

SOME OTTAWA GLIMPSSES

Special Correspondence by H. F. Gadsby.

A Canadian Navy.

Ottawa, March 25.—Not being able to quote British precedent, as inhibiting discussion on war topics, which discussion has been remarkably full and free in the Imperial Parliament, and having already used the stop-for-shame argument to cloak the transactions of the Shell Committee, the Government was fain to listen to a little heart-to-heart talk on the subject of a Canadian navy or the lack of it since the war began.

It all arose out of a motion by E. M. Macdonald, of Pictou, who asked for a return showing the vessels now on service under the provisions of the Canadian Naval Service Act, also a copy of all correspondence relating to the establishment of a Canadian Naval Brigade. The Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who is the Sir Joseph Porter of this struggle, because he sticks close to his desk, and never goes to sea by reason of having of pretending to have no Canadian cruisers to go to sea in—the Hon. Mr. Hazen, as I said before, made the reply in chief but Mr. Macdonald, when all was said and done, gave himself his own best answer.

From his speech, and those of Dr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell, Sir Robert Borden and others who participated in a lively debate, these facts are gathered as to the naval strength of Canada at the present time.

To begin with the Naval Department which came into existence under the Naval Service Act of 1910 is still alive but has a great deal of time on its hands. It is in charge of its head and a captain or two in the office and these gentlemen are permitted, perhaps even instructed, to wear their blue and gold uniforms to show that a war is on, but not to spoil them by hard work. The uniforms are a guarantee of good faith, a sign that the Naval Department would work if it was let, otherwise they are for advertising purposes only. The Naval Department's main work, the only work it had left after our warships were tied up and stripped, the work of recruiting for the British Navy, has been intermitted if not stopped entirely. At all events the recruits for the Rainbow and the Niobe have been allowed to drift away and until a few months ago no new recruiting was attempted, and then only on the Pacific Coast. So far as Newfoundland and the Maritime Provinces are concerned they might as well have no sea-faring folk at all. The Government cannot see them. The Government says that the British Navy doesn't need them and hasn't asked for them.

It is quite true that Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are recruiting Naval Brigades for the Mother country without waiting to be asked. But the circumstances there are different. No doubt these countries would have another story to tell if they had a Nationalist-Conservative Government, the latter half of which had to keep its promise to the former half not to do anything serious in regard to Canadian naval defence. The fact seems to be that the Borden Government considers it had enough to have a Grit Naval Service Act, without doing any recruiting under it. In other words its love of the Mother country is such that it refuses to take advantage of any Liberal measures to help her.

If the Laurier Naval policy had been carried out there would now be on the seas, available for coast defence, the convoy of Canadian troops, and the work of patrolling the North Atlantic at least seven fast cruisers with their auxiliaries, the tenders for which were thrown in the waste basket when the Borden Government adopted its contribution policy on the advice of Winston Churchill, who has since been responsible for the disasters at Antwerp and the Dardanelles. Mr. Churchill said that warships, torpedo boats and things like that couldn't be built in Canada, because we didn't have ship yards and giant cranes and other implements of the higher civilization. Premier Borden took him at his word. Since the war began, submarines have been built at Montreal good enough to cross the Atlantic under their own power, but Mr. Churchill is still quoted in debate though with less authority.

Instead of seven fast cruisers and their auxiliaries, what did Canada have at the beginning of the war? She had what she has now, for she hasn't bought anything since except two dinky submarines rejected by the Chilean Government, but purchased by that eccentric statesman, Sir Richard McBride, for \$1,150,000 which was \$300,000 more than the original contract price. These two tin whales had a habit of choking when they took a deep breath, they couldn't have swallowed Jonah with-out getting black in the face, so they are now interned at Esquimaux where they are quite safe as long as they stay on top of the water. Meanwhile the real defence of the Pacific Coast is undertaken by a couple of Japanese cruisers.

Outside of the two submarines what has Canada in the way of war vessels of her own? On the Halifax station in January, 1916, Mr. Macdonald found the Canada, a small vessel with two guns, the Grille and attached vessel, the Sudacona and couldn't have swallowed Jonah with-out getting black in the face, so they are now interned at Esquimaux where they are quite safe as long as they stay on top of the water. Meanwhile the real defence of the Pacific Coast is undertaken by a couple of Japanese cruisers.

Outside of the two submarines what has Canada in the way of war vessels of her own? On the Halifax station in January, 1916, Mr. Macdonald found the Canada, a small vessel with two guns, the Grille and attached vessel, the Sudacona and couldn't have swallowed Jonah with-out getting black in the face, so they are now interned at Esquimaux where they are quite safe as long as they stay on top of the water. Meanwhile the real defence of the Pacific Coast is undertaken by a couple of Japanese cruisers.

Atlantic two short months ago. On the Pacific were the Algerine and Shearwater two superannuated gun boats, since docked, and Sir Richard's justly celebrated submarines which dive like a cork and swim like a stone.

But the Rainbow and the Niobe—those two sad reminders of the Laurier navy, which never was because the Borden Government wouldn't get it? What became of them? The same thing happened to both—revenge. A Government that didn't want any naval recruiting done under the kibosh on the Grit battleships. After the men on the Rainbow and the Niobe were paid off and encouraged to disperse and the British officers that had been borrowed had been sent home the Rainbow and the Niobe were tied up and dismantled, the one in Esquimaux harbor and the other in Halifax harbor, where they still remain. The Rainbow has lived up to her name—she was seen nothing but peace since the war started. The Niobe stands for tears and how often she must have wept at the humiliating position to which party politicians had consigned her. She is younger than forty-six vessels now on active service in the British Navy, and of a similar size to eighty seven now fighting for the Empire but in spite of that she is condemned as unfit by an unfriendly Government and forced to remain ashore. No German war boat now in the Kiel Canal can possibly feel worse than the Niobe.

When she is tied to a dock and a shed by her own white ships of her own size or smaller like the Berwick, the Cararvon, the Cornwall, the Cumberland, the Essex, and the Suffolk are free to roam the seas, guard the shores of Canada, escort the troops, police the ocean, and generally speaking do the work in which as a member of the Canadian navy she would be having a big share. It's bad enough to have the British Navy doing her work but when the Australian takes a hand too it fairly puts the Niobe's nose into the gutter. That's what a battleship gets for being linked up with a political party that is not in power. No chance! What's worse they have taken her heart out of her so to speak, removed her boilers, pulled her funnels out by the roots, and stuffed her bronchial tubes with grease on the pretext that she had a cold in the head. Such is the diseased and languishing condition of Niobe which only goes to show how low party politics can bring one. Instead of doing stunts for Canada such as the Sydney and the Melbourne have been doing for Australia, destroying emerald and matters like that, the poor old Niobe is eating her head off at a wharf, with a kind of head built on her deck with sleep-inducing for land lubbers. They call this particular form of disgrace being a depot ship.

Of course the debate touched on naval policy and though Premier Borden had several chances to deny anything of the kind, he didn't. He stuck to his policy of doing so. He still sticks to it however. He has three dreadnoughts were an emergency measure and that the Liberal party ought to have read between the lines and seen it. As subsequent events show, the Government believed in the emergency to such an extent that it stopped recruiting for the navy, dismantled the Rainbow and the Niobe, scorned to build any ships under the Naval Service Act and practically said "Three Dreadnoughts is nothing."

Since the war began new light has been thrown on the emergency. As late as November 10th, 1914, Lloyd George was saying "When this war broke out we were on better terms with Germany than we have been for fifteen years. There was not a man in the Cabinet who thought war with Germany was a possibility under present conditions." Evidently Premier Borden knew more about it than the British Government.

In regard to the emergency Carroll of Cape Breton pointed out two facts worth remembering. One was that the emergency in the North Sea is taken care of in the proportion of three Allied ships to one German. Three Canadian Dreadnoughts would only crowd things there, but if half a dozen of the German ships broke through then the emergency would shift to the coast of Canada where it would be mighty handy to have a Canadian Navy. Mr. Carroll does not believe in putting all the eggs in one basket.

Mr. Carroll's other emergency fact was that Great Britain was so little certain that the German menace applied particularly to her that teams of documents, White Books and such had been written since August, 1914, to prove to British people the world over that Britain was right in entering the war. At all events Germany was genuinely surprised when Great Britain fitted the emergency on. Hence the straffing. —H. F. G.

Ever notice how many females of the species wear hair that looks as if it had been nailed on by the carpenter. Many a man is honest because a good opportunity to be otherwise never knocked at his door. There is nothing quite so monotonous as the smile that won't come off. Most druggists can furnish a substitute, or something just as good.



CARRIED AWAY

ARE YOU among the thousands of men and women who are CARRIED AWAY by the catalogue habit? Is there anyone in YOUR immediate family circle who is allowing this habit to run away with him? If so, there is work for YOU to do. This HABIT started more than forty years ago. It is THIS same habit that has stunted the growth of thousands of communities. It has built up a few enormously large CITIES at the expense of YOUR town. DON'T allow a habit like this to run away with YOU. Take the bit in your OWN teeth. Investigate for YOURSELF. FIND OUT. Talk it over with your HOME merchant. Get your heads together. That HABIT is hurting you BOTH. By killing this habit you benefit yourself, your children, your neighbors, your community. Spend your money at Home.

The "Community Builder" idea is endorsed and approved of by, among others, the following well-known and reputable business concerns:

- ANGLIN, S. & CO., Manufacturers of Fine Woodwork, Sash and Doors.
KINGSTON BRICK & TILE CO., Manufacturers of Brick and Tile, 611 Division St.
KIRKPATRICK'S ART STORE, for Pictures and Artistic Framing, 159 Princess Street.
KINGSTON PAPER BOX CO., J. G. Brown, Proprietor, King Street West. Manufacturers of solid and folding boxes.
KINGSTON ICE CO. LTD. Phone 1307. Pure Ice.
KINGSTON HOSIERY CO., Manufacturers of high-grade "Imperial" Underwear and Hosiery.
LAIDLAW, JOHN & SON, Dry Goods, 172 Princess St. Phone 397.
LAFURNEY'S CARRIAGE WORKS, 390-392 Princess St., Carriage and Wagon Building. Auto and general repairing of all kinds.
LOCKETT SHOE STORE, Boots, Shoes, Trunks, Suit Cases, etc., 114 Princess St.
MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE CO. M. G. Johnston, district manager, 58 Brock St.
MULLEN, J. E., Monumental Works, cor. of Princess and Clergy Sts. Lettering in Cemeteries a Specialty.
MCHROOM, W. F., 42-44 Princess St. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Flour, Feed and Grain.
MCKAY, JOHN, LIMITED, 149 Brock St., Furn. "From Trapper to Wearer."
MCGOWAN, G. A., Cigar Manfg. Co. Milo, 10c; Peel, 5c.
MCINTOSH BROS., cor. Princess and Wellington Sts. Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, Ready-to-Wear, Notions and Hosiery.
MCKELVEY & BIRCH sell the Happy Thought Range. There are 4,500 of these in use in and about Kingston.
MCPARLAND, JAMES, 339 King St. Wholesale and Retail Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Cigarettes.
MCRAE, W. R. & CO., Golden Lion Grocery. Where you get extra good value for your Dollar. "Leaders in Tea and Coffee."
NEWMAN & SHAW, the Always Busy Dry Goods Store, 123 Princess St.
O'CONNOR'S LADIES' EXCLUSIVE STORE, 260 Princess. Out of the high rent district. The store with the small prices.
PERCIVAL & GRANGER, Local Agents McCormick Mfg. Co. All kinds of Biscuits and Confectionery.
PETERS, WILLIAM F., Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Flour, Feed, Seed Grain, Pressed Hay and Straw, 117 Brock St.
REDDEN, JAS. & CO., Grocers, 176 Princess St.
ROBERTSON, GEO. & SON, LIMITED, CHARM TEA.
SAKELL, T., Best Ice Cream in Kingston by Government Test.
SARGENT, T. H., corner Princess and Montreal Sts. Pure Drugs, Toilet Requisites, etc. Phone 41.
SUTHERLAND'S SHOE STORE, 103 Princess St. Phone 449. The Home of Good Shoes.
FOYE, R. H. & CO., Bread Bakers and Wholesale and Retail Confectioners.
UTILITIES COMMISSION, Electric Light, Gas, Power and Water. Office, 19 Queen St.
WILSON, LYTLE, BADGEROW CO. LTD., Manufacturers of Pure Spirit Cider and Malt Vinegar, Bagot St.

The Stranger At Church

The Stranger was in Kingston last Sabbath, and like most good people he went to church morning and evening. In the morning he was directed from his hotel to the Sydenham Street Methodist church where one of the old timers was preaching at the special anniversary services and he enjoyed the devotions very much. The Stranger is partial to the "old lads" of the ministry, preferring them to the younger fry, and Dr. Langford's sermon, delivered in the good-old-fashioned way, was to his liking. The old doctor gripped the congregation by his opening prayer. It was good and long, but interesting. It was during this prayer that the doctor remarked that after many storms and tempests "the church bells still ring out calling the people to worship." Before he concluded his petition he called for the confounding of our enemies and that they might be made to bite the dust. The Stranger observed that a certain well-known drummer look as if he would like to shout out "Amen!" as the old-timers used to do from their knees.

The reference to church bells recalled to the Stranger the night the news came of the death of the late King Edward and when the Sydenham street Methodist church bell "toll'd" a requiem by clanging out like a fire bell. However this particular bell has a very mournful tone and that somewhat relieved the situation. While Sydenham bell is mournful, the big bell in St. Mary's tower when it tolls makes one think that the end of all things has come, for it was constructed to do a dirge if ever a bell was. The bells in the Scotch Kirk tower have no mournful tones. When they peal they display the qualities of the bagpipes, for they certainly could play a skirl. The congregation sat up and took notice when they learned that the man preaching to them was the son of a soldier and was in London in 1854 and saw the British soldiers leaving for the Crimea to fight the nation which is now our ally.

The old doctor expounded the scripture in a most interesting way. He made quite a hit when he dealt with the passage in the 23rd Psalm where it speaks of the Lord making us to lie down in green pastures. He remarked that in some cases it was not necessary to "make" people lie down in green pastures; for some needed dynamite put under them to make them get up and do something. The reference reminded the Stranger of the Toronto preacher who came down to Queen's some years ago and preached the gospel or rest. It was really a bad thing to preach to some people, especially in Kingston.

But of the church when the service was ended, the Stranger noted that the discussion among the congregation did not appear to be on the fine discourse they had heard but upon everything else. It is seldom that one nowadays hears members of a congregation discussing in solemn tones the truth expounded by the minister. Many of them on this occasion made a bee line for the bulletin boards to read the latest war news. In the evening, the Stranger went up to the Scotch Kirk where he heard Prof. Law, a distinguished Knox College professor, preach upon the views of wisdom of Ecclesiastes and St. Paul. The former told about the things we should not do, while St. Paul directed attention to the kind of life we should live. However, both views are all right, for the catalogue contains quite a number of "thou shalt not's." The preacher made it clear to the people that God was nearer to us to-day than ever before.

In conversation with a kirk member, the Stranger was met with the suggestion that Chalmers and St. Andrew's should unite, now that the former was also soon to be left without a minister. This kirk man would build a big Presbyterian cathedral and have two ministers. It would certainly be a good plan.

BABY'S OWN TABLETS GOOD AS GUARANTEED

Mrs. L. Isbell, Kingston, Ont., writes: "I am using Baby's Own Tablets and find them as good as advertised. They are certainly a wonderful remedy for little ones." Mrs. Isbell's testimony is like that of thousands of other mothers. Once a mother has used Baby's Own Tablets she will use nothing else for her little ones. The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Capt. J. Lewis Wounded. Ottawa, March 25.—Capt. Jack Lewis of the Canadian Engineers, has been severely wounded in the leg, according to a cable received by his mother, Mrs. Travers Lewis, from Brig.-General Rennie. Captain Lewis recently figured in despatches as having captured with a companion two German aviators who were forced to descend behind the Canadian lines. The Canadians were unharmed at the time but brought in their men to headquarters.

Too Many Judges And Courts. Ottawa, Ont., March 25.—That our legal procedure is too elaborate and too expensive; that we have too many courts and too many judges, and that more simplicity and expedition should characterize our jurisprudence, were points made in the Commons by W. F. Maclean (South York) when the resolution offered by the minister of justice providing for additional judicial salaries in the Province of Saskatchewan was under consideration.

TO PROMOTE MORE THRIFT

And Greater Production By the Canadians.

GOVERNMENT STARTING

AN EXTENSIVE CAMPAIGN OF ADVERTISING.

Through The Newspapers Of the Country—There Will Be No Disjunction Of Politics Made In Placing Advertisements.

Ottawa, March 25.—The Government is starting an extensive advertising campaign for the promotion of thrift and production in Canada. The principle of saving and of thrift for the individual, male and female, is to be inculcated through a series of newspaper articles published throughout Canada, with a view to putting the nation as a whole in a better position to bear the stress of war and to furnish the sinews of war for the cause of the Allies. The principle of production of new wealth from the land is to be similarly inculcated, along the lines adopted last year, which tended to produce the advertisements which have enabled Canada to do more than ever before towards furnishing food supplies for export for the benefit of the Allies.

A considerable sum of money has been voted by the Cabinet Council for the advertising campaign, which is to be conducted under the joint auspices of the Departments of Agriculture and Finance. The advertisements will be placed with newspapers throughout Canada, starting at once, through the King's Printer, who will furnish to each newspaper the necessary material. The same system will be adopted as was adopted in advertising the domestic loan of last autumn, and the Government's statement in announcing the campaign is that there will be no distinction of politics made in placing the advertisements direct with the newspapers rather than through any advertising agency.

The Man on Watch

The organization of the Kingston Women's Emergency corps is another nail in the Kaiser's coffin.

And yet it took German Kultur to get prohibition of the liquor traffic for Canada. The W. C. T. U. should take note of this.

The Town Council would have to perform the miracle of the loaves and fishes to keep the tax rate at last year's figure.

There can be no reasonable holler about an increased tax rate with the additional money going for war purposes.

So the huckers are again operating on Kingston market! Well, they can be secured just as easy as other law violators if the police are let loose upon them.

There is not the ghost of a chance of the Kingston Ladies Curling Club following Toronto example and introducing cigarette smoking.

The Lampan hears that a couple of clergymen (not of Kingston of course, but not far from it) were raked over the coals for performing certain wedding ceremonies they should not have performed.

After hearing more about Councilman Newman's daylight saving scheme, the Lampan is convinced that some people in Kingston would be on time if it was put into effect.

With Prohibition in force, who will cut the Court House lawn grass and shovel the snow in winter? The Lampan fears that the officials, with the jailer in command, will have to learn something about the lawn mower and the snow shovel.

And what will there be for the Kingston police to do when the bars and liquor stores are closed, some one asks? To which the Lampan replies that the pealers would be worked over time by giving them the job of enforcing half the town by-laws.

"Major" that 59th Battalion colie dog, appears to have transferred from one unit to another as often as some senior officers. He apparently does not want to get any nearer the front than Canada.

After much consideration, the Lampan has come to the conclusion that one weakness of the church to-day is that those in control are looking for financial instead of spiritual results. They are too busy keeping their eyes on the contents of the collection plates.

THE TOWN WATCHMAN.

If we should use an ax on our own faults we shouldn't have so much time to use a hammer on other people's. Every time a woman sees a door marked "private" she has a curiosity to know what is on the other side of it. So many women seem to be good because in comparison so few men are.