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HEAD OFFICE

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EDITORIALS

The G. T. P. is bringing a number of empty fish cars back to Prince Rupert every week, when they might be hauling coal for local consumption from the Yellowhead Pass. The city some time after testing this coal decided to do business in that line if the G. T. P. would give a freight rate of \$3.50 per ton. Figuring on a fish train of eight cars, which carry fifteen tons each, the railway could make nearly \$500 per trip that they are now missing, and at the same time help out the citizens of Prince Rupert. It might be contended that fish cars could not be used for carrying coal but as the fish are stored in boxes it doesn't appear how it would hurt the fish and certainly it would not hurt the coal. It might be necessary, of course, to make a special kind of car, with a movable top as well as side doors. A keen business head would soon solve the problem and make this extra money. Will the G. T. P. wake up?

The Springfield Republican, while recognizing the military strength of Germany, says that it has not accomplished the wonders that were predicted. "It has not scattered the French army like chaff. There has been no Metz, no Sedan."

Five months of fighting have left the Germans in possession of foreign soil, but on the defensive.

"So far as one can see Germany's bolt is shot; it can resist obstinately for a long time, but short of disension among the Allies, of which no sign is discernible, it is hard to see how it can win. Its armies can be replenished from reserves, but they cannot be enlarged. On the other hand, Russian strength has not been expected to reach its maximum before January 1, and in the spring Great Britain will have a powerful new army to send to the Continent."

The Republican then proceeds to discuss the prospects of peace. The Allies, it says, will not be ready for peace till they have cleared their soil of invaders, and if Germany is invaded German pride may make negotiations for peace difficult.

There are many persons who predict a long and exhausting war if, and after, Belgium, France and Poland are cleared of the invaders. But there is another side to that. German obstinacy is being manifested today to the fullest extent. We cannot imagine the Germans fighting

any harder for their own soil than they are now fighting for Belgium and parts of France and Poland. If they are defeated upon the ground they have chosen, it will be only after their armed force is broken or very seriously impaired; and it is with armed force that all calculations and prophecies must deal.

We do not venture into the ground of prophecy as to whether the war will be long or short; but there is good ground for the supposition that the Allies are now doing their hardest work. The longer they hold Germany off, the stronger they become and the weaker Germany becomes. If they succeed in driving Germany out of the invaded countries, upon what new resources can Germany draw? It may be said that German patriotism will be strengthened by the invasion of German soil. But there has never been any lack of patriotic enthusiasm for the war in Germany. Even the successes achieved over poor little Belgium have been greeted in Germany as glorious victories. It is doubtful whether German enthusiasm will be strengthened by the invasion of Germany; and if that period arrives, it will find Germany with her armed forces greatly weakened, and her power of resistance reduced.—Toronto Star.

SOUNDS LIKE BUSINESS.

London, Jan. 11.—Earl Kitchener, when asked when the war would end, is reported as saying, "Don't know when it will end but I do know when it will begin and that is in May."

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FRANCE CALLS UPON HER COLONIAL SONS

Men of St. Pierre Miquelon Are Ordered to Be Ready for Service.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 13.—Every able-bodied man between the ages of 18 and 42 years has been ordered to hold himself in readiness for military service in France, according to advices received in Halifax by M. Legasse, a St. Pierre merchant now visiting Halifax. The men of the fishing fleet which makes its annual visit from France to the grounds of St. Pierre were called back early in the war. They were all reservists and expected the call. The natives of the islands remained, however, and continued the shore fishing.

It is estimated that out of a population of 5,000 there are at least 1,200 men who will be included in this order, and when they depart for France about 500 families in St. Pierre Miquelon will be left without support. It is suggested that there has been some misinterpretation at St. Pierre of the order received from France. According to the advices from the islands the order also includes men of St. Pierre.

It is understood that if there has been no mistake representations will be made to the French colonial minister to have it ameliorated. According to the advices received mobilization commences shortly.

ITALIANS FLOCKING HOME FROM STATES

"Thousands of Italians are flocking to the Eastern Coast cities of the United States to catch steamers for Italy. This was something that struck me as very significant."

This was the statement of Dr. Reverdy C. Ransom, editor of the A. M. E. Church Review, who has just arrived at Toronto from New York, to lecture at the University Avenue Baptist Church (Toronto) on the "Ideals of an American."

Dr. Ransom said that the effects of the European war were being felt very heavily in the Southern States, where tons and tons of ginned cotton were lying useless and awaiting shipment.

RUSH TO CANADIAN WEST IS FORESEEN

Ottawa, Jan. 13.—That the high wheat prices which prevail will attract an unprecedented influx of American immigration to the Canadian West this year would appear probable. A very large number of inquiries have been received by the Immigration Department from United States farmers and all indications point to the fact that the West will have many new citizens.

GERMAN COURTMARTIAL WILL YET BE REVERSED

Brussels, Jan. 11.—A German courtmartial at Liege has sentenced a retired Belgian general and Lieutenant Gille to life imprisonment on a charge of assisting 350 Belgians to join the Belgian army in France.

REASON FOR SECRECY ON RECRUITING TOLD TO HOUSE OF LORDS

London, Jan. 13.—"We have every reason to be satisfied with the rate at which men are coming into the army, but nothing will draw from me the number recruited, for the reason that the value of such figures to the enemy would be enormous," said Baron Lucas, speaking for the government in the House of Lords.

"We know that Germany is raising large numbers of new troops outside of the usual military organization from a part of the population not usually trained in arms," Baron Lucas continued. "No information could be of greater value to us than to have details concerning the progress of that work and how many men they are getting and training. The number they have or wish to have would be information of the very highest military importance to the Allies."

CANADIANS MAY CROSS CHANNEL WITH BIG ARMY

Montreal, Jan. 13.—A Salisbury dispatch to The Herald says: "There is a persistent report in the camp that the Canadian expeditionary force will move on January 15. Every officer and man in the contingent believes that in less than four weeks the Canadians will conclude training and enter the theatre of war."

Whether or not this report is true it is impossible to say, but there have been several developments lately in connection with the training of the Canadians which would lead one to believe that there is some foundation for it.

"It has been generally stated that Kitchener's huge army will begin to pour into France next month, and the Canadians, as well as the British territorial regiments, are considered a part of this force. Of Kitchener's army, it is expected that the Canadians will be the first to cross the channel, following closely on the heels of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, the first regiment from Canada to go."

BERLIN REPORT

Berlin, Jan. 11.—The German official report states that the French attack at La Boisselle has failed completely.

The enemy, who had established themselves in a small section of the German outer trenches at Soissons attacked afresh, but unsuccessfully, and the battle continues.

East of Perthes, the Germans recaptured that portion of their trenches which the enemy had taken, heavy French losses.

In the Argonne German attacks have made progress. In East Prussia and Northern Poland the situation remains unchanged.

German attacks in Poland west of the Vistula are making slow progress, the weather being unfavorable.

John Bass, correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, is reported from Warsaw to have been wounded in the face by bursting shrapnel.

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