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EDITORIALS

An American correspondent tells with astonishment of seeing a Scotch regiment leaving for the front while the kilties on the train and their women-folk took up the strain:

"You'll tak the highroad, and I'll tak the low road
An' I'll be in Scotland before you
But me an' my true love will never meet again,
By the bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond."

There is something startling about the seemingly frank expectation that the men were going away to war never to return. But such a regiment as that, or an army of such regiments, is a menace to the enemy than which none could be greater.

It is in the supreme moment in the stress of battle, that the superiority of the voluntary soldier over the pressed man is shown. He is there of his own choice, he is there because he foresaw this deadly moment, knew it had to come, and chose

to be in it. He brings to the conflict moral ardor as well as physical energy.

As an offset to the taunt that theirs is a conscript army the newspapers of Germany are seeking to arouse contempt for the British soldiers by describing them as mercenaries, as hired soldiers, as men who go to the front, not because they love their country, but because they are paid a shilling a day.

The men who write in this way in the German press may know better, but it is quite possible that they do not. There are some things the German mind cannot comprehend. This is one of them. They do not see why those who rule a country defer to those who are ruled. They do not see why men should be urged to enlist when they could be forced to do so, nor why men should be paid to serve when they could be made to.

coin to bind the bargain—the coin symbolized the voluntary nature of this action of a free man, for the fact of acceptance demonstrated the right to refuse to accept.

The pay of the soldier is of the same nature. He is a citizen voluntarily under arms. His pay is evidence of his status in the whole scheme of things.—Toronto Star.

BELGIUM WARNED OF DANGER THREATENED FROM GERMAN EMPIRE

Belgian Premier and Minister of War Made Remarkable Address in Belgian Chamber of Deputies.

Amsterdam, Nov. 30.—The Vas Dias Agency has been authorized to publish a speech of Baron Charles de Broqueville, Belgian Premier and Minister of War, made during a secret session of the Belgian Chamber of Deputies in 1913, when the military bill came up for consideration in Parliament.

The war minister is said to have convened the secret session to communicate information not intended for the public. In this speech the baron said: "I do not desire to influence anyone in this matter, and everyone is free to vote as he pleases. The bill owes its origin to the German bill introduced in 1912, representing the greatest exertion of Germany in a military way since 1870. Germany will have in her first line troops 200,000 more men than France. We learned last summer that the object of this increase was to enable the German army to break through Belgium. This is learned from various powers."

The war minister then read the reports on strategic railways, making it possible for Germany to send 50,000 men into Belgium in less than twenty-four hours after a three hours' march. Baron de Broqueville then proceeded:

"We shall have to be on our guard against Germany. Regarding France, let me remind you that Maubeuge has not maintained, but that Lille has maintained new fortresses, constructed on the southern frontier and that France has increased the number of cavalry and infantry regiments."

"I do not fear the violation of our independence by France, but I assert that the French General Staff has had to study out the hypothesis of a march through Belgium. Various powers, indeed, have expressed the opinion that were we unable to discharge the duty of self-defence, there would be the greatest danger of foreign powers establishing themselves in our territory in order to 'protect' us."

"During last July a friend of Belgium, the chief of a certain state, declared in writing to the King: 'I give to Belgium the advice of a friend when I urge her to devote herself seriously to the problem of her own defence, for the miracle which happened in 1870, when Belgium remained unharmed between two hostile armies, will not be repeated.'"

The Vas Dias Agency is informed that the chief of state, not mentioned by name by Baron de Broqueville, was the late King Charles of Roumania.

Two of the ingredients of Chinese joss sticks are aconite, to protect them from rats and mice, and camphor, which makes them burn steadily.

Where the soil has permitted wells have been bored to a depth of 60 feet with a new hand-operated post hole digger.

BRITAIN INVESTIGATES ITS GOLD RESERVE

Suspicion That Some Metal Is Going to the Enemy—Stock Exchange Loans.

London, Nov. 28.—Gold is being hoarded in England at such a rate as to cause much discussion. About 30,000,000 pounds sterling (\$450,000,000) has been received in gold by England from other countries in the last three months. Moreover, treasury notes have been put into circulation to the amount of 30,250,000 pounds, in addition to 5,000,000 pounds in Bank of England notes. Nevertheless, the increase in gold holdings of the Bank of England has amounted to no more than the gold actually received from abroad. This proves conclusively, it is said, that there is general hoarding of gold.

The Mail suggests that some of this gold is being sent to Germany by means of secret agents, women as well as men, and it demands that a strict examination be made of all tourists to see that they are not assisting Germany to build up a large gold supply at the expense of England's gold holdings.

It is reported that there will shortly be a transfer of 10,000,000 pounds sterling in gold from Russia to London. The gold, it is believed, will be deposited in the Bank of England and "ear-marked" for Russian account between England and Russia and to facilitate commercial and financial transactions between the two countries.

The plan of the treasury relief in relation to the 90,000,000 pounds sterling advanced on loans to the Stock Exchange provides that banks to which currency facilities are open will not press for repayment of loans made on securities until a year after peace is concluded. The Bank of England, under government guarantee, will advance to other lenders 60 per cent of the value of the securities held by them on loans outstanding on July 29. Loans are to bear interest, payable fortnightly at 1 per cent over the bank rate. When any of the securities reach the July 29 settlement price the bank shall have the right to call for repayment of loans.

The Stock Exchange committee will not reopen the exchange without the consent of the treasury. This is the first occasion on which the Stock Exchange has come under any sort of control outside its own committees. It is generally believed that the plan will have beneficial effects, not only for its direct advantage to brokers, bankers and investors, but because of the fact that it will release a large quantity of funds for use in general trade.

GERMANY'S BIG GUNS ALL NEED REPAIRS

London, Nov. 30.—Germany's eight 17-inch howitzers, the great siege guns which played such havoc with the fortifications of Liege, Namur, Maubeuge and Antwerp, have been returned to the Krupp works at Essen for repairs. They have been severely strained and their breeches have been damaged in the fighting, it is said.

MR. BOURASSA WILL NOT SPEAK AT OTTAWA

People's Forum Decides to Cancel Invitation to Nationalist Leader to Address Meeting.

Ottawa, Nov. 25.—The "Battle of Bourassa" has been fought and won so far as the People's Forum is concerned, and Bourassa will not address an Ottawa audience on Sunday night. The decision was made after a meeting of the organizers of the movement at which harmony did not reign. A minority of those present held out for ignoring the attempts to stir up popular excitement over the visit and for holding the meeting with Mr. Bourassa as the principal speaker at all costs. The majority, however, deemed it wise to defer to the clamor which has been aroused in some quarters by the prospect of the Nationalist leader speaking here. At the close of the meeting a telegram was sent to Montreal informing Mr. Bourassa that the invitation for him to speak here had been cancelled.

The Evening Free Press, in announcing the cancellation of the meeting, says: "The management of the People's Forum has been well advised in cancelling the engagement of Bourassa to speak in the Ottawa Imperial Theatre on Sunday night next. There was a beautiful riot brewing and the Sabbath peace of the Capital was threatened with excitement. The service corps of the Ottawa loyalists has been very busy collecting a plentiful supply of 'ancient hen fruit,' and a vigorous bombardment was on the tapis."

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