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SOME OTTAWA GLIMPSES

Special Correspondence by H. F. Gadsby.

Stir Up the Recruiting

Ottawa, Aug. 12.—It is gradually dawning upon the leaders of opinion that what the recruiting movement in this country needs is ideas, and that the Minister of Militia might be usefully employed at home thinking up a few. Premier Borden and Sir George Perley can arrange all outstanding Canadian questions with the British Government, and that will leave Major General Hughes free to mind his own business, which centres largely in a suite of offices on the ground floor of the West Block at Ottawa.

Obviously two Cabinet Ministers, which is one eighth of the Canadian Government, can transact all the business this country has in England, so that Major General Hughes can safely take the next steamer and come back to his real work. The time for the Canadian War Lord to visit England in search of glory and floral tributes from Sir Max Aitken is over. Canada has done her full duty in the war and helped to bring it to a triumphant conclusion. Meanwhile, if Canada is to equip and maintain an army which will never be less than one hundred and fifty thousand men at any period of the war, Major General Hughes will find plenty to keep him busy at Ottawa.

One of the greatest problems Major General Hughes has before him is recruiting, and the country would be only too pleased to see him concentrate his brisk and enterprising intellect on that subject. Not a day should go by that General Hughes does not shed a new light on its difficulties. Until lately recruiting methods have been left very largely in the hands of the local regimental authorities acting under general orders from Ottawa to get so many men by such and such a time. The local officers have done their duty nobly, but they have a right to expect more direction and inspiration from the Militia Department than they have received up to date. In short, this is a chance for Major General Sam to implement his recent performance in regard to Valcartier Camp by consistent diligence along lines not as spectacular, but quite as helpful to the British Empire.

It is suggested that the routine persons who carry on the Department of Militia are in constant need of a nervous presence like Major General Hughes, who will keep them on the jump. It is further suggested that, as organized publicity is what the recruiting movement needs most, the regular officials of the Department of Militia be reinforced by a small but competent staff of active young men, who know how publicity may be attained.

As the chief means of publicity is the printed appeal, pictures and posters, it follows that such a staff might be chosen from the newspapers of Canada, whose business is publicity. Half a dozen reporters and a couple of newspaper artists would do the recruiting movement a lot of good. They would not only produce copy with a "pull," but they would give the fruit of old columns in the Militia Department tips on "human interest" that might be worked out to the immense advantage of the British Empire. Major General Hughes has his own press agent, but one press agent, and he semi-detached at that, is not enough for the Militia Department. It should have a dozen press agents blowing bugle calls for King and Country.

Being in need of ideas, the Militia Department should seek them where ideas are to be found. "It's a safe bet that almost any newspaper in Canada, no matter how small, has a dozen bright ideas to the Militia Department's one. That is a moderate estimate. Most people would put the proportion much higher. The Intelligence Department is a sub-department of the Militia Department, but there is not much hope in that quarter, because its intelligence is diverted into other channels. What is wanted is another Intelligence Department which will devote itself solely to publicity. That the place

to get intelligence of the particular quality required is among the newspapers men is shown by a little incident in Toronto, where a very young lieutenant, with a brief newspaper training, had a dream which he acted upon at once. He dreamt a street car fitted out with flags and soldiers in uniform, and a bugle, which would go out into the highways and byways and scoop the recruits in. He interviewed the street railway Manager next morning and that afternoon the very car he dreamt of was on the rails and doing a tremendous business. A few practical dreams like that would soon jar the Militia Department out of its sleep.

Another point the recruiting movement seems to have overlooked, is that the recruits won't come to you, if you want them you must go out and get them. The cherry that isn't worth reaching for isn't worth picking. It is not enough to open an office and hold down an armchair and wait for the recruits to come in and sign the roll. A beribboned sergeant outside the door helps some and brass bands do good work too—for youth is ever caught by sound and color—but more active measures than that need to be taken if an army of one hundred and fifty thousand is to be kept at full strength. The recruiting officer must get out and circulate, if he would reach the football and hockey heroes who decorate the street corners of most of our small towns. He should be able to point out to them how much better it is to be doing their bit for King and Country than loafing at home. The Canadian army would look better for the presence of many of these athletic young idlers, who have won great glory in the newspapers for their fighting qualities in the sports of peace, have now a chance to display their prowess in the stern tasks of war. For the credit of Canada the recruiting officers must get out after the young Canadian who have no responsibilities to hold them back. Nobody should be able to say that only the out-of-forks went from Canada—poor fellows who had Hobson's choice, fight or starve.

Another matter the Militia Department should take in hand is public meetings. Recruiting speeches are a fine thing, if they are not too long, and if they are spoken by the right man in the right vein. Statesmen are a good drawing card, but it may be laid down as a general rule that one khaki uniform that has been at the front is worth a cauldron of politicians. It follows that recruiting meetings should make great play with returned heroes from the battle front. Their splendid example is worth a wilderness of brave words. Moreover, the meetings must be properly managed, so that the right kind of audience listens to the speeches and applauds the heroes. The right kind of audience is an audience of possible recruits, and consequently any recruiting meeting that issues so many platform tickets to stay-at-home patriots that there is no room in the body of the hall for the prospective fighters, fails of its purpose. Such a meeting took place in Massey Hall, Toronto, not long ago. Half a dozen converging bands drew the would-be-recruits from all parts of the city, but when they found that they were jammed in the friends of the speakers. It was a highly successful and enjoyable gathering, but it did not do much for recruiting. The Militia Department should promulgate a general order that recruiting meetings are for recruits and that passive sympathizers can help things along better with their room than their company.

The Militia Department will also find that it helps recruiting to put the recruits into uniform at once. An old uniform is better than none at all, if the recruit is to be given a chance to be proud of his colors before he is hustled off to the war. A little preliminary glory at home among his friends in small enough reward for the dangers and hardships.



SIR ROBERT BORDEN GETS FREEDOM OF LONDON.

The Premier of Canada was recently presented with the Freedom of London in an impressive ceremony at the Guildhall. Photo shows the Mayor of London and Sir Robert Borden at the entrance of the Guildhall.

MAKE BELGIUM VASSAL

CONDITION OF PEACE STIPULATED BY HUNS.

Industrial and Agricultural Interests Also Ask For French Coast To River Somme, Annexation Of Verdun and Belfort, Extension Of East Frontier.
Paris, Aug. 13.—According to Le Temps, six important industrial and agricultural associations in Germany have sent a long confidential memorandum to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg on conditions of peace which they regard as indispensable to assure the continued economic development of the country. The memorandum is signed by the following men, who are prominent in the life of the German Empire: Dr. Roschke of the Agrarian League, Vachot of the Union of the German Peasants League, Baron von Twickel of the Association of Westphalian Peasants, Herr Rouger of the Central German Manufacturers' League, Herr Fredericks of the Manufacturers' League and Professor Eberle of the Union of the Middle Classes of the Empire. They demand greater security of the eastern and western frontiers and enlargement of the foundation of German maritime power which will permit of a more vigorous development of economic forces. The concrete means whereby these results are to be obtained are as follows:
The elimination of Belgium as an independent state. That country from a political, military, commercial, monetary, banking and postal standpoint, to be subject to German imperial legislation, and the memorandum says, "must be so administered that its inhabitants shall have no influence whatever on the political destinies of the Empire."
The memorialists demand as vitally necessary to Germany possession of the French coast from the German frontier to the River Somme, together with an interior region sufficient to give strategic and economic support to the channel ports thus acquired.
To protect the new frontier from invasion, Verdun and Belfort and the western slopes of the Vosges between these two cities should be annexed, including the Briey mining basin in addition to the northern coal deposits.
Furthermore, France is to be required to indemnify French proprietors for land, buildings, etc., taken by German authority.
The memorialists demand such extension of the frontier in the east as will give great facilities for colonization to Prussia and the Empire in Present Russian territory.

5,000 OR 6,000 PENSIONS.

Expenditure For Canada "Will" Be \$4,000,000 A Year.

Ottawa, August 13.—That at the end of the war Canada will have 5,000 or 6,000 pensions to pay is the estimate made from the experience of the Militia Department so far. While on account of the uncertainty as to the length of the struggle precludes any very accurate prediction, it is practically certain that there will be added to the Dominion's yearly expenditure a sum of at least \$4,000,000 a year for pensions for the wives and families of dead soldiers and for disabled ones. Up to the present, however, the number of Canadian soldiers receiving pensions as a result of the present war is only 150, as the amount paid-out to July 31st has been \$25,000.

As each application for a pension takes three or four months between the time the soldier falls or is wounded and the date on which the pension is finally passed, it is altogether probable that the \$2,000,000 set apart for pensions during the present year will be sufficient. It is estimated that already about 1,000 Canadian men of family have fallen in action, but as stated, only a small number have received pensions. These cases are first passed on by the pension and claims board to the Militia Department and then referred to Major W. S. Conger, Canadian pensions officer.

NOT DAYS OF NAPOLEON.

Germany Realize That Petrograd Is Key Of Empire.

Petrograd, Aug. 12, via London, August 13.—The Novoye Vremya, discussing to-day the theory that Petrograd is the real key to the German offensive, says: "There is an enormous difference between the War of 1812 and the present conflict. The Germans are hurling against Russia forces equivalent to such invasions as that of Napoleon and supported by the latest technical appliances, whereas in 1812 the Russian army in the latter respect was fully on a par with the French."
The Germans are infinitely better posted as to the position of Russia than Napoleon and they are incapable of regarding Moscow as the key to the empire. They know that Petrograd is the political centre and that it is only half as far from Riga as from Moscow. It is only a night's railway journey between Riga and Petrograd, and the distance of 250 miles over good roads and two lines of railway does not offer insuperable difficulties. This is no second war of 1812, but something far more serious."
The Reich advises the population of Petrograd that air raids on the capital are likely in the near future and that a hostile cavalry force may possibly get near the capital. It says, however, that there is no fear of anything further at present.

Brazil's Lumber Consumption.

Brazil yearly consumes 6,000,000 feet of Swedish pipe lumber.

The average man believe in future punishment only for his neighbors.

The veracity of the woman who tells her correct age is above par.



NEW ARMY AT DARDANELLES.
Map shows where the new armies of the Allies are reported by the Turks to have appeared. The Australians and Indian troops north of Gaba Tepe recently improved their position by gaining the crest of the ridge facing Sari Bahir.



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