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H. F. McRAE, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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EDITORIALS

It is a wonder, but there are some people who fancy that Germany has free institutions like our own, and that the German people rule.

Price Collier, an American writer who died recently, wrote a book entitled "Germany and the Germans." He was not an enemy but an admirer, almost a worshiper, of the Kaiser. But he had no illusions as to popular rule in Germany. This sketch of German government, he says, "may also help to show how rapid is the talk about what the German people will or will not do; whether they will or will not have war, for example. We shall have war when the German Kaiser touches a button and gives an order, and the German people will have no more to say in the matter than you or I."

Collier says, "there is no such thing in Germany as a democratic or representative government." He says there is no use in comparing Germany with England or the United States. "All analogies are false, all illustrations futile, all examples valueless, for the one reason that the Empire of Germany is governed by one man, who declaims his independence of the people and admits his responsibility to God alone."

"After forty odd years," says Mr. Collier in another place, "the Germans, in many ways the most cultivated nation in the world, are still without representative government." And again, "the members of the Reichstag (popular assembly) are not in the saddle, but are used unwillingly and often

contemptuously, as a necessary and often stubborn and unruly pack-animal, by the Kaiser-appointed Ministers."

How does this happen? Essentially because the German rulers are very arrogant, and the masses of the German people are very obedient. A German officer strikes a soldier in the face with a whip again and again for neglecting to salute him, and the soldier submits without question. Where that is possible, free institutions are a mockery. Still there is something in the machinery of government, and the German machinery is contrived to defeat the will of the people.

The three-class system of voting prevails in Prussia, the dominating German state. According to this system, the voting power of a man depends upon the amount of taxes he pays, that is upon his wealth. In Berlin, for instance, 931 very rich men elected as many representatives as 32,131 voters of the third class. Roughly speaking, each millionaire has nearly four hundred times as much voting power as each workingman. "It is this three-class system of voting," says Collier, "that makes Prussia, and the Prussian cities as well, impregnable against assault from the democratically inclined."

G. H. Perris, in a work entitled "Germany and the German Empire," gives the result of a Prussian general election. The number of votes cast was 2,360,247. The Social Democrats cast 598,522 of these, more than one-fourth. They

ought to have had 413 seats out of 443. They actually had seven seats out of 443—less than one-sixtieth, instead of more than one-fourth.

The government of Prussia is not only autocratic, but plutocratic. The franchise is not manhood franchise, but money franchise. So far as the Kaiser and the aristocrats are willing to part with power at all, they share their power, not with the masses of the Prussian people, but with wealthy Prussians.

The person who is supposed to correspond with the Prime Minister of Britain or Canada is the Chancellor of the German Empire. But there is no real resemblance. Our Prime Minister owes his power to the people. Sir Robert Borden is in power because of the general election of 1911. But the German Chancellor is the mere creature of the Kaiser. Bismarck was not deposed by a popular vote. He was "dropped" by the Kaiser. The Kaiser could dismiss the present Chancellor as easily as he could dismiss a butler. The Reichstag is a mere debating society, in which men of advanced views are allowed to talk without the slightest hope of changing the government. The government is the Kaiser, with a few to whom he graciously consents to give his confidence.—Toronto Star.

CORPS OF HIGHLANDERS FOR NOVA SCOTIA

London, Nov. 16.—General Alderson, commanding the Canadian contingent, who himself joined the army at Halifax, is taking an active interest in the formation of a body of Nova Scotia Highlanders from the general members of all branches of the contingent. Twelve thousand dollars will be required for alterations to uniforms for this new body.

KAISER'S PALACE OF CORFU IS FOR SALE

Geneva, Nov. 15.—Emperor William has offered his marble palace, the Villa of Achillion, in Corfu, for sale. It was built for Empress Elizabeth of Austria, at a cost of \$5,000,000. It is said the Kaiser fears confiscation if Greece joins the Allies.

Cranbrook expects to supply 61 candidates for the second contingent.

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PRUSSIAN GREED AND HATRED CAUSED THE WAR

BRITAIN THE SOLE BARRIER BETWEEN GERMANY AND HER GAINING WORLD DOMINATION—SIR GEORGE FOSTER'S VIEW.

"The destiny of Canada is being decided on the bleak fields of Belgium and on the battle-torn plains of France," said Sir Geo. Foster in an address in Convocation Hall, Toronto, at the open meeting of the University College Literary and Scientific Society. Sir George's speech, which was delivered to an audience that filled the hall, was on "The Call of the Country," which Sir George defined as a call, not of arms, but a call to every man to fulfill the most sacred obligations of citizenship, and to enrich that fulfillment by the acquisition of a complete knowledge of our country and of our history.

"How wonderful this new call has been!" said Sir George. "There has been no sign of compulsion in all these marches. There has been no sign, among all these men marching to the fields of battle, of knout or lash or whip. The country's call came to every man because the man was listening."

"I have heard it said that Great Britain would never dare to enter into war without first consulting the overseas dominions. There was no consultation at this war. At the call, the overseas dominions sprang to the mother's side."

"What is best about the White Paper, or Britain's case, is that it is, without note or comment, without introduction or conclusion, the plain statement of Britain's case."

German Hatred of Britain.

"France nor Russia wanted war. The documents in these white papers show that they didn't. The great determining factor in this war is the lust of world-power and domination. Germany, taught in her schools, bred in her people, a cult of German world domination."

"Far be it from me to preach a gospel of hate. But we must take cognizance of what is brought forward. What are the professors, the press, the very people of Germany saying today: 'Down with the British nation. Down with British civilization. And substitute in its place German power and German culture.' Why this hate? The Germans do not hate the French or the Russians. It is because that in the march of world domination, Britain alone stands in Germany's way."

"The violation of Belgian neu-

trality was not the only reason for Britain's participation in this war. What would have happened, had Britain drawn her ships about her and held aloof? France would have been defeated, Belgium would have been a vassal. All Europe would have lain bare for Britain's downfall. Britain would have been stamped with the indelible mark of dishonor and her own destiny would have been sealed."

President Bone's Inaugural.

Mr. John R. Bone, president-elect, was introduced by Mr. H. C. Hindmarsh, retiring president. In his inaugural address, Mr. Bone said:

"Suppose Germany, following peaceful lines, had surpassed Britain as a commercial and political power, would not good old John Bull have been the first to take off his hat to her? This is not a war on our part of world mastery. It is a war of self-defence! It is a war to preserve liberty and freedom—even religion."

Premier Hearst complimented Sir George Foster on his splendid address, and President Falconer and Principal Hutton tendered a hearty vote of thanks to Sir George and the Premier.

JAPS MOUNTED PARAPETS OF FORTS IN HAIL OF BULLETS

Tokio, Nov. 14.—A detailed official account of the operations before Tsing-Tau has been made public. It is couched in modest terms but it shows that the storming of the German stronghold was characterized by the same recklessness and disregard of life that the Japanese soldiers evinced in the war with Russia.

Led by a detachment of engineers, who exploded a powder magazine of the enemy at a heavy cost in lives, the Japanese mounted the German parapets in a deadly rain of bullets from the machine guns. They were blinded by the illuminating shells exploded by the enemy to reveal their position. The account lays emphasis on the stubbornness of the German defence and dwells upon one fierce engagement fought by the light of the moon. After Fort Moltke had been captured the order was given to halt. Thus deadly encounters in the streets of the city were prevented.

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