

Mentioned in Despatches

Capt. Bertram St. George French.—Montrealers in particular are mourning the passing of Capt. Bertram St. George French, son of the Rev. Arthur French. Capt. French was a brilliant student at Lower Canada College and at McGill, where he was awarded the Chapman Gold Medal. He was studying at Oxford when war broke out and was given a commission in an overseas battalion and immediately went to the front. He was wounded at the Dardanelles about a year ago, but recovered and returned to duty. He was killed on July 1st while leading a company of Royal Inniskillen Fusiliers. It was his intention to study for the ministry.

The Right Hon. Thomas McKinnon Wood, who becomes Financial Secretary to the Treasury as well as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, will have his hands full with his dual duties. However, Mr. Wood is a tireless worker and will not mind a few extra tasks. He was born in London in 1855 and has been a member of Parliament for Glasgow for the past ten years, and held the position of Secretary for Scotland for some years, as well as Under Secretary. In addition to his Parliamentary duties he has found time to write articles in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, and various other reviews. He is regarded as a particularly efficient, hard-working member of Parliament.

Arthur Ponsonby, M.P. for Stirling, who has asked the Government to announce its peace terms, is apt to get himself thoroughly disliked. Great Britain and her Allies are not going to make peace when Germany sees that the game is up. The Allies are going to exert their whole strength before they will consider peace proposals, and rightly so. Ponsonby was born in England in 1871, and after being educated at Oxford entered the diplomatic service, serving at Constantinople and at Copenhagen. Later he was private secretary to Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman. He has written several books, the best known of them being, "The Camel and the Needle's Eye" and "The Decline of Aristocracy."

E. S. Montagu, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has succeeded Mr. Lloyd George as Minister of Munitions. Montagu is of Jewish ancestry and is a relative of Herbert Samuel, another member of the Coalition Cabinet. His real patronymic is not Montagu, but Samuel, the family having been founded in England by the minister's grandfather, a watchmaker who established a small shop on Liverpool. The son moved to London, married a wealthy Jewish lady, founded a banking house and some twenty odd years ago when created a baronet, changed his name to Montagu. A few years ago he was raised to the peerage as Lord Swaythling. His younger brother, however, refused to change his name. His two sons are Herbert, Cabinet Minister, and Sir Stewart Samuel, the head of the famous banking house in Lombard Street. Edwin Montagu, the new minister, was married a short time ago to the Hon. Beatrice Stanley, who became a convert to Judaism in order to save her fiancé from disinheritance.

Mr. Winston Churchill is not adding to his prestige or popularity by his recent actions. He has just refused to serve any longer in the trenches in France, and has resigned his lieutenant-colonelcy and returned home to tell the country through his place in Parliament just how the war should be run. Another reason for his growing unpopularity is that he made a bitter attack on Lord Kitchener a day or two before the latter set off on his last journey. Unfortunately for Churchill, Kitchener never would take the young First Lord of the Admiralty seriously. He had known him first as a particularly fresh and insubordinate cavalry officer, later he came in contact with him as a newspaper correspondent who refused to abide by the rules of the censor, and later as an associate in the Cabinet he found him to be lacking in a knowledge of military and naval affairs, as was witnessed by his connection with the defence of Antwerp and with the Dardanelles expedition, for both of which Churchill was responsible. Churchill undoubtedly has marked ability and has crowded more into his two-score years than most men do in a whole lifetime. Churchill was brought up a Tory of the Tories, but found it impossible to work with his party and broke with them, and for some years has been one of the leaders in the Liberal party, but at the present time is sort of a Free Lance.

Col. Georges Renaudeau d'Arc.—A descendant of Joan d'Arc has just died in Paris from wounds received at the front. The party in question, Col. Georges Renaudeau d'Arc, was a veteran of the war of 1870 and when the present war commenced insisted on getting into action, although he was far past the military age. A short time ago he was wounded and has now succumbed to his injuries. He was a direct lineal descendant from the eldest brother of the famous Maid of Orleans.

Admiral Von Tirpitz.—The arrival of a German submarine in American waters must be recognized as a tribute to the nation's inventiveness even if it does foreshadow dire economic conditions in that country. The crossing of the ocean by a submarine is a tribute to the work of Admiral Von Tirpitz. The Admiral recently retired as head of the German navy after fifty years service. He entered it as a boy of fifteen and worked his way up to the head, but above all else is regarded as the real creator of Germany's naval forces. He was also the instigator of and real promoter of Germany's submarine warfare. Von Tirpitz spent one hundred million dollars in the last ten years building up the German navy, and also planned and built the Kiel Canal as a connecting link between the North Sea and the Baltic, and also as a hiding place for the German navy.

Sir Edward Grey has accepted a peerage, but no additional honors a grateful King and country can confer upon him will add to his already enviable reputation. Next to Premier Asquith, Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Minister, has borne the heaviest burden of the war and perhaps more than any other Englishman has aroused the hate of the Germans. This is only natural, as it was he who opposed their efforts to ride roughshod over Belgium and France. Grey is one of the world's greatest diplomats and has held the position of Foreign Secretary for eleven years, an unusually long period. He is but little over fifty years of age, but has been in Parliament for thirty years. He comes of an old English family and is essentially democratic although his reserve and silence convey the impression that he is an aristocrat of the first order.

Mr. W. K. George, who is one of the Government's appointees on the Canadian Northern Board, is one of Canada's best known business men. He is president of the Standard Silver Company, of the Canada Bond Corporation, of the London and Lake Erie Transportation Company, vice-president of the Sterling Bank, director of the Title and Trust Company, North American Life Assurance Company, and Abitibi Power and Paper Company. Mr. George is also an ex-president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and of the Canadian National Exhibition, and a Governor of the University of Toronto. He was born in Kingston in 1861, a son of the late Rev. James George, principal of Queen's University, and was educated in his native city and at the University of Toronto. He is regarded as one of the most efficient business men in the country.

The Hon. A. L. Sifton, Premier of Alberta, who is now visiting in London, has been telling the people in the Old Land about how well his province has done in the matter of furnishing fighting men. He shows that 33,000 have enlisted from Alberta, or more than one-third of the total number of names on the voters' list at the last election. He also points out that out of the fifty-five members of the Provincial Legislature no fewer than thirteen are in uniform. The Hon. A. L. Sifton is a son of the late Hon. J. W. Sifton, and a younger brother of Sir Clifford. He was born in Middlesex County in 1858, and educated at Victoria University, Coburg, and afterwards practised law in the West. He soon became a prominent figure in the Western Provinces, and held Cabinet rank in the Haultain Administration, later becoming Chief Justice of the Northwest Territories, and when Alberta was made a separate province he became its Chief Justice. Some six years ago he resigned the Chief Justiceship to accept the premiership of the province, and has remained at its head ever since. He is regarded as an able, constructive legislator, and has put a good deal of advanced legislation upon the statute books of the province, among other things making it "dry," a proceeding which took place on July 1st, 1916.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, whose report on the Jutland fight has just been made public, is head of Britain's fighting forces on the sea and is regarded as one of the world's ablest naval officers. He has spent nearly forty-four years at sea, working his way up from a minor position to the head of the world's mightiest navy. Jellicoe is a small, clean-shaven, soft-spoken man with a quiet manner, who gives one the impression of thoroughness and efficiency. He knows the naval business from stem to stern. Jellicoe served in the Egyptian War, where he won the Khedive Star for bravery, was wounded in China during the Boxer uprising, and has seen service in every part of the British Empire. For nearly two years he has had the German navy bottled up and her commerce driven from the seas.

Major Alfred Dreyfus.—The French papers comment on the fact that the famous Dreyfus controversy is a thing of the past, and both parties are uniting in the defence of France. Major Alfred Dreyfus, whose sensational trial of a few years ago threatened to divide France into two parts, was given command a few months ago of one of the forts surrounding Paris. It will be remembered that he was formerly a captain of artillery and was accused and convicted of having sold to Germany the plans of a new French gun. The second trial brought him freedom and restoration of his rank. At the outbreak of hostilities he volunteered for service, although he was fifty-four years of age. A son of the major has just been cited for heroic conduct at Douaumont, while a nephew was killed at the Battle of Champagne. Of the men opposed to Dreyfus, Col. Paty de Calm and his sons have all won the Cross of Honor, Commandant Lauth has been promoted for gallantry in action, while Commandants Morel and Antoine have both been made generals. The common danger confronting France united the opposing forces.

David Lloyd George.—When the history of the present titanic struggle is written a large place will be devoted to the activities of David Lloyd George, the Little Welsh Advocate. When hostilities commenced he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, and immediately set about making plans to successfully finance his own country and most of the Allies. Later, when the cry arose for munitions, a separate portfolio was created and Lloyd George was made Minister of Munitions. He has now nearly 4,000 plants in England under Government control and turning out shells and other war munitions. He now succeeds Lord Kitchener as Minister of War. There has thus come to this modern David the opportunity of arraying against the German Goliath the country's resources in men, munitions and money. Between times this embodiment of energy has been given the task of settling the Home Rule question and the Irish trouble, has been taking an active part in trade conferences with the Allies, and doing other little odd jobs that no one else seemed to find time to accomplish. Before the war commenced he crystallized into legislation such measures as the Old Age Pension, the Insurance Act, etc. He entered Parliament about twenty-five years ago and has been "doing" things ever since.

Admiral Sir David Beatty comes in for the bulk of the praise given by Sir John Jellicoe in his report on the North Sea Fight. Those who have followed Beatty's career expected that he would give a good account of himself. This is the third time in the present war that he has hammered the Germans. Away back in August, 1914, he attacked and sank four German warships off Heligoland; then in January he chased a German raiding squadron home and sank the Blucher. His strategy, courage, skill and seamanship are praised by Jellicoe in his latest report. Beatty is but little over forty-four years of age, but has seen a lot of hard fighting in his day. In Egypt he won the praise of Kitchener by getting gunboats over almost impossible cataracts and then bombarding Dongola. At Tien Tsin, in China, he was twice wounded while leading his bluejackets in the capture of two guns. Sir David was made an admiral at thirty-eight, being the youngest British commander and the younger vice-admiral in the records of the British Navy, the great Nelson himself being a year older than Beatty when he became vice-admiral. He was knighted about two years ago. He is a handsome, dashing Irishman, with all that race's traditional fondness for a fight. Beatty is married to a daughter of the late Marshall Field, of Chicago. She has given her private yacht to the British Admiralty to be used as a hospital ship, and has been most active in Red Cross work.

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