

The Middle West

ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Provinces Where Many Boys and Girls Are Living.

Playgrounds are not to be cut. Children's Home wants a grant from the city. Expenses amounted to \$36,000. Waterworks' department at

shows an operating deficit.

Government has decided that Winnipeg shall have a stock of automatic telephones.

Royal Flying Corps starting in Canada, 2,250 western

passed the Winnipeg depot.

shompen of Winnipeg want increased from the present

38 cents to 54 cents for a

day.

idea is to have a stock of

for amputation cases at western soldiers may be in their homes.

A. V. Cashman, Calgary, is leaving, and reports a scarcity

dentists in France and

increases, aggregating \$32,

affecting between 800 and

of the Winnipeg Street

have been put through.

that has an embryo no-

St. Sup't. Hay is giving gra-

construction out of school hours

who wish to teach on perma-

Canadians over-bought

needs in the month of Jan-

uary by 119,630 barrels, accord-

ing to figures on file in the local food

men went to the home of

line, a German, in David-

and made him kiss the

rock and give \$100 to the mil-

itary.

Street Railway com-

mands free street cars for sal-

fers and women's auxiliary

from the market square to

news church, to attend the

memorial service.

Arthur Thomas Cow-

man, late Rev. Canon Cow-

many years rector of St.

Anglican Church, Winnipeg,

has been released by the

and is now in Holland.

and Navy Veterans of

propose to raise a work bat-

tal Northwest Mounted Po-

dearly offering to recruit a full

the West.

ings will take overseas

the Royal North. West

of 755 men.

girls at Ribstone, Alta.,

one hundred and thirty-five

men.

Government will

in Manitoba in an em-

the use of western coal

and Give" pledges have

that by October, 1901

cars and give \$19,000 to C.A. Regt. Triangle fund.

provincial districts are fed

Plains with 130 signed

its credit. Grandview has

75, Portage la

and Winnipeg, 631 pledges.

TER PRAIRIE HOMES.

which Some Parts of

Might Profitably Follow.

bands that were made dur-

on the Mitchell Nurses'

twelve miles from Leth-

bridge, shrubs and small

give evidence that farm-

holds are improving their

boundings and adding to

material comfort, says the

part of the Lethbridge Board.

The men folks on the farm

indifferent in such matters

not seem to appreciate

that the money value of a

greatly increased if the house

ings are surrounded with

as long as the human eye

wander to a bluff of

will an asset of this

an actual money value:

animals and poultry, too,

the shade.

folk have too long been

promised that the trees

next year, but tries

on promises, although

do well in summerful-

ak and uninviting appear-

country school houses

entirely changed by the

front of a few public spiri-

who might very readily

themselves to sum-

a strip of land in the

ands, get the trees heeled

and set them out in the

spring. The teacher and

could be glad to look after

keeping the ground culti-

conserve the moisture for

of the trees afterwards.

Rationing System.

Toronto, Mr. H. B.

chairman of the Canada

said that a voluntary ra-

would be introduced in

committee in each province

the scale of rationing.

A MONDAY TO REMEMBER

THE FOURTH STRUGGLE ON THE SITE OF YPRES.

French and Belgians barred the Channel Gates With Their Bodies.

Monday, April 29, 1918, was a day to remember.

In a manner little realized the beginning April 28 was one of the most important in the whole war, and one of the most encouraging for the Allies. For the British and French armies that Monday was a very memorable day. They had made a magnificent defensive battle, in a scale which, in former war, could stand as one of the landmarks of military history. On the hill front round Ypres, but chiefly on the ridge just south of the town, the Germans had inflicted a terrible ruin, they met the heaviest fire from the Germans in the north. They not only repulsed and beat it down at all points, but shelled it with such fury as may well give even the Germans a shiver.

Life in Occupied France.

"We pieced together the picture of the life of these little ones inside the German lines from the stories they tell, and their elders, but more from the look in their faces when they find themselves in a world where the sound of guns is a long way off and where wonder of wonders, people actually speak French aloud without first looking around to see if the Boches are listening."

"For the strongest impression gathers from the repatriated of the native civilian in the strange No Man's Land behind the German front is of a country where the people's own mother tongue is 'forbidden,' but where nevertheless they all speak it and teach it to their little ones; and where little children are taught from infancy to be sly and deceitful, to do dexterously and by stealth the things that are their proper birthright, but which are 'verboten' by the oppressor; above all, a land where hatred is sucked in with the mother's milk, where every stranger is an enemy to be feared, where the awful threat, 'if you don't have the Boche will get you' is not the invoking of a story book bogey man but a real, life and death terror, tangible, present always lurking in the shadow just beyond."

No Chance to Play.

"These children do not play; they do not know how to play. That is the sickening first evidence we get at Evian of their stunted, dwarfed, blighted little lives."

"There has been no chance to play over where they came from; play was dangerous; it might annoy the Boche. Besides, children play instinctively only when they are happy, and these children, born in sorrow and unhappiness, have never been happy in their lives. Think of it, that there are thousands and tens of thousands of little children in France, sunny, smiling France, who have never been happy, who do not know what happiness means!"

"It is not only mentally that these children show the effects of their environment from birth. All have suffered a war blight; they are underfed, ill-nourished and subject to all sorts of diseases."

Say in Their Gayety Even.

"One of the most pathetic sights is to see the older children, those who remember France as it was before the war, when they get to Evian, back into France once more, where they can run about and play and sing and shout as they used to do. They are shy and awkward about it at first, but they soon recover their spirits and gayety."

"But the little ones, those born behind the German lines or who were not old enough to walk and talk when the war began—to see them watch the others is heart breaking. Their first emotion is fear—fear that the Boche will seize her for speaking in French alone."

"They have all been taught French, these tiniest ones. They even have little French songs that they have learned to sing under their breath."

"But of French as a language to be spoken aloud, sung at the top of one's voice, shouted as one romps in the open, they have no conception. Romping and games mean nothing to them; they cling to the skirts of their elders and shiver with fear; it takes a long time to make them understand that they are free at last."

"They never will be truly free, these stunted little ripples. All their lives the shadow of these early years will hang over them. The impressions fixed in infancy never vanish wholly; these have been too firmly impressed ever to be erased. Of all the tragic heritage of war that of these war children is to me the most tragic."

The second was fought in April, 1918, when the Germans had nearly won. They advanced fully a mile beyond the line the battle began on Monday morning, and made a better day's fighting together.

This is the fourth great struggle which the site of Ypres has witnessed, the first in its importance was in November, 1914, when the German march upon Calais was stopped.

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