

Journal of Commerce

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MONTREAL, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1914.

African Possessions

The announcement that General Botha was to take personal command of the British troops in South Africa and lead the army in its operations against the Germans, calls fresh attention to the respective holdings of the warring nations in Africa.

France possesses 3,812,000 square miles of territory in Africa, of which, however, more than half is in the Sahara Desert. Great Britain controls 3,618,245 square miles, Germany 1,035,086 and Belgium 602,000 square miles.

Talc, And Its Uses

According to cable despatches, the supply of cosmetics and other devices used by the French soldiers has been seriously interfered with as a result of the war.

Despite the many and varied uses to which talc is put, people, as a rule, have but hazy ideas as to what talc is, where it is found and how prepared for use.

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War an Expensive Luxury

Up to the present time, Germany has demanded \$140,000,000 from the towns and districts they have captured in Belgium and France.

This kind, gentle system of piracy carried on by the Germans is likely to act as a boomerang. Germany is going to be crushed in this war, and the heavy exactions she has made on other nations will have to be paid by her own people.

Up to the present time 210 German merchantmen have been captured or destroyed by Great Britain, while only 26 British vessels have been taken or destroyed by the Germans.

"Hard pounding, gentlemen. We'll see who can keep it up the longest," said Wellington at Waterloo. "We will keep it up at this rate, if it takes all summer," declared General Grant at the Battle of the Wilderness.

Britannia Rules the Waves

While admitting the seriousness of the disaster to the British navy when the three cruisers were sunk, it should not be lost sight of that up to the present Germany has lost almost two warships to Britain's one.

Germany has by no means escaped disaster at sea. Even the wearing down tactics adopted by the Germans have proven more disastrous to them than the "watchful waiting" policy of the British.

The movement among the French-Canadians to organize and equip a regiment is a laudable one. There are no better soldiers anywhere than our French-Canadian patriots.

conflict there is a double reason why they should give a good account of themselves. Not only are they fighting for the flag of the Empire, but they will be fighting in defence of their mother country.

By to-day's mail there came to the Journal of Commerce letters from two former Canadians now resident in the United States. Both are officers in the American Militia, and each has offered to raise a company of former Canadians, bring them across the line, incorporate them in the second contingent and go and fight against "the common enemy."

THE REFINING FIRE.

If Britain survives this great test, let us pray that she may be refined by fire, and may emerge better, wiser, less self-seeking, less pleasure-loving, less materially-minded than ever before.—Broad Arrow.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

In Berlin "all banks and business going on as usual." Was it as bad as that?—Wall Street Journal.

The Kaiser's corkscrew moustache won't be of much service to him when the Allies bottle up Germany.—Kingston Standard.

There's many a wise guy who talks by the hour about the "back to the land" movement, who has seventeen different kinds of excuses handy when his wife wants him to dig up and cultivate a twelve by fourteen back yard.—Calgary Herald.

Belgium has made such a hit in the United States that we would not be astonished to see the Prince Albert coat promoted to the King Albert.—Boston Transcript.

No, Genevieve, just because the price of cosmetics has gone up, it was not fair for your young man to accuse you of having put on war paint.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Head Waiter to Hungry Diner—"We have a new French dish. Would you like to try it, sir? Diner—Matters not to me, just so long as it will hold an order of corn beef and cabbage.

"Why," asked a Missouri newspaper, does our state stand at the head in the ranking of mules? "Because," said an Iowa paper, "that is the only safe place to stand."

"My husband," remarked a Philadelphia matron to a group of friends, "was a confirmed smoker with a tobacco heart when I married him a year ago, but to-day he never touches the weed." "Good," said one of the group. "To break off a life-time habit requires a strong will." "Well, that's what I've got," said the wife.

A Scot of Peebles, relates the Argonaut, said to his friend MacAndrew: "Mac, I hear ye have fallen in love wi' bonny Kate MacLaster." "Weel, Sanders, Mac replied, "I was near—verra near—daein' it; but the bit lassie had nae stiller, so I said to masself, 'Mac, be a mon,' 'And I was a mon, and noo I jist pass her by.'"

"Mebbe th' Kaiser's fightin' so desprutly," said Enoch Wentworth, "becuz he wants t' hold things even, till it comes time t' talk uv peace. What ye might call th' despr'ashun uv th' las' ditch."

"Minds me uv th' time Bill Burse bro't me o'er f'um Onset. He was puttin' on full steam ahead, and th' auty-mobiel was jumpin' from one side uv th' r'ud t' th' other. I judge we was makin' 30 or 40 knots. I says t' Bill, sez: 'What's th' tar-nashun hurry? Sez: 'I'm 'er, rear tire's likely t' blow out on me any minit, an' I'm alim'd t' be swumners near a hospittle when it happens.'—Daily Advertiser.

THE LOSS OF THE BIRKENHEAD.

Right on our flank the crimson sun went down; The deep sea rolled around in dark repose; When, like the wild shriek from some captured town, A cry of women rose.

The stout ship Birkenhead lay hard and fast, Caught without hope upon a hidden rock; Her timbers thrilled as nerves, when through them passed The spirit of that shock.

And ever like base cowards, who leave their ranks, In danger's hour, before the rush of steel, Drifted away disorderly the planks From underneath her keel.

So calm the air, so calm and still the flood, That low down in its blue translucent glass We saw the great fierce fish, that thirst for blood, Pass slowly, then repass.

They tarried, the waves tarried, for their prey, The sea turned one clear smile. Like things asleep Those dark shapes in the azure silence lay, As quiet as the deep.

Then amidst oath, and prayer, and rush, and wreck, Faint screams, faint questions waiting no reply, Our Colonel gave the word, and on the deck Formed us in line to die.

To die!—'twas hard, whilst the sleek ocean glowed Beneath a sky as fair as summer flowers:— All to the boats' cried one—he was, thank God, No officer of ours.

Our English hearts beat true:—we would not stir; That base appeal we heard, but heeded not; On land, on sea, we had our Colors, sir, To keep without a spot.

They shall not say in England, that we fought With shameful strength, unhonored life to seek; Into mean safety, mean deserters, brought— By tramping down the weak.

So we made women with their children go, The oars ply back again, and yet again; Whilst, inch by inch, the drowning ship sank low, Still under steadfast.

—What fellows, why recall—The brave who died, Died without flinching in the bloody surf, They sleep as well beneath that purple tide, As others under turf:— They sleep as well, and roused from their wild grave, Wearing their wounds like stars, shall rise again, Joint-heirs with Christ, because they bled to save His weak ones not in vain.

GERMANY'S BURDEN.

Probably no nation ever shouldered a heavier burden than that which Germany is now attempting to carry. The difficulty of carrying it is greatly increased by the industrial changes of recent times.

How the German people are employed is shown by the following extract from the latest census, namely, that of 1907:

Table with 3 columns: Persons engaged, Number, and %.

With an agricultural nation the losses of war are comparatively light, not only because the market for agricultural products, excepting cotton, is not much interfered with, but also because farming operations themselves are not seriously curtailed by the loss to industry of the men sent to the battlefield.

A manufacturing nation finds the case altogether different; for war cuts off or destroys markets for manufactured products, interferes with the supply of raw materials, and almost completely suspends the consumption of certain manufactures which are not absolute necessities.

Moreover, this loss is passed around within the German Empire from one class of people to another, thus increasing itself by arithmetical progression.

These \$1,900,000,000 curtailment in manufacturing apparently represents about 13 per cent. of the total German output of manufactured goods. Besides this, there is the loss involved in war expenditure of at least \$2.50 gross daily to maintain each of probably not less than 2,250,000 men in the field—the total being fully \$2,653,125,000 per annum.

In all one can thus count up war losses and costs estimated at \$3,600,000,000 or more, whereas the total income of the people of the German Empire probably does not exceed \$13,000,000,000.

There are several railway gages in Europe, but in the United States and Canada it is possible for a truck to travel from Prince Rupert to New Orleans, and from Quebec to San Francisco without hindrance.

This was accomplished at great expense some twenty or thirty years ago. In Europe the bulk of the mileage is the standard 4 ft. 8 1/2 in. gage. There are, however, some other gages, especially the meter gage in France, Belgium, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

The most important exceptions are in Spain and Portugal, where they have nearly 10,000 miles of the 5 ft. 6 in. gage, and in Russia and Finland, where there are 30,000 miles of the 5 ft. gage.

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Imperial Bank of Canada. HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO. Capital Paid up - \$7,000,000. Reserve Fund - \$7,000,000. This bank issues Letters of Credit negotiable in all parts of the world.

THE Royal Bank of Canada. Incorporated 1869. Capital Authorized - \$25,000,000. Capital Paid up - \$11,500,000. Reserve Funds - \$13,500,000. Total Assets - \$180,000,000.

SUN LIFE OF CANADA. LEADS THE EMPIRE! Outside of Companies issuing Industrial Policies, the Sun Life of Canada does the largest life insurance business in the British Empire.

SUN LIFE OF CANADA. ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA. ROBERTSON MACAULAY, President. T. B. MACAULAY, Managing Director. Head Office - MONTREAL.

SERVING IN THE RANKS. Another point ought to be mentioned, and this concerns those who are hovering on the brink of enlistment, but who think that their duty is to become officers rather than privates.

TOO MUCH LIKE SIBERIA. The editor of the Winnipeg Post has been put into jail for criticizing the management of affairs at Valcartier, and the Hon. Sam. Hughes in particular.

BEATEN FROM THE START. "From the Reichsbank down, every bank and every business in Germany is necessarily insolvent. Her mercantile marine is no more, and her foreign commerce will take years to build up again."

DIFFERENCE IN RAILWAY GAGES. There are several railway gages in Europe, but in the United States and Canada it is possible for a truck to travel from Prince Rupert to New Orleans, and from Quebec to San Francisco without hindrance.

CONFISCATE GERMAN PATENT RIGHTS. Britain Desires to be in Position to Retaliate Upon Teuton's After The War. GERMANY TRADE MARKS.

Some interesting Post-Bolem English-German Trade Developments are Expected When Two Chief Commercial Nations Lock Horns. New York, September 24.—According to news received here yesterday from London as a result of the revocation by the British Government of the so-called "Enemy Patents," held in favor of the German commercial interests.

There is a strong probability that, in undertaking to confiscate alien enemy patent and trade marks Great Britain under the terms of the special legislation adopted by the British Parliament for that purpose, the authorities may even go a step further and allow such manufacturers of products which will require the extensive sums of English capital to invest in perpetual trade mark and patent marks which will endure for many years after the end of the present war.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED. Imperial Bank of Canada, 3 per cent., payable November 2nd, to shareholders of record October 17th. Books close October 17th and open November 2nd.

EXPECT CARRANZA TO YIELD. Washington, September 24.—There will be no change in the attitude of the United States Government toward Mexico as a result of the break between Carranza and General Villa, it was declared at the White House to-day.

OVERCOME BY GAS. New York, September 24.—Twelve or more persons were overcome by gas in the Hudson Tunnel at the Erie Railroad Station entrance on New Jersey side early to-day.

WEATHER MAP. Cotton belt—Heavy rains on Texas and Gulf coast. Scattered in Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. Temperature 54 to 76.

VIRGINIA CHEMICAL DIVIDEND. New York, September 24.—Virginia Chemical Company declared regular quarterly dividend of 1 per cent. on preferred stock.

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