

THE DAILY NEWS
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THE BALKANS

The patience of the Allies is being severely tested by the trend of events in the Balkans, and the latest move of King Constantine has produced further complications. There can be no possible doubt but that the Greek people are almost unanimously on the side of Serbia and her Allies, but the King's Hohenzollern connections are evidently bringing foreful arguments to bear. It looks as if his kingship were holding things up until the Bulgarian army is ready to strike. Balkan diplomacy has always been of the serpentine type, and the only effective method in taking the kinks out of it is for a strong Allied force to get busy with big guns and the bayonet.

The Kaiser has evidently been able to convince his worthy relatives that Germany can still lick the world. Another big drive on the eastern front, with a corresponding advance in the west, would probably provide the right kind of an argument. Though there is little news coming through, there is undoubtedly big business on hand on the western front. The Allies are holding on to the ground gained, and, with an ample supply of high explosive and other lines of munitions, further advances should be reported within the next few days.

INSPECTORS

The McBride government has done wonders as a party employment bureau, but it has not taken the fullest advantage of its opportunities, particularly as regards inspectors. Certainly there is a considerable army of government inspectors of one kind or another in the province,

in fact Sir Sam's honorary colonels have to take a back seat so far as numbers are concerned, still this branch of public service might have been developed tremendously.

The creation of an inspectorship of air pockets, to provide against the day when British Columbia will have an air fleet of its own, would be a pretty good scheme which would provide ample scope for the energies of a considerable number of the faithful. Of course there might be some difficulty with Sam Hughes in the matter, as he probably owns the air as well as the earth, however, a royal commission could be appointed which doubtless would be able to bring in a report of airy nothings at several thousand dollars each.

Inspectorships of Pacific coast oyster beds and the pearling industry of British Columbia might be used to an unlimited extent in providing an extended payroll, and, incidentally, might do wonders in reviving the interest of speculators in British Columbia, until such time as the lands of the province can be sold at remunerative prices. It is true that the powers in Victoria have exploited nearly every possible line of inspectorship, but these are mentioned just to show that there is still room, both at the top and the bottom, as it were.

VETERINARY NOTES

A horse with two spavins and one hip down was sold for \$100 by R. H. Creighton to the Ottawa buyers.

A Government horse buyer paid H. J. Chute, Somerset, \$165 for a colt of from 12 to 15 summers,



which fell down when it felt like it and had to be raised to its feet again, in fact it required a Dominion government elevator.

A veteran of 20 winters, which was also badly heaved, was given to the government for \$65.

N. W. Keddy, of Berwick, received \$150 for a 14-year-old youngster which cost him \$55 six years ago. This man would have made a pretty good Indian commissioner.

BRAVE FRENCH GIRL

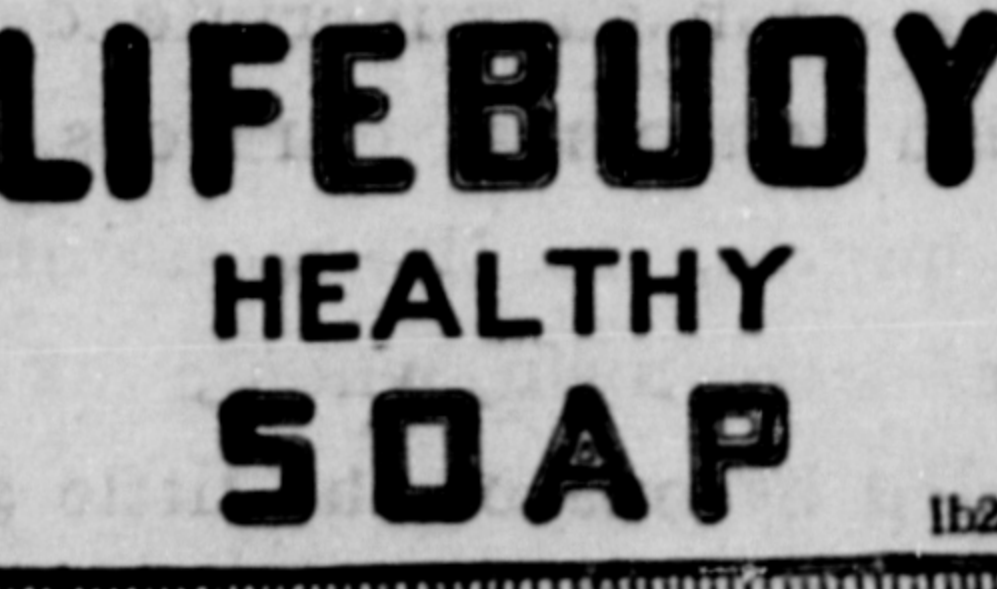
A telegram to the Journal from Hazebrouek says that the Cri de Flanders has announced that a brave girl named Renee Robin, aged sixteen, the daughter of a French Territorial, has been mentioned in an Order of the Day of the British Army for having placed in the hands of the British a plan of the positions at La Basse and for having helped in an effectual bombardment of the German positions.—Weekly Mail.

Sweden's recent census, showing a population of 5,679,607, also showed fewer births in proportion to population than at any other time in the 170 years such statistics have been recorded.



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LONDON A TONIC FOR FRENCH PESSIMISTS

M. Charles Humbert, writing in the Paris Journal, describes the vastness of the effort which the English are making, both with their fleet and their army. He praises the energy and skill which they have displayed in improvising a machinery of war that can vie with that of Germany.

"England's mobilization of her industry is a marvel," he says. "She has understood, thanks to the admirable leadership of Mr. Lloyd George, the capital importance of raw material in modern warfare. In England everyone knows that the factory hand is as indispensable as the soldier at the front. Indeed, in the trenches their comrades tell those among them who are skilled workers that it is their duty to go back home.

"Victory is now the one and only thought of the British people and the oversea Dominions are heart and soul with the mother country. From all lands across the seas where the Union Jack flies, is coming a continual flow of soldiers, workmen, and money. "Those who sometimes incline towards pessimism should go and spend a few days in London. They will come back filled with new enthusiasm by the sight of the fine, tenacious spirit of this people which will never yield and can never be broken."

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