

August 1917 Signified the Three Year Anniversary of War



King and Premier Send Messages to People on War's Third Anniversary

KING GEORGE

London, August 3—King George, on the occasion of the third anniversary of the war, has sent identical cablegrams to the presidents or sovereigns of the United States, France, Portugal, Italy, Serbia and Roumania, expressing "the unwavering determination of the British Empire to pursue the contest until our joint efforts are crowned with success and our common aims attained."

His majesty also expressed confidence in the unwavering will of the allied peoples and the heroism of their forces in achieving a final victory, securing the possibility of peaceful progress for humanity. Similar telegrams have been sent to the kings of Belgium and Siam and to the president of Cuba.

In his message to King Albert of Belgium, King George expresses his unshakeable confidence of the ultimate restoration of Belgium to her rightful position among the free countries of Europe, adding that "The unflinching spirit of her people under the grievous suffering inflicted upon them by their enemies will continue to inspire the joint efforts of the allied countries against the nation which has trampled them under foot."

PREMIER BORDEN

Ottawa, Ont., Aug. 3—Sir Robert Borden gave out tonight the following message to the people of Canada, calling for renewed consecration for national war effort on the occasion of entering the fourth year of the war:

"Once more we reach the anniversary of that fateful day three years ago when Germany challenged the future of democracy and the freedom of the world. The resolve of the nations of the British commonwealth is now once more renewed. Today they again affirm an invincible determination to sustain the ideals of liberty and justice to a victorious issue.

"The anniversary brings to us proud but solemn memories. With an intense realization of all the sacrifice and sorrow entailed on our people, we are conscious that Canada has vindicated her place among the world's greatest and truest democracies. Assuredly her sons have not suffered and died in vain if liberty and justice are to have any meaning in the future of humanity.

"The forces of military autocracy are still strong and unyielding, the issue of the struggle still hangs in the balance. In Russia the long-repressed democracy of Russia is not yet girded on its full strength. On this continent the mighty republic to the south is still occupied in that necessary preparation without which no peace-loving people can throw their full force into an armed conflict. Not yet have the allied nations succeeded in throwing their united strength into supreme effort. That will come; but meantime with the highly organized and desperate forces that are arrayed against us it might be fatal if any nation should relax its endeavor whether from loss of heart or in reliance upon the strength of others. The mightiest effort of each is needed to assure the triumph without which all that is dear to us is lost, and the world's future shrouded in darkness and despair. Let us today in Canada close our ranks, nerve ourselves for another year of struggle and with undaunted hearts consecrate our fullest powers to the cause for which already our best and bravest have striven and suffered and fallen."



CANUCKS TAKE HILL 70

August 1917 marked the third year since Britain declared war on Germany. During those three years the Canadian Forces had distinguished themselves as a superb fighting force. This continued in August 1917 as they were large factor in the capture of Hill 70, a large German stronghold northwest of Lens.

Photograph: Canada. Dept. of National Defence/Library and Archives Canada/ - Canadians in captured trenches on Hill 70. August, 1917
Articles: Port Arthur News Chronicle August 5, 1914 ; August 5, 1917 ; Fort William Daily Times Journal August 15, 1917