# A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!


# THE CUMBERLAND NEWS.

Devoted Especially to the Interests of Cumberland and Surrounding District.

THE NEWS, TWENTY FIRST YEAR — CUMBERLAND B. C, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 1914 — SUBSCRIPTION $1.50 A YEAR



## Choicest Christmas Goods From Many Lands

BECAUSE the British Fleet has solidly maintained the supremacy of the seas we are in a position to supply you as usual with our customery high quality fresh food dainties from all over the world to grace the Christmas tables. Don't hesitate to shop early Shop Early this year, for some of the usual autumn shipments did not arrive. Let us suggest a few of the leaders:

**SULTANA RAISINS and FIGS**—The entering of Turkey into the war has disarranged shipments, but we secured our supplies prior to hostilities there. The raisins are fine and juicy; the figs are an exceedingly choice lot.

**CURRANTS FROM GREECE**—Greece is the source of the world's supply, and although shipments were held up for a time, ours have arrived as before Finest quality.

**ALMONDS, WALLNUTS AND FILBERTS**— For the Christmas baking every housewife wants sound fresh nuts. Stale nuts are dear at any price but you can depend absolutely on the quality of our goods.

**PEELS**—Lemon, Citron and Orange, all good enough to stand your inspection. You will want them for your Xmas cake; let us have your order as soon as possible.

For Xmas Tree which so delights the youngsters we have many suggestions to offer. There is fresh candy of various kinds. Chocolate in dainty boxes at all prices, crackers etc.

**SEEDED AND VALENCIA RAISINS** We stock only brands of recognized merit and can confidently recommend them to you.

**MINCE MEAT**— Tastily spiced and made in the most sanitary way by a reliable firm. Just the thing for the Xmas pie.

**PLUM PUDDINGS** — If you do not care of going to the trouble of making your own plum pudding we have a splendid selection in various sizes, made from choice fruits and baking materials.

**CIGARS**—If your husband smokes, what better or more appreciative gift could you present him with than a box of cigars? A gift cigar must be a good one and from our large assortment you have a varied choice of some of the finest brands on the market.

THE EARLIER YOU COME
THE BETTER THE SERVICE

SIMON LEISER
& COMPANY, LIMITED.


Mr. Harrison intimated that it was up to the Mayor, as chief magistrate of the city, to lay information against the man for perjury. If he (Mr. Harrison) knew the man, he would prosecute him himself, and summon the Mayor as chief witness.

The Mayor said that he did not think it was the only case.

Ald. Maxwell moved, seconded by Ald. Mitchell, that all the names read out be struck off the list—carried. The court then adjourned.

The Final football match for the Charity Cup, will be played at Bevan, on the afternoon of Christmas day at 2.30 o'clock, by Cumberland City and West Cumberland United Clubs. The game will be played for the benefit of the C. & U. Hospital. BE THERE, and don't go with empty pockets.

### LICENSE BOARD MEETS

A meeting of the Licensing Commissioners was held on Wednesday evening of last week. The Mayor and Commissioner D. R. MacDonald and A. McKinnon, clerk of the board.

The minutes of previous regular and special meetings were read and adopted.

There were two applications for renewal of bartenders's licenses, and an application for a new bartender's license, which was granted.

All applications for renewal of wholesale and retail liquor licenses were granted.

The inspector of licensed premises submitted his report, which was favorable in all cases.

### MEETING OF COUNCIL

The City Council met in regular session on Monday evening, a full board being present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

Clerk read report of Court of Revision on voters list, which on motion was received.

Ald. MacDonald asked why the names of those holding agreements of sale were struck off the voters list. Ald. Maxwell replied, that it was because the Court of Revision considered the agreements of sale bogus.

Constable Ward's report:

| | |
|---|---|
| Scavenger | $74.25 |
| Road Tax | 8.00 |
| Police Court Fines | 15.00 |
| [illegible] | .50 |

Accounts, Telephone Co. $1.80.

City Clerk was appointed Returning Officer for civic elections to be held in Council Chamber.

James Stewart was appointed auditor of city books for 1914.

It was moved by Ald. Mitchell, seconded by Ald. MacDonald, that printing in connection with the election be given to the Cumberland News,—carried.

Tenders will be asked from both Cumberland papers for the printing of the voters list.

Local insurance agents will be asked to submit rates for the insurance of city buildings.

Constable Ward will be instructed to see that coasting on [illegible] Dunsmuir Ave. is stopped.

Council adjourned.

General Superintendent Clinton of the Canadian Collieries and Mrs. Clinton, arrived home on Tuesday from a trip to Victoria and Seattle.

Good Times Christmas Goods at Hard Times Prices — at the Drug Store.

### A SHORT SESSION

Sir Richard McBride is to be congratulated upon having decided in favor of a short session and no continuous legislation. This is what might have been expected from so ardent an Imperialist. Fresh from a visit to the Old Country, where he enjoyed unusual facilities for studying the great questions which are engrossing the attention of our people in every part of the Empire, he realizes to the full that he is but one real business in hand, and to distract the attention or divide the energies at such a time would be indefensible. The business of the coming Session will be purely formal. It will be restricted to the absolute necessities of the moment, and the Government will be left free to struggle as it has been struggling for some months with the gigantic problem of carrying on the business of the Province under conditions such as have never existed before, and which could not have been anticipated by the most far seeing statesmen. So far they have fulfilled their task with credit, and will no doubt emerge from a period of unprecedented difficulty with honor for themselves and advantage to the Province, if they receive a tithe of the loyal support to which they are justly entitled.—The Week.

In the year 1889, just about this time, there was a heavy fall of snow in the Comox District. Snow fell to the depth of six feet, and sixteen buildings collapsed in a single night. The thermometer dropped to 10 below zero, and some of the snow remained on the ground until the April following. The snow fell soft and clung to the trees. Whole orchards were stripped of all their limbs, nothing but the trunks being left standing in places.—Courtenay Review.

George Wesley Willard, eldest son of Mr. W. W. Willard, of this city, died at our local hospital on Monday morning after a brief illness, in his 25th year. The funeral took place from the family residence on Wednesday afternoon, interment taking place in the Cumberland cemetery, Rev. Wm. Elliott officiating. The late George Willard spent the most of his short life in this town, coming here from Victoria when a mere infant. The News extends its sincere sympathy to the bereaved family.

Try a box of Cook's Salve for Chilblains at the Drug Store.

## REGARDING LOAN SHARKS

In war times the loan shark com[illegible] his own. Individuals and governments financially crippled fall a ready prey to the closely knit mesh of the Shylock.

Today in Vancouver we have the loan shark, and he is waxing fat under the eyes of the government. One shrewd American who arrived here this spring with $70,000 in cash has boasted that by making judicious loans he has increased [illegible] by fifty per cent. already— and though he still has $10,000 out, he holds [illegible] valued at $100,000 against that $10,000 he is not worrying.

Failure of the banks to extend the usual lines of credit to legitimate businesses has given the loan shark a large hand in the lending business. Many cases may be cited where he charges sixty per cent. per anum. Many in their extremity give up willingly to the shark.

Alberta believes that the loan shark is a menace to society and upon the outbreak of the war the necessary steps were taken to prohibit him from taking his pound of flesh.

The following is from the Innisfail "Province," a Conservative newspaper:

"The warning has gone out from Premier Sifton in no unsertion terms, that no loan companies will be permitted to make use of present war conditions for the purpose of renewing loans for long terms at advanced rates of interest. The premier wrote a personal letter to a large loan company operating in the province, informing them that a copy of a letter to a cliant, in which distinct advantage of war conditions was being taken, had accidentall fallen into his hands, and assuring them that they were courting early disaster by such methods."—Vancouver Chinook.

The choir of St. George's Presbyterian Church, will render a most helpful and inspiring programme of music, specially appropriate to the Xmas Season, on Sunday, Dec. 27th, under the combined efforts of Mr. Edwards, the able leader, and Mr. Parnham, the efficient organist. The choir has reached a high standard of excellence, which, will be adequately demonstrated in the three anthems, that will be sung. Xmas Solos will also be given, and a short message by the [illegible]. A hearty invitation is extended to all, to come and assist in making this service a means of grace to all.

**The Stores Will Be Closed On Saturday, on account of it being declared a public holiday.**


CAMPBELLS

CLOSED
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

CAMPBELLS


### THOMSON—CROSSAN

At St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Nanaimo, on Thursday, December 17th, Miss Hazel Crossan, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs Andrew Crossan, was united in marriage to Mr. Andrew Thomson, eldest son of Mr and Mrs. John Thomson, of this city.

Matthew Brown, of the Big Store staff, was operated upon for appendicitis last week at our local hospital. He is doing nicely.

Choice assortment of Candies, Christmas Crackers and Christmas Decorations—at Peacey's.

### BEAT HIS WIFE.

Quite a scandal was created a few mornings ago by one of Cumberland's best-known citizens beating his wife up. Several of the neighbors claim to have seen part of the incident. The News withholds the man's name for he promised her that it would never happen again, and as he is now ashamed of his actions, he should not be condemned too seriously by other husbands. It was at least 5.30 in the morning and eye-witnesses declared that he not only beat his wife up, but actually had the fire going and the coffee pot on before the surprised lady could get to the kitchen and fully realize how badly she was beaten.

A dance in aid of C. & U. Hospital, will be given by the Ladies' Hospital Auxiliary, on St. Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th. Get this dance on your mind, for it is going to be a dandy.

Miss Minnie Horbury arrived home recently from an extended visit to relatives in the upper country.

### 'Never Say Die'

### COURT OF REVISION

The Court of Revision on the voters list, was held in the Council Chamber on Thursday and Friday evenings of last week. The Mayor and Aldermen Maxwell and Mitchell were present.

The clerk read a list of names of persons holding agreements of sale.

Ald. Maxwell requested that the agreements of sale be produced.

P. P. Harrison, barrister, who appeared on behalf of certain persons, said he did not have to produce the agreements of sale at that court. For one reason, he had not the time to get all the agreements of sale, some of them being in Victoria. Secondly, he was not obliged to produce them under the Act. Thirdly an ordinary witness must appear before the court, and swear on oath, before it be a prima facie case. To prove these were in proper order, the clerk had the assessment and tax roll.

Mr. Mitchell said there was [illegible] from beginning to end.

Mr. Harrison said he would leave the case with the court. When the right time came he would produce the agreements of sale. The court should take the evidence as it stands.

His Worship said he was of the same opinion [illegible]

# Her Vengeance

By Basil Tozer

Ward, Lock & Co., Limited
London, Melbourne and Toronto

(Continued)

"Well, by Jove!" he muttered as he found to his astonishment that each one of his pockets was hanging empty, turned inside out. "Why, I've been robbed," he exclaimed, and then paused in fresh bewilderment as he discovered that his watch had not been taken, and next that everything taken out of his pockets, his penknife, his fountain pen, his keys, and so on, were all piled together in the middle of the road.

"Where is papa?" asked Delia, feeling her bruised cheek.

Hugh looked round. There was no sign of anyone else anywhere about, and Mr. Hetherington appeared to have vanished from the face of the earth.

"Oh, lord," said Hugh helplessly. Then he took a drink from the brandy flask, which hitherto he had disdained but now felt he required. "Well, he's gone," he said faintly.

"Nonsense," snapped Delia, "where can he have gone?"

"Hugh! Delia!" called a voice softly.

"Papa," cried Delia, looking round her.

"But where is he?" said Hugh, gazing helplessly up at the sky as he saw no sign of his uncle upon the earth.

"Hugh, Hugh," called the voice again, this time more loudly.

"Why, he is behind the hedge," exclaimed Delia.

"Good gracious!" said Hugh, moving towards it.

"Don't let Delia look," called the voice agitatedly.

"But what are you doing behind there, uncle?" Why don't you come through?" asked Hugh.

"Can't you see it's a holly hedge?" demanded the voice impatiently.

"What about that?" asked Hugh, reaching the hedge and peering over it. "Oh, my," he said in awed tones as he saw.

"What is it?" asked Delia, approaching.

"You keep away," screamed Mr. Hetherington excitedly, through the hedge.

"Good lord!" said Hugh in a loud whisper, "he has got nothing on."

It was true. Mr. Hetherington was crouching and shivering behind the hedge without so much as a stitch of clothing to cover his portly person.

"They've stripped me," he said, almost with tears. "Two big, bullying niggers—they picked me up and threw me over here, and one of them set on my head while the other ripped my clothes off me."

"Whatever for?" said Hugh, bewilderedly.

"Poor papa!" said Delia.

"It's very cold," said Mr. Hetherington, sneezing violently twice over.

"But what can they have wanted with your clothes?" asked Hugh.

"Let us be thankful," said Delia meditatively, "that they left us ours."

"It is beginning to rain," said Mr. Hetherington shivering, "and the ground is very rough, and I have just stepped on a worm, and the wind is like ice, and flies are biting me all over, especially where I can't reach. Hugh!"

"You know I am your uncle," said Mr. Hetherington coaxingly; "you might lend me your trousers, Hugh."

"But I want 'em myself," said Hugh. "I can't do without 'em."

"And your coat, Hugh, urged" Mr. Hetherington. "I shan't want them for long, my dear boy. Surely you wouldn't grudge your old uncle a coat when he needs one—ugh, ugh," and he burst into a violent fit of coughing. "Delia," he called as he recovered, "speak to your cousin for me, won't you?"

"Really," said Delia, blushing, "I don't think this is a matter I can interfere in," and she retired behind the overturned car, where she seemed to be attacked suddenly by a violent fit of choking.

"It is not much to ask, Hugh," pleaded Mr. Hetherington; "it'll be the death of me—and the way these flies are biting just where I can't reach—and raining, too," he added with a groan.

"Well, I'm awfully sorry about it," said Hugh, "and I'll tell you what I will do—I will loan you my coat, vest, and trousers, contenting myself with my shirt and under things, in return for a loan of £5,000. That is fair enough, surely."

"You young Shylock!" screamed Mr. Hetherington, "I'll die first—I won't be done like that—how dare you attempt to swindle me like that?"

"I'm only proposing a bargain," said Hugh in a very injured voice. "You are perfectly free to reject it if you wish. I am sure I am being as lenient as is compatible with sound business principles. You told me just now never to miss an opportunity."

"Confound you!" howled Mr. Hetherington.

"I'll—I'll throw my boots in without extra charge," said Hugh. "Blood is thicker than water, as you said to me just now."

"I'll never, never—" cried Mr. Hetherington, beginning to dance in his excitement and rage when he put his right foot down in the very middle of a thick clump of nettles. He stopped abruptly. "Oh, all right," he said in quite different tones, standing on one leg and rubbing the other. "I know when I'm beat. I accept your terms."

"Then I'll come across to you," said Hugh, and pushing through the hedge he proceeded to divest himself of the upper part of his clothing, and presently stood in nothing but his linen shirt and his under clothing and socks; while Mr. Hetherington covered his shivering person with Hugh's coat and trousers and gladly thrust his feet into Hugh's boots.

"It is better than nothing," he observed as he turned up the trouser ends about six inches and buttoned the coat across his bare chest.

"Are you still going on to London?" asked Hugh.

"Certainly," returned Mr. Hetherington; "do you think I am going to let an outrage like this affect my plans?"

"What was the object?" asked Hugh in a low voice; "that cipher?"

Mr. Hetherington nodded.

"I suppose so," he said; "I suppose they thought it was on my person, and, not finding it, thought it might be hidden in my clothes."

"Just as well you burnt it," said Hugh; "they turned my pockets out as well, I suppose on the chance of my having it. But who are they?"

"If I knew that," said Mr. Hetherington with a very grim look, "they should all be in goal within twenty-four hours; as it is, I must settle with 'em." He pushed his way through the hedge. "Delia," he called, "where are you? We must get back to Glenfair and get another car, and I'll get some decent clothes, and on the way back we can pick up Hugh, who had better wait here."

So it was arranged, Hugh being a good deal relieved to find that his uncle seemed to bear so little malice. Mr. Hetherington and Delia accordingly set off together, and when they were out of sight, Hugh, beginning to feel a trifle chilly in his somewhat scanty attire, emerged from behind the hedge and wrapped round him one of the motor car rugs, which Mr. Hetherington in his excitement had never thought of. Then he gathered up the little heap of his small belongings, taken out of his pockets, and in doing so he made a singular discovery.

He was very certain, for he remembered the incident perfectly, that when that afternoon Mr. Logan had returned to the office after lunch, he, Hugh, had thrust into his pocket an envelope on which he had been idly scribbling. Hugh was certain this envelope had still been in his pocket when he reached Glenfair, but now it was nowhere to be seen. Had it been just carelessly lost or thrown away as something of no value, or had it been deliberately taken?

And if it had been taken, had it been taken for some trivial reason or for no reason at all? Or had it been taken because scribbled across it were the words:

"If one were to discover the secret of making diamonds."

Wondering much whether this incident were quite trivial, or whether on the other hand it possessed an immense significance, Hugh wrapped his rug more closely around him, and sitting down by the wayside became plunged into profound meditation.

## CHAPTER V.

### Lord Ambrose Boustead

To Hugh, deep in thoughts which seemed to himself so wild he would hardly give them shape or name, it appeared a comparatively short interval before Mr. Hetherington and Delia appeared again in another of the millionaire's half-dozen motor cars. Mr. Hetherington was once more arrayed in his own apparel, and he handed back to Hugh those of his he had borrowed; with the remark that he thought that was the most expensive suit of clothes that had ever existed. Hugh smiled rather faintly, for he was by no means sure how his bold stroke to secure his loan would turn out, and with his rug gathered closely round him, he retired behind the hedge, whence he soon emerged fully clothed again.

Motioning to him to take his seat beside Delia, Mr. Hetherington started off at a pace to make up for lost time.

"We did startle them at the house," Delia remarked; "and they were all so astonished that we were going to start off again, without even taking one of the men servants with us."

"And you," Hugh asked, "do you not feel frightened of another accident?"

"Not I," she answered laughing, "this is what I like—only next time I hope papa will be the one to charge." Then she lowered her voice to a whisper: "Hugh," she said, "what was it done for?"

"I do not know," he answered, "but I think there is some paper connected with some invention that uncle had in his possession, and that these people, whoever they may be, wanted to get hold of."

"Did they get it, do you think?" she asked.

"I think uncle burnt it," Hugh replied, "but I don't know anything at all. He has not told me anything and I am only guessing."

Delia said no more and Hugh, glancing at the broad, strong back of his uncle, bending over the steering wheel and looking resolutely ahead, felt himself thrilling almost in his own despair to think of that unimaginable secret he half believed his uncle had had in his hands. To be able to make diamonds at all, where was the Aladdin's lamp to match with that? And these other people must believe in something, whether this secret of diamond manufacturing or something else, pretty strongly when they were ready to resort to such extreme measures. "If one were to discover the secret of making diamonds." Hugh shook himself impatiently; at any rate the secret, whatever it was and whether it had any real existence or no, had nothing at all to do with him.

The swung into a little country town, where Mr. Hetherington drew up at the police station to lodge his complaint. The sergeant, who knew Mr. Hetherington, was all obsequious attention, and promised to do his best to trace the car.

"I know the one you mean, sir," he declared, "it has been noticed [illegible] but I have not seen it today. There has been only one car passed today, and that went through about an hour ago."

"That would be the one," exclaimed Hugh.

But the sergeant shook his head.

"It was a different color," he said, "and the chauffeur was a white man, and there was only a very handsome young lady inside the car, quite young and not wrapped up at all."

Mr. Hetherington grunted ill-temperedly, and, promising a liberal reward for tracing the delinquent car, he drove on.

The rest of the road to London was covered without incident; and just as Mr. Hetherington drew up at the door of his great house in Kensington Palace Square, a perky little messenger boy carrying a large brown paper came along and was just about to ascend the steps of the house when the millionaire called out to him sharply to know what he had got there.

The boy answered that it was a parcel for Mr. Hetherington. Scowling darkly, as if he already suspected the contents, Mr. Hetherington took the parcel and opened it. Sure enough, it contained the clothes of which he had been robbed, as well as everything that had been in the pockets. With an air darker and more angry every moment, Mr. Hetherington examined the things and showed how each separate article of attire had been cut and ripped about, as if to make certain, absolutely certain, that nothing was concealed in them.

"Where did you get these?" he asked the boy.

"A nigger brought it, sir," the lad answered; "he just handed it in, and and said it was to go express, and went off in a hurry."

(To be Continued)

PRESIDENT SUSPENDER
"ONE SO EASY"



# WHY BRITAIN IS AT WAR

The Causes and the Issues, in Brief Form, From the Diplomatic Correspondence and Speeches of Ministers

(By Sir Edward Cook)

(Continued From Last Week)

"In this solemn hour I wish," said the Tsar, "to assure you once more that I have done all in my power to avert war." This assurance is borne out by the diplomatic correspondence. It shows, as the Russian foreign minister said, that "no suggestion held out to him had been refused. He had accepted the proposal for a conference of four, for mediation by Great Britain and Italy, for direct conversation between Austria and Russia; but Germany and Austria-Hungary had either rendered these attempts for peace ineffective by evasive replies or had refused them altogether."

"If war were prevented," the Russian foreign secretary had said just before the German ultimatum was received, "it would be largely due to the British government." The foregoing resume shows how persistently Sir Edward Grey had worked for peace. What he deliberately abstained from doing, no less than what he did, was governed by a desire for peace. At an early stage in the negotiations the British government was urged both by France and by Russia to make an immediate declaration of complete solidarity with them (July 24). The president of the French Republic repeated the request very strongly on July 30. Sir Edward Grey thought that he was more likely to be useful as peace-maker if this country maintained as long as possible an attitude of detachment. Moreover, the government had no desire to intervene unless the honor and interests of the country made it unavoidable. At the same time intimations were given that it should not be assumed that under all conceivable circumstances England would stand aside.

The official documents thus show how unremitting were the efforts made by Sir Edward Grey to maintain the peace of Europe and by whom those efforts were frustrated.

They show also how slow the British government was to commit Britain to any share in the war. That she ultimately became involved was due to causes which had nothing to do with the Balkans.

The decisive day was the 29th of July, 1914. On that day the German Chancellor, who had just returned from the Emperor at Potsdam, sent for Sir E. Goschen, the British ambassador at Berlin, and had a conversation with him which will always be memorable in history. The chancellor's words revealed that Germany was preparing to attack France through Belgium, and he proceeded to propose a bargain whereby Germany was to secure the neutrality of England in the impending war. The terms of this proposed bargain were these: (1) First, England was to stand aside while France was crushed, on the understanding that Germany aimed at no territorial acquisitions at the expense of France. Sir E. Goschen "questioned his excellency about the French Colonies, and he said that he was unable to give a similar undertaking in that respect." England was, behind the back of France, to be a consenting party to Germany's acquisition of the French Colonies, should France be defeated in the war. (2) Secondly, England, behind the back of Belgium, was to consent to Germany's violation of the neutrality of that country—a neutrality which both Germany and England had pledged themselves by treaty to respect. In return Germany gave a promise that "when the war was over, Belgian integrity would be respected if she had not sided against Germany." The promise was given, be it observed—an sorry to have to say it, but it must be placed on record—by a power which was at that very moment announcing its intention to violate its own treaty obligations and inviting us to do the same" (Mr. Asquith). (3) Lastly, the bargains above described were to form the basis of good relations between England and Germany.

This "infamous proposal" might, said the prime minister, "have been thrown aside without consideration and almost without answer;" but in the interests of peace, as already explained, the British government answered it in language of restraint. "His majesty's government cannot for a moment entertain the chancellor's proposal that they should bind themselves to neutrality on such terms. What he asks us is, in effect, to stand by while French Colonies are taken and France is beaten so long as Germany does not take French territory as distinct from the Colonies. Fro. the material point of view such a proposal is unacceptable; for France, without further territory in Europe being taken from her, could be so crushed as to lose her position as a great power and become subordinate to German policy. Altogether apart from that, it would be a disgrace for us to make this bargain with Germany at the expense of France, a disgrace from which the good name of this country would never recover. The chancellor also in effect asks us to bargain away whatever obligation or interest we have as regards the neutrality of Belgium. We could not entertain that bargain either." Sir Edward Grey went on, as already stated, to suggest other terms on which good relations between England and Germany might be secured.

The historic interview between the German chancellor and the British ambassador, and the British government's reply to the chancellor's proposal, show how Britain was driven to take part in the war by honor, by obligation, and by the interests of self-defence. The case falls under two heads—France and Belgium, with which we will deal in turn. In the case of our relation to France, there was the call of honor and self-interest, but no direct obligation; in that of our relation to Belgium, honor, obligation and self-defence all combined.

In 1904, the Conservative government concluded an agreement with France, settling all outstanding questions between her and this country. In 1907, the Liberal government concluded a similar agreement with Russia. What is called the "Triple Entente" thus grew up between England, France and Russia. It was often regarded as a balance against the "Triple Alliance" (Austria, Germany, and Italy). But so far as England was concerned, it was a friendly relationship, not a formal alliance. Except in the specific matters dealt with by the two agreements, England was under no obligation to support either France or Russia. In 1906, when Germany was giving trouble to France on account of Morocco, Sir Edward Grey expressed the personal view to the French government that if war were forced upon France in consequence of the Anglo-French agreement, public opinion in this country would favor the giving of material as well as diplomatic support. In 1908, when the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria caused an international crisis (Russia protesting against the annexation and Germany "in shining armor" supporting her Austrian ally), Sir Edward Grey told the Russian government that this being a Balkan affair, in which England had no direct interest or concern, nothing more than diplomatic support would be given by her. Thus each case was left to be decided on its own merits.

What, then, was the case as it existed in the critical days at the end of July and beginning of August? France, having no longer anything to fear from England, had concentrated her fleet in the Mediterranean. Her northern coasts were unprotected. Sir Edward Grey's opinion was, "that if a foreign fleet, engaged in a war which France had not sought and in which she had not been the aggressor, came down the English Channel, and bombarded and battered the unprotected coasts of France," we could not honorably "stand aside and see this going on practically within sight of our eyes, with our arms folded."

British interests pointed in the same direction. If England had declared her intention of remaining neutral, France might have withdrawn her fleet from the Mediterranean, and as we do not now keep a fleet there strong enough to deal alone with possible combinations, our trades-routes and inter-imperial communications through that sea would have been in danger.

Accordingly, on August 3, Sir Edward Grey was authorized by the cabinet to give an assurance to France "that if the German fleet comes into the Channel or through the North Sea to undertake hostile operations against French coasts or shipping, the British fleet will give all the protection in its power."

This was not a declaration of war, but a contingent obligation to make war. The further and final decision was caused by the action of Germany towards Belgium.

Belgium was constituted "an independent and perfectly neutral state" by treaties of 1831-2 and 1839. To those treaties Germany as well as Great Britain was a party. At the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870, the government of Mr. Gladstone proposed a treaty to Prussia and to France, providing that if the armies of either violated the neutrality of Belgium, Great Britain would co-operate with the other for its defence. Both countries assented. To this action "Mr. Gladstone then and always attached high importance." "We do not think it would be right," he said, "even if it were safe, to announce that we would in any case stand by with folded arms, and see actions done which would amount to a total extinction of public right in Europe." "I do not think we could look on while the sacrifice of freedom and independence was in course of consummation." "There is also this further consideration, the force of which we must all feel most deeply, and that is the common interests against the unmensurable aggrandizement of any power whatever."

The same question confronted Mr. Asquith's government in 1914, and they took the same view of it. On July 31, Sir Edward Grey—in view of existing treaties, asked both France and Germany, "whether they were prepared to engage to respect neutrality of Belgium as long as no other power violates it." On the same day he "assumed," in a communication to Belgium, "that the Belgian government will maintain to the utmost of its power her neutrality." Belgium in reply "expects and desires that other powers will observe and uphold her neutrality which she intends to maintain to the utmost of her power." France immediately gave Sir Edward Grey the desired assurance. Germany gave no answer.

On August 3 Germany addressed an ultimatum to Belgium saying that she would be treated as an enemy unless she consented to the violation of her territory. Belgium "categorically refused this as a flagrant violation of the law of nations," and the King of the Belgians appealed in the following terms to King George: "Remembering the numerous proofs of your majesty's friendship and that of your predecessor, and the friendly attitude of England in 1870 and the proof of friendship you have just given us again, I make a supreme appeal to the diplomatic intervention of your majesty's government to safeguard the integrity of Belgium."

On August 4 the British government addressed an ultimatum to Germany saying that unless by midnight she gave a satisfactory reply to the question asked on July 31, "his majesty's government feel bound to take all steps in their power to uphold the neutrality of Belgium and the observance of a treaty to which Germany is as much a party as ourselves." Germany gave no reply except by the forcible violation of Belgian territory, and Britain accordingly declared war.

Thus, by an instructive coincidence, a crisis which began by the determination of Austria (backed by Germany) to apply brute force against the independence of a small state in Southeastern Europe came to a head, so far as Britain is concerned, by the determination of Germany (in alliance with Austria) to ride rough-shod over the neutrality of a small state in Northwestern Europe. "Gentlemen," said the German chancellor in the Reichstag (August 4), "we are now in a state of necessity, and necessity knows no law. Our troops have occupied Luxembourg and perhaps are already on Belgian soil. Gentlemen, this is contrary to the dictates of International Law. * * * Anybody who is threatened, as we are threatened, and is fighting for his highest possessions, can have only one thought—how he is to hack his way through."

"If I am asked what we are fighting for," said the prime minister in the house of commons (August 6), "I can reply in two sentences. In the first place, to fulfil a solemn international obligation—an obligation which, if it had been entered into between private persons in the ordinary concerns of life, would have been regarded as an obligation not only of law, but of honor, which no self-respecting man could possibly have repudiated. I say, secondly, we are fighting to vindicate the principle which, in these days when material force sometimes seems to be the dominant influence and factor in the development of mankind, that small nationalities are not to be crushed, in defiance of international good faith, by the arbitrary will of a strong and overmastering power. I do not believe any nation ever entered into a great controversy—and this is one of the greatest history will ever know—with a clearer conscience and stronger conviction that it is fighting, not for aggression, not for the maintenance even of its own selfish interest, but in defiance of principles the maintenance of which is vital to the civilization of the world, and with the full conviction, not only of the wisdom and justice, but of the obligations which lay upon us to challenge this great issue."

"I ask the house," said Sir Edward Grey (August 3), "from the point of view of British interests, to consider what may be at stake. If France is beaten in a struggle of life and death, beaten to her knees, loses her position as a great power, becomes subordinate to the will and power of one greater than herself—consequences which I do not anticipate, because I am sure that France has the power to defend herself with all the energy and ability and patriotism which she has shown so often—still if that were to happen, and if Belgian fell under the same dominating influence, and then Holland and then Denmark, then would not Mr. Gladstone's words come true, that just opposite to us there would be a common interest against the unmeasured aggrandizement of any power?

"It may be said, I suppose, that we might stand aside, husband our strength, and that whatever happened in the course of this war, at the end of it intervene with effect to put things right and to adjust them to our own point of view. If in a crisis like this we ran away from those obligations of honor and interest as regards the Belgian treaty, I doubt whether whatever material force we might have at the end it would be of very much value in face of the respect that we should have lost. At the end of this war, whether we have stood aside or whether we have been engaged in it, I do not believe for a moment—even if we had stood aside and remained aside—that we should be in a position, a material position, to use our force decisively to undo what had happened in the course of the war, to prevent the whole of the west of Europe opposite to us, if that had been the result of the war, falling under the domination of a single power, and I am quite sure that our moral position would be such—" (The rest of the sentence was lost, says the Times, in a loud outburst of cheering).

The issues being thus vital to the civilization of the world, and to the freedom and integrity of Great Britain and of the British Dominions, "let us be sure," as the prime minister said, "that all the resources, not only of this United Kingdom, but of the vast empire of which it is the centre, shall be thrown into the scale." And let us bear ourselves through the struggle in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln's war motto: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right—as God gives us to see the right—let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up this nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and orphan; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace."

What about your wife and children? Will they dress well after you are gone? Will your children be educated? Have a talk to-day with an agent of
THE EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE CO.,
OFFICES:—Winnipeg, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Vancouver. Agents Wanted.

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Sold everywhere. In boxes, 25 cents

### Nobody Guessed

"It's curious," said Brown, "how coming events cast their shadows before them. I'll wager a $10 bill none of you gentlemen can guess what was the last thing played on the organ at the time of the fire."

"'The Lost Chord,'" suggested Smith.

Brown shook his head.

"'Dies Irae,'" said the classical gentleman.

Brown shook his head again.

"What was it, then?" asked the practical member.

Brown got up, reached for his hat, and went to the door. Then he replied:

"The hose!"

### How Suckers Bite

One Sunday morning, on his way to church, a deacon observed a boy industriously fishing. After the lad had landed several, he approached and said:

"My son, don't you know it is very wrong to catch fish on the Sabbath Day? And, besides, it is very cruel to impale that poor, helpless beetle upon that sharp hook."

Said the boy, "Oh, say, mister, this is only an imitation. It ain't a real bug."

"Bless me!" replied the deacon. "Why I thought it was a real bug!"

The boy, lifting a fine string of fish out of the water, said, "So did these suckers."

A certain little girl is very fond of her bath, but she objects vigorously to the drying process.

One day, while her mother was remonstrating with her, she said, Why, what would happen, mamma, if you didn't wipe me dry? Would I get rusty?

London Scot (proud of his English)—Aw'll be hame aboot eicht o'clock the nicht an—

Voice of telephone operator (obedient to government instructions)—No foreign languages, please. Cut off.—Punch.

### Wrath Will Fall on Kaiser

"And there is more than a chance that, in case the Allies do succeed, they will be inclined to treat Emperor William individually somewhat along the same lines as hostile Europe treated Napoleon I. after the battle of Waterloo. The Kaiser has been regarded by England and France for many years, whether rightly or wrongly, as a foe to permanent peace, and it is on the Kaiser that their wrath will fall, if he ever gets into their hands."—Seattle Sun.

American and English boys whose parents reside in Paris have been forming into a company of boy scouts. They wear uniforms and will carry messages for the American and British embassies and also for the American and British ambulance organizations.

### Delightful Wares

"I am going to sell kisses at the charity fair. You'll buy some, won't you?"

"I guess so," said the young man. "Are you distributing any samples?"

Neutral territory—Convenient spots on the map to quarter your troops at the expense of the spots.

Pre-Dreadnought—A warship built day before yesterday.

Ultimatum—Keeping the other man waiting while you complete the finishing touches.

Mobilizations—Wholesale death notices served in advance to friends and neighbors.

Machine Gun—Labor saving killing device.—Life.

"Bliggins doesn't get on."

"No. Insists on figuring on the high cost of living instead of on how to get the price."—Washington Star.

Food Supplies in
WAR TIME
Rumors are in circulation that we are unable to supply orders owing to war demand. This statement is absolutely incorrect. We are filling our orders as usual. Insist on getting what you ask for—Clark's.
W. CLARK, LIMITED

The Professor's Wife. The professor is in the laboratory conducting some chemical experiments. The professor expects to go down to posterity.

From the Laboratory—Br-r-r-r-r! Bang!

The Visitor—I hope the professor hasn't gone!—Tit-Bits.

Civil Service Examiner—How is it that every time you add up a sum the total exceeds the real amount, and is never less? What is your occupation?

Applicant—I'm a waiter, sir.—Philadelphia Ledger.

# FIENDISH CRUELTIES PERPETRATED BY THE ATROCIOUS GERMANS

## HARROWING TALES TOLD OF INHUMAN TORTURE

### Report of the Belgium Commission of Inquiry Gives Details of the Outrages Committed by the German Troops in Louvain—Unthinkable Deeds of Barbarians

The following is a translation communicated by the Belgian Legation of the second report of the Belgian commission of inquiry on the violation of the rights of nations and of the laws and customs of war:

To M. Carton de Wiart, Minister of Justice, Antwerp:

The commission of inquiry have the honor to make the following report on acts of which the town of Louvain, the neighborhood and the district of Malines have been the scene:

The German army entered Louvain on Wednesday, August 19, after having burnt down the villages through which it had passed.

As soon as they had entered the town of Louvain the Germans requisitioned food and lodging for their troops. They went to all the banks of the town and took possession of the cash in hand. German soldiers burst open the doors of houses which had been abandoned by their inhabitants, pillaged them, and committed other excesses.

The German authorities took as hostages the mayor of the city, Senator Van der Kelen, the vice-rector of the Catholic University, and the senior priest of the city, besides certain magistrates and aldermen. All the weapons possessed by the inhabitants, even fencing swords, had already been given up to the municipal authorities and placed by them in the Church of Saint Pierre.

In a neighboring village, Corbeek-Loo, on Wednesday, August 19, a young woman aged twenty-two, whose husband was with the army, and some of her relations were surprised by a band of German soldiers. The persons who were with her were locked up in a deserted house, while she herself was dragged into another cottage, where she was raped by five soldiers successively.

In the same village, on Thursday, August 20, German soldiers fetched from their house a young girl about sixteen years old and her parents. They conducted them to a small deserted country house, and while some of them held back the father and mother others entered the house, and finding the cellar open forced the girl to drink. They then brought her on to the lawn in front of the house and raped her successively. Finally they stabbed her in the breast with their bayonets. When this young girl had been abandoned by them after these abominable deeds she was brought back to her parents' house, and the following day, in view of the extreme gravity of her condition, she received extreme unction from the parish priest and was taken to the hospital of Louvain, as her life was despaired of.

On August 24 and 25 Belgian troops made a sortie from the entrenched camp at Antwerp and attacked the German army before Malines.

The Germans were thrown back on Louvain and Vilvorde.

On entering the villages which had been occupied by the enemy the Belgian army found them devastated. The Germans, as they retired, had pillaged and burned the villages, taking with them the male inhabitants, whom they forced to march in front of them.

Belgian soldiers entering Hofstade on August 25 found the body of an old woman who had been killed by bayonet thrusts. She still held in her hands the needle with which she was sewing when she was killed. A woman and her fifteen or sixteen-year-old son lay on the ground pierced by bayonets. A man had been hanged.

At Sempst, a neighboring village, were found the bodies of two men, partly carbonised. One of them had his legs cut off at the knees, the other had the arms and legs cut off. A workman, whose burnt body has been seen by several witnesses, has been struck several times with bayonets and then, while still alive, the Germans had poured petroleum over him and thrown him into a house to which they set fire. A woman who came out of her house was killed in the same way.

A witness, whose evidence has been taken by a reliable British subject, declares that he saw on August 26, not far from Malines, during the last Belgain attack, an old man tied by the arms to one of the rafters in the ceiling of his farm. The body was completely carbonized, but the head, arms and feet were unburnt. Further on a child of about fifteen was tied up, the hands behind the back, and the body was completely torn open with bayonet wounds. Numerous corpses of peasants lay on the ground in positions of supplication, their arms lifted and their hands clasped.

The Belgian consul in Uganda, who is now a volunteer in the Belgian army, reports that wherever the Germans passed the country has been devastated. The few inhabitants who remain in the villages tell of the atrocities committed by the enemy. Thus, at Wackerzeel, seven Germans are said to have successively violated a woman, and then to have killed her. In the same village they stripped a young boy to the waist, threatened him with death, holding a revolver to his chest, pricked him with lances, and then chased him into a field and shot at him without, however, hitting him.

Everywhere there is ruin and devastation. At Rueckon many inhabitants were killed, including the priest, who was over eighty years old.

Between Impde and Wolverthem two wounded Belgian soldiers lay near a house which was on fire. The Germans threw these two unfortunate men into the flames.

At nightfall on August 26 the German troops, repulsed by our soldiers, entered Louvain panic-struck. Several witnesses affirm that the German garrison which occupied Louvain was erroneously informed that the enemy were entering the town. Men of the garrison immediately marched to the station, shooting haphazard the while, and there met the German troops who had been repulsed by the Belgians, the latter having just ceased the pursuit.

Everything tends to prove that the German regiments fired on one another. At once the Germans began bombarding the town, pretending that civilians had fired on the troops, a suggestion which is contradicted by all the witnesses and could scarcely have been possible, because the inhabitants of Louvain had had to give up their arms to the municipal authorities several days before. The bombardment lasted till about ten o'clock at night.

The Germans then set fire to the town. Whenever the fire had not spread the German soldiers entered the houses and threw fire-grenades, with which some of them seem to be provided. The greater part of the town of Louvain was thus a prey to the flames, particularly the quarters of the upper town, comprising the modern cathedral of St. Pierre, the university buildings, together with the university library, its manuscripts and collections, and the Municipal theatre.

The commission considers it its duty to insist, in the midst of all these horrors, on the crime committed against civilization by the deliberate destruction of an academic library which was one of the treasures of Europe.

The corpses of many civilians encumbered the streets and squares. On the road from Tirlemont to Louvain alone a witness counted more than fifty. On the doorsteps of houses could be seen carbonized bodies of inhabitants, who, hiding in their cellars, were driven out by the fire, tried to escape and fell into the flames. The suburbs of Louvain suffered the same fate. We can affirm that the houses in all the districts between Louvain and Malines, and most of the suburbs of Louvain itself, have practically been destroyed.

On Wednesday morning, August 26, the Germans brought to the station squares of Louvain a group of more than seventy-five persons, including several prominent citizens of the town, among whom were Father Coloboet and another Spanish priest, and also an American priest. The men were brutally separated from their wives and children, and after having been subjected to the most abominable treatment by the Germans, who several times threatened to shoot them, they were forced to march to the village of Camperhont in front of the German troops. They were shut up in the village church, where they passed the night.

About four o'clock the next morning a German officer told them they had better go to confession as they would be shot half an hour later. Shortly afterwards they were again arrested by a German brigade, which forced them to march before them in the direction of Malines. In reply to a question ofone of the prisoners a German officer said they were going to give them a taste of the Belgian quick-firers before Antwerp. They were at last released on the Thursday afternoon at the gates of Malines.

It appears from other witnesses that several thousand male inhabitants of Louvain who had escaped the shooting and the fire were sent to Germany for a purpose which is still unknown to us.

The German procedure is everywhere the same. They advance along a road, shooting inoffensive passers-by—particularly bicyclists—as well as peasants working in the fields.

In the towns or villages where they stop they begin by requisitioning food and drink, which they consume till intoxicated.

Sometimes from the interior of deserted houses they let off their rifles at random, and declare that it was the inhabitants who fired. Then the scenes of fire, murder, and especially pillage begin, accompanied by acts of deliberate cruelty, without respect to sex or age. Even where they pretend to know the actual person guilty of the acts they allege they do not content themselves with executing him summarily, but they seize the opportunity to decimate the population, pillage the houses, and then set them on fire.

After a preliminary attack and massacre they shut up the men in the church, and then order the women to return to their houses and to leave their doors open all night.

From several places the male population has been sent to Germany, there to be forced, it appears, to work at the harvest, as in the old days of slavery. There are many cases of the inhabitants being forced to act as guides and to dig trenches and entrenchments for the Germans. Numerous witnesses assert that during their marches, and even when attacking, the Germans place civilians, men and women, in their front ranks, in order to prevent our soldiers firing.

## The Army of Russia

### Russia's Supply of Men Simply Inexhaustible

It is a noteworthy fact that the future existence of the Russian empire depends largely on the peasants.

The Russian army is recruited principally from the peasant class and from various nomadic races inhabiting the eastern provinces.

It is estimated that in all there are about 120 million peasants in the Russian empire, and probably no body of men in existence is so hardy as this. Their physique is very fine as compared with that of other European races.

They are, however, somewhat ignorant and superstitious, and too frequently the victims of terrible famines. In most Russian villages there are no doctors or trained nurses, and the death-rate is appalling.

When a peasant is taken ill only two remedies are available as a rule—a hot bath, and the "Feldshar," who is generaly an old soldier with a little rudimentary knowledge of surgery picked up when on military service. He is in fact a kind of rural Dr. Sangrado, and if blood-letting and the "banja" (vapor bath) do not help then the patient must die—for "such is the will of God!"

Some villages have the questionable advantage of a "znarcharka," or wise woman, who firmly believes in herbs, drugs and incantations. A few of these women are undoubtedly very skilful, but the majority of them are gross charlatans, who kill more people than they cure.

The ordinary peasant, the man who has built up the Russian empire with his blood and his toil is not a big man; he is of medium stature, broad shoulders and sturdy, with square forehead, square jaw, regular Arian features, and a flowing beard, unless he comes of Tartar or Finnish extraction.

The typical pure Russian is a great, big-hearted man, unlike the Tartars, Finns and other Monogolians, he is not spiteful. When injured he soldom endeavors to be revenged on his enemies, like the Tartars, Bashkirs, Khirgise, and other Tauranian races.

If he is a true and typical son of Russia he endeavors to forget the injury, and relieves his feelings by spitting, swearing or simply by saying "Bog, Svam" (the Lord be with thee), meaning that he leaves it to the Almighty to settle the account.

Still, large families are the rule in Russia, and a childless wife is somewhat of a disgrace to her family. It is claimed by competent observers that Russia could at the present time summon 25,000,000 men to the colors without imposing too great a strain upon the population of the country.

### Wife Was Killed Before His Eyes

Amid the multitude of people pouring into the northern and eastern stations of Paris was a highly intelligent Belgian, Mr. Brugmann, of Estinnes, who has been in the heart of the fighting zone on the frontier. His little child was with him.

"German horsemen," he said, "walked into my house without knocking, and one of them, an officer, demanded food. My wife began to cook some food for them. While it was cooking, our little child, who is only seven months old, started crying. My wife then commenced feeding the child from the breast.

"This seems to aggravate the officer, for he got up from his chair in a temper, and knocked both my wife and the child to the floor, and went to see about the cooking of the meat himself.

"I was mad with fury, and started to get at him, when the other men stopped me, and, after knocking me senseless, threw me into the garden, where I lay. I could not tell you how long I had been lying there, but when I came to my senses, I heard the sound of horsemen approaching. To my delight I saw they were French.

"The Germans, on seeing them, galloped off, not, however, without losing one of their number, who was killed.

"Then Frenchmen told me to come along immediately with them. I then went into the house to fetch my wife and child and sister-in-law, but to my horror I found my wife dead. She had been killed by a blow on the side of the head. The child was crying, and seemed none the worse. Seeing that I could do no good by staying, I left with the child, leaving my wife's sister, and here I am in Paris, hardly realizing that it is not a nightmare.

"Never mind, I shall avenge her. I shall avenge her."

### "Attila's Visiting Card"

The exploit of the German airman, Lieut. von Heidaen, alarmed no one but the three families which suffered directly. The daring visitor appeared between noon and one o'clock on Sunday, flying very high over the northern part of the city. The message calling upon Paris to surrender, which the airman dropped in his letter-case, is openly ridiculed as 'Attila's visiting card.'

"Go back to your Pomerian reindeers," writes Henri Beregner, addressing the German aviator. "Mimi Pinson is not for you. We don't want your Kaiser nor your Kultur, nor your Kolossal nor * * * your Capital. You are not even original, wretched Prussian cuckoo. Where did you get your wings, your motor? Who invented aviation, Germany or France? Who first crossed the Channel or the Alps, a German or a Frenchman?

What did you bring under your wings that we should surrender to you—intelligence or liberty or justice, truth or love? Nothing of the kind. You brought death—a bomb—that is all. That is why you will never have Paris. Paris is civilization in its ugliness. Possibly you may bombard us—burn our city—but we shall never surrender. Paris will be wherever the French flag floats, and in the end Chanticleer will crow over the bloody nest of your crushed tyrants."

### Peerless British Infantry

It is at time like this when an army is hammered by overpowering forces that discipline gives way and retreat becomes a rout. It may be that no other troops in the world except these seasoned British regulars, heroes of many battles in many lands, could have fallen back slowly and unbrokenly for a hundred hours and a hundred miles until they were too close to the fortified line behind them to be flanked and the allied army was for the moment safe.—Rochester Post-Express.

## The Nations' Defences

### The Rhine Is Germany's Natural Boundary

The country that can boast of a natural frontier has a huge advantage in time of war.

Britain's greatest asset is that it is a tight little island "set in the silver sea," which makes it so secure from foreign invasion.

The true boundary of Germany on the west is the Rhine, that mighty river which has been crossed oftener by armies than any other river in the world.

Germany really forsook her ancient frontier when she annexed Alsace and Lorraine in 1871.

The river of romance and beauty is the natural frontier of that empire, and if no foe may cross it the Fatherland is really safe.

The sea takes the first place in the category of natural boundaries, a big mountain range comes second, and a big river third.

An object lesson in the value of all three is presented by India. Why is India the jewel of Asia? Because it is contained in a casket, the base of which is the ocean, the lid of which is the biggest range in the world, and the key of which is the River Indus.

At the present time Italy, the former ally of Germany and Austria, is no doubt greatly influenced in maintaining her neutrality in the big war by the fact that the Alps, that mighty mountain barrier built by nature, make Northern Italy almost impregnable.

Italy is a peninsula, and as long as she keeps out of the conflict her coasts are as safe as if protected by the British and French fleets.

Nevertheless, even a mighty rock bastion like the Alps is not such a good natural boundary as the sea.

Almost all the countries which have good natural frontiers have at one time or another been foremost among the world's powers.

Although today Spain has fallen from her high estate, yet it may still be taken as a truism that there is not another country on the Continent—except, perhaps, Italy—which is more naturally adapted for attack or defence.

Japan has a great advantage in being surrounded by sea.

As a rule frontiers are heavily fortified, as we have seen recently in Europe, but a most remarkable exception is the frontier between Canada and the United States, where over a stretch of country nearly four thousand miles in length not a single fort is to be found and not a single gun is mounted.

The two North American nations, dwelling side by side under separate flags and different laws in the bond of brotherhood, form an object-lesson to the nations of Europe, from which they might, if they only would, profit in the future.

## Jewish Soldiers Rewarded

Up to the present war, no Jew has been allowed to be a military or naval officer in the Russian service.

But the gallantry of the Jews serving in the rank and file of the army has now been rewarded, and in future members of the Hebrew community will be admitted to the highest ranks. Already, many commisions have been granted to Jews fighting against the Germans, and ere long they will be accorded full rights of Russian citizenship.

There are several hundreds of thousands of Jews in the armies now at war, Russian having 250,000 in its service; Austria, 52,000; France, 10,000; Germany, 6,150; Servia, 700, Belgium, 1,000. The British army has many enrolled in its ranks.

The highest ranking officer among the Jews is General Ottolighi of the Italian army, who has held the portoflio of minister of war. France alone has ten Jewish general officers.

The immediate result of the war of the allies and Turkey was that Servia, which had a Jewish population numbering 7,000, received an increase of 10,000 Jews, who had previously been Turkish subjects.

Prior to the war the Servian Jews formed an insignificant minority. Of these Jews 5,600 were residents of Belgrade, and were in the main prosperous. The 10,000 Jews who then came under Servian rule are mostly residents of Monastir, Uskub and Itchip.

Several hundred Servian Jews served with the colors, the percentage of ten, being the same as that contributed by the Jews to the Bulgarian forces. If the new Servian Jews contribute a similar quota, there will be 1,700 Jews in the army. This number may be doubled.

The 6,500 Jews in Greece proper have become well over 85,000 by the acquisition of Janina, Serres, Kavala, Kalaferia and Salonica, which alone has 70,000 Jews, the majority belonging to the working classes.

Austria has one of the most considerable and oldest Jewish populations in the world, and one with quite a military history. According to tradition, the Jewish settlement in Prague dates back to the fall of the first temple, and the Alt-Neue Synagogue is the oldest in Europe.

The Jewish population of the empire is: Austria, 1,313,687; Hungary, 932,406; Bosnia-Herzegovinia, 12,169, making a total of 2,558,262. The average percentage of Jews to the general population, about 4½ per cent. is exceeded only in Russia.

In Austria the Jews are presumed to supply 8 per cent. of the military and naval forces, but the actual enrollment has been far in excess of that number. Austrian army tests make use of the fact that the doctor of almost every regiment is a Jew.

### Used in the Dark

The news that native Indian troops are to be given a chance on the firing line has been received with great pleasure, their bravery is beyond question and they will follow their British officers anywhere. The Gurkhas, in particular, are expected to prove their worth. It may not be widely known outside of military circles that the Gurkhas carry a curved knife, two feet long which is called a "Kurki," in addition to the rifle and bayonet. Gurkhas excel in night attacks, and as they approach barefooted, they often get to their enemy before discovered. If, as is likley, they are given a chance to indulge in a night attack, it will be decidedly unhealthy for the Germans who come within reach of the kurki.

# THE BRITISH SOLDIERS ARE CALM AND RESOLUTE IN ACTION

## PRODIGIES OF VALOR WORTHY OF HISTORY

### French War Correspondent Describes the Work of the British Troops—Deal Terrible Blows in Battle, but do not Exult Over the Enemy's Sufferings

In the official despatches describing the fighting in Europe, one misses that personal note which can only be brought to light by the war correspondent.

Although newspaper representatives have not been permitted to accompany the troops, some have managed to evade the authorities and their accounts give us an idea of what our soldiers are doing at the front in upholding the British flag.

A French war correspondent, Fleury Lamure, relates the splendid work of the British troops at Mons, when the Allies won a glorious victory. He says:

"It was at Mons on Sunday, August 28. The first outpost engagements were beginning and the British troops, who had only arrived on the scene the same morning, immediately entered the battle without even a moment's rest. In a few hours Mons was put in a state of defence and you should have seen these fellows working. Trenches were dug and the bridges barricaded by eager hands. In sight of such willingness and such irresistible gaiety you would never have thought that these men were on the eve of a terrible battle. Personally I could not help feeling that I was only watching a manoeuvre scene, for the phlegm and the nonchalance of these soldiers would never have permitted one to suppose that the enemy were there only a few miles away.

"Gallant little soldiers! What immense confidence they inspired! At the sight of them, so calm and so resolute, the people of Mons, panic-stricken only a few hours before, suddenly seemed to gain a fresh store of courage and almost a sense of security.

"The battle went on for four days, and throughout this period the British Army, as I am proud to declare, performed prodigies of heroism to check the German advance. On the Monday, August 24, the Germans, who were infinitely superior in numbers, made vigorous efforts to prevent the British from retiring in good order and tried to drive them back on the Maubeuge. The firmness and skill with which the British retreat was conducted foiled this attempt and inflicted considerable losses, far higher than ours, on the enemy, whose compact and enormous masses hurled at the British troops were repeatedly driven back.

"The fighting on the 26th, near Cambrai, was dogged and desperate. There again the British troops made the most splendid and the most solid resistance in their terrible situation of having to make up for their inferiority in numbers by the rapidity of their movements. Several regiments charged six times running. Nevertheless they extricated themselves from their fix and eventually fell back in good order though with heavy losses from the most terrible artillery fire I have been seen.

"During this memorable day, on which I learnt to appreciate at their full worth the admirable qualities of the British soldier, one incident which may be cited among hundreds of others is the charge of the German cavalry division of the Guards against the Twelfth British Infantry Brigade. It was a terrible charge. After a desperate bout of hand-to-hand fighting, men and horses mixed up together in a seething, compact mass, the German cavalry was repulsed and fled in utter disorder, the lads of the Twelfth Brigade behind them giving them the bayonet in the back.

"Then there was that brilliant fight put up by the Fifth British Cavalry commanded by General Chetwode against the German cavalry. The Twelfth Lancers and the Royal Scots Greys distinguished themselves particularly and routed the Germans, thanks to prodigies of valor worthy of ancient history, making a large number of prisoners after a brilliant pursuit.

"These are but a few notable instances of what was done almost all along the battle front during these engagements. Dearly the Germans paid for their advance.

"What impressed me above all was the coolness and dash of the British soldier. His utter indifference to danger and his general air of 'Don't Care' simply carried me away. At moments of critical danger I have seen him worrying as to when he was to get his cup of tea from his little traveling kitchen.

"I shall never forget the admirable reply given by a little English soldier wounded in the hand whom I found sitting by the roadside outside Mons, wearing an air of consternation. I began to talk to him and asked him if his wound was hurting him. 'It's not that,' he said, with a doleful shake of his head, 'but I'm blessed if I haven't been and lost my pipe in that last charge.' I gave him mine and he was promptly comforted.

"I asked another what he thought of the Germans, and he said: 'They are like flies; the more you kill the more there seem to be.' That was the extent of the impressions he had received during that awful fight, and he gave me his answer with a merry laugh, showing glint of very white teeth. I saw others going under fire with a football attached to their knapsacks.

"There is another thing which struck me enormously, and that is the humanity of the British soldier when the fighting is done. In battle he is superb. He puts into the fight all his energy, all his indomitable pluck. He deals terrible blows at the enemy. But when the battle is done his first thought is of humanity. The British do not exult over the enemy's losses. They try to snatch from death as many as possible of their enemies. After the battle the men with whom they have just crossed blades are no longer enemies; they are in their eyes, just poor wounded fellows. This solicitude, great-hearted as it is after hard fighting, will always redound to the honor of the British army.

"While the Germans burn undefended villages, massacre non-combatants, and finish the wounded—even their own—the British army's first thought when the fighting is done is to save as many lives as possible.

"No; with such soldiers beside us, we Allies have no reason to doubt the final crushing of the German hordes."

## Guarding the North Atlantic

### The Invisible Patrol that Is Making Travel Safe

A writer in the New York Sun, in describing how the trade route across the Atlantic is guarded by British warships, says the guarding is done by an invisible fleet and this is all through the use of the wireless. The most important lane for vessels running from this country to Great Britain is across the North Atlantic, and the navy of England has made the travel on that lane as safe as it is on Broadway through a very simple and systematic method.

There are nine British warships patrolling this North Atlantic lane, and they are working in a method very similar to that of sentries at an army post. These nine warships are the battleship Glory and the cruisers Good Hope, Drake, Blake, Essex, Suffolk, Lancaster, Bristol and Berwick. Each one of these vessels has a section to patrol, and between Halifax and the Irish coast each has about 300 miles to protect. They are in touch with one another all the time, and the vessels of commerce that are crossing the ocean are in touch with these warships one after the other. The captains of the commercial vessels take instructions from the warships where they are to go.

"It is an uncanny way of travel," said one skipper who had made the trip across the ocean recently. "We go on day and night and are constantly in touch with one or another warship and yet we seldom see one of them. They keep out of sight, but they are telling us just on what line to steam, where we will meet some other vessel and what we are to do."

### The Fadeless Khaki Color

The credit of discovering the non-fading khaki used for army purposes in time of war belongs to a young British army officer. Stationed in India, he hired a native dyer and experimented on cotton uniforms which were originally khaki color, but which were quite different when they emerged from the wash. After countless failures one piece was, by accident, found which was still khaki though the laundry had worked its will. But it had received no special treatment, so far as was known, except that it had fallen into a metal dish. That was the secret. The metal of the dish and the chemicals in the dye had combined to produce that fadeless khaki color which makes our soldiers invisible, and turned the lieutenant into a millionaire.

## Close Drink Shops in Russia

### In the Face of a National Crisis the Russians Keep Sober

After the war had been in progress about three weeks the Petrograd correspondent of the London Morning Post wrote as follows about the wave of sobriety which marked the opening of war in Russia:

"The term during which all the drink shops of every class in Russia were closed under mobilization orders expires a week today. The extraordinary sobriety witnessed throughout the period inspires reformers with the hopes that the people may be brought to realize its advantages. It must be understood that this sobriety is less due to the mere closing of the drink shops, which has always been done before without materially affecting drunkenness, than to the sudden consciousness of the people themselves that in the face of a great national crisis the sacrifice is just and right. Upon this consciousness the reformers build, and the government proposes to extend the absolute prohibition of the sale of alcohol for another month. The new police orders forbid the serving of drink even in restaurants except as an accompaniment to food, and absolutely prohibits its sale in bottles for taking away or the supply of persons who have had enough already. All places trading in alcohol in any form are shut and sealed, and new supplies can be got only on the production of a police certificate.

"The enormous revenue from the drink monopoly, which amounted in 1913 to $400,000,000, is by far the largest item in the Russian budget, but it is recognized that even its total sacrifice would be rapidly compensated [illegible] the whole nation. The police report that in St. Petersburg nearly two million inhabitants have appealed for the duration of the prohibition, a striking argument in favor of its continuance. There has been no cases of hooliganism, knifing, robbery with violence, and only a dozen ordinary thefts. During the whole period only eight cases of drunkenness have been detained. The hospitals alone usually have several score of cases of delirium tremens, while the ordinary cases of drunkenness are beyond estimation, as they are merely flung into the cells and released when sobered. During the prohibition there have been only five cases in the Hospital of the Incurables, who made themselves mad by drinking methylated spirits, furniture polish and similar succedanes.

### Ferdinand a Relative of Our Royalty

Prince Ferdinand of Hohenzollern, who will become the ruler of Roumania in the event of the abdication of King Charles—a step which is stated to be imminent, and which may alter the attitude of the country towards the war—is a distant member of our own Royal family. His royal highness is a grandson of a cousin of Queen Victoria, Prince Ferdinand, Regent of Portugal, and he married a granddaughter of Queen Victoria, Princess Marie of Edinburgh.

### Will Stick It Out

We and the French have got the wolf by one ear and the Russians by the other, and though he may use his teeth with terrible effect, if we have the hardihood and patience to hold on we shall finish him in the end. And we shall have the hardihood and the patience. We shall "stick it out," though no doubt it will be for us, as for the rest of the world a process of great misery—a rending of the heart-strings.—London Eng.) Spectator.

# Cold Nights

Remind us that the winter is almost here

FOR THE WINTER WE HAVE COAL and WOOD HEATERS
—FROM $1.75 TO $20 EACH—

Flannelette Sheets; grey and white blankets and Comforters in a full range of prices.

For solid comfort, try a "RESTWELL" Steel Bed and a "RESTMORE" Spring and Mattress

## The Furniture Store

McPhee Block, A. McKINNON Cumberland



MAROCCHI BROS
GROCERS & BAKERS
AND PROPRIETORS OF
CUMBERLAND BOTTLING WORKS

Agents for Pilsener Brewing Company's BEER
Wholesale Dealers in all Kinds of
Wines and Liquors.

SECOND STREET


# Christmas Entertainment

The Annual Christmas Entertainment of the Methodist Church will be held on Christmas night. An excellent program has been prepared, consisting of music, recitations, drill, and a dialogue in four parts, taken from the interesting story by Kate Douglas Wiggan, called "The Birds' Christmas Carol." The Children will meet at 7.30. Program at 8.00.

Santa Claus will be on hand, and after distributing his gifts here, will be pleased to receive donations from the children, to help him in making his further rounds, so that nobody shall be disappointed.

An offering will be taken, to help defray expenses.

EVERYBODY COME, if only to see the decorations, so complete and beatiful. Mr. Banks certainly knows how to do it; and he has most efficient help.


P. PHILLIPPS HARRISON
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR
NOTARY PUBLIC CONVEYANCING
DUNSMUIR AVENUE CUMBERLAND.


## To The Electors of The City of Cumberland, B. C.

I have the honour to present myself as a candidate for Mayor at the forthcoming elections.

I devote my time and energy serving your interests as an alderman, and I assure you should I be your choice as Mayor I will, to the best of my ability and in a conscientious manner, advance the welfare of the municipality.

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES PARNHAM

MUNICIPALITY OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CUMBERLAND

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the municipality of the City of Cumberland that I require the presence of the said electors at the Council Chambers, city buildings, on the 11th day of January, 1915 at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of nominating persons to represent them in the municipal council as mayor and aldermen.

The mode of nomination of candidates shall be as follows:—

The candidates shall be nominated in writing; the writing shall be subscribed by two voters of the municipality as proposer and seconder, and shall be delivered to the Returning Officer at any time between the date of the notice at 2 p. m. of the day of nomination, and in the event of more than one nomination a poll will be opened on Thursday, the 14th day of January, 1915 at the polling station at the Council Chambers, city buildings, Cumberland, B. C. of which every person is required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

No person shall be nominated to be eligible as a candidate for mayor, unless he be possessed of the qualifications by law required of three officers, and unless the candidate shall on or before the hour of 2 p. m. of the day of nomination, furnish the Returning Officer with a statement in writing, specifying the land or real property upon which he qualifies, his nomination shall be invalid and shall not be acted upon by the Returning Officer.

The qualifications as candidate for mayor are as follows:—

He must be a male British subject of the full age of twenty-one years and not disqualified under any law, and have been for six months next preceding the day of nomination the registered owner in the Land Registry Office of land or real property in the city, of the assessed value on the last municipal assessment roll of $500.00 or more, over and above any registered encumbrance or charge and who is otherwise qualified as a municipal voter.

The qualifications as candidate for aldermen are as follows:—

He must be a male British subject of the full age of twenty-one years and not disqualified under any law, and have been for six months next preceding the day of nomination the registered owner in the Land Registry Office of land or real property in the city, of the assessed value on the last municipal assessment roll of $500.00 or more, over and above any registered encumbrance or charge and who is otherwise qualified as a municipal voter.

Given under my hand at the City of Cumberland this 23rd day of December, 1914.

A. McKINNON,
Returning Officer

MUNICIPALITY OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CUMBERLAND

NOMINATIONS for School Trustees will be received on Monday, the 11th day of January 1915 at 12 o'clock noon.

The mode of nomination of candidates shall be as follows:—

The candidates shall be nominated in writing; the writing shall be subscribed be subscribed by two voters of the municipality as proposer and seconder, and shall be delivered to the Returning Officer at any time between the date of the notice and 2 p. m. of the day of nomination, and in the event of more than one nomination a poll will be opened on Thursday, the 14th day of January, 1915 at the polling station at the Council Chambers, city buildings, Cumberland, B. C. of which every person is required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

The qualifications for Trustees are as follows:—

He must be a male British subject of the full age of twenty one years and not disqualified under any law, and have been for six months next preceding the day of nomination the registered owner in the Land Registry Office of land and real property in the city of the assessed value on the last municipal assessment roll of $500.00 or more over and above any registered encumbrance or charge, and who is otherwise qualified as a municipal voter.

Given under my hand at the City of Cumberland this 23rd day of December, 1914.

A. McKINNON,
Returning Officer

LAND REGISTRY ACT.

IN THE MATTER of an Application for a fresh Certificate of Title to South Half of Southwest 20 acres of the North Half of Lot 16, Nelson District.

NOTICE is hereby given of my intention at the expiration of one Calendar month from the first publication hereof to issue a fresh Certificate of Title in lieu of the Certificate of Title issued to Alexander Gray on the 20th day of November 1907, and Numbered 10251 C, which has been lost.

Dated at Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C., this 4th day of December 1914.

S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar General of Titles.

Visitors attending the closing exercises of the Primary Division of our public school, were very much gratified by the programme rendered by the pupils. The numbers contributed were well chosen, and very entertaining—showing that a great deal of time and talent were expended on their preparation. The room was tastefully decorated in paper bells, festoons, and evergreens, but the visitors eye was immediately attracted by the artistic drawings on the blackboard showing skill and ability by some interested teacher. Parents would do well to show their appreciation, by attending these exercises.

WANTED—A white female cook for Union & Comox District Hospital. Must be a good bread baker. Duties to commence immediately. Wages $50 per month and board to commence with. Apply to secretary in writing. E. D. Pickard, P. O. Box 26, Cumberland, B. C.


Having bought the entire stock of Pailthorp & Idiens, of No. 8 Mine, I intend to carry on a

# Slaughter Sale!

of Merchandise consisting of

GENT'S FURNISHINGS,
HARDWARE
CROCKERY and GROCERIES.

All Can Goods at wholesale prices which must be cleared out. Drop in and get prices on case lots.

NO TROUBLE TO SHOW GOODS

Special Prices on Saturdays

WM. McLELLAN

NEXT TO PEACH'S DRUG STORE, DUNSMUIR AVENUE



Capital Paid Up $11,560,000 Reserve $13,000,000

The Royal Bank of Canada.

DRAFTS ISSUED IN ANY CURRENCY, PAYABLE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

SPECIAL ATTENTION paid to SAVINGS ACCOUNTS & interest at highest Current Rates allowed on deposits of $1 and upwards

CUMBERLAND, B. C., Branch, Open Daily D. M. Morrison, Mgr.
UNION BAY, B.C. Branch, Open Daily. F. Bosworth, Mgr.
COURTENAY, B. C., Branch, Open Daily R. H. Hardwick, Mgr



Don't Let This Escape—
—Read It Carefully

Here is something that every home needs; something that makes a house a home. In fact, The Robinson Folding Bath Tub, which is an invention that should be hailed with delight by every person who does not have access to a regular bathroom. The great majority of people are deprived of this great luxury and necessity. This is your opportunity to supply your home with modern bathing facilities at a very few dollars cost. The tub is guaranteed against any defect in manufacture for ten years. It is extremely simple, easily adjusted, thoroughly efficient and absolutely satisfactory in every respect. If you want a happy home, buy one of Robinson's Folding Bath Tubs. Get the members of your family to take regularly a bath, and you all will be healthy and happy. Cleanliness is necessary to preserve health. These tubs can be bought at Marocchi's Old Store. I have a few on hand to sell. Whoever takes advantage of this opportunity and comes quick, will be served, others will have to wait two months or probably more, as I am the only agent for Vancouver Island. In all probability I will not be here very long. Take heed.

P. ZANONI 2nd Street



V. BONORA

Manufacturer of MINERAL WATER

P. O. BOX 482
PHONE 39.... CUMBERLAND



Thomson's Boarding House

Has Now Been Opened Up and is prepared to receive boarders

Board by the Day, Week or Month
—Reasonable Rates—

Wm. Thomson Dunsmuir Avenue, Near Fourth Street—Cumberland, B. C.


CARD OF THANKS

I take this opportunity of thanking all the kind friends, who showed their kindness and sympathy to my dear mother Mrs. Theobald, during her illness after my father's death, and until God called her.

Her daughter,
Mrs. J. F. Martin, Toronto


Watch Repairing

DON'T SPEND GOOD MONEY for incompetent Watch Repairing. If your watch is not keeping time accurately LET LIGHTER FIX IT. Give Us a Trial.

F. Lighter

Practical Watchmaker, Jeweler and Optician, 120-130 Dunsmuir building Cumberland, B. C.



"The Little Store."

Mrs A. King, Proprietress

THE PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GET OLD COUNTRY PAPERS

Choice Candies by all the leading makers.
Soft Drinks, Cigars, Cigarettes, etc.

Dunsmuir Avenue Cumberland, B. C.