

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN-N. B. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1914

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THE WAR NEWS

The deadlock in West Flanders continues. The Germans have brought up their most experienced and seasoned troops to participate in the desperate effort to break through the British and French lines between Dixmude and Ypres. Beyond the capture of Dixmude, which was mentioned yesterday, they have, however, gained no material success. The road to Dunkirk and Calais is still barred by the Allies, who have been able to bring up reinforcements to fill up the gaps in their ranks caused by the desperate fighting of the last few days. The Germans will undoubtedly make a supreme effort to win through to the coast, and the issue may not be decided for several days.

A despatch from Petrograd says that the Germans will soon be forced back in Prussia to a line of fortresses, including Koenigsberg, Graudenz, Posen, Breslau and Neisse. If the report is well founded, it means that the Russian armies are making remarkable progress, and indeed the whole Russian campaign is described by military critics as one of the wonders of the war. The German Kaiser is said to have issued a frantic appeal to the people of East Prussia not to give way before the enemy. Along the whole battle line, however, the Russian armies appear to be pressing forward, and the news of their advance is being carefully suppressed in Berlin and other parts of Germany.

There are rumors of great activity among the German warships and auxiliaries in the Kiel Canal, and the British Admiralty authorities are said to attach some importance to them. A German submarine has been sunk on the Belgian coast. There is a rumor which appears to be accepted in London as correct that the German cruiser Karlsruhe has been cornered, and a powerful Japanese fleet is out in search of the small German squadron still afloat in the Pacific.

From South Africa comes word that General Botha's forces have defeated those of General De Wet at Winburg, and that a force of German and Boer rebels has been defeated on the border of German South-West Africa.

A London cable says that Premier Asquith will ask sanction of parliament for raising one million additional troops, thus increasing the total up to two millions, and that a war loan of one billion dollars will probably be authorized. An interesting fact in connection with yesterday's session of parliament was the declaration of the leader of the labor party that organized labor favored going straight through with the war until complete success crowned the efforts of the Allies.

HEAVY LOSSES

The casualties of the British army since the war began have amounted to 57,000 men of all ranks. This includes killed, wounded and prisoners. Being in ignorance of the exact number of British troops in the war zone, we are unable to say what percentage the loss is of the total number of men engaged; but it is a very heavy toll. The mere statement is an eloquent plea for more active recruiting, in order that the gaps in the ranks may be promptly filled by trained men, and reinforcements got in readiness to be hurled against the enemy at what maybe the critical time, when the German armies begin to give way and withdraw toward their own borders. So far as the Allies are concerned, there must be continuous heavy fighting, and the Germans may be relied on to fight desperately and dispute every inch of ground as they are pressed back toward the heart of their own country. It may be taken for granted that they are making defensive preparations, so that when compelled to withdraw from one position they will be able to entrench themselves in a new one, and present a formidable resistance to the British and French forces. Let it not be forgotten that this is Canada's war, and that her sons must rally to the defence and the attack, in order that the Empire may be preserved, and the world made better by the complete destruction of German militarism. It will cost much, but the task must be accomplished.

THE GOD OF BATTLES.

The Toronto World makes some observations in connection with a report of a great patriotic meeting in that city which are worth passing along. One of the speakers was Premier Hays of Ontario, who said:—"The flag will go forward, for the hand that holds it aloft is the unseen hand of Omnipotence." The World makes this comment:

"We hope so, just as the Kaiser does, but why denounce the Kaiser and err on the same path? God helps those who help themselves, and we ought to be more concerned with developing the self-help department than in making assertions about what will happen before we have done anything to bring it about."

In today's despatches the report of the Russian general staff gives to Divine inspiration and assistance the credit for a great victory over the Austrians. The German Kaiser is no doubt assured that God directed the shell which sent Sir Christopher Cradock and the crew of the *Goeben* to the bottom of the sea.

The Toronto World is quite right in protesting against anything that would tend to make people believe that they must win, because God is fighting their battles for them. So far as war is concerned, it is still true that victory is on the side of the best fighters, with the best equipment and the best knowledge of the science of war. Let us not be at all doubtful about the justice of our cause, but let us also be ready to maintain it in the field. No fortress walls fall in these days at the sound of a ram's horn.

Only those who have visited the new works at Sand Point have any idea of the immense amount of work being done and the great number of men employed there.

The Russian boat's crew who deliberately exploded a mine at the cost of the lives of all but one of them in order to save a cruiser from destruction performed an act of heroism that has not been surpassed in the whole war.

It appears to be perfectly clear that there should be a heart-to-heart talk between the members of the provincial government and Mr. W. H. Berry, who is said to have returned to the province, and to be in possession of certain information which undoubtedly should be conveyed to Acting Premier Clark in his capacity as attorney-general.

There appears to be quite as much work for laboring men in St. John at present as is usual at this time of year. The cancelling of the sailings of two of the first winter port steamships will mean something to the longshoremen, but the general outlook for the fall and winter appears to be fairly good. The shipment of horses and hay will make up to some extent for the possible falling off in other lines.

The St. John Playgrounds Association has done very valuable work in this city, and in its decision to carry on social centre work for the benefit of girls and boys during the winter as well as the summer, deserves not only the sympathy, but the hearty support of all the citizens. There is great need for just the kind of work which it proposes to undertake, and the extent of which will only be limited by scarcity of funds.

The new hospital for advanced cases of tuberculosis at East St. John presents a very handsome front, and when completed will be a very fine building. Any one who stands at The Lookout in Rockwood Park, or at any point from which a broad view of East St. John may be obtained, cannot but be impressed with the large number of fine new buildings that have been erected there during the past two or three years. The growth at West St. John, however, is even more marked. On the whole, 1914 has been a busy building year in the city and suburbs.

Mr. O. Turpin, M.P., will address meetings in French in the county of Gloucester in the interests of the recruiting campaign. Every member of parliament and every member of the legislature in this province should join heartily and promptly in this movement. It is not, as Mayor McKay of Sussex observed last night, that there is any doubt about the loyalty of the people; but they should be urged to give the most substantial proofs of that loyalty by filling up the ranks in the New Brunswick Battalion, and contributing generously to the various funds which must be raised in connection with a successful prosecution of the war.

Hon. John Morrissey has good reason to entertain a feeling of pride and satisfaction in connection with the notable event which took place yesterday on the Miramichi. The splendid new steel bridge between Newcastle and Nelson, which is known as the Morrissey Bridge, was formally opened by the chief commissioner's daughter, while his son, who is the mayor of Newcastle, was chairman at the meeting at which various speakers congratulated the chief commissioner, and referred to the great benefit the county of Northumberland and especially the Miramichi towns would derive from its construction. It was a notable day in the calendar of Hon. John Morrissey, as well as of the north shore county.

There are evidently many persons in the city who have little or no regard for appearances and who take no pride whatever in work that is done to add to the attractiveness of the streets. The effort to plant trees along the streets and thus beautify them ought to be heartily endorsed by every citizen young and old, and yet there is constant complaint of damage done to young trees and the work of the department rendered useless. The chief offenders are the drivers of teams, who bring their horses to a standstill at the side of the street within easy reach of the tops or branches of the young trees. Every such transgression should be dealt with in the police court, and any citizen witnessing the destruction of a tree would be doing a public service by reporting the case at once to the authorities.

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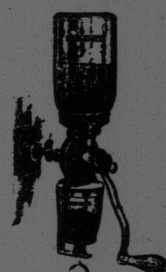
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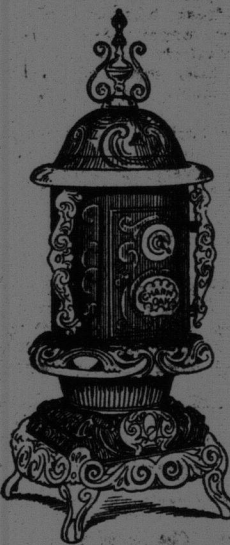


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