

SEVERAL REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

Now is the Time For Manufacturing Ability and Capital to Get Together in Canada.

Every optimist in Canada ought to take a pessimist in charge. The cheerful man should gently lead the disciple of calamity to some corner, and there impart to him as kindly as only the true optimist can, the knowledge that this country will still be distinctly visible on any good map of the world when peace is concluded in Berlin. The pessimist is not a thinker and his imagination flourishes only in grooves of gloom. It is necessary that he be trained to walk upright in the sunshine among the people who are adapting themselves to new conditions before he can be expected to shake off his distorted convictions and take his proper place in the daily toll of the nation. The national machinery in this country did not stop when the first German goose-stepped across the borders of Belgium. Canadians did not take to their heels nor cease to be concerned. Neither did the products of the fertile fields of Canada disappear from the bins and the elevators or the livestock perish on the hillsides. Few manufacturing plants of consequence had to close because of the inauguration of hostilities before long. Admittedly, the war has disturbed business, but not beyond the possibility of rapid and efficient adjustment and those adjustments have in large measure been already achieved. As the first shock is always the hardest to bear, it is reasonably safe to assume that the problems of the future will be as capably handled and that day by day the nation will progress to a position of steadiness and contentment.

There were not lacking pessimistic predictions to preach that dark days were dawning upon Canada. As the years began to gather for service overseas. Yet, because of that mobilization, factories throughout the country were soon running with full staffs, and in many cases, running overtime, to furnish the equipment required. Boots, socks, uniforms, rations, rifles and ammunition had to be acquired. As the government has announced that a second contingent will follow the first and that men will be constantly in training here, while the war lasts, it is likely that the self-same factories will continue to operate, as a result of the war, while the conflict lasts. In addition, quite out of a clear sky, came orders for saddles and harness from the governments of Great Britain, France and Russia, in large quantities, because the manufacturing plants in those countries could not produce the supplies needed quickly enough. The harness business is always rather dull in the fall and the demands of the armies of the allies were gratefully received. Canada is being called upon to furnish horses at good prices in addition to the daily routine of the people and the demand in the home market is sufficient to enable them to maintain operations.

The last Dominion census, that of 1911, is authority for the statement that there were in Canada, in 1910, some nineteen thousand odd manufacturing plants. Of these, 6,985 or more than a third of the manufacturing plants of the Dominion were devoted to the production of foodstuffs. As the people have to be fed, most of those plants should be able to carry on their operations as usual. The employees on the pay rolls of these factories in 1910 numbered 52,730. The wages paid totaled \$14,492,568, and the cost of materials stood at \$175,453,469, the whole constituting a considerable item in the spending of which is calculated to stimulate activity in other lines of industry. In timber and woodproducts the census gives the number of plants as 4,999, employees 110,949, the wages paid \$30,373,733 and the cost of materials \$94,952,428. Speculative building has in the past, but Canadian goods may be made an essential feature of specifications for buildings going up for the governments and for municipalities throughout the Dominion. There will possibly be a decrease of output in furniture. The lumber men are probably enjoying an export business ought to be able to continue operations much as usual, though they will not have access to Germany and Austria and there is ample opportunity for many of the other lumber men to seek outside trade as well. The textile industry appears to be in an excellent position. The number of plants in 1910 is given as 1,444, the 72,872 employees were paid \$26,794,826 in wages and the cost of materials was \$72,128,436. With the cutting off of supplies from Germany and Austria our Canadian plants should be called upon to furnish a wider range of goods than ever before for the domestic market, and what with the making of necessary clothing these factories are busy. It rests with the manufacturers themselves whether they are to hold the new domestic market when the war is over and trade routes are open all over the world. In paper and printing the statistics show 773 plants. Employees numbering 22,894 received in wages \$40,866,791 and the cost of materials was \$16,956,697. As the newspapers, to give the news of the war are being printed more often than in times of peace, it stands to reason that men will continue to be employed cutting the spruce in the woods, floating it down the rivers or loading it upon trains for delivery to the

STORIES FROM TRENCHES

Comment on French Officers' Tub Led To Attack.

Near Verdun, via London, Dec. 29.—Few official communications are issued in the Argonne and not mentioned. A few personally conducted war correspondents have had a glimpse of the battlefields on its tragic slopes, where soldiers constantly spoke of the rival trenches being so near that French and Germans not only heard each other at one another but threw specially constructed bombs about the size of cricket balls. In some cases the lines were not a dozen yards apart, and burrowing had made such headway that a French mitrailleuse pointed its nose into a German trench, and in that subterranean fashion the enemy was made to beat a frantic retreat.

One morning last week an officer Lieutenant Plantin, was having his morning bath. His section of the trenches was quite up to date, as small dugouts and enclosed square covered with zinc and provided with cleverly contrived drains forming an admirable pool. A comrade anxious to follow him called out, "Aren't you through with your tub, Plantin?" He had a somewhat high pitched voice and the whole neighborhood heard it. For eight succeeding mornings, as regularly as cock's crow in the piping times of peace, the Germans adopted the French's call as a sort of leit motto, and sang in chaffing chorus:—"As tu fini de Prendre ton tub, Plantin?"

On the eighth day the lieutenant got so angry he called out, "Come on, boys, let's go for them!" His company bounded across the intervening space and bayoneted every German—they were Saxons—in the enemy's lair. Thus a frivolous exclamation was the means of recovering ten metres of conquered country. Things are going very well in the Argonne and the Wever, whenever any progress is being made it is the French who are making it. There are signs that the Germans are withdrawing a good deal of their strength the last few days, and as soon as the western front, from Rheims to Arras and Dinard falls back in earnest the Germans holding Southern Argonne and Southern Wever will follow suit.

It was a curious sight—the shifting of troops and the reoccupation of the trenches by fresh companies. The men who came out were usually to be driven toward the base, but those who took their places seemed even more delighted.

In moving about the camps one constantly heard a soldier say, "I've been a couple of weeks here and haven't had a pot at a Boche yet!" What a hurry the trench worn fellows are in to change their clothes and to get into the hands of the regimental barbers! Imposing beards fall across the scissors, none too delicately applied, and each man along for their wives and sweethearts to see them.

After the shave and the "tub" they smoke, and some fall fast asleep, while others stroll to hear the music of the "Sambre et Meuse" speak of peace and home and loved ones. You hardly expect to find sentiment among men who have just been running their bayonets through German bodies, but you do find it, and many an "Sambre et Meuse" as the familiar airs are heard, calling up pacific memories of the past and triumphant hopes of the future.

"Hullo, there! Why don't you go and wash? Look at your hands!" exclaims a colonel to a straggler who is drinking in the "Sambre et Meuse." "Yes, colonel, I've just been polishing my boots and I thought I'd wash afterward," said the platoon-leader. "Next time," retorted the colonel, who is a great favorite with his regiment, "suppose you put a little more black soap on your boots and a little less on your hands."

Nobody is downhearted in the Argonne. Kitchener's Day. Lord Kitchener's genius is the genius for taking pains and sparing himself no ironical jest. In his old years, he appears to be possessed of unlimited powers. As soon as he was appointed to the war office his lordship sought a residence near by, and was fortunate in being able to secure Lady Wantage's house in Cleton House Terrace, facing Mr. Balfour's.

Each morning sees Lord Kitchener arriving at the war office as regularly as a machine, at nine. After going through the more pressing correspondence he confers with the army Council and the Admiralty departments, or takes part in a war council with Mr. Churchill and other ministers. A cabinet council often claims a couple of hours of his time, after which the war secretary usually returns to the war office and lunches.

Lord Kitchener's afternoon is uncertain, for when not in his room at the war office he is inspecting troops; but, whichever it is, there is no lessening of energy. He occasionally dines at one of the Pall Mall clubs, but before going home spends another hour or two at the war office as a rule, going through despatches from the front and the affairs of his great war army.

One On "Jimmy" Duff. The story is told of an incident which occurred during a meeting of the legislature some time ago. Just outside the assembly room is a telephone for the convenience of the members. One day a page called upon Hon. James Duff, minister of agriculture, to the telephone. In using the instrument he adopts a high-pitched voice and presently the loud sounds were heard in the hall. It disturbed the late premier, Sir James Whitney, considerably. He stood it as long as he could, and then turned towards the page benches.

"What noise is that?" he thundered. One of the ministers sitting near informed him that it was Mr. Duff talking to Glen Grove. "Well, why on earth doesn't he stop?" was the caustic question in reply.

All Christmas and New Year's Chocolates at cost between now and New Year's. Colombia's exports last year were valued at \$34,315,800.

ENGLISH PAPERS LIE

THIS IS WHAT THE GERMAN JOURNALS SAY.

Germany Too Humane—Admiral Schlieper Says Their Ships Should Torpedo Everything British That Floats.

London, Dec. 29.—The reply of the German press to the drastic comment of the English newspapers on the recent raid on the East Coast reveals the state of mind at which the Germans have arrived. The Kolnische Zeitung may be cited as being the most characteristic. This journal is one of the organs of the German Foreign Office, but it is impossible to know if the articles in question are inspired or not.

The Kolnische Zeitung says that the English newspapers lie as usual when they declare that Whitby and Hartlepool are not fortified places, that the world's oldest towns, and that Whitby has a coast guard station and a signal station, and that Scarborough has a coast guard station. According to the German hand-book, all coast guard men are liable to be called out to serve in the navy, and the German journal notes that an enemy has consequently the indisputable right to bombard such military stations. That women and children should lose their lives in consequence of such bombardment, is, it says, regrettable, but unavoidable if the English in such coast towns, and are not placed in security by the responsible officials. "Besides," continues the organ, "what heed do the English usually pay to the loss of innocent lives? How many innocent human beings are being butchered in East Prussia by the famous Russian steamroller, which will presumably shortly be placed with the old locomotives in the museum? How many innocent lives have been sacrificed in Belgium to the English policy, but for which war between Germany and France would have been prevented at the last moment?"

"War is war, and it strides over dead bodies. When war has been declared there can only be two questions. 'Where is the enemy?' and 'How can I hit him?'"

Admiral Schlieper, writing in the Lokal Anzeiger, complains bitterly that Germans in their conduct of war, and especially in this war, have been far too considerate. The purely human side of war has received far too much attention, and they worry themselves about humanitarian matters when they ought to be conducting their campaigns with all possible rigor. He agrees with Admiral von Tirpitz that Germany's submarine must develop still further its activity torpedo everything British that comes their way. England is choking Germany, and under the circumstances everything is permissible. England may throw up her hands and explain, "Oh, those German barbarians! The very thought of accusing Germans of being murderers also, but these names must be borne. Germans must not allow their hereditary weakness of consideration to slacken their firm purpose. German submarines have already sunk a British battleship, and the Britons; let them continue, it says the Admiral, and make themselves a continuous terror at all those points where England is most vulnerable. Attack without discrimination. Warships, mercantile marine, troop transports—all are legitimate spoil.

"We cannot," says the Admiral, "bring the British lion on his knees by feeding him with cake. When he has a couple of torpedoes in his body he will be more amenable."

THE SPORT REVIEW. Ottawa College Not For the Inter-collegiate Union.

Melville Times: Melville breathes hockey; Melville lives hockey; Melville dreams hockey, and Melville will substitute her claim—a "Billie" town with hockey pretensions.

Ramsay Rankin of Stratford will go to the front with the second contingent. That makes seven hockey players from Stratford.

Lawson Whitehead of Toronto is in Belleville, where he will coach the intermediate and junior O.H.A. teams this winter.

Ottawa College just managed to win out against Dartmouth university at Boston. The Americans are picking up the Canadian National game in surprising style.

Toronto Star: Bert Hunt has developed into the Art Throop of this year's Ontario. He back-checks all over the ice and bumps everybody he sees around the puck. He will be a useful boy to have around.

Though the Ottawas scored a victory at Quebec and kept pace with other visiting teams on the first night's play in the N.H.A., they had an expensive win as Eddie Gerard returned to the Capital with his left knee in bad shape.

Lou Marsh, of Toronto, made his appearance on the ice in Toronto Saturday night as an official, after being laid up for several months with a compound fracture of the leg sustained last spring when he attempted to run down a truck while speeding on a motorcycle. The previous week Lou had made a trip from Hamilton to Toronto in an airplane, the only plane it is safer to travel in the air than on the ground.

Montreal Gazette: It was recently learned that the application of Ottawa to the college to be readmitted to the Intercollegiate Amateur Athletic Union was refused at a special meeting of the governors held in Toronto last week. Ottawa college was anxious to be given another chance at both hockey and rugby, but will remain out for at least another year. It is remembered that Ottawa college withdrew from the Rugby union two years ago after playing two games at home and none away. The teams who played at Ottawa and were not given a return match evidently had not forgotten it and their vote was cast against Ottawa college.

White Rose flour, pure and wholesome.

BELGIAN BOY HERO.

King Albert Pinned Ensigna On His Breast.

Northern France, Dec. 28.—The northern cavalier of the Belgian Order of Leopold and the first boy scout to be decorated for gallantry on the field of battle is Joseph Lysin. King Albert recently pinned the cross on his breast in the presence of his ministers and military staff, and in giving him the accolade said: "I have the honor to decorate you with the Order of Leopold. You are the youngest Belgian hero. I congratulate you and all the scouts who have done such service for their country."

Joseph, who is 18 years old, was working in a shop in Brussels when the war broke out. Already an enthusiastic member of Baden Powell's Belgian Boy Scouts, he at once volunteered for any duties at which the military authorities might wish to set him; and was soon in the thick of things. In the words of the officer under whom he served, he became l'enfant du regiment; posing at a priest. It is difficult to get him to talk of his experiences, but one of his earliest feats was the tracking down and arrest of two spies, and of this he gives the following account: "One afternoon I saw a crowd of people, and found that they had gathered around two men, who had been arrested by our outposts. They claimed to be priests, but I noticed that they did not wear the usual white collar and black cravat. Getting permission of the officer who had made the arrests, I questioned them, but they replied, 'You had better run away and play, instead of insulting two honest men. We are priests on our way to the convent at Liege.'"

"They were searched and released as nothing incriminating was found; but I was convinced that two spies were being allowed to escape, and so I got permission to follow them to Liege. Jumping on my bicycle, I overtook the two men near Renoir. As soon as they saw me they ran into a wood, but I cycled after them and called out: 'In the name of the law, come out of that wood and follow the road or I will fire on you.'"

"They at once returned to the road and two lanes dashed up in a motor car. The two priests at once tried to make off, but I collared them, and with the help of the lance-corporal made them get into the car. Then we drove to Liege and handed over our captives to the authorities. "Then the false priests at last confessed that one of them was a German, and the other an Austrian. When they were searched carefully, there were found in their boots plans of forts and trenches. The authorities thereupon gave me a written declaration that I had arrested two spies, and I returned to my regiment."

Besides this decoration from the king, this enterprising youth has received the Cross of Merit from the boy scouts of Belgium.

Fined For Applauding. Pittsburgh, Dec. 29.—After a police court hearing, when he was fined \$3 and cautioned to observe neutrality, Paul Steurnagle, of Sewickley, announced his intention of taking his cause before the British consul.

Steurnagle was in a moving picture theatre Saturday night when a picture was shown of Canadian regiments preparing to go to the front. He clapped his hands and cheered. An usher reproved this. Steurnagle only turned to the picture again and emitted an impassioned "Hooraay!" When he waved his hat a policeman was summoned.

Steurnagle told Magistrate Sweeney that he recognized in one regiment men with whom he had attended school in Canada.

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(CANADIAN SERVICE) Sailing from Halifax to Liverpool FRANCESCA (15,100 tons), Jan. 11, at 1 a.m. ORDELA (15,500 tons), Jan. 18th, at 1 a.m. TRANSYLVANIA (15,000 tons), Jan. 25th, after 1 a.m. Apply Local Ticket Agent, or THE ROBERT REPOD CO., LIMITED, General Agents, 50 King St. East, Toronto.

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IMPORTANT—It is important to all housekeepers that their joint of beef or mutton, lamb or pork for Christmas dinner is of the best quality in taste and cutting. Therefore, to obtain good quality, good value, good cutting and good attention, order your Christmas joint at

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Owing to the mild weather we had, we have decided to Cut the Prices in Two

on all our MEN'S AND BOYS' SUITS, OVERCOATS AND PANTS and make a clean sweep of everything.

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Good News for Kingstonians

THE heavy selling of the past two weeks means many broken sizes in every stock. Our inventory is about to be taken and all odd lots and broken sizes must be moved out in a hurry. In order to do this

Mendels Big Sale

Will Be Continued for a Few Days Longer

Sweeping reductions in every department. Original cost not considered. The stock must go. No carrying over here. You will never know the buying power of your dollar unless you visit this sale. All goods marked in plain figures. Cash and one price to all

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Tickets will be sold at single first-class fare, good going Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24 and 25. Valid for return until Saturday, Dec. 26. Also going Thursday, Dec. 31, and Friday, Jan. 1, 1915. Valid for return until Saturday, Jan. 2, 1915. FIRST CLASS FARE AND ONE THIRD

Going Dec. 22 to Friday, Dec. 25. Valid for return until Monday, Dec. 28. Also going Wednesday, Dec. 30 to Friday, Jan. 1. Valid for return until Monday, Jan. 4, 1915. For full particulars apply to J. P. HANLEY, Railroad and Steamship Agent, corner Johnson and Ontario Streets.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

New Year's Fares

Single fare good going December 31st, 1914, and January 1st, 1915, return limit January 2nd, 1915. Fare and one-third good going December 30, 31, 1914, January 1, 1915, return limit January 4, 1915. (Minimum charge \$5.00) Particulars from F. CONWAY, C.P.A., City Ticket Office, cor. Princess and Wellington Sts., Phone 1197, or write M. G. Murphy, D.P.A., Toronto.

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