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ST. ANDREWS, N. B., CANADA.

Thursday, 2nd December 1915.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

[November 23 to November 29]
A NOTHER week has gone by, and the end of the week still far off. There have been reports of the desperate condition of the people in Germany, and in the subjugated districts of Poland; and there have been rumors of peace proposals emanating from the Kaiser. But, of course, there will be no discussion of peace until the Entente Allies are in a position to impose their own terms on the Hun who were responsible for the war and all its devastation and horrors.

No important events marked the progress of the week's hostilities in the Western field, the relative positions of the opposing forces having undergone little or no change.

On the Eastern front less activity prevailed, apparently, than in the week preceding, so marked offensive movement on either side, being recorded. The Teuton attack on Riga and on the Dvina appears to have been definitely checked. It is not altogether abandoned; and to the south as far as the border of Rumania, no important actions appear to have been fought, and no changes made in the front.

In the Trans-Caucasian region, more activity seems to have prevailed, but the victories claimed for the Turkish troops have not been confirmed.

Considerable engagements took place on the southern extremity of the Gallipoli Peninsula, but the official reports published were most meagre.

The Germans claim to have accomplished their object in Serbia, with the aid of Bulgarians; but this is not conceded by the Entente Allies. It is true that the Serbian army has had to abandon position after position, and to retreat to Albania and Montenegro; and the capital has been transferred to Scutari. Monastir was still in possession of the Serbians at the week's close, but it appeared altogether unlikely that it could be held much longer. The Allies' troops landed at Salonika had been unable to effect a decisive junction with the Serbians, having been prevented by transport difficulties and weather conditions. The promised aid from Russia was not forthcoming; nor was it known definitely just how this aid was to be effected, though the presumption was that Russian troops would cross Rumania.

The fighting between the Italians and the Austrians in the Trentino region was of the fiercest witnessed in the world's war, but Austria remained in possession of the Austrian troops, though it was said to have been evacuated by the civilian inhabitants.

The reports which came in during the week of the operations of the British troops in Mesopotamia were of a most satisfactory tenor. Though Baghdad was still held by the Turks, the British troops were at Anbar on the River Tigris, possibly resting and awaiting reinforcements. The campaign is one of great difficulty because of climatic conditions and the general inhospitable character of the country.

Further successes of the Anglo-French troops in the Cameroon were reported; and it was intimated that the last unconquered body of German troops in that colony was being surrounded.

The few losses inflicted by submarines are reported in "Notes of the Sea," and it would seem that in the Mediterranean, as in the North Sea, the British navy is taking the means to remove the peril of the only form of naval warfare which the Germans and Austrians have employed for some time past.

The public has not been definitely informed of the exact position of the Entente Powers vis-à-vis Greece, but it would appear to be satisfactory.

The news of the visit of Earl Kitchener to Rome and to the Italian battle-front was most reassuring. After his visit to Italy he went to Paris, and he will probably visit the battle-front in France. Just where he will appear next is a matter of conjecture to the uninformed; but he is still Britain's strong man and enjoys the confidence of the Nation and the Empire.

Recruiting has continued to make satisfactory progress at home and in the Dominions beyond the Seas. In Canada, along with the ardor for recruiting, there has been an increased activity in pressing the claims of the Patriotic Fund. With men and money, with the unconquerable will and courage never to submit or yield, the cause of humanity is certain to prevail.

A WORD ABOUT WATERWORKS

THERE is not a person in St. Andrews who fails to realize the necessity for, and importance of, an adequate system of water supply for the Town. The Town Council, year after year, has discussed the subject, and the local press has been persistent and consistent in its advocacy of supplying the long-felt want. The only objection, so far as we are aware, ever made against the installation of waterworks is that of the expense. The situation of St. Andrews (which makes it one of the most attractive towns on the continent of North America), coupled with its sparse population, creates a problem for those who have to consider the ways and means of furnishing the desired improvement. It is said (the Town Surveyor can correct us if we are wrong) that there are about 13 miles of streets in the Town, and that on some of the streets there are not 15 houses. Certainly it is a Town of magnificent distance as well as of magnificent climate, situation, and all the rest of it, and infinitely.

For the actual cost of installing and operating the necessary system of waterworks we are waiting to hear what the

present Town Council has to say; but we think the figures to be presented will not be terrifying even to the pessimist to whom any increase of taxes is a bugbear, no matter what benefit he may derive from his increased taxation. We have neither time nor space at our disposal this week to take up the whole question involved in the installation of waterworks. We wish only, to-day, to point out one great saving that every property owner in Town will be able to make when the waterworks are installed, and that is, in insurance. The rates of insurance in St. Andrews are much higher than in towns provided with an adequate system of water supply. With waterworks of constructed according to the Underwriters' requirements installed, the rates of insurance would be immediately lowered, and the reduction in the annual sum paid for insurance by the insured in St. Andrews would probably more than offset the interest on capital expenditure and annual cost of maintenance and operating the system. Just look at this aspect of the question. Concerning other features of the subject we shall have more to say in subsequent issues. We also cordially and freely extend the use of the columns of the BEACON to any persons desirous of promoting this greatly needed improvement in the Town. If there is any person who desires to prevent the realization of the hopes of all the progressive townsmen, by opposing the introduction of an adequate system of water supply, we shall also give him space in the BEACON, for, while we are not at all neutral on this vital question, we wish and intend to be impartial.

CREDIT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

It has been called to attention that in some instances contributions from Charlotte County to the Canadian Patriotic Fund have been sent to St. John. Under the present arrangement for the working of the Fund, New Brunswick Counties are being asked to contribute according to their population; it is therefore necessary that contributions received in any County should be remitted to the Treasurer of the Fund in that County, so that due credit may be given.

Mr. E. W. Ward, Manager of Bank of British North America, St. Stephen, is the Treasurer of the Patriotic Fund for Charlotte County, and all contributions to the Fund from any part of the County should be sent to him; and contributions thus sent will be duly acknowledged by the treasurer's receipt to the donor, and by publication in the newspapers.

ANOTHER UNPUNISHED CRIME

On Wednesday of last week, before Police Magistrate, James Scoop, Esq., Councillor Jas. W. McBride, of Bayville, failed to appear in answer to a summons issued at the instance of Mr. C. S. Garneau, also of Bayville, for an assault alleged to have been committed on Garneau by McBride on Tuesday, November 16, 1915. It is said that McBride has left the country, and that his whereabouts are unknown to the police.

The assault, was of a most brutal character, and it is a wonder that Mr. Garneau escaped with his life. He was struck several blows on the head with the handle of a pickaxe, which is said to have been given by the force of the blows; and he received a severe wound on the arm with the broken handle. Dr. O'Neill treated Mr. Garneau's wounds, and the victim of the outrage was confined to his bed for several days and has not yet recovered from the effects of the assault.

Both Mr. Garneau and Mr. McBride are well-known hereabouts; and it is understood that, through neighbors, and especially the same, peaceful calling, milkmen, Mr. McBride had existed between them for some time past, which culminated in the assault mentioned.

It is most unfortunate for the peace and good order of the community that a person committing such a grave offence should be allowed to escape trial and punishment. A warrant should have been issued for the arrest of McBride, instead of the amuse, which was actually issued, we believe, under legal advice. How long this state of affairs is to be perpetuated in St. Andrews we cannot say; but it will ultimately come to this, that those who are responsible for the police supervision and administration of justice in the Town must act more energetically and efficiently, or others will be appointed to take their place. What with escapes from the jail, failure to arrest persons guilty of serious offences, and the imposition of light sentences on the few that are tried and convicted, the Town is gaining a reputation far from enviable.

WILL TROOPS WINTER IN ST. ANDREWS?

Inquiries have been made recently as to what accommodation for troops St. Andrews can furnish should it be decided to quarter them here for the winter. Among the places suggested are the lodging houses connected with the Lane-Libby Fisheries works at Chamcook. As the works are now closed down through scarcity of fish, the houses are vacant. Capt. Geo. P. Ryder was in Town on Saturday, in connection with the matter, but we have not learned what decision was reached, if any.

St. Andrews is a convenient and suitable place in every respect for winter quarters for troops; and if the matter is taken up with energy by the community, we attend to it, there is no doubt whatever that satisfactory arrangements can be made.

THE WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 2.—Austrian 1868. Fernando Cortes died, 1584. St. Paul's Cathedral, London, opened 1697. Herbert Spencer died, 1903.

3.—Hohenlinden, 1800. Lord Leighton born, 1859. R. L. Stevenson died, 1894. Mrs. Edith Chubb died, 1910.

4.—Thomas Carlyle born, 1795.

5.—Mozart died, 1791. St. Henry died, 1869.

6.—St. Nicholas' Landing College founded, 1848.

7.—Marshall Ney executed, 1815. Ferdinand de Lesseps died, 1904.

8.—Conception B. V. M. Sir George Blackwood born, 1802. W. M. Van derbilt died, 1885.

"Pier" It's the black grandmother of all damnable things.—John Galsworthy, *The Day of Tomorrow*.

PATRIOTIC MEETING AT BOBACEC

A meeting in support of the Charlotte County Branch of the Canadian Patriotic Fund was held at Bobacsec, on Friday evening last, about 75 persons being in attendance. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Jas. McMillan, County Councillor for the Parish of St. Patrick. Mr. T. A. Hart, M. P., was the principal speaker of the evening; and he explained fully the proposed method of raising the money which must be provided for the Fund, which should take the form of an assessment on the several Parishes throughout the County, to supplement voluntary contributions and sums raised in any other way. Mr. P. H. Grimmer, K. C., Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality of Charlotte County, explained the method of raising money by taxation, and expressed his belief that it is the most equitable way of providing the necessary fund. Mr. Goodwill Douglas, Secretary of the St. Andrews Branch of the Patriotic Fund, described the methods of procedure, and the plans for the future, of the Fund Committee in the Parish of St. Andrews. In these matters, as all lawyers will admit, we have to deal, not with the mere technicalities, but with the realities. The violation of a country's neutrality is dependent upon the view which that country itself takes of it. Every nation is a sovereign Power, and can alone be judge of whether it is or is not in a state of war with another nation.

These, however, are arguments which concern the Powers at war rather than the citizens of the United States. To them the painful fact remains that the Government at Washington were not willing by means of a public protest—war has never been in question—to champion the cause of humanity in the case of Belgium, yet have been willing to make such a protest in the case of injury to American trade. Let no one suppose that in saying this we are suggesting that America should take the side of the business. From that we entirely dissent. It is, however, impossible to note that the State Department at Washington, in its dealings with Germany on such issues, and with us on the other, has been to a very considerable extent trading upon the fact that we are sure to be friendly at heart and anxious not to embarrass or injure the United States Government, while the German, but have such limitations. Further, it almost looks as if the more aggressive and inconsiderate a foreign Government are, and the more they are likely to be to get their way at Washington.

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selves out of Court in this matter because they have violated the neutrality of Greece. We are not going into the *de quoque* argument, except to point out that there is a great difference between violating the neutrality of a country which results in arms to the best of its ability, and that of a country where the violation is purely technical, where its Prime Minister specifically invites the entry of our set of volunteers, and where the neutral country freely places its harbours and railways at their disposal. There is no real injury and no real violation where the neutral does not resist or even complain. Greece does not even suggest that she has any grievance against the Allies, though of course she has laid herself open to Germany-saying: "You can no longer be considered a neutral Power as you have made no effort to stop our enemies using your ports and railways against us. Therefore we shall henceforth consider you as an enemy." People must remember that a neutral Power is not outside the scope of war. We may be declared against her as against the original belligerents. In these matters, as all lawyers will admit, we have to deal, not with the mere technicalities, but with the realities. The violation of a country's neutrality is dependent upon the view which that country itself takes of it. Every nation is a sovereign Power, and can alone be judge of whether it is or is not in a state of war with another nation.

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