

PAGE SIX

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MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 1.

**Demobilization.**

While the war is not over yet by any means, and more men must be sent overseas for some time to come, there is a growing feeling that the end is in sight. The whole question of demobilization is one of more gigantic importance even than the war itself. We all know the difficulty that has been experienced in handling the hundreds that are returning. When the returning troops begin to number scores of thousands it will be too late to take care of the flood, unless steps have been taken beforehand to provide for their assimilation.

Many of the best authorities believe that the demobilization should be spread like the mobilization, over a term of years. Should a body of 400,000 men be poured into Canada as fast as they could be transported overseas the result would be a social chaos. Our competitive system and methods are utterly unfitted to absorb such multitudes. The whole machinery of business and commerce would be disorganized, and in the effort to find sustenance or the labor to provide sustenance, the men would be turned into ravening hordes. We do not believe the immensity of this problem has come home to many.

The men released from military service after the war must have work and a living provided for them if we are not to face anarchy. A sudden demobilization would almost certainly have this result. The alternative is a gradual discharge of the men, and to make this possible, work of some kind of a national character must be found. It will be far cheaper in the long run to organize national construction works, road building, bridge building, canals and what not, than to turn the men loose on the country. The problem should be receiving the most exhaustive consideration and plans should be ready to be put in operation on the shortest notice. The men must not be turned loose, but gradually assimilated.

There are three classes of returned men in evidence at present, and it must be said for the great majority that their conduct is admirable. There are those who are unfit to work and must be provided for. There are those who are fit and who have been fortunate enough to find work and willing to accept it. There is also, unfortunately, a class who are fit to work but do not. Some of these men think the country owes them a living and there are all stages of reluctance to turn to the drudgery by which the most of us earn our living. Strangely enough more consideration is given to these men simply because they make trouble, than to the willing and industrious who are unable to find employment. All three classes should be regarded as requiring the care of the nation, whose existence they have helped to preserve, and there should be no hesitation about adopting any plan, even if it involved initial expenditures equal to our war contributions, which would build these men once more into the national edifice. Our war expenditures bring no return, but constructive measures such as might be designed for the employment of our demobilized troops ought to enrich the nation and justify such action, even to the extent of recouping us for much of our military outlay.

**Issues of the Battle.**

There has been some not unnatural nervousness as to the issue of the huge offensive directed by the Germans against the allied armies. The serene confidence that has distinguished the men at the front has not always been shared by those at home, but there is no reason why we should not have relied on their valor and discretion and been assured that they would withstand all the assaults of the enemy with a good heart.

Those who are disheartened by the retreat of the British know little about fighting. The man who can step liveliest in the ring generally gets the decision, and it is the knockout blow that is needed to secure a decision. The Germans never came within reach of delivering that blow, and the agile side-stepping of our troops in retreat is only part of the recognized tactics. The Germans thought they could ignore or outstep such manoeuvres, but

they are clumsy in their estimates. Von Hindenburg gave it out with great pomp that he would be in Paris on April 1. It was a party of business men who came to tell him that Germany could not hold out till May, who were thus encouraged. The whole German nation was relying on Von Hindenburg's success, and there will be a great deal of explaining which will not be satisfactory. The people will know that Paris is quite safe not only on April 1, but for all time to come. Preparations were being made to call the struggle the Kaiser's Battle had it been successful; now that it has failed Von Hindenburg will be loaded with the obloquy.

There is another reflection which will not sweeten German thoughts of the battle, tho it should increase respect for the "contemptible little army." It should also encourage our nervous friends. It is the fact that the British forces which met the Germans and held them in the eight days' retirement were eight divisions with three in reserve, and these eleven divisions apparently received the full shock of ninety-seven German divisions and smothered it. These are odds of eight or nine to one, and the Germans were defeated in their aim and so smashed and torn that their advance was practically halted last Wednesday, and was diverted in its subsequent efforts by the initiative of our troops.

It will probably be found when all the returns are in that our men killed as many more Germans than they themselves numbered, and probably twice as many casualties in all occurred in the German ranks as there were British engaged in the retirement. The German losses are certainly half a million and the bravery of the British is being extolled in the German papers in order to break the shock quietly to the German people. The Kaiser has an angry nation to face, and de-thronement and perhaps worse than exile awaits him.

**The New Labor Party.**

A reasonable moderation marked the conclusions of the convention of the Ontario section of the Labor party of Canada last Friday. A working basis was arrived at by which all the various labor and social organizations in sympathy with labor aims could co-operate on one political platform while pursuing their own several aims. In this way the socialists and the ultra-socialists were enabled to be included with the general labor without compromising either wing. The farmers were well represented, tho perhaps not as fully as might have been expected considering the magnitude of their interests and their identity with labor's. If it should ever come to pass that the toilers on the land and the toilers in the factories clasp hands, the social revolution will be an accomplished fact. The farmers are slow, however, to perceive this, and are jealous of their own interests.

There was some evidence of Bolshevik sentiment, one delegate denouncing the "bourgeoisie" in the most vehement style, as tho he were living under an absolute monarchy and not in the freest democracy in the world. The foreign element in the nation is slow to assimilate the ideals which distinguish Canada from European countries. Probably the Swiss appreciate our constitution better than any others. We have but few French immigrants, or they would also recognize our democratic tendencies, not wholly stifled even in Quebec, the democratic measures like the Military Service Act find little favor there.

The important thing about the convention was the admitted adoption of the British Labor party as the model to be followed, both in principles and practice. The platform is wide enough to hold all who belong to the wage or salaried classes as distinct from those who live on rents, interest or dividends. The Russians have already discovered that business cannot be carried on without capital, so the problem for any real labor party is to harmonize its interests with those of the employers. It is obvious that all such action must be reciprocal.

**AGAIN PREMIER OF CHINA**

Tuan Chi-Jui Appointed and a New Cabinet is to Be Formed.

Peking, March 30.—Tuan Chi-Jui, the former premier, has again been appointed premier in place of Chin Nui-Hsun, the acting premier. The ministers have tendered their resignations, but it is believed that, with the exception of the ministers of justice and finance, they will be asked to remain in office.

The reorganization of the ministry, which has been long contemplated, is believed to have been brought about by the recent successes of the northern troops.

**TO PROSECUTE CONSTANTINE.**

Athens, March 31.—As a result of charges brought by the public prosecutor a court-martial has ordered the criminal prosecution of former King Constantine.

**STERN RESISTANCE OF FRENCH CHECKS GERMAN ATTEMPTS**

Von Hutier Fails in Trying Methods Found Successful Against Russians.

**IN RECKLESS ATTACKS**

Enemy General Throws Many Divisions Against Allies at Lassigny.

With the French Army in France, March 31.—The heavy bombardment which was in progress Friday night when the correspondent left the front developed yesterday into a general battle along the French lines from Moreuil to beyond Lassigny. Here one of the crown prince's armies, under Von Hutier, made a series of smashing assaults aimed at various points and extending 25 miles.

The French reserves came into action with the greatest vigor, offering the sternest resistance. Von Hutier is utilizing the method of attack which was successful at Riga, but this time he finds himself confronted by troops who are prepared to meet all his ruses. He is throwing division after division into the battle with what appears to be recklessness, but this principle of risking an entire force in order to attain an object can only be successful when the adversaries are inferior in quality or overwhelmed by numbers.

**Splendid Resistance.**

The French line is displaying splendid resistance, and while the Germans are expending an enormous part of their strength, the French troops retain their virile power for making a strong counter-stroke, in which they will be aided by their reserves, which, up to the present, have for the most part only been held in readiness to step into the arena when the enemy shows signs of weakening.

The Germans appear to have found time to bring up large numbers of guns and trench mortars. They are confident and cheerfully. It is possible that some small fluctuations in the line will occur in the course of the day, but only at the heaviest part of the dense wave formation during the attack, offering splendid targets to the famous French field guns and machine guns.

A large number of American transport sections are taking an active part in bringing up supplies. Behind the lines, especially further north, French and British troops are working in perfect harmony. During the day many British units became separated, but never lost discipline. The larger units are now under reorganization, preparing to take their places again in the battle line.

**FRENCH WITHSTAND FURIOUS ASSAULT**

**Terrific Battle Develops on Front of Sixty Kilometres.**

Paris, March 31.—The battle on the Moreuil-Lassigny front continued the whole day and extended along sixty kilometres, says the war office announcement.

The German assaults, multiplied in force, were incessant, but French counter-attacks everywhere stopped the onslaught. The text of the statement follows: "The battle on the front from Moreuil to Lassigny continued the day with the greatest violence and spread over a front of sixty kilometres. The German forces, in spite of enormous losses in their ranks by our fire, have multiplied their assaults against our line, which have been met desperately by our heroic troops, who by their incessant counter-attacks have stopped everywhere the furious assaults of the enemy."

The region of Orville, Plémont and Plessier de Roye has been the theatre of fierce fighting, these villages changing hands several times. Two German divisions which had succeeded in getting a foothold in Plémont and in the park of Plessier de Roye were swept back again by a magnificent counter-attack by our troops, which have re-established their line.

"At certain points masses of the assaulting forces were taken under the terrible fire of our artillery and were forced to retreat in disorder, leaving the ground covered with dead and wounded. The losses of the enemy in the whole battle zone still exceed those of the preceding days."

**REPORTED MISSING.**

Flight-Lieut. A. M. Denovan Was Wounded in June.

A. M. Denovan of 64 Highland avenue has received a cable from the war office announcing that his son, Flight-Lieut. Allan M. Denovan, has been missing since Wednesday, March 28. Flight-Lieutenant Denovan was wounded last June, but recovered in time to engage in the present great battle. He took a course in the P.S.I. Toronto, in February, March, 1916, but transferred from infantry to the flying service. He is an officer of the 10th Royal Grenadiers.

**MISSIONARIES SPOKE.**

The Easter services of the Salvation Army yesterday were made specially interesting by the presence of a party of missionaries now in Toronto, on their way back to India. They addressed meetings in the Lisgar and Dovercourt Citadels, and also at the Albert Street Temple, telling of the progress of Christianity among the Indians.

**TONS OF EXPLOSIVES DROPPED BY BRITISH**

Despite Rain, Aviators Kept Up Activity Over Battlefield in France

**MUCH AMMUNITION USED.**

Bapaume and Villages East of Arras Still Made Targets for Aircraft.

London, March 31.—The British official report on aviation reads: "During Friday morning low clouds and rain greatly interfered with flying, but in spite of the weather, valuable work was accomplished by our airplanes. Our machines concentrated their efforts upon the battle area south of the Somme, where observers previously had reported large columns of the enemy advancing from the east. Many bombs were dropped and thousands of rounds of ammunition were fired upon these columns."

"A great deal of fighting took place, the enemy's low-flying machines being particularly active in this area. Nine hostile airplanes were shot down and two were driven down out of control. Two of ours are missing. The remaining airplanes were active in dropping bombs were dropped on Bapaume and roads in the vicinity, and also on roads and villages east of Arras. Direct hits were obtained on ammunition dumps and transport and railway lines. One of our machines is not yet located."

**IN NEW PREMISES.**

Yonge and College Branch of Royal Bank Has New Building.

The increasing business of the Yonge and College branch of the Royal Bank of Canada has made necessary premises larger than those occupied since the establishment of the branch about five years ago, and on Saturday the bank moved into its new office at 454 Yonge street, just above College.

The new building, which is 25 feet by 60 feet, is a distinct improvement on the branch bank architecture in Toronto. The interior of the office is particularly interesting, inasmuch as it has a ceiling height of 25 feet, with ample window light at each end and a central skylight. The vaults and cloak-rooms are in the basement, leaving a clear floor for banking purposes.

The building is designed in Italian Renaissance, with a front of Indian limestone. Toronto people should take an opportunity of visiting this building, where the officials of the bank would be glad to take them over the premises.

**GERMANS ENTER DEMUM VILLAGE**

Hot Fighting Develops in Luce Valley—British Stand Firm.

London, March 31.—The Germans forced their way into the Village of Demum yesterday morning, but were held up at the western outskirts, according to the statement issued by the war office last night, which also reports strong enemy attacks on the line a short distance south of Arras.

The statement reads: "North of the Somme, after a short lull yesterday, the battle broke out afresh this morning. The enemy repeated his costly and unsuccessful attacks both in the region of Hury and Boyelles, and the north of the Somme. All the assaults which were delivered in considerable strength and with fresh troops, were checked back with heavy losses to the enemy, and our positions remained intact."

"We took a number of positions. A heavy bombardment of our defence east of Arras accompanied the delivery of the attack. South of the Somme and between the river and the Aves, fighting has continued incessantly, attacks and counter-attacks taking place at frequent intervals. The enemy forced his way this morning into the Village of Demum, in the Luce valley, but is held up at the western outskirts of the village."

THE TORONTO WORLD

MONDAY MORNING APRIL 1 1918

ALL FOOLS' DAY



## THE WOMAN WHO CHANGED

BY JANE PHELPS

The Costume for the Dinner.

CHAPTER XLII.

After many conferences we had decided upon a costume for my dinner. Merton Gray had declared that he would have to sit up nights to paint the place cards, if we didn't make up our minds very soon. We finally gave up the idea of having the guests follow any one period too closely. I meant lots of work and expense. So we decided upon a sort of Dolly Varden costume for the women, and short breeches and ruffles for the men. And wigs, of course—that is, wigs for the men; and a choice of either wigs or powdered hair for the women.

I immediately ordered a handsome one made for George. I knew he wouldn't wear it unless it was perfect.

Nothing more was said of my awkwardness at the restaurant, nor of my giving way to tears on the way home. But I knew that Mrs. Sexton had felt chagrined, and, strangely enough, I felt more so because of her. I was mortified, too, that any friend of George's should see me make such a faux pas, and I knew that Merton Gray had also seen me spill the coffee, and had turned away to save me embarrassment. I hoped that George would not hear of the incident. I came very near asking Mrs. Sexton not to speak of it to him, but I couldn't quite get up my courage.

George would be at home in a few days. Mrs. Sexton had gone back to her quiet, friendly manner of the first days when we were alone. I once more was beginning to like her. She let me alone most of the time, only insisting that we keep up some reading and our talks on the duties of a hostess.

"Your husband must not feel that we have played all the time," she remarked.

Madge Loring found herself de trop. Merton called one afternoon to talk over the place cards. He wanted the list of the guests, etc. We had only

just commenced to talk when Madge Loring was announced. Mrs. Sexton had a headache, so Merton and I were alone.

At first I was tempted to say, "not at home," then thought better of it. The servants would think it queer. So I told James to show her in.

"I fear I am de trop," she said, after we had talked a few moments. "You were busy," glancing at the open desk. I had received her in the library. Now I was sorry I had not gone into the drawing-room.

"I was helping Mrs. Howard in a trifling matter," Merton Gray volunteered.

"How fortunate you are!" she turned to me. "To have Mr. Gray's help is indeed a compliment."

I felt myself blushing, and hated myself for doing so. I could not very well explain that he was helping me with a dinner party, when she was not to be invited, so I changed the subject by remarking:

"I am sorry Mrs. Sexton has a headache. She is staying with me, but felt too ill to come downstairs tonight."

"I always knew that George was clever," she said with thinly veiled sarcasm. "Now I know it! I'll bet it was he who invited Mrs. Sexton to visit you. Charming as she is, she is scarcely the company a young thing like you would choose. Now I know I am de trop."

An Unkind Insinuation.

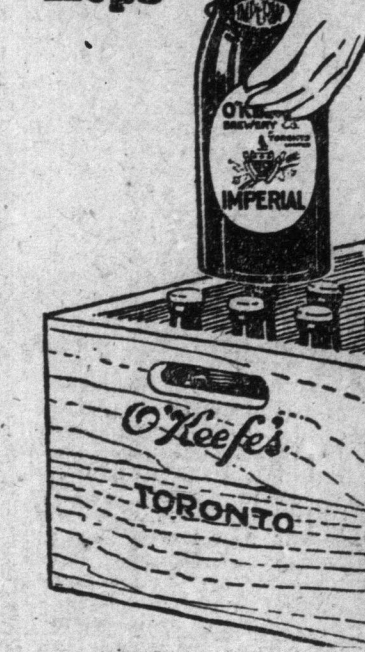
It was most unkind of Mrs. Loring to put me in the position she had, by her remarks. The intimation that because of Mrs. Sexton's feeling unable to come downstairs, she had interrupted a tete-a-tete between Merton Gray and me, made me very miserable. The worst of it was I had not yet learned to hide my feelings.

"I was just about to ask Mrs. Howard if she wouldn't play for me," Merton broke in. I realized that he saw my embarrassment, and was trying to help me. "Perhaps you would like to listen to some music also?"

"I certainly should," Mrs. Howard played divinely. I led the way and, without giving her a chance to say anything more, I commenced to play. But I played very badly and, realizing that it did not tend to make me more comfortable, I finally stopped abruptly and said:

"I can't play tonight! I am not in the mood."

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