. Where there are violations of the law heavy fines are to be imposed.

A Canadian section has been formed at the British General headquarters in France. The section is branch of and responsible to the British ministry of the overseas forces in London. The new department is an outcome of a desire on the part of Canada to maintain as complete control as possible of her own forces. Sir Edward Kemp has for some time been negotiating with the Imperial authorities and has succeeded in establishing the principle that the Canadian authorities should have complete control of all matters relating to the organization and administration of the Canadian overseas forces, with exception of those which directly affect military operations.

The Lord Mayor of London on Friday evening tendered a banquet at the Mansion House to the premiers of the Dominions. The distinguished gathering included Hon. A. J. Balfour, foreign secretary; Vice Admiral Lord Jellicoe, Viscount Milner and Lieut-General Smuts of South Africa. Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, said the Dominions were determined that this war must be fought to a finish and he would return to Canada confident that Great Britain was still imbued with unconquerable resolve and that the Allies would attain victory without which no enduring peace was possible. "The Dominion I represent said Sir Robert will not be satisfied with any inconclusive or indecisive peace. Germany half defeated, would be Germany victorious." "This is the grounded opinion that made the success of the Union Government in the recent general election decisive."

Canada and Australia

While Canada has done well in the matter of war loans yet when population and wealth are considered her contribution to the Empire's war chest has been small in comparison with that of Australia. The Australians, with a population of 4,500,000, have taken up six war loans aggregating more than \$720,000,000, or an average of \$160 for every man, woman and child in the country. The Australian loans paid four and one-half per cent. The Canadian loans paid a much more remunerative investment, yet with 7,750,000 people Canada subscribed to but \$767,000,000 or considerably less than \$100 each. And the Canadian loan paid on an average of five and one-half per cent.

From this showing it is evident that the people of the Australian commonwealth have achieved far more than Canada's they have raised more per capita and at less cost to the state.

Canada, says an exchange, is much richer than Australia. There is much more money in the hands of the people of this country. Australia has been isolated by war conditions, so that her products have not found a ready market as those of Canada have. For instance, 60,000,000 bushels of Australian wheat were held up at ports of that country for over a year for lack of shipping facilities. Canada's financial efforts in the war have been lauded, but how much more should Australia's achievements be commended.

Canada has prospered as a result of the war as no other nation, but the United States has done. If Australia has raised \$720,000,000, Canada should be able to raise \$1,500,000,000. This autumn the Dominion Government may want \$500,000,000 in the way of war loans from the people. The Canadian people can do at least as well as the Australians. —St. John Standard.

Progress of the War

London, July 10.—Seldom do German military manoeuvres wait on political developments, but such seems to be the case today. The resignation of Von Kuehlmann and the rumored elevation of Admiral Von Hintze, the ultra jingo, to the foreign secretaryship are indicative of a lively political battle in which the extremists gained the day. Simultaneously comes signs of German activity in France after a pause lasting a month. Von Kuehlmann made his famous speech just at the close of the Austrian disaster and a week after General Mangin stopped the German push for Compiègne. Count Von Hertling may follow Von Kuehlmann into retirement. The majority and minority Socialists who refused recently to vote war credits and the Reichstag majority that a year ago decided on a moderate course now face another test and it is of interest to the Allies to know whether they will stand up and fight the Pan-Germans and militarists—Hindenburg, Ludendorff, Von Tirpitz & Co.

For the moment, the eyes of the allied world are turned away from the battle front in France, where the Germans are believed to be preparing for a resumption of their offensive against the positions held by the soldiers of the entente nations. The most active area in the various theatres of the war is in Albania, where the French and Italians are continuing their successes against the Austrians. While it is not expected that far reaching results will be brought about by the offensive in this section of the world, the movement has in it possibilities which seem interesting. The rapid progress made by the French and Italians, the probability that the Austro-Bulgarian line to the east past Lake Ochrida may be outflanked, and the possibility that an offensive may be launched along the Saloniki front tend to give the events in Albania some importance at a time when the main battle area is quiet.

There have been indications recently that an offensive might be begun in Macedonia, if for no other reason than to draw Austrian and possibly German troops from France and Italy. It is reported that the Bulgarians are war-weary and that an Italian blow along the north front of Saloniki might bring about notable military and political results. The Teutonic allies in Macedonia have been heavily attacking the entente lines, but have been driven back.

London, July 11.—Virtually all of western Siberia is in control of the Czecho-Slovaks, according to a Reuter despatch from Peking, dated July 10. The despatch states that the Bolsheviks have been overthrown in the whole region from Tobolsk, east of the Urals, to Zimpalatinak, 750 miles to the southeast, near the Chinese frontier. The trans-Siberian railway is under Czecho-Slovak control from Tselibinsk, in the Ural Mountains at the junction of the branches of the road which lead to south and north Russia, to Krasnoyarsk, 1,300 miles to the east. The report confirms earlier despatches to the effect that the Bolsheviks at Irkutsk have been defeated by the Czecho-Slovaks.

There has been some reason for believing that when the Germans resume their offensive on the western front they will attempt to break through between the Marne and Aisne in a dash straight for Paris. For this reason, operations which the French have successfully carried out assume importance. South of Corey the German line extends slightly to the westward, but it curves sharply eastward just before it reaches the Clignon river, northwest of Chateau Thierry. From the Clignon southward to the Marne, American forces have been improving their positions in recent days and now have a strong line of positions running northward from Hill 204, west of Chateau Thierry, to the village of Torcy.

London, July 12.—Striking the Germans on a front that has been quiet for the past six weeks, the French have once more broken

through the enemy defences and advanced their lines. This new blow at the enemy was launched between Castel and Mailly-Raineval, on the Picardy front, south-east of Amiens, where there has been but little fighting since the French, by a local attack, pushed the Germans out of Seneca Wood late in May. The attack was along a front approximately three miles. It swept the Germans back out of the village of Castel and the Anchin Farm about a mile to the south and cleared out a number of strong enemy positions. The French penetrated the German lines to a depth of more than a mile. The American attack on Cantigny, some time ago, advanced the line materially at that point, while the Australians and Americans on July 4 and 6 cut deeply into the German lines at Hamel and Villers-Bretonneux south of the Somme. The French attack was launched at a point between positions of the Americans, at Cantigny, and the Australians, further north.

The French lines south of the Castel have been parallel to and westward of the Aisne river. The success gained there carries the French up to the hills to the west of the river and into positions which appear to dominate the villages of Morisel, on the west bank and Moreuil on the east bank of the river. If the attack should continue successfully the French may be able to press the foe back across the Aisne and thus have an admirable position to the south-east of Amiens. Between the Marne and the Aisne, the French have continued their offensive operations. It was reported that the village of Long Point, south of Corey, the capture of which was reported on Thursday, has been taken by General Petain's men who have also made progress north of Corey, at the Chavigny Farm. East of Favorelles according to the French official statement, the allied liners have been advanced, this marking a southerly extension of the fighting line, which has heretofore not been unusually active further south than Lon Point.

On the British front there has been spirited fighting, according to the German official communication, which indicates that from Ypres around the Lys salient and down in the Picardy sector as far as Albert there have been scattered attacks made by the British. Local engagements have been fought in the region of Rheims, but they have not been of great importance. The French and Italians fighting in Albania carried their lines steadily northward. The town of Berat, the most important point in southern Albania, has fallen into allied hands. It is reported that large quantities of Austrian supplies stored at Berat were destroyed by the retreating Austrians. Official reports would appear to show that the advance of the French and Italians is reaching further and further east in the mountains and toward the rear of the Bulgarian positions around Monastir.

Paris, July 12.—French troops attacked over a front of approximately three miles between Castel and north of Mailly-Raineval (in the Picardy sector) this morning, according to the war office statement issued tonight. The village of Castel, the Anchin Farm and a number of strong German positions were taken and 500 prisoners were captured. The attack penetrated the German lines to a depth of more than a mile. The text of the statement reads: "Our troops this morning launched a brilliant attack on a front of five kilometers between Castel and north of Mailly-Raineval. All our objectives were reached and we have occupied the village of Castel, the Anchin Farm and a number of strongly fortified enemy positions. French troops have penetrated the enemy lines to a depth of two kilometers and have taken more than 500 prisoners."

Eastern Theatre, July 11.—Near Varamia a detachment of Bulgarian assault troops which had succeeded in gaining a momentary foothold upon Serbian positions were immediately driven out. In Albania our troops continue to progress. On the right bank of the Devoli River we have occupied the heights of Kavan. Upon the left bank of the river we have cleared the whole moun-

tainous region between the Devoli and the Tomerica with the exception of the heights which dominate the confluence of those streams where the enemy continues his resistance.

London, July 12.—The official statement issued by the war office tonight reads: "A raid attempted by the enemy this morning in the neighborhood of Buequoy, southwest of Arras, was driven off with loss to the enemy." Except for some hostile artillery activity in the Hinges sector and at other points, there is nothing further to report from the British front.

London, July 15.—The Germans have crossed the Marne at several places in their offensive; begun this morning, according to advice received here. The main attack, it is added seems to be in the Champagne the advice to this effect have come to the Central News. Advice received here regarding the German offensive state that the attack began on a front of 30 miles between Chateau Thierry and Bigny, southwest of Rheims. The Germans also attacked east of Rheims between Prunay and Malson Dechnapne on a front of 25 miles. The German attack in the new offensive began in the region of Yaux after a bombardment with gas and high explosive shells, according to the Exchange Telegraph Company advices from Paris. The American artillery replied with a barrage fire. There was also a heavy bombardment in the region of Jaulgonne on the Marne. Reports up to three o'clock this afternoon, the Exchange advices state, show the situation to be held in hand. The immediate objective of the Germans it is considered here, probably is to detach Rheims by capturing the hills which would protect their right flank on further advance southward.

Paris, July 15.—A new offensive by the Germans was begun last night in the region between Rheims and the Argonne on the front between Chateau Thierry and the de Massiges. The Germans attacked this morning, the war office announces. The French are meeting the shock of the enemy attack with energy and the battle continues. The struggle is proceeding on a front of about eighty kilometers approximately 50 miles." The Germans followed their most recent tactics of beginning an offensive. There was a brief artillery preparation of greatest violence and then came the advance of assault troops. There seems however to have been a new feature in this attack. Great paval guns have been brought up behind the enemy line and towns and cities far behind the actual battle area were taken under bombardment. The violence of this cannonade is evidenced by the fact that the city of Chateau Thierry was west of five of great projectiles during the night. The apparent purpose of the Germans attacking along the line from Chateau Thierry east along the Marne over the rolling hills to Rheims and thence eastward to Massiges, was similar to that in the great attack along the Aisne late in May. They evidently hoped to find the allies less well prepared in this sector than elsewhere. In spite of the repulse of the Germans before Rheims, early in June, it may be that the allied line eastward from Chateau Thierry had been more thinly held than that from Chateau Thierry north to the Aisne and thence through the Picardy sector to Ypres.