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DAILY EDITION

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WESTERN FRONT

After many days of "artillery duels," "artillery exchanges" and "fierce artillery fighting" on the western front, it was refreshing and cheering to learn on Saturday that the Crown Prince's army had made a desperate attack and had been ultimately repulsed with heavy losses. One takes it as a matter of course now that the Huns use liquid fire, gas, or any diabolical weapon they think fit, to oust the Allied soldiers from their positions, but our troops have again demonstrated that they can cope with such methods successfully by retreating until the German advance begins and then charging the oncoming enemy.

One has been inclined to become impatient at the apparent lack of action on the western front, but it is impossible to criticise without an intimate knowledge of conditions. When one feels disposed to criticise the lack of movement, it might be well to remember the story of the youngster of five, who, on hearing his dad blaming the late General Buller for lack of progress at a certain stage of the Boer war, said, "Say Papa, is it the case that ordinary gentlemen at home know far more about the war than the generals at the front?" It is only natural to expect action, and it is just as natural to resent apparent inaction, when all are so anxious to see the Germans driven out of France and Belgium and finally utterly defeated, but it is well to remember that the Allied leaders are even more anxious than anyone else can be to see the matter ended successfully.

ELECTION RUMORS

The latest Ottawa rumor is that there is to be a Dominion election in the fall. So far as the Liberals are concerned it is immaterial when it comes. If there was any truth in the statement, issued after Bob Rogers' strenuous effort had been nipped in the bud, that an election would not be held until near the close of the war, then we may take it that Ottawa believes that the war is nearly over. Of course a great deal may happen between rumor and an election, in fact a lot may happen between an official announcement by a premier and an election, as shown in British Columbia last April. However, it seems unlikely that there is any truth in this latest rumor. The government has still over a year of life in the ordinary course of things, and there is only one pressing business before the country—the carrying on of Canada's share in the war. There is no diversity of opinion on that score, and the opposition has promised, and is fulfilling the promise, to aid the government in every way possible to render assistance to the mother land in the crisis.

An election this fall would be merely a matter of political expediency, and this is no time for politics, so far as the Dominion is concerned. It is possible that the election weather recorders in Ottawa think it advisable to make an effort to get in out of the rain before the deluge comes in British Columbia. They are probably aware that what happened in Manitoba was merely a summer shower compared to what will happen on the coast. In any case Sir Robert Borden and his advisers are between "the devil and the deep sea."

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HONORARY LIEUT.-COLONELS ON PICCADILLY FIRING LINE

(Continued From Page One.)

in the same old courageous way. Yes, the Canadian honorary colonels in London are brave men. They are almost as brave as the honorary colonels and church-parade colonels who could go to the front if they liked, because the consent of wives and parents is no longer required, but who choose to remain at home and fight public opinion instead.

The tactical reasons for keeping a large body of Canadian honorary colonels in London are quite as strong as the patriotic ones. One reason is that there must always be a sufficient number of honorary colonels to hold the eye of the British public, and divert attention from the real colonels who are being killed in the war. The presence of a competent force of well-fed honorary colonels, comfortably orbicular in figure, not only gives a sense of security not otherwise obtainable, but also impresses the fact that every member of our far-flung Empire is doing his duty and that the young whelps will always respond to the old lion's call, as our orators have it. Not only that, but the honorary colonels keep Canada in the social columns of the London daily papers, which is almost as good as being mentioned in Sir John French's despatches—almost as good and much safer.

A certain number of our honorary colonels may always be seen in Victoria Street where is the High Commissioner's office and ballot boxes with the votes for soldiers which are to go forward to the front as soon as the Germans will allow a general election. But mostly our honorary colonels are detailed on park, theatre and restaurant duty. Green Park, St. James Park, Hyde Park, Regents Park, Rotten Row, the Marble Arch, all know them and their handsome uniforms. They lend color to the night life

of Piccadilly and may be seen on Regent Street after eleven p. m. in pursuit of their duty.

They cluster in large bunches around the theatres and music halls and have been known to penetrate to the stalls and occupy the boxes. The chorus has no terrors for these brave men. In the neighborhood of the Gaiety, that citadel of musical comedy and terpsichorean art, one fights his way through a cordon of honorary colonels. They have a clever way of defending the box office. They buy all the tickets and the public can buy what's left. Woman suffrage is no longer a menace to the British Empire, but the honorary colonels are on the lookout for any other feminist movement that may threaten peace. That is why they keep such a close eye on the Gaiety and the Alhambra and places like that.

The restaurant service is perhaps the most important duty our honorary colonels have to do in London. It is to their benefit and ours that they should dine well and they do in every lobster palace from the Marble Arch to Fleet Street. Wherever fashion has planted a ten course dinner,

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