

## RECRUITS IN SEPTEMBER LESS THAN THE WASTAGE

Eight Thousand Canadian Soldiers Have Returned From the Front and Have Been Discharged.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The falling off in recruiting during the past two or three months, and the imperative need of systematic method of adjusting the supply of men to meet the calls both of war and of industry, call for prompt action by Sir Thomas Tait and his fellow-directors. Sir Thomas, in co-operation with the officials of the Militia Department and of other departments of State, is now preparing detailed recommendations for the consideration of the board.

It may be noted that the recruiting total of 6,351 for last month fell very considerably short of wastage at the front during September. Considering the number of casualties, and the comparatively large number of men who are now being weeded out of the battalions proceeding overseas through the final medical inspection prior to leaving Canada, it is safe to say that there are fewer men actually in the expeditionary ranks now than there were at the beginning of August.

Montreal enlistments for the fortnight ending September 30 are given as 856, nearly double the enlist-

ment of any other district; British Columbia is second with 434, and Toronto third with 367. Other districts show: London, 187; Kingston-Ottawa, 349; Quebec, 96; Maritime Provinces, 228; Manitoba-Saskatchewan, 235; Alberta, 391.

The aggregate enlistment to the end of the month was 365,867, to which Toronto district has contributed 82,830; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 73,895; Kingston-Ottawa, 38,535; British Columbia, 35,871; Alberta, 33,147; Maritime Provinces, 333,074; London, 30,500, and Quebec, 7,206.

About eight thousand soldiers have so far returned to Canada from the front and have been discharged as unfit for further active service. Most of these have been incapacitated by wounds, and will receive pensions for the rest of their lives. In England there are several thousand more members of the Canadian force in hospitals who will probably be able to go back to the front, and who will be sent to Canada for discharge as soon as they are sufficiently convalescent. By the end of the present year Canada's pension roll will probably be well over the ten thousand mark.

## GERMANS MADE A PEACE OFFER

Withdrawal From Belgium and Payment of Indemnity Part of Offer.

The London correspondent of the New York Tribune cables as follows: German agents, acting through King Albert of the Belgians, suggested recently definite terms to the allies regarding Belgium, Serbia and Lorraine. This I learn from excellent authority. The proposal included the withdrawal of the Germans from Belgium, the payment of an indemnity for destruction due to military occupation, the retirement of the Kaiser's forces from Serbia without an indemnity, and the return of Lorraine to France.

Although the offer can hardly be considered a formal one, it is of an official character and is more definite than previous overtures. King Albert has been approached several times by German agents. Last spring the most ambitious of these efforts were made, but the Belgian King spurned these offers repeatedly, despite the fact that considerable pressure was brought to bear by the Germans on various parts of his country.

It is likely that nothing will come of this latest offer. But it is interesting because it shows that the Germans are modifying their views about the advantages they hold in the military occupation of neighboring countries.

## NOTABLE DECLINE IN ACCURACY OF GERMAN OFFICIAL REPORTS

Reasonably Correct Formerly, They Are Now Notoriously False in What They Relate.

A despatch from London says: London will continue to be visited by Zeppelins despite the recent losses and the great improvement in the capital air defences. This opinion was expressed to the Associated Press on Wednesday by the Earl of Derby, who said:

"Raids will continue for the effect on the German people, who have been taught that Zeppelins, like submarines, could bring England to her knees. Hence the ridiculous communiques and newspaper articles in Germany representing that England was terrorized and London in flames. I will not say that London is the best defended of the allied capitals, but I can assert that there has been a vast improvement, which means that other Zeppelins will be brought down when they come again."

Lord Derby expressed keenest satisfaction with the progress of the western campaign, which, he declared, only needed good weather to show substantial progress, and added:

"One of the most striking features of the present phase of the war is the notable decline in the accuracy of the official German reports, which over a considerable period, I am inclined to believe, were reasonably accurate. Now they are evidently written for home and neutral consumption; they are notoriously false in what they relate and strikingly significant in what they minimize or conceal. The best example of this is their delay in admitting the fall of Thiepval and Combes.

"The Germans absolutely believed Thiepval to be impregnable and never made the slightest arrangements for withdrawal, and when the British made their final assault a regiment which had asked the privilege of holding the place without relief, fought to a finish."

Asked about the possibility of the end of trench warfare, the Earl of Derby, who now holds the post of Under-Secretary of War, said it was impossible to make any prediction with respect to that.

## FOE GARRISONS SUFFER TERRIBLY

Activity of British Planes is Terrorizing the German Soldiers.

A despatch from London says: The Germans garrisoning Eaucourt l'Abbaye and Le Sars suffered terribly from the British shelling of those villages in the past few days. According to some prisoners, the Germans lost three-fourths of their men. A correspondent at the British front telegraphs:

"Prisoners declare that the ever-increasing activity of the British aeroplanes in attacking German infantry columns inspires terror behind the German lines. There was a wild scene at the railroad station at Cambrai, an important junction far behind the German trenches, when British aeroplanes attacked.

"The hard-pressed German infantry in the trenches had been shouting for help, and troop trains, ammunition trains and transports of all sorts filled the yards at Cambrai. They presented a fair target for the British aeroplanes that suddenly appeared out of a clear sky. One heavy bomb blew up an ammunition train with a terrific explosion, the second hit the engine and the third struck a troop train. A fourth landed in the centre of a group of detrainees troops.

"Then the aeroplane dropped with-in machine gun range and peppered a transport train alongside the railway and the groups of panic-stricken soldiers. Great damage was done and the enemy lines of communication were disorganized."

## BRITISH REGAIN ALL EAUCOURT

French Carry a Powerful Line of Field Fortifications.

A despatch from London says: With the French and British before the German fourth line after more than two months of almost continuous fighting, the Autumn storms, for which Picardy is famous, have brought a temporary lull in the operations on the Somme.

Rain fell for the greater part of Wednesday, and it was only between showers that the allied artillery could carry on its "softening" process against the new line of defences which the infantry now face. There were scattered engagements of a violent, but local character. During the night the British regained complete possession of Eaucourt l'Abbaye, while the French carried a powerful line of field fortifications extending from a point near Morval to St. Pierre-St. Vaast Wood. During the day the French advanced still farther east of Morval.

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### A Real Recruit.

"I thought you told me you were on your way to enlist?" "I am," replied Plodding Pete. "I'm tryin' to enlist sympathy fer me large an' unsatisfied appetite."

## BRITISH HAVE TAKEN 26,735 AND SMASHED 29 DIVISIONS

The Fruits of Somme Advance Set Forth Officially—Enemy's Reserves are Used Up.

A despatch from London says: An official statement issued gives details of the fighting on the Somme front after the advance of Sept. 15, describing the capture of villages, including Combes, Gueudecourt and Thiepval, and proceeds:

"These victories brought our front line at more than one point within a mile of the German fourth position west of the Bapaume-Transloy road."

The statement continues: "The enemy has fought stubbornly to check our advance, and since Sept. 15 seven new divisions have been brought against us and five against the French. The severe and prolonged struggle demanded on the part of our troops very great determination and courage.

"At the end of September the situation may be summarized as follows: Since the opening of the battle on July 1 we have taken 26,735 prisoners, and engaged 38 German divisions, of which 29 (about 350,000 men) have been withdrawn exhausted or broken. We hold the half moon upland south of the Ancre, occupy every height of importance, and so have direct observation ground to the

east and north-east. The enemy has fallen back upon a fourth line behind a low ridge just west of the Bapaume-Transloy road.

"The importance of the three months' offensive is not to be judged by the distance advanced or the number of enemy trench lines taken. It must be looked for in the effect upon the enemy's strength in numbers, material and morale. The enemy has used up his reserves in repeated, costly and unsuccessful counter-attacks without causing our allies or ourselves to relax our steady, methodical pressure.

"In this action troops from every part of the British Empire and British Islands have been engaged. All behaved with discipline and resolution of veterans. Our aircraft have shown in the highest degree the spirit of the offensive. They have patrolled regularly far behind the enemy's lines and have fought many battles in the air with hostile machines and many with enemy troops on the ground. For every enemy machine that succeeds in crossing our front, it is safe to say two hundred British machines cross the enemy's front."

## BRITISH SPOILS FROM THE SOMME

Twenty-nine Heavy Guns and Howitzers, Ninety-two Field Guns.

A despatch from London says: The Germans on Friday delivered numerous counter-attacks in strength along a great part of the front north of the Somme. Their artillery fire also is becoming heavier, new supplies of ammunition having been brought up. Despite their strenuous efforts, however, the British and French lines are unchanged, except for some local advances made by the French in the Morval sector. Here Foch's troops have pressed further to the eastward, in the region of the Peronne-Bapaume highroad.

The report from General Haig's headquarters contains an interesting statement of the number of artillery pieces and machine guns captured from the Germans during the progress of the Franco-British offensive. It says: "Between July 1st and Sept. 3rd, besides large quantities of other war material, we captured or recovered from the Somme battlefield 29 heavy guns and heavy howitzers, 92 field guns and field howitzers, 103 trench artillery pieces and 397 machine guns."

The allies' position is everywhere excellent, the line having been straightened out after the capture of Combes and Thiepval, and, contrary to German reports, has been extended, not shortened.

## BROKE THROUGH BULGAR LINES

Serbiens Reach Position Within Six Miles of Monastir.

A despatch from London says: Fighting on its home soil after months of expatriation, the reconstituted Serbian army is making steady progress towards Monastir. An Exchange Telegraph despatch from Salonica reports that the Serbians have broken the Bulgarian first-line defences on Kaloni, and are only six miles from the chief city of Southern Serbia. Officially they are reported as crossing the Cerna River, near Dobroveni and Brod, and to have occupied the towns of Buf and Popli.

### 30,000 TONS OF SUGAR SOLD TO GREAT BRITAIN.

A despatch from New York says: Negotiations for what is said to be a record-breaking single transaction in refined sugar with any one nation were completed on Wednesday by the Federal Sugar Refining Company, which announced the sale of 30,000 tons to a foreign Government, probably Great Britain. The purchase involves about \$3,500,000 and shipments are to be made in January, February and March. Immediate shipments of 18,500 tons to the British commission, Greece and France, were also announced by the Federal Company.

### THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER.

Fights and Dies With a Fatalistic Resignation.

English observers who have been campaigning with the Russian army say that the Russian soldier gets the slightest material and other returns for his services. He is a kindly, dumb, patient man, ready for anything, for his religion, the Czar and native land. He is not naturally a fighting man, knows none of the glamor of glory, or of self-sacrifice, but fights and dies with a fatalistic resignation. The highest reward that he can hope for is an iron cross for bravery on the field. For rations he gets a quarter of a pound of tea, five pounds of sugar and a half-pound of soap a month. Besides these he has two and a half pounds of black bread and three-quarters of a pound of meat a day. For smokes he is allowed two pounds a month of "Machorka," the chopped up roots of tobacco.

### ZEPPELIN WRECKED OFF DANISH COAST.

A despatch from Esbjerg, Denmark, says: Fishermen who arrived here on Friday report that at noon on Monday they sighted a partly submerged Zeppelin thirty-five miles north-west of the Island of Sylt, in the North Sea, off the coast of Schleswig. Several German destroyers and two large vessels were surrounding the Zeppelin, the fishermen said, in an attempt to keep her afloat.

## HALF A MILLION PRISONERS TAKEN BY ALLIES IN 10 WEEKS

Those Captured by the Roumanian and Salonica Armies Are Not Included.

A despatch from Paris says: The Paris Journal publishes a table of the prisoners and booty captured by the allies on the four principal fronts

	Guns.	Guns.	Prisoners.
French . . . . .	145	729	33,699
British . . . . .	109	223	21,450
Russian . . . . .	841	1,580	402,471
Italian . . . . .	36	92	33,048
Total . . . . .	1,131	2,624	490,668

These figures were obtained from the official communiques.

From Sept. 18 to Oct. 4, according to the communiques, the French increased their total prisoners to 40,313, the British to 27,602, the Russians to

from July 1 to Sept. 18. The captures of the Roumanian army and the Salonica army are not included. The figures are:

432,564 and the Italians to 34,248, giving a grand total of 534,727 prisoners taken on the western, eastern, and southern fronts from July, when the Somme offensive began, to the present time.

## NUMEROUS GAINS BY RUSSIANS IN VOLHYNIA AND GALICIA

The German Emperor Has Left for the Scene of the Principal Muscovite Attacks.

A despatch from London says: The Russians scored successes at numerous points along a line extending from the district west of Lutsk in Volhynia to the Dniester in Galicia.

The Russian offensive, which halted temporarily while fresh supplies were being brought up to the front, is again in full swing on the entire southern portion of the front. Tremendous efforts are being made by the Czar's forces, according to de-

spatches from correspondents at the front. The Austro-German resistance apparently is stiffer than during the early stages of the drive, however, the defence of Lemberg and along the Volhynia lines being especially determined.

It is officially announced that Emperor William has left for the eastern front to visit the troops of Gen. von Linsingen, against whom the principal Russian attack is being directed.

## CANADA'S REVENUE OVER \$200,000,000

Showing is Satisfactory Beyond the Highest Expectations.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A revenue of well over \$200,000,000 is in prospect for the present fiscal year, according to an estimate made public by Sir Thomas White. This will enable the Government to apply \$50,000,000 or more against the principal outlay on war account. The official returns for the first half of the fiscal year, that is to say, up to September 30, are now available and make, in the opinion of the Minister of Finance, a showing satisfactory beyond the highest expectations of the budget. The revenue of the Dominion from all sources has reached a total of \$103,000,000, or \$30,000,000 in excess of that for the first half of last year. The total expenditure, which includes an increase of interest of \$4,500,000 upon war borrowings, is about the same as last year, the higher interest charges being offset by reductions effected in public works and railways and canals expenditure. It now seems certain that the total revenue for the year will amount to at least \$210,000,000 or possibly \$220,000,000.