

THE DISPATCH.

Published by

The Estate of Charles Appleby.

K. Appleby - Business Manager

Subscription \$1.00 per year, in advance  
United States Subscription \$1.00 per year, in advance.

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# Unwritten Letter To the Kaiser

(London Purch)

[From Piet Maris, now on Commando with the Forces of the Union of South Africa]

Let me tell you first of all that I'm a Dutch Afrikaner and could prove my descent; and secondly, let me assure you that I have never gone into a piece of work with a mere willing heart than into this of destroying so far as may be your power in South West Africa. I daresay you thought that in the Transvaal and the Free State the memories of our fights with the British would be strong enough to dispose us to range ourselves on your side in this conflict. Well, we have not always loved the British Government, nor have we always abstained from quarrelling with our British neighbors. Some of our folk, too, have nursed old grievances and recent slights until they thought there was no other business in life, and they persuaded a few hot-heads to join with them and sputtered out into what was called a rebellion. We soon settled that, and we settled it ourselves without help from outside, a feat which should have earned for us at the very best a telegram of congratulations from you. However, there was no message—probably you were too much occupied in trampling on the Belgians, and in any case I can't honestly say that we missed it or worked our heads about its non-appearance. The incident opened our eyes, and we saw where our danger lay. Did you really think that we, Dutchmen though we are and stubbornly though we have fought against the British, were going to haul down the Union Jack in order to hoist the Black, white and red of the German Empire in its place; that we were going to try and chase the British out of our country in order to let in a host of German soldiers and officials; that in fact, we meant to abandon our own free institutions in order to live under the heel of the most coercive tyranny that the world has ever seen? No, thank you! We Dutchmen may have our moments of folly, but we're not such fools as all that. We may lack imagination, but then it doesn't require much imagination to realize what your men have done to the Belgians, whom you were solemnly pledged to protect. The stain on your nation is indelible. Years and years hence, when a German wishes to speak of honor and mercy, he will stammer and grow pale, for the blood of the murdered Belgians will choke him as the blood of Danton choked Robespierre.

There's another point which I want to make clear to you. You rail against the British and (until you meet them in the field of battle) make light of their contemptible little army, and all over Germany stout plethoric Germans and their broad comfortable wives, when they meet one another in the street, are begging the Almighty in a set formula to punish England. The sausage tastes sweeter, the black bread becomes a most white and the beer slips down more easily when seasoned with this ceremonial denunciation of impotent hate. And in that temper you forget what England did for us. She stood by her scrap of paper and gave us free institutions. Then, when we were ripe, for union, she helped to bring us together and left us to build up with our own hands the edifice of our united Government. It isn't perfect, but it's ours and we can improve it as experience may suggest. We don't boast about it, but we sometimes wonder what sort of institutions we should have in South Africa if the Master of Potdam, with his patent Prussian system for giving free expression to the will of the people, had had power here instead of the English, whom he begs God to punish for daring to throw

themselves across his path of conquest and domination.

So you see, we're fighting now for our own, and we mean to see the thing through. We are not unmindful of the seriousness of our task, but we have confidence in both, both as general and as statesman. We realize that in this part of the continent our manner of government could not long continue if it had to exist under the black shadow of your autocracy.

No doubt you promised mountains and marvels to poor dupes whom you lured into rebellion and then left to their own devices. Even they have begun to see that they have been made your cats-paws and that the chestnuts were not to be for them. I wish you could hear the language which they now use about you and your endeavors. You Germans are now known by us for what you really are. When you talk of liberty we think of Alsace; when you praise your culture we counter you with Louvain; and here in South Africa we are determined to rid ourselves of your incubus.

Yours, on commando,  
PIET MARIS.

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# WAR SUMMARY

**THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY** relating to British participation in the war comes, curiously enough, from Melbourne. A cablegram from Sir Ian Hamilton to the Governor-General of Australia announcing the death of General Bridges, one of the Australian Commanders in the Dardanelles operations, added: "The irreparable loss was brilliantly avenged yesterday by his own troops, who inflicted a loss of seven thousand on the enemy, our loss being under five hundred." Not a word has been given out in London about this action, which took place on Thursday, and must have resulted in the demoralization of the Turks facing the Australians in the Kaba Tepe positions. After a victory so important the rumor that Maides has been taken does not seem so wildly improbable as it did.

**THE FRENCH OFFICIAL REPORT** states that the struggle of Thursday night north of Ypres, when the Germans penetrated the French trenches, and were afterwards not only driven out, but pushed back behind the line they held before the action, was more important than at first supposed. More than 500 German bodies were counted on the field yesterday morning, and 150 prisoners were taken. Within the past week on this little section of the front the Germans have lost over 3,000 in killed alone. As the proportion of

wounded to killed is almost invariably more than three to one, the Germans must have had casualties of at least 12,000 men at the point where their lines touch the canal.

**THE BRITISH EYEWITNESS** in a report issued last night gives a detailed statement of the butchery by the German infantry and artillery last Monday of the remains of a battalion of Saxons who had gnified their intention of surrendering. It seems to have been one of the most horrible scenes of the war. When the Saxons approached the British lines, the British infantry, not knowing what they meant to do, poured a hail of bullets into them, whereupon the survivors, some hundreds strong, halted threw down their rifles and held up their hands. One waved a white rag tied to a stick. As soon as the Prussian infantry to the north realized what their Saxon comrades were trying to do they opened a rapid fire from the flank, enfilading the mass. News of what was happening must have been telephoned to the German artillery further east, since their guns suddenly opened fire on the Saxon infantry. Under this combined fire most of the latter were very soon accounted for. "Amongst the many scenes of the war there has been no stranger spectacle," says the Eyewitness, "than the masses of grey-coated soldiers standing with open hands raised amidst their dead and dying being butchered by their own comrades before the eyes of the British infantry. The fact that the victims of the slaughter were Saxons was a source of regret to us, since the Saxons have always proved themselves more chivalrous and less brutal than the Prussians and Bavarians, and cleaner fighters in every way."

**FROM PETROGRAD THE NEWS IS DISTINCTLY MORE CHEERFUL.** The German advance eastward from the San shows signs of weakening, and the artillery of the enemy is less prodigal in its expenditure of ammunition. Strong Russian reinforcements are advancing southward along both banks of the San from the point on the Polish frontier where that river joins the Vistula. On the left bank they are following the line of a frontier railway, and on the right bank they have taken the village of Ignace, which is only ten miles above Jaroslau. There has been no change around Przemyel, and communications between Lemberg and the garrison of the Przemyel forts is still uninterrupted. The German reports seem to bear out the Russian statement that the drive has lost its momentum. Berlin says there is nothing new to report in the southeastern theatre. The Germans claim, however, to have taken 2,600 prisoners in the operations in Courland, the Russian Baltic province, invaded by an army from East Prussia. The Russians have not considered this movement sufficiently important to warrant a rearrangement of their battle-line.

**THE WONDERFUL EXPLOIT** of the British submarine E-14 in the Dardanelles, for which every member of her crew has been decorated, was the subject of an official report by the Admiralty last night. The submarine passed easterly through the Straits on April 29 and sank a Turkish gunboat and a trans-

ports. On May 3 she sank a second gunboat. On May 10 she torpedoed and sank a large transport full of troops, and on the 13th she compelled a small steamer to run aground. The westward passage through the Straits with their protection of mines was made safely on May 18.

**GENERAL VON SANDERS** commanded in person the two Turkish divisions which made a furious attack on the Australians near Kaba Tepe, in the Dardanelles, last Thursday, and which

## CRIPPLED BY RHEUMATISM

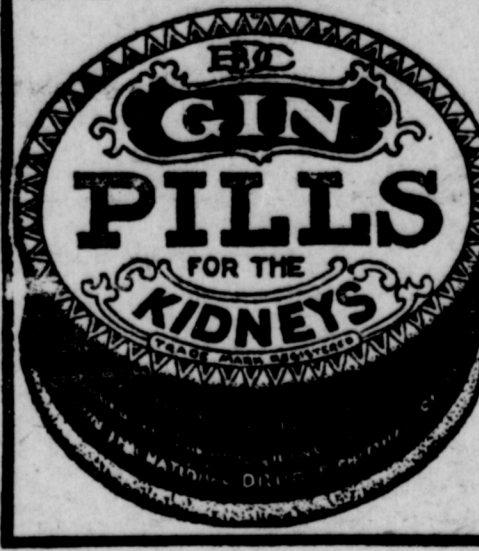
434 N.Y. Ave., Whiting, Ind. Jan. 20th.  
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Mrs. ED. DEAN.

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were beaten back with very great losses. The thorough drubbing given the Turks while acting directly under Von Sanders' orders will go far to undermine his influence. The French War Office states that in the southern region of the Gallipoli Peninsula French troops are only a few yards distant from the Turks, and notwithstanding the powerful defensive organization of the latter, are making important progress.

**The Futility of Germany's Submarine War** as a means of producing a shortage of merchant ships is very well shown in "Engineering," which states that: "In the first three months of the year the number of British merchant vessels sunk by enemy cruisers, by mines or by submarines totalled 43, including British fishing vessels sunk or captured, and the tonnage 130,358 tons. The tonnage of vessels launched from British yards, excluding vessels under 100 tons, was more than double this—267,612 tons, the measurement of 125 vessels, and that, too, notwithstanding that the conditions were in every sense opposed to extensive work on merchantmen. The urgency of the work for the navy has made it impossible for shipbuilders in many cases to devote any attention whatever to mercantile work, although the shipowners are specially anxious not only to secure delivery of the vessels already under construction, but to place orders for further tonnage, in view of the large amount of shipping

withdrawn from the overseas carrying trade for war service, and the resultant high freight rates obtainable."

Mrs. Frank Baird and daughter, Elizabeth, went to Fredericton on Saturday, to spend the 14th with her parents Mr. and Mrs. S. H. McKee.

Stewart Bailey, of the Royal Bank of Canada, Fredericton, spent Victoria Day with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Bailey.

Wm. E. Bell, of Oakville, has recently purchased and has taken possession of the farm of 140 acres at Oakville, known as the Jack Bell farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude M. Augherston and children went to Skiff Lake on Saturday, where they will spend a few days at their summer cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, of Belleville, were in town on Saturday.

The Working Girl's Circle of King's Daughters have donated the following articles: 3 pairs socks, 18 khaki handkerchiefs, 12 cakes toilet soap.

Earl Maxon of this town, has enlisted with the 55th Battalion. He has been living in Fredericton recently.

Miss Jean Tilley is visiting in Fort Fairfield, the guest of Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Archer.

## Patriotic Meeting

A public meeting to stimulate recruiting for the 55th Battalion will be held in the Hayden-Gibson Theatre on Thursday evening beginning at 8 o'clock. Col. Kirkpatrick will arrive here on the 6 o'clock express Thursday evening and will be received by the Mayor and Town Council. The band will be in attendance and a procession will be formed and proceed from the station to the Carlisle Hotel. There will be a band concert on the square previous to the meeting. The principal speaker of the evening will be Rev. J. H. Macdonald, chaplain of the 26th Battalion, who was a former pastor of the Baptist church here. The time has arrived in the affairs of the Dominion and the Empire when our people cannot afford to ignore this plea for help—it especially appeals to the people of Carleton County as the commanding officer is a native of Debec.

## Notice to Woodstock Ladies

The Women's Auxiliary of the Carleton County L. R. Fisher Memorial Hospital will meet at the Court House in the room used by the Red Cross Society to sew for the Hospital on Thursday, 21st day of May at 2 p. m. All women of the town interested in the hospital are requested to be present.  
SARAH A. HARTLEY, Sec'y.

## BELGIAN ORPHAN FUND

Mr. Daniel Mullin, Belgian Consul for New Brunswick, has received from M. Ed. Pollet, Consul General for Belgium, London, who is the Chairman of the Belgian Orphan Fund, a letter in which he is requested to give the Fund the largest publicity, and stating further that all subscriptions in his district can be sent to the Belgian Consul for New Brunswick. Mr. Mullin is also requested to form local committees under his patronage. A similar letter has been addressed to the other Belgian Consuls in Canada.

The Belgian Orphan Fund is under the high patronage of the King and Queen of the Belgians. Mr. Mullin recognizes the splendid response which has been made all over New Brunswick for the relief of the Belgians, and on behalf of the Belgian people cordially thanks the subscribers to that fund. He now appeals for aid for the little orphan children whose fathers have died so bravely in defense of their homes and firesides, and trusts that the generous spirit which has already been manifested for Belgian relief will prompt a ready response for this worthy cause.

All subscribers to this Fund can send their remittances to Mr. Daniel Mullin, Belgian Consul for New Brunswick, who has opened a subscription list in his office in the Pugsley Building, St. John, N. B., and at drugstores in different parts of the City: North End, South End, East End and West End, also in Fairville. It is proposed by the Belgian Consul to open a special account in the Union Bank of Canada for the Belgian Orphan Fund, where all moneys received will be deposited until remitted, from time to time, to the Belgian Consul General in London. All subscriptions will be acknowledged promptly through the public press.

The Dispatch has received a subscription list for the Belgian Orphan Fund from Mr. Mullin, and will receive subscriptions for the Fund, a knowledge same through "The Dispatch" and remit to Mr. Mullin.

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