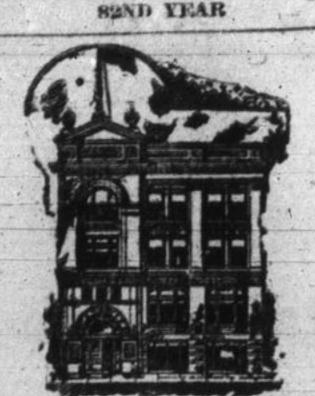
The British Whig



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TORONTO REPRESENTATIVE

THERE'S NO IDLE RICH. If conscription is put into force in Britain, by special legislation, it will apply, we are told, only to the men who have no dependants, and who can be spared from trade for the purposes of war. This may be called the saving remnant. Strange that its members have not been fired by

the holy enthusiasm of war. Discussing the situation recently an English paper, conversant with situation, said there were not in the old land any of those who had been termed the "idle rich." The idlers, the men of substance, of means, had been swept into the conflict. The lists of the casualties bore the names of many who had offered their lives on the altar of their country. They had been so generous in their gifts. They had given abundantly of their wealth, and had followed this by the most precious of all gifts to a national cause, the gift of self

Britain can well afford, in view this splendid example, to call to the colours, by gentle influence or force, the men who can serve without dislocating the wheels of industry or stopping the currents of trade. conscription must be resorted to it is hitting the right kind of men, and the men whose turn has come.

BELGIAN COLONIZATION.

Mr. Macfayden, in another column, discusses the feasibility of organizing communities of Belgians in Canada. He points out that the success of their emigration depends entirely upon their colonization. They are not tempermentally qualified to prosper briberyof customs officials in Italy. if obliged to fight their way alone in | One side sounds or seems good until munities, they would abundantly succeed, and, in their lines of vocation, make a home for themselves in Can-

The article is full of interest. sets forth certain facts clearly. a small percentage of the eight mil- thus far lions can return to their native land. They could not, if the way were clear, restore their land, commercially or industrially, in many years. They can never hope to renew their work while German authority or influence remains. The question is, What can Canada do for them under circumstances? The government may set apart certain blocks of land which men can own and work and make fruitful. It has not been very fortunate in its colonization schemes It never had, however, a people like the Belgians to experiment with:

Besides of these Belgians, many are artizans, who will be most profitable when employed, as they have been at home. To emp,oy them at their best they must be occupied hey were before the war, and that means capital, freely subscribed and properly applied.

The suggestion which Mr. Macfayden makes require serious thought from our representative men. That thought is invited. It is made the more urgent in view of the fact that Belgium has been destroyed because it has been true to its compact. In tator attributes defeat to the over doing so Britain has been spared an whelming interest in the war. Why injury and an humiliation in dealing, not say at once, and without without a buffer state, with such a cumlocution, that the temperance parrapacious and relentless foe as Ger- tv has lost its grip? many has proven herself to be.

CONSCRIPTION VERY NEAR

Eventually Britain, in self-defence, mittee at Ottawa pursue its junker order to meet any contin- policy to the end? in war, may have to adopt plan by which it may have a

der to accomplish his purpose. And have her say, and say it to the end this is because his property interests, his standing as a citizen with nation al rights reserved, make service the army absolutely necessary under certain conditions. Britain has hitherto depended upon love of country inalloyed loyalty, to influence the man in her military service, and her huge army in this conflict is the resuit of personal and patriotic apreals. The standing of the individu- They why does the government no al towards his country does not affect prevent its export? Some of the ore any financial or material interests, is surely going ta Germany to be and the call to the colours is followed by a movement of men that is turned against the British, and that without a parallel. But the exigencies of the rene re may change all this. Published Datly and Semi-Weekly by have her reservists hereafter: late Lord Roberts saw this in Dr. McNamara has seen and as an under secretary of the war Ald. Gillespie is training the cadet department, discusses it publicly with corps, and when the boys grow the consent and knowledge of the gov. and can shoot straight they will b ernment. The thing which a while eligible for seats in the council. ago was regarded as impossible appears to be at hand.

> CONTENTION AND CONSPIRACY William B. Hale, the biographer of the president and his some time condential agent, writes to the New York l'imes a lengthy and interesting article, dealing with Britain's scruting and occasional seizure, of merchandise shipped, in American boats, to Europe. The point is made—that a neutral can ship anything to a foreign port, even contraband of war, provid ing it runs the risk of seizure; and

only the materials that are to be

used in the war, by belligerents, are subject to capture and confiscation. The biographer of the president-who is not qualified to be a better judge of international issues because of his personal relations with Mr. Wilsonquotes from ancient documents, written by eminent statesmen, some of them deceased, including the late lamented Thomas Jefferson, in support of his cause. Britain can be depended upon to make a lofty, a lucid and logical answer to the state paper which the United States sent his majesty's government on December 28th. It-may admit that some of its contentions, made in the last two hundred years, have been abandoned in this war, because, without a parallel in any case, and entirely without a parable so far as an unscrupulous enemy is concerned, there was nothing

A nation that began its warlike career by tearing up the agreement it had solemnly made with other nations, by treating it as a scrap worthless paper, by acting on the philosophy of its cultured leaders, that everything goes in war, could hardly that country, an army like that expect any decisions in international law to have a moral effect upon it. Pritain has had to act as emergency suggested, and when the United States government cited its troubles in exporting via Italy it did not expect that so soon the Italian government would uncover one of the greatest all the other funds, outside of mil conspiracies of the day, to defeat and tary expenditure and a subseque compromise neutral powers. This con- pension roll, and Canada will have emissaries. It included the wholesale friendly way, the British government will lay before the Wilson government a statement of facts that will be surprising. One can wait for develop-It ments, knowing that Britain can justify everything it has done in the war

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Which way will the tax rate this year-up or down? What your aldermanic friends promise

Now that the council of 1915 has been completed by the elections esterday, what do to think of it

The Montreal Herald wants a vigilance committee appointed in connec tion with the House of Commons. What villiany does it now suspect?

Both the by-laws were carried & the people in the elections yesterday. An augury of better things. Cheap power and railway connection help the local industries.

Ours will be a war council year. Major Gillespie will command it on special occasions, and the medical men will constitute themselves an ambulance corps and take care of the

License reduction got what is called a black eye in Hamilton. The Spec-

applies are being advertised now for the third contingent, which being mobilized in company headquarters. Will the liberals get look in? Or will the patronage cam-

Toronto has elected a woman, upon her people anywhere. The Dr. Caroline S. Brown, a member of Austrian, the German, the Italian, the School Board. Her picture apill, when a war breaks out in which pears in the Toronto papers. The edintey is involved, make for tor of this paper does not profess to s Some people have sense, but not home. He will risk discomfort, and be a physiognomist, but the face of enough to know how to use it,

Dr. Brown suggests that she will

A Garman officer in New York prac tically challenges the editor of the World to fight. The age of chivalry has nor passed. Some of these days there will be a funeral in New York, and the editor of the World will go on as if nothing had happened.

The Canadian Mining Journal says that nickle can be refined in Canada. used on armament which is being is not right !

The National Municipal League is anxious that the study of civics should begin in the schools. Bless it, you, sirs, it has begun-in Kingston.

Public Opinion

The Canadian Method. Kincardine Review. Marconi is to be made a senator, in Italy, not Canada. Canadian senators

are not made by wireless. Answer Nearly Read Toronto Mail. the friendliest manner in th world, Britain is getting ready to

Oh, The Secret.

say "No" to the United States.

London Advertiser. The reason that the Christmas cigar gets such a hard name is that mothe and sister go looking for pretty boxes.

Wasn't Happy.

wealthy American heiress commit ted suicide at Atlantic City. And many people are happy who don't know where their next war extra is

Difference In Slogan.

Toronto News. Canada is at war, and the United States is not. Yet in Canada the slogan of the day is "Eat an apple," while in the United States it is "Bu a bale of cotton."

After-Cost What Counts. Even the cost of marriage promise to be increased in Ontario by a prospective rise in the price of a license

Cause Of Pride.

pinch comes later for money

But that is a mere bagatelle. The bi

Syracuse, N. Y., Herald. According to Mr. Lloyd-Georg England now has more than 2,000, men under arms. With the voluntee system of recruiting that prevails something for England to be prouder than all her memories of past

Will The Kaiser Pay?

Hamilton Spectator. the Canadian patriotic fund alone, \$2,226,682 have been alread subscribed. Add to this the sum spiracy was hatched out by German very substantial amount to charge up

Kingston Events Twenty-Five Years Ago

Dr. A. P. Knight read a paper at

As the result of the escape of two convicts, guards must live in close proximity to the penitentiary. There is an epidemic of la grippe the city.

W. M. Drennan was elected mayor



SECOND LIEUT, CHAS, SHERGOLI Of the Royal Canadian Engineers. He was recently promoted to the rank and was mentioned by Sir John French n despatches for bravery under fire. He receives the Military Cross.

Appointed Agents For France, Ottawa, Jan. 5.-The Hudson Bay ompany has been appointed purchas agent in Canada for the French government. Capt. Dupont, who ar rived here some weeks ago, is a spe ction with the P chase of saddles. In the United If the situation's puzzlin', States Commander Feline is the chief purchasing agent for France.

Theory may look all right in print, but it takes practice to prove fits actual worth.

WORST WEATHER FOR MILITARY WORK PREVAILS IN FALL

Difficulties to Be Met With During The War in Europe - Hard Dig Trenches.

From the strategical point of view

wintry weather is not an unmixed evit. In western Europe the worst weather for military operations prevails in autumn, when the rainfall s at its maximum. Cold weather! ets the roads, makes the sodden fields practicable for marching, and bridges over small bodies of water. Only in the mountain passes are these advantages offset by the obstruction due to snow. 'In the interior of the continent-e.g., on the East Prussian and Austrian frontiers - heavy snowfall occurs even over the plains and lowlands, and opposes an obstacle to military movements. Here also, the intense cold freezes over the larger rivers, thus the Vistula is normally frozen Warsaw from late December to early

even by boat. Again, it is difficult or impossible to dig trenches in frozen soil, such as may be found in the dead winter in the interior of the continent. Under such conditions armies have, however, sometimes used blocks of ice to good advantage in building

breastworks.

March. On the other hand, when not

frozen over but filled with floating

ce, these streams become impassable

Strange to say, the circumstances of being accustomed to a cold climate does not appear to give any decided advantage to troops campaigning under winter conditions. T. M. Maguire, in his "Outlines of Military Geography," says .: "When the theatre of operations is entered, nothing is of much importance except military organization. The inhabitants, however, well used to the climate, will persist if unprepared, while the invader, if provided with all requisites of clothing, food, and drink, will thrive." In the Balkan campaigns of 1877, the Russians suffered more from cold than from the Turks. Even the supposed superior stamina and

military prowess of the inhabitants

of cold, as compared with those of

warm climates, is largely mythical,

declare European authorities. The two main theatres of the present war differ greatly from each other in their winter climates. Western Europe enjoys comparatively mild winters, under the influence of prevailing westerly and south-westerly winds from the Atlantic Ocean, which, like all large bodies of water, has but a small range of temperature from summer to winter. The climate is, however, very moist, so that a moderate degree of cold produces much discomfort. Cloudy weather prevails considerably more often than in any part of Canada, except perhaps the region of the Great Lakes and the North Pacific coast. As we go inland we find no abrupt change of conditions, as there is no large range of mountains running parallel to the Atlantic coast, to form a climatic divide; very gradually, however, the climate becomes more continental, and the present eastern theatre of the war lies in a region that is intermediate in climate be-

western coast and the truly continental climate of central Russia. The snowfall increases generally from west to east; not because of an increase in the total precipitation (rain plus snow), for this actually decreases, but because, with lower temperature, a large proportion o the precipitation takes the frozen form. The snowfall also increases

tween the marine conditions of the

markedly with altitude. Both regions are subject to rapid and frequent changes in temperature under the influence of barometric depressions passing from west to east, although especially in the eastern region, these are somewhat less frequent than in eastern Canada, as the main European storm-tracks lie north of the war zone.

With respect to temperature and snowfall, one might say in very general terms that the western theatre of war has the climate of South Carolina, while the eastern has that of Iowa. Nowhere in the fighting zones is Canada's midwinter climate, with its sudden changes approached.

A few comparisons of mean mid winter (January) temperature may be instructive: Ostend 39; Brussels 37; Liege, 37; Luxembourg, 34; Aix-la-Chapelle, 36; Danzig, 28; Po-sen, 28; Konigsberg, 26; Warsaw, 26; Prague, 30; Lemberg, 24:

Toronto's average midwinter temperature has ranged in ten years from 15.6 to 26.5 Canadian soldiers, if they get to the front before the winter ends will not have nearly such extreme zero weather to face as will the men being trained at exhibition park. Nor, on the other end, will they have the sudden warm spells, the really balmy days such a we often get in the middle of winter

What Puzzled Him. The soldier was telling the workman about a battle that he had once been in that had lasted from eight o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock at night. His description was most graphic, and he becam very enthusiastic as he lived through the stirring scenes again.

"There's one thing I can't understand about that story," said workman, slowly, when he had finish-"You say that the battle be gan at eight o'clock in the morning and lasted until seven at night?" "Yes, that's so, was the reply."

"Then," retorted the workman with a puzzled air, "what I can' make out is, how did you manage about your dinner hour?" Keep On

If the day looks kinder gloomy. And the prospect's awful grim; An' perplexities keep pressin' convinced. Till all hope is nearly gone-Jest bristle up an' grit yer teeth,

Duty may be in the shape of of wounding the devil's feelings,

An' keep on keepin' on

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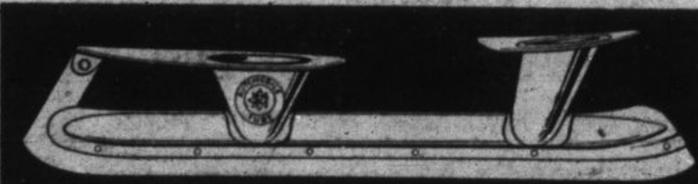


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