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H. V. MACKINNON,
Managing Editor.
ALFRED E. MCGINLEY,
Editor.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE SITUATION IN OTTAWA.

It is part of the opposition news paper game to make it appear that Sir Robert Borden is in a state of panic as the result of what those newspapers claim to be a great current of opinion setting in favor of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The resolution endorsing Sir Wilfrid, passed as the result of an active and well organized lobby at the Winnipeg convention, was the signal for the opening shots in such a campaign and each day adds to the number of "flares" sent up to make a showing and create the impression that English Canada is prepared to turn to the Quebec leader and his anti-conscriptors in preference to an all-British Government solemnly determined to allow nothing to interfere with the winning of the war.

The Ottawa edition in Saturday's Telegraph representing that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had again refused an offer from the Premier to join a coalition was merely one of these "flares." Other articles of similar character are being sent from the capital to any and all opposition papers which the machine has reason to believe will publish them, but they do not at all represent the real situation.

Sir Robert Borden is not panicky and has made no overtures to Sir Wilfrid since the original proposition of a coalition dependent upon the passage of conscription was turned down by the Liberal leader. The Premier is in favor of a Union Government but realizes that Laurier would be a discordant note in any administration the chief object of which would be to increase the assistance Canada is able to give to the Motherland in this time of crisis.

Nor is the endorsement of Laurier in Winnipeg a reliable sign that he is totally acceptable to those Liberals who desire above all else to see conscription enforced in Canada, and who believe that a Union Government can still be formed. This is evident from a statement issued by Hon. A. B. Hudson, Attorney-General in the North government in Manitoba, and chairman of the resolutions committee of the Winnipeg convention. Hon. Mr. Hudson announces that he is a conscriptist and continues:

"The resolution as to Sir Wilfrid Laurier naturally expresses the admiration of Liberals for the undoubtedly great services which he has rendered the country; their belief that he is now doing his duty as he sees it. It recognizes the great influence which he still possesses and hopes that influence may be utilized for the purpose of re-uniting the people in furtherance of the prosecution of our share in the war. It commits no one to his leadership."

"The door is still open for the formation of a truly national government and I hope that one may be formed."

But it scarcely requires Hon. Mr. Hudson's statement to demonstrate that the Winnipeg endorsement of Sir Wilfrid had to do with past performance rather than future policy. The Western Liberals want conscription worse than they want Laurier and they cannot have both, or, at least, if Laurier, in an effort to gain the west, announces that he will favor conscription, then he is open to lose the struggle-hold on Quebec which he now has. Certainly he cannot stand for the anti-conscriptors of Quebec and the pro-conscriptors of the west at one and the same time. That fact would even test the abilities of such a proficient political "straddler" as our own Mr. Pugsley. Laurier will not attempt it; he will stick to Quebec. This being so he will oppose conscription and would be of no use in any Government pledged to the enforcement of conscription.

Sir Robert Borden is ignorant of Sir Wilfrid's position and the report that the Premier had made another offer of coalition to the Liberal leader and was dismayed at his refusal is, as before stated, merely a machine Grit "flare" to create the impression that the Premier is in distress. It is so obviously untrue as to scarcely require contradiction.

USING NEUTRAL TONNAGE.

That Britain and the United States are working together to control the bulk of the world's shipping for their war purposes is indicated by many recent happenings. Washington, for instance, has no scarcity of food products and can use them as a means of considerable pressure upon European neutrals who fail to make satisfactory response to their overtures for ships. Norway, for instance, has offered 1,000,000 tons of shipping in exchange for certain food exports. Holland has also offered 80,000 tons to be used for Belgian relief purposes but also for the same food exports. But the

change states that it is the view at Washington that the Dutch offer is not satisfactory, but that negotiations may be opened with Norway. Similar pressure is also being applied to Japan to induce her to put ships into service on the Atlantic.

A writer on shipping subjects recently estimated that the world's tonnage approximated 40,000,000 tons. Britain had nearly 20,000,000 tons in gross, and about 17,000,000 tons in ships of ocean-going size. The work of the German submarines has probably lopped a couple of million tons out of this estimate. The merchant marine of the United States is about 2,500,000 tons and the Entente countries are now estimated to have 25,000,000 tons between them, while neutral tonnage is estimated at 11,000,000 tons.

It is the neutral tonnage the Allies are planning to use in ways helpful to them. The U-boat campaign against neutral shipping has not made the neutral owners particularly averse to helping out the Allies as far as possible. Hope of inducing the neutrals to keep their ships out of Allied service seems to be partly, at the bottom of the German decision to concentrate the U-boat warfare on British ships. The U-boats are not in future to be scattered in the effort to maintain a blockade of the Mediterranean and other non-vital points, but are to make a special attempt to cripple British traffic. In this the United States will have a say, and the progression of the German decision leads to the belief that it intends action of utmost vigor.

The commandeering of all merchant ships under construction in United States yards, includes about seventy British vessels. About 2,500,000 tons is thus to be added to the United States merchant marine within the next year. Since all this, and more, will be required by the United States to send large armies to Europe, and maintain them there, most sweeping measures are justified. The best rate of building may be insufficient without wholesale chartering of neutral tonnage now employed in strictly neutral trade.

BRITAIN'S FAR-FLUNG LINE.

How times change! How wide spread is the effect of the war! In the United States now there is but little remnant left of that old Anglophobia. Not long ago there were "Yankees" everywhere who had no use for England. Today there is hardly an American anywhere who is not full of praise for Britain. The American press is filled with eulogies of Britain's part in the war. The following from the Cincinnati Times-Star is an example of the expressions being voiced by newspapers across the border on what Britain is doing:

"It was possible for England to talk about her 'far-flung battle line' twenty years ago, when Kipling wrote the Recessional. But what about that line today? England has two million men in France; her navy has controlled the sea since the outbreak of the war. There is a British expedition in Mesopotamia and a British expeditionary force at Saloniki. British monitors are on the eastern front. The plait that 'England has done nothing in this war' has about died away—and with good cause."

NIETZSCHE DID NOT START IT.

Many people are inclined to blame Nietzsche's philosophy of force and frightfulness for Germany's ruthless brutality in warfare. This tendency however is discounted by a writer in the New York Times who says that the influence of Nietzsche has been over-estimated as German pitiless campaigns were notorious long before he was born. This writer instances the words of Robert Southey, who, after the Battle of Waterloo thus describes a visit to Belgium:

You will be rejoiced to hear that the English are well spoken of for their deportment in peace and war. It is far otherwise with the Prussians. Concerning them there is but one opinion; of their brutality and insolence I have had but too many proofs. The Duke of Wellington, writing to his mother, thus describes the operations of the German legion:

I can assure you that from the General of the German down to the smallest drummer boy in their legion the earth never groaned with such a lot of murdering, infamous villians. They murdered, robbed, and ill-treated the peasant wherever they went. Bluecher was with difficulty restrained by Wellington from plundering the Bank of France. This time has made an improvement in the individual character of the German soldier can hardly be denied. But the

same cannot be said of the German general staff, which under the direct influence of the Kaiser insists on extreme barbarity to the enemy, and is as uncivilized today as it was at the time of Bluecher. Although the German soldier may be inclined to humaneness, such fair impulses are squelched by the fact that he is a slave to authority and obedience in civil life, and is a worshipper of the military autocracy at all times, and obeys his commanders implicitly, regardless of his own conscientiousness.

FRENCH ARMY RETAKES ITS LOST GROUND

(Continued from page 1)
In Belgium there were artillery duels round of Bixchoote. There were no infantry actions.

Recapture Trenches.
East of Fayet (north of St. Quentin) our troops reconquered all the trench elements which the Germans had occupied on the night of Aug. 9-10. We took twenty prisoners in the course of this action.
In the sector of Noyat Farm and Laffaux Mill our scouting parties penetrated the enemy lines at a number of places and returned with prisoners. "South of Ailles the Germans renewed their attack on trenches which we had previously conquered. The attacks, one of which was very violent, were repulsed with serious losses to the enemy. Our troops maintained all their positions and in the course of night realized further progress."

Germans Fall Back.
Paris, Aug. 11.—The official statement issued by the war office is as follows:

"In Belgium the artillery fighting was very spirited throughout the day. To the north of St. Quentin a German infantry attempt against our positions to the east of Fayet was stopped short. In Champagne, the activity of both armies has slackened a little. In the region of the Monts, where the Germans attacked last night without success, the fighting continued today directed two attacks against our trenches at Mont Haul. The assaults were caught under our fire and forced to fall back on their departure trench. Other enemy attempts against Mont Blond were similarly repulsed.
Two German airplanes were brought down by our pilots on Friday and two other machines, seriously damaged, were forced to land within their own lines. Our aviators successfully effected various bombing operations. The aviation ground at Schlestadt and encampments in the Forest of Hout Hault received many bombs.
"Army of the east, Aug. 10: A moderate activity prevailed on the whole front. Several Bulgarian detachments were repulsed in the morning. British aviators bombed enemy hangars in the region of Ramu."

Italian Statement.

Rome, Aug. 11.—The Italian war office issued the following official statement today:
"South of Mori, in the Lagarina Valley, strong enemy parties on Thursday night, after overwhelming one of our advanced posts, succeeded in penetrating it, but had to evacuate soon afterwards owing to the prompt arrival of supports.
"Yesterday there was more intense artillery fighting on the Julian front. Reconnoitering parties were active and we took some prisoners. Between Boscomano and Castagnvizza we recaptured the front of our lines somewhat to our advantage.
"During the evening our flights strongly escorted, bombarded the enemy's military works in the Chiapano Valley, dropping three tons of high explosives."

British Headquarters in France and Belgium, Aug. 10.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig's forces at daybreak this morning, after a day of intense fighting, virtually all the German forward positions east of the Belgian town of Hoge on the battle front between Frezenburg and the Ypres-Menin road.
The assaulting forces gained virtually all their objectives to the depth of several hundred yards in the first rush.

This section of the front was the scene of the hardest fighting on the first day of the battle of Flanders, south of Westhoek the terrain is marshy in places, and in the wooded section the Germans had strengthened their positions by constructing deep dugouts. These obstacles, however, did not deter the onward rush of the British troops this morning.

Details of the fighting are not yet

Too Much Food
In summer means clogged liver and sluggish brain; too little food means flabby muscles and starved nerves. The man on the job must keep his brain clear and his muscles responsive. The way to do this is to eat **Shredded Wheat Biscuit**, the food that contains everything in the whole wheat grain prepared in a digestible form, including the outer bran coat which is so useful in keeping the alimentary canal clean and healthy. Two or three of these crisp, little brown loaves of whole wheat with milk make a nourishing, strengthening meal. Ready-cooked and ready-to-serve.
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Little Benny's Note Book.

Pop was smoking and reading the paper in the sitting room and I was sitting on the floor under the table thinking, and I started to make funny sounds, and I thwrt, G, maybe in a ventriloquist without knowing it, G. I'm going to make pop think Artie is hear tawking to me.
Wich I started to do, saying, Well, Artie, wat do you think of the weather? and then changing my voice and saying, I dont think mutch of it, Benny, wat do you think of it, Benny? and then saying in my regular voice agen, I think its a heck of a weather, Artie.
And then I peeked out at pop thru under the table, -wich he was still reading and smoking, and I thwrt, G, he believes it, all rite.
And I started to do it some more, changing my voice every time I answrd myself, saying, Well, Artie, I didnt think you was coming around tonite, this is a surpris. Is it, Benny, I didnt mean it for a surpris. Didnt you, Artie? No, Benny.
Wich then I peeked out at pop agen, and he was still reading and smoking, and I thwrt, G, wont he be surpriswd wen he finds out Artie aint heer at all. And I sed, Pop, do you think Arties heer?
Heer? Ware? sed pop, and I sed, Rite in this room, didnt you heer him tawking
I herd you making the most diabolical sounds it has ever bin my misfortune to hear to, and I was just getting ready to leave you out by the nape of your ear, wats all this about Artie? sed pop.
Nothing, I sed. And I went out to see if any of the fellows was around yet.

available, but it is known that the British troops forged forward in the wake of a protecting barrage from their artillery, and achieved most of the objectives in a remarkably short space of time.
Following the usual tactics the Germans undoubtedly will counter-attack almost immediately, in an attempt to regain these important positions.

British Statement.

The text of the statement reads: "In the course of a successful local attack delivered early this morning, east of Ypres our troops completed the capture of the village of Westhoek and secured the remaining positions held by the enemy on the high ground known as Westhoek ridge.
"On the left flank of the battle front our allies continue to make progress east and north of Bixchoote.
"Our raiding parties entered the enemy's positions yesterday evening and captured a number of machine guns, a trench mortar, and a number of prisoners."

SHEDIAC.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Harper, St. John, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Steeves and Miss B. Harper, motored to Port Elgin and Bala Verde during the week.
Miss R. McDonald, Halifax, is visiting at the pretty summer home of her brother, Mr. J. A. McDonald.
A pleasant event of the past week was the verandah tea, given by Mrs. I. A. Ward, Pleasant street, when Mrs. D. W. Harper, St. John, was guest of honor.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Moore and family, Moncton, are summing at Shediac Cape.
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mugridge, and little daughter, Helen, have been visiting at the home of Mrs. J. A. McDonald.
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McQueen and son, Tom, are home from a trip to Fredericton.
Dr. and Mrs. Ried have returned from a motor trip through Nova Scotia.
Mrs. Geo. A. White, and Mrs. W. A. Flowers were in Moncton on Wednesday.

Mrs. Williams, New York, and Mrs. Estabrooks, Boston, are visitors at the home of Mrs. W. A. Russell.
Mrs. D. W. Harper, St. John, and the Misses May and Beatrice Harper, were guests of Moncton friends this week.
Mrs. Tegart, after a month's visit at the home of Mrs. Geo. A. White, left town this week for Sussex, Montreal and Fredericton, previous to returning home to Bradford, Ont.

Mrs. Lane, who was a recent guest of Mrs. W. A. Flowers, has returned to Halifax, N. S.
Mrs. D. W. Harper, St. John, Mrs. D. S. Harper, Miss May Harper and Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Wilbur, motored to Buctouche on Sunday.

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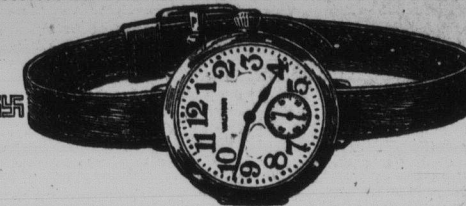
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