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The Week's Outlook

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

The Retreat

The German retreat in western France has continued during the week, the French and British pushing vigorously but cautiously ahead, capturing the ruins of what were formerly beautiful French villages by the score. The main part of the retreat has taken place in front of the French line, not in front of the British line. The French have pressed forward over a recaptured area five or six times as great as the area recaptured by the British since the beginning of the retirement. This makes it look as if the French were mainly instrumental in driving the Germans, but it must not be forgotten that, while it happened to be the French who were at the elbow of the German salient it was the steady progress of the British further north that forced the Germans to begin their retirement. The news despatches do not tell us of any great losses either in men or material due to the retirement. If it is a fact that the Germans are able to withdraw to their new base, wherever that may be, without heavy losses in guns and men they are working more cleverly than was supposed possible. Both General Nivelle and General Haig gave us to believe that they could turn the German retreat into a disaster. Once again, however, as has happened often before, war predictions seem to have proved faulty. So far the Germans have made Arras the pivot on which they are swinging back their line. But they may at any time change this pivot and swing on Lille instead. They have now swung back as far as the line of forts Saint Quentin, La Fere and Laon. Along this line they have a strong natural barrier to defend. General Maurice, however, speculates that it is possible they may move back over the broad plain that lies behind this line of fortifications, and rest their new line on the southern slopes of the Ardennes mountains. That would be to evacuate nearly the whole of the French territory which they hold. However far the retreat may go back, they are now putting up a temporary fight along the ground marked by the line of French frontier fortresses, and it will probably take a while to discover whether they mean to try to hold that line or whether they are just making use of it to punish the Allies as much as possible before going further back.

The Pursuit

After moving rapidly in the first days of their retirement the Germans are now holding their positions very firmly, and the great conflict from Arras to Soissons has taken on more nearly the nature of a pitched battle in the open than has been known on the western front since the German retreat to the Aisne. The Germans are not, so far as the French and British armies have been able to discover, yet in their solidly entrenched line, but are fighting in improvised earth trenches, such as the British and French are also using. The fight would be an even one were it not that the Germans have had the choice of the positions on which to fight, and that in retreating they are falling back on ever stronger accumulations of supplies, while the British and French have to attack them from disadvantageous ground, and are ever getting further from the huge supplies that they had piled up back of the old line. That the French have pushed their forces right to the environs of La Fere and taken two of its outlying forts proves that they have no intention of allowing the Germans to halt if they can help it, and are not going forward so cautiously as to leave a yard of unoccupied territory between themselves and the ground commanded by the rifles of the retreating army. On the French front the Germans have already been pushed back right to the line of fortresses of Laon, La Fere and Saint Quentin. The British, however, have not pushed the line back as far as Cambrai, the other fortress on what is being called the Hindenburg line, that is to say the line at which the Germans are supposed to have planned to stop their retreat. The Canadians have not yet been brought into the main battle as they are posted just north of Arras, where the line is still steady. Should the Germans, as is commonly anticipated by English critics, change their pivotal point from Arras to Lille the Canadians will then be in the chase.

Dangers of Success

This is not unlikely the most critical period of the war. The U-boat campaign has failed. The German nation is on the verge of starvation. On the Russian front the Germans can hardly make an attack as it will be at least two months before the ground has become dry enough there for military manœuvring. This condition of the ground in Russia, while it prevents an attack on Russia, also frees the Germans from a dangerous offensive there, and makes it possible for them to spare a considerable number of men for an attack on the French front. They have drawn French and English out of their trenches on a front fully a hundred miles long, and if they have massed a big reserve power in France now is their chance to use it. Our armies are in the open, far removed from their base of supplies, and the Germans seem to have the best chance for an attack that they have had for a long time. It is possible that they could increase the chance in their favor by retreating still further over a longer front to the Ardennes Mountains. If this retirement does not result in a Hindenburg blow—a tremendous German attack far surpassing that of last year on Verdun, it may be taken as a certain sign that the German generals recognize that they are overpowered. The "Times" critic, ever a bear on Allied interests, says that the Germans have to-day seven hundred thousand more men in the field than they have ever had in the history of the war. This estimate is looked on with considerable scepticism by other critics who consider it impossible that with a casualty list which has already passed the four million mark the German ranks can be as well filled as they were a year ago. It is unfortunate for the Allies that just after the Germans began to flee the weather turned bad. Great wind storms, accompanied by rain which later turned to snow, have made the pursuit very difficult. The storm seems now to have passed, so that the Allied airmen will be able again to do scouting work.

Other Fields

There is no news at all this week of the forces under General Maude. They are somewhere up the Tigris, beyond Bagdad, but how far, or whether still moving northward, we know not. The Russians have moved further west in central Persia, taking the town of Kerind, which the Turks burned before evacuating. That there is no news of any strong Turkish reaction supports the belief that the Turks are losing the Arab end of their empire. From the Egyptian expeditionary force, which was last reported from Washington to be within fifteen miles of Jerusalem, we hear nothing, and as there has been no official confirmation of any movement beyond the Egyptian boundary, it becomes doubtful if they went past El Arish. There is no news from the Russian front in the Caucasus except that the Grand Duke Nicholas, who has been in command of the forces in this region, and who has been commander-in-chief of the Russian army, has been removed from his command because of his relationship to the Czar. General Alexieff has been appointed, temporarily, to take the place just assigned to Nicholas by the Czar of Commander-in-Chief of the forces. No movement has taken place along the whole of the Russian European front, possibly because this is one of the most difficult seasons of the year in which to move troops on the flat ground through which the fighting line mostly runs. In Macedonia there was a slight move forward at one point by the Allies. The next day the Germans reported that they had retaken the positions captured by the French, and on the next day the French reported that the German report was untrue, and that they still held all the ground they had captured. Of the Italian army there has been no news of importance for a long time. The submarines have taken their usual weekly toll, but no more.

Hail to Russia

Deep called unto deep; the heart of one nation, of many nations, touched that of Russia in the message that leaped like the electric spark from the Premier of Great Britain to him of Russia; also from parliament to parliament, glorying in the emancipation of so great a mass of mankind from despotic rule, and in the prospects so opened for the rest of unliberated men. Mr. Lloyd George telegraphed that the fall of that absolutism was a sure promise that the Prussian military autocracy, which he said was the only barrier to peace, would soon be overthrown. The importance of this utterance by a Prime Minister does not lie so much in the happy, but not new, prevision that other ancient thrones must tumble, or survive only on tolerated constitutional basis, as in the authoritative implication that when the Germans do rid themselves in the Russian fashion of their men of sin it will be easily possible for free peoples to deal with them; but not till then. We wish this assurance could be shouted into every home in Germany. We have no reason to think that the Allies have done all that was possible at this most effective mode of campaigning. Mr. Bonar Law, speaking in Parliament as representing the Government, expressed the anxiety that all of us feel over the possibility of further convulsions in Russia, either through the writhings of the crushed dragon or the craze of anarchism. He said it was too soon to assume that danger was past, but not too soon to send a message of hearty encouragement. What we like best about the words of the Leader of the House was his well-expressed ruth for poor Nicholas. "I may be permitted," he said, "to express a feeling of compassion for the deposed emperor, who for three years was our loyal ally, and who had laid upon him by birth a burden that was too heavy for him." Mr. Asquith, speaking as Liberal leader, seconded gracefully this welcome from the original home of Parliamentary institutions into the fellowship of free peoples. Mr. Devlin representing the Irish party, now in active opposition, declining to draw the moral more closely, said Ireland welcomed the noble, almost bloodless, revolution as a warning and a portent of doom to autocracies and tyrannies everywhere.

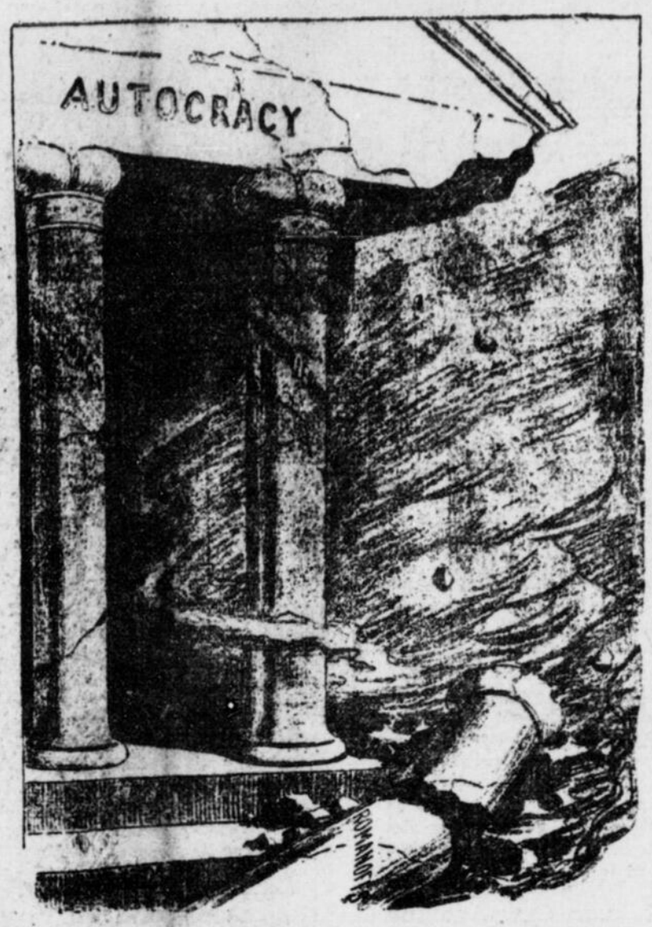
The Romanoffs

The late Czar has been arrested, we do not know on what charge, but probably to keep him out of harm's way, either from reactionaries or fanatical revolutionaries, and is interned in his palace of Tsarkoe Selo. His humiliation was due to religious infatuation, under the influence of the stronger nature of his wife, who had come completely under the spell of the scoundrel Rasputin—the mystic monk he is called in the papers. He was assumed to be, and no doubt thought himself, inspired. So complete was this obsession on the part of the two imperial fools, that the Czar got beyond any approach through the channel of reason, and was the easy tool of his wholly wicked and corrupt surroundings. He was told in the plainest terms of the sword that hung over him; but, doubtless believing himself to be divinely guided, was utterly obtuse to any representations. He had in fact ceased to be sane. Some of his relatives of the house of Romanoff on the other hand seem to be eminently so. After Nicholas and his son, for whom also he has abdicated, comes his brother Michael, who is to all appearance, of this class. We might suppose that the Czar's abdication in favor of a much disliked brother, instead of his idolized son, was due to pressure from those who had plans for the future government, and who saw that a monarchy with all the venerated sanctions of the Czardom, but accepted at the hands of the Duma, would be the firmest form of democracy that could be set up, if not indeed the only form that could last at all. But of course republican idealism is rampant, and through our customary news channels we hear the most of it. It must be the anxious prayer of lovers of liberty the world over that this pot which has for two generations been boiling over with wild anarchism, and which is even now sputtering with extravagances reminiscent of the French Revolution, may settle down into some stable form of government that can rule by the people's will.

William

Although both were despots, deriving their titles from Cæsar, the Kaiser is altogether a different man from the Czar. The one was a weak being born to an ancient absolutism, the other makes up for the lack of imperial history by personal assertiveness and immeasurable pride. One represented a race that has never dominated, the other a race which, since the days of the Cæsars, has ruled everywhere, the fact on which he bases his stupendous assumption. The one can say farewell to greatness with relief. To the other the collapse would be death. William is not personally so bad as the human group of which he has the misfortune to be the focus in which all its rays converge. No man ever is individually as good or as bad, as joyous, as holy or as mad as his group is when feeling, thinking and acting together. That is why we have always spoken of the joint crimes of the diabolical Berlin group as those of the Wilhelmstrasse. Men must not, however, hope to hide behind group responsibility. An international court may yet apportion the blame. Whoever gave the order for the devastation of French homes by the retiring German army deserves to be singled out and ridden round the world in a cage. Hanging would be too good for him. William and his chancellor winced before the turpitude of the Tirpitz counsels with regard to submarine piracy, chiefly, we are told, because it would make him abhorred in neutral countries; but the group spirit prevailed. Yet his is the name that through all history and in all lands must bear the stain of it, and of the infamous devastation in France now heaping up wrath against him. If we mistake not, he will, when his bubble bursts, without any act of retribution either from heaven or from his enemies, find, like Cain, his punishment greater than he can bear. It ought to be, and we continue to expect will be, the people that have worshipped him, as taught in the school-books he gave them, who will condemn him. No greater punishment could be devised than for one whose vital breath was in this adulation to find none so poor as do him reverence.

NEXT?



—Brooklyn "Eagle."

For Ireland

Cheers greeted a statement in the British Parliament by the Leader of the House, that, notwithstanding the perils of the undertaking, should it fail, the government was going to make another attempt to settle the Irish question. We can well believe that by this time such an effort would be warmly welcomed by all parties. Mr. Bonar Law does not, however, enter on the noble enterprise with that full assurance of faith which is more than half the battle. He opened the question by declaring that all parties were agreed that it was impossible to impose a settlement on Ulster by force. All parties would certainly abhor such a resort. But it would seem an inept prelude to negotiations thus definitely to put the whip into the hand of one of the parties, especially while the other end of the country is smarting under the use of force which it looks on as having been applied to it in a way that it was not to its rival. A Unionist member warmly denied that the Ulster leaders had had negotiations with the Prussian Baron Kuhlmann, but the despatch does not represent him as denying that the Ulster insurgents were being supplied with arms by Germany.

Two Pro-Germans

The method employed for the selection of chairmen of committees in the United States Congress is that of seniority. The Democratic member of the Senate who has been longest a member of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate is, ipso facto, its chairman, and were the Democrats to go out of power the Republican member of the Senate who had been longest a member of the Foreign Relations Committee would become its chairman. It is as the result of this method that Mr. Stone became chairman of the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations. Every vote that he has cast in that committee that had anything to do with the war, from the sinking of the "Lusitania" to his last act when he was one of the thirteen to oppose giving the President power to arm American ships, has indicated a pro-German tendency, and yet Mr. Stone continues to be the chairman of the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations, and even if war breaks out between the United States and Germany this pronounced pro-German will, unless extreme measures are taken against him, such as have never been taken but once during Grant's presidency, continue in his office, and the United States will find itself in a position very similar to that of Russia before the recent uprising, when the foreign affairs of the nation were in the hands of the pro-German Sturmer. It is not impossible that the United States may allow this condition to go on for months; but just as soon as she really begins to take the war seriously Mr. Stone will find himself the best hated man in the country, and be forced to seek seclusion. A like danger faces the country in the other house. Mr. Cooper, an out and out pro-German, is the ranking Republican member in the house committee of foreign affairs, and if, as is expected, the Republicans are able to control the organization of the house when it meets on April second, he will become the chairman of that committee. In this way the United States, at war with Germany, would have pro-Germans in control of the foreign affairs committees in both the Senate and House of Representatives, an almost unthinkable position. By what process the United States guns are found thus spiked is a matter of natural surmise. It requires a crisis of this sort to force a nation to free itself from a faulty custom.

COME OFF THAT FENCE.

—"Tribune," N.Y.

Canada to Pay

A while ago the Montreal "Star" was drawing favorable attention in telegraphic despatches from its special correspondent which it emphasized in two column measure to a scheme for the creation in Canada of an imperial farm to pay off the empire's war debt. The scheme was for a farm of two hundred million acres, about three hundred and ten thousand square miles, an area about half as large again as the whole German empire. A block of land as long as from the eastern boundary of Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains, and as broad as from the American boundary to Little Slave Lake, a farm which would be larger than all the cultivated land of Canada. At the time we credited this to just another piece of foolish journalism, but it is extraordinary to find the Montreal "Gazette" lending its columns to a despatch from its special correspondent in London supporting this scheme in an even wilder form. His proposal is for the imperial government to purchase two hundred million acres of land in Canada at five dollars an acre, and hold it till it will sell at one hundred dollars an acre, and thus pay off the British war debt of twenty thousand million dollars. We quite expect such madness of the "Star," but it is unusual to find the "Gazette" going so far astray. How such men as Sir Starr Jameson and other prominent men whose names figure on the Empire Resources Development Company can allow their names to be bruited about in this connection we find it impossible to understand.

Ross Rifles

At last we have come to definite and final action on the Ross rifle. Last week the government ordered the manufacture stopped, and then expropriated the factory, leaving the courts to decide the damages. The government is going to turn the factory into one for the manufacture of Lee-Enfields, instead of leaving the Ross company to go on for an indefinite time filling the large contract which it had obtained from the Dominion government, and to which, with commercial patriotism, it insisted on holding the government. Something had to be done, for it was a farce to have the Ross factory turning out Ross rifles for which neither the Canadian government nor any other government had any use. This change could and should have been made long ago. From the day when General Alderson gave his adverse report on the Ross rifle as a field weapon, months before the resignation of Sir Sam Hughes, the weapon was doomed. But while no more were given to the troops, and while the other rifle was greatly needed, they continued to be manufactured in great quantities at Quebec, the Ross people maintaining that they could not change to the British model. Now that the government has taken over the factory we may hope to see a vigorous effort made to install the implements for the manufacture of the new Lee-Enfield. Altogether the history of the Ross rifle has been a most unfortunate one. Sir James Ross, observing that it took two motions, as he thought, to close the breach of the Lee-Enfield rifle, a push forward and a push down, though in practice these motions are combined into one, set himself to design a rifle the breach of which could be closed by a straight forward push. He achieved his purpose, but in doing so made a rifle with a mechanism more complicated than that of the Lee-Enfield, so much so that it is not easy to understand how the military authorities in Canada ever allowed it to be adopted. Its adoption as the Canadian small arm was, however, favored by both parties, though it always had critics in each. It was not a political, but a military, blunder, and the country will be greatly relieved by the termination of the ineptitude.

A Judas

A few days ago the president of the Board of Trade of Montreal presided over a meeting of the Board, at which the businessmen of Montreal put themselves unanimously and enthusiastically on record as being in favor of conscription. In the days that followed the president, a French-Canadian, received letters denouncing him as an enemy, and one threatening his life if he did not withdraw from his position. This threat he did not take very seriously. About a week later, however, Dr. A. Plouffe, who was for some time a demonstrator at Laval and who has been writing against the anti-war stand taken by Mr. Bourassa, was attacked when walking up a street in the best residential part of Montreal shortly after eleven by a man who struck him with a dagger or knife, saying, "Will you stop writing, Judas." Fortunately Dr. Plouffe was carrying a book in the inside pocket of his coat which took most of the effect of the blow. The book was penetrated to a depth of seventy pages, but a part of the blow fell on the doctor, cutting him just over the heart and stunning him. The man who attacked probably supposed that he had killed him and left. The Nationalist campaign, which Mr. Bourassa has headed, has evidently taken on a phase of national danger in that it is stirring fanatics to acts of violence. There will come in the not very distant future a year when the French-Canadians will be educated enough to read the history of this war and the part played by the Nationalists in keeping their race out of it. When that day comes, they will know whether Mr. Bourassa or Dr. Plouffe was the Judas. To coming generations of his people the name of Bourassa will be anathema as it already is in France.

Real Education

Traditional studies in ancient languages and abstract studies in mathematics are among the things that this upsetting age is questioning. It would be a sad thing to think that the whole fairy land of the classics, and that other fairy land of the higher mathematics, should take their flight from the world. But after all, how few of those who are passed at school through Vergil and Euclid are ever caught up into those higher heavens. Would there be any fewer if the general procession of school children spent the precious years of preparation for life sharpening their wits and hardening their mental muscles on things that would not vanish from their horizon the day they entered on life's stern activities, but would stand them in all stead in their further pursuit of art and literature, in their daily reading of current history, and would directly contribute to their success in their daily pursuits? Those whose callings require these things would still acquire them. The few whose minds fit them to enjoy them should have every opportunity to pursue them. But the girl who has to learn her Euclid off by heart because she does not know what it is about—perhaps because her teacher does not know how to tell her—would get more value out of a course in Scott's novels. We use an extreme illustration in protest against the catalogues of kings and battles and dates called history which ignore the lessons of history altogether, except always the unhallowed glory of war. It is well that children's souls should be fired with the romance and chivalry of a romantic age, even if a good deal of it be only romance, but they should also learn how it was foetid corruption, not General Wolfe, that brought the era of the Bourbons to an end, and that will do the same for governments in Canada to-day, civic or parliamentary.

Unpractical

The revolt against what is unpractical and in itself useless is rumbling loud in England amid the din of a war which is making stupendous demands on fitness. There is a voluminous discussion going on in New York over the effete matter that clogs the incomparable schools of that state. The movement for modernization is organized and in cities all over the Union the high schools are discarding the idea that they are simply ante-rooms for the universities, and are seeking for the new pilgrims through life's intellectual paths, the path of least instead of the path of most resistance. Not one person in a hundred can remember how to take a cube root after having left school, and that one person is likely to go on at least so far in mathematics that he will never require to remember, for if he should forget the rule he will easily work it out from the binomial theorem, or will far more likely make his calculation in logarithms. A little geometry will do for most people. The carpenter or the house-mistress who wants really to know why, by measuring the wall six feet one way and eight feet the other, and finding the points to be ten feet apart, one proves the corner to be square, will find the forty-seventh proposition a doorway into an enchanting wonderland which ought to be open to him or her, but those in whom this part is lacking should not have to go much further. In algebra the reduction of surds by the solution of a quadratic is beyond the realm of interest for all but a few. When there is so much that the children might be learning which will be of the utmost use to them in after life, so much in literature and the laws of nature, so much that will give them undying pleasure in mythology, and classical romance, so much in constitutional history that will fit them to take their part in governing their cities and country, so much in manual work that will train their hand and eye, it is a pity that time and strength should be run to efforts that end no where.

On Narrow Lines

We do not like the word vocational with regard to education, or technical, which is synonymous, except in so far as the utilitarian sound of these words may pave the way for innovation in a practical direction. Their import is to assort the children from infancy, as in Germany, in the callings to which they are assigned, and to which they are to be trained with no broader reference. That is killing the man to make a tradesman. The training of the operative faculties is more necessary, not less, for those who may be called in life to headwork rather than handwork. It is necessary even to the healthy operation in directly intellectual tasks of the developing brain. What is wanted is such an education calling out the whole powers as will fit each pupil for the highest that is possible to him. But this training should be done along the lines of the common life of to-day, rather than those of the age when all books were written in Latin, and all knowledge was supposed to have been possessed by the ancients.

The Milk Bottle

The delivery of milk in glass bottles was an enormous advance in cleanliness over the old method of canting milk out of large cans on the street into quart measures, and carrying these measures to the house, to empty them into the receptacles left for hours, and in most cases over night, on the porch, or just inside the door, where it was impossible but that they should collect a certain amount of dust. The glass milk bottle scoured at the bottling plant by strong soap, rapidly revolving brushes, hot rinsing water, and a douche of steam, seemed about as clean a thing as it was possible to put milk into, and as satisfactory for its delivery. However, there are health officers who have got so particular about germs, making no difference between bad germs and good germs, that they find them in these bottles and want the glass bottle banned. Considering that the human digestive tract is at all times loaded with billions of germs, this last step in sanitation seems to be going too far. Bacteria, like the poor, we shall always have with us, but so long as our bodies are in good condition there are only a few of the multitude of kinds of these bacteria that can do us any harm. The substitute that is proposed for the glass bottle is a bottle made of hard thin cardboard with a paraffin coating on the inside. A machine has been built which will turn out such bottles at the rate of five thousand an hour. These bottles are to be used once, and then thrown away. They will constitute another drain on our timber resources. Outside of health, the paper bottle will, however, have certain advantages that recommend its use. It is light and will save perhaps as much as one-third of the weight that has at present to be carried around in milk delivery. It has not got to be recollected, so saving some time and, after being emptied of its content, may be put to use as fuel. Unfortunately if not burnt—and it is not everyone can burn it, it would never do more harm than good from a germ point of view. If, as is asserted, the new paper bottle can supply the requirements of the milk distributor more cheaply than can the glass bottle, that is a defensible reason for its use that does not need to be bolstered up by argument against the almost negligible germ carrying possibilities of the glass bottles.

Food Values

War and short rations have, in the countries of Europe, and within the last few weeks in the city of New York, necessitated the consideration of scientific feeding. How much food does a well man need was the question asked of the scientists, and the reply was forty calories per kilogram of his weight per day, which is equal to about eighteen calories per pound. A man weighing a hundred pounds would require food enough to generate eighteen hundred calories of heat, or an average man of a hundred and forty pounds would want about two thousand five hundred calories per day. As Canada has not been affected by this food scarcity to anything like the extent of the places mentioned, or perhaps, we should say, has not taken her food ration so seriously on account of the wealth that is being expended, it is necessary to explain what a calory is, though the word has become one of the most common in newspaper use in Europe and New York. A calory is the amount of heat necessary to raise the temperature of one gram of water one degree centigrade, or to take it in English units, it takes two hundred and fifty calories to raise one pound of water one degree fahrenheit. The amount of food that the average man must consume, therefore, to keep going, is as much food as would be necessary, if thoroughly burned by the chemical process of the digestive tract, to raise ten pounds of water one degree on the scale of our ordinary thermometers. To know how most cheaply to produce this heat we must know the heat producing qualities of the different foods which are digestible enough to be made full use of. It takes about two and a half pounds of beef to provide the two thousand five hundred calories needed to keep a man going for a day. It takes about two pounds of pork, or about one and two-thirds pounds mutton chops, one and a quarter pounds of cheese, or one pound of shelled peanuts, three-quarters of a pound of butter, to supply the necessary heat, while three-fifths of a pound of lard, the food which gives more heat than any other, would do the work.

It is evident from this list that it is absurd to consider only the heat-producing qualities of the foods. For while little over a half a pound of lard a day will be enough to produce the necessary heat to keep a man going, he could not live on that, or on any other article alone. To secure anything like the proper ration it is necessary to take into account the assimilative powers of the individual, and the need for varied body-building material. In modern medical practice a well-balanced food ration for a man consists of one hundred grams of protein, one hundred grams of fat, and three hundred grams of carbo-hydrates; or in English units, three and a half ounces of protein, three and a half ounces of fat, and seven ounces of carbo-hydrates. If the ration is deficient in fats, as it is throughout Germany, the body is able to convert the carbo-hydrates into fat, so that a person with a good constitution may live and work for a long time on a ration of three and a half ounces of protein, and ten and a half ounces of carbo-hydrates, but his body will more and more crave the fats which this ration lacks. It is pathetic to be told of the frantic delight with which the little children and the aged in the emancipated villages in France greet the butter on the sandwiches that are distributed by the liberators as evidence that there is butter in France. These are a few of the fundamental principles of dietetics which have been incorporated into the knowledge of the common people throughout Europe by the food shortage. Fortunately we have not yet had to apply them in Canada to the extent other peoples have. But it would be of great advantage to us to pay a little more attention to food constituents than we have done. The nations that have had to learn their dietetics in the school of experience will not forget their lesson immediately after the war, but will have learnt a mode of economy of which we know nothing, the comparative values of food and how to provide for a family to the best advantage.

Alcohol and Efficiency

A test has been made in the Bavarian army of the effects of a moderate dram upon shooting, with the result that it gave ten percent worse results than where no alcohol was used. So it seems that our British army whose grog ration is angrily defended by officers, who take a drink themselves, and persistently condoned by the English press generally as a necessary comfort for men in the cold and distress of the trenches, reduces the effective value of the force by one man in ten. As to the comfort it gives, it is no doubt pleasant, but is illusory. It has been found that nothing lowers vitality for arctic exploration like alcoholic stimulus, and those who never touch drink will certainly come better out of the trenches. Then it more than equally reduces the power of right decision. Now that the misfortunes of the British force on the Tigris are long past, and the management of the expedition is in new hands, there is no harm and much good in quoting again the words of Sir Victor Horsley written privately to a friend in Canada, which, if that eminent surgeon had lived, would probably not have been published. Sir Victor distinctly suggests that one of the causes of the misadventures there was the misjudgments caused by moderate use of drink. He said that the most distressing feature to him of the campaign was that the directors of military operations were practically all whiskey drinkers, and therefore wanted the soldiers to drink too, to the multiplication of diseases. "Our gross failures and stupidity are, in my opinion, due to the whiskey affecting the intellectual organs and clearness of our leaders." "One would supose that no military medical history had ever been published."

Farmers Who don't Read

"I was amazed to find among our farmers some who subscribed to the newspapers." This sentence is from one of the replies to a circular sent out by the County Assembly of Moscow to find out what the peasants and villagers think of the suppression of alcoholic drinks in Russia after two years' experience. Russia has advanced wonderfully since liquor was prohibited. Monday has ceased to be a day when the farmers would be found in the gutters of the nearest villages and the whole community half sodden with drink. The output of work per man has been increased by fifteen percent, and much of the family fighting has stopped. But all these things it seems are not so startling as that some of the farmers have actually subscribed to newspapers. That this should amaze a Russian villager living among them gives some idea of the depth of ignorance in which the masses of Russia are plunged. How, under such circumstances, is it possible to run anything like a constitutional government based on democratic principles? Ignorance is now Russia's greatest enemy, and yet by a restricted, and in some cases secondary system of elections, Russia has for years back been able to elect a Duma of capable men very representative of the better thought of the people. Education cannot be given to the people in one year or two, yet until they get it they lack the main substitute for oblivion in drink, the pleasure of reading. To a new education the new government will have to set itself with a will, if it is to survive. The Russian people are frightfully handicapped by a very hard language, one of the most difficult there is, so that education will come more slowly there even with a good school system, than in the countries of Western Europe. A new language cannot be imposed on the whole country in the way a temperance law was imposed on it, and Russia is likely to take generations to struggle into a position of general and scientific knowledge anywhere approaching the results obtained in Western Europe. The newspaper, however, is a great educator, and if a few of the farmers have taken to reading the newspaper the spread of some sort of political knowledge of their surroundings will be rapid.

Beneficial Changes

One thing that we have to be thankful for is that in France and England we have not adamantine governments, but governments that in the heat of emotions caused by great conflicts can become plastic and be remolded to suit the occasion. Since the beginning of the war, the French government has changed four times. The people are able to change it to suit their new moods, and new ideals, and that they are able so to change it without trouble is the best proof that it remains representative of the people and close to their heart. Each new government put in by French popular opinion since the beginning of the war has contributed its bit to the success of the whole campaign, and we have no reason to fear but that the new government of M. Ribot will do the same. Only where a government remains unaltered through considerable periods and irresponsive of public opinion is there liable to be danger ahead such as that which developed in Russia, and is now developing in Germany.

WHAT THE TRAINED BEAR DID.

—"World," N.Y.

Liquor Law Amendments

The recent provincial prohibitory convention in Toronto touched some of the weak spots in the much-valued prohibitory law of the province. A resolution was passed, for instance, that the Government be requested to remove the appointment of license inspectors entirely beyond the influence of party patronage by placing the nomination of inspectors in the hands of the license commissioners who should have power at their discretion to dismiss incompetent men. Ontario, on the whole, has been fortunate in her license inspectors, but there have been cases of inspectors who have been altogether derelict in their duties. Party politics is usually at the root of this as of so many other troubles. It was also recommended that the Ontario Temperance Act be amended so as to prevent the delivery of liquor from distilleries, breweries, warehouses or agencies in Ontario to other premises in the province of Ontario, except to those where liquor may be lawfully sold within the province. Sir William Hearst's Government, which has given Ontario such a fine prohibition measure, will hardly refuse this, unless it doubts its power on the premises. The fact that liquor owned by a poison-vending firm, say in Montreal, can be openly kept on sale in Prohibition Ontario, and openly delivered at the residence of a purchaser, is surely driving the brewer's dray through a very excellent act. All parties agree that Prohibition is desirable. Everyone is pleased at the success which has been achieved by the existing Act. Everyone, presumably, wishes that its provisions shall be effective; so that we may look for an amendment by the Government which will rid the law of a strange anomaly.

Further restriction and control of the sale by druggists of medicated wines and other preparations containing a large percentage of alcohol is also asked for. Some of these concoctions are simply tipples in disguise. There should be some way of getting at preparations in which alcohol is the dominant factor. Most druggists would be glad to support such restrictive legislation. They have no desire to succeed to the evil legacy left by the saloon. A very important resolution recommended that the Government be asked to introduce legislation prohibiting the advertisement of liquors in newspapers and billboards, and also the solicitation by mail or otherwise of orders for the same. This change is only logical. If liquor is not to be exhibited on the shelves of the licensed grocery or behind the saloon bar, it should not be allowed to tempt diseased appetites on billboards or in newspapers. A large number of the newspapers in Ontario have followed the fashion set by the "Witness" since its foundation in closing their columns to liquor advertisements. The others should be brought into line. The Dominion Government is urged to forbid the use of the mails for the promotion of the liquor business in prohibition territory. Another resolution heartily endorses the petition movement for Dominion-wide prohibition, which is the crown of all local and provincial effort. Canada, as a whole, wants the complete prohibition of liquor beverages. It is for the temperance people of the various provinces to convince the Government that the country really demands it. Much has been gained. Much needs to be gained however before victory is complete. A big push forward on all fronts should be the order of the day.

Are We Alive?

One of the great evils of the war, whether it needed so to be or not, has been the postponement of the union of those churches which have resolved to unite. It is no doubt considered decorous for people to be engaged for some time before they get married, possibly that they make needful arrangements as to their worldly belongings, possibly that they may become personally attuned to the new relationship. Or is it to give opportunity, on better acquaintance, to go back upon their troth? If ever there was a time in its history when the Church needed to get together it is now when all things else are at the highest strain, and when the utmost economy and tensity of effort are called for. For one thing the change might wake it up to national and world consciousness. A revolution burst on Russia a week ago—a spiritual movement, much more portentous for the whole world than any material battle could be. When was there a greater or more hopeful in history? When did a nation so need praying for? The fortunes, yes, the spiritual fortunes, of the great gentle spirited but much misguided nation hung in the balance, imperilled on the one hand by the Satanism of despotism, on the other by the devilry of fanaticism. Was Russia to escape the horrors of a French revolution and land in safe constitutionalism? Was the church that sat in darkness to see a great light? The Church universal is the organ for the bringing in of the Kingdom of Heaven. This great movement of the people, not perhaps in Russia only, was eminently the Church's affair. Yet in most churches no more notice was taken

— "Tribune," N. Y.

of the event than if it had been a revolution in Mars, reported by Mr. Wells. Is this preparedness?

Work Not Done

The electric flash of church union might also vitalize the inquiry which is being somewhat contentiously discussed, whether Christianity has failed, or better, why the Church has failed to make the world Christian. This last is admitted and deplored. Yet groups of good people go on singing heaven-aspiring hymns and hearing instructions that have no direct bearing on the Church's aforesaid task, while the educated take to their magazine and the uneducated are left to the Salvation Army, or neglect. Would it not be worth while for these groups, called congregations, to address themselves, either severally or jointly but desperately, to the question how to do for the people; not how to get them for the Church, though it would be a great thing gained if the congregations really wanted some of them; but what the Church, taking no thought for itself, can do for men and women generally. In the present divided state of things the congregation as such is crippled in outworking activity by the fear of trespassing on ground that is not its own, while the outsider sees Christianity as one sees a face in a much broken mirror. Is it not shocking that in a life and death struggle the churches should be pulling different ways and spilling most of the harvest that they should be united in gathering in? True, they have different methods and different gifts, but it was long ago said that "in all these worketh one and the same spirit"; and there is no reason in the world why all those methods and many more should not be employed by those whose call it is to use them. The fact is the churches are, if anything, too much alike. It is all very well to carry on stately worship in impressive temples; but, rather than not reach the indifferent and the erring, the Church should be willing, if need were, to forsake its splendor. At all events it should provide group gatherings and simple warm-hearted fellowship for those who need "sincere milk," as the early Methodists did. And it should see to it that the unfortunate of all sorts are cared for, and that every legitimate human need is supplied, which was the first authorized test of the true gospel. There are some who denounce social service as non-religious and there are some who enter upon it non-religiously. Both are wrong. It is for the Church to put the true spirit into all such work. But how can it well do so when those doing it belong to many churches or none?

Union Forthwith

We have been assuming that it is the fixed purpose of certain great churches to unite and so far take away that reproach of Christendom:—See these Christians how they do not love one another. There is in one of those churches a robust minority still resolved that they shall not unite. It consists of the most respectable members of the most respectable city congregations who look askance at such fellowship. It has always been hard for the respectable to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. But those who are in the presence of the holy war, whether in the new parts of the country or in the alleys of the cities, are equally determined that the union shall be accomplished. Those who oppose call it a disbanding of the church and accuse the unionist majority of schism, that is, of causing a rift in the church, but the west is so set on the cancelling the dissipation of spiritual force in useless rivalry and overlapping, that there is small hope of avoiding a division one way or the other. In the fighting fronts the union is a determinate fact, and the only regret there is that its accomplishment should be years away. For many of them it need not be. There are places where the congregations should immediately pull together. Thus the union movement would follow the course of nature's processes. Winter comes in instalments and departs gradually. You gather berries as they ripen. So it is in really spiritual movements; the less formal the better. "They that were ready went in." A joint committee has made all the arrangements by which this can be done with the full approval and encouragement of all the uniting churches. Such uniting bodies are free to adopt in the meantime the usages, so far as they differ, of the denomination with which they can best co-operate or to unite according to the manner prescribed in the Basis of Union. They may call a minister from any of the three uniting bodies. Such, though recognized for the time being as union churches, are advised to fall in with whichever of the three the majority may prefer. Every union of this kind will strengthen the attraction of cohesion by which in nature kindred matter becomes one body.

DEAR OLD SCHOOLDAYS.

Schooldays, child ways of long ago,
In centric rings my memory springs.
Into my mind, with pulsing thought;
To every day a dear thrill clings.
Something more from the past is brought,
Something only childhood can know.

The old, red schoolhouse by the road,
The bubbling brooks, the secret nooks,
Make vivid background for the thought.
The happy days, the slates, the books,
With mingled bitter-sweet are fraught;
By childish hands life's seeds were sowed.

I step across the worn sill;
The high old hall, whose plastered wall
Shows many marks of scuffling play,
Of flying mud, or rubber ball—
At noon the teacher was away
Or stormy weather kept it fill.

Inside, memory shifts its slides,
The sweeper's broom, around the room,
The hieroglyphics on the wall,
The battered desks, the quiet gloom,—
Enhance the power of the thrall
That through the heart blood throbbing glides.

The teacher's desk, my thought engraves
A sweet girl face, with dainty lace
At throat, to childish eyes, most sweet.
A memory time can't efface;
The warping floor,—trod by light feet
Now far, or in the silent graves.

Gladsome memories backward roll.
Oft' fraught again with poignant pain.
Dear golden thoughts whose beauty lies
Untarnished 'mid life's garnered grain.
Each thought recalls the dear old ties—
The sweetest essence of the soul.

NORMAN CAMPBELL.

Toronto.

CANADA'S WAR LOAN TOTALS $250,000,000

Much Over-Subscribed Even Without Chartered Banks' Application For Sixty Millions

Canada's third domestic war loan was considerably oversubscribed, even without the applications of the chartered banks of the country for sixty million dollars of the bonds, or the subscriptions of persons seeking to convert ten-year securities floated in 1911, or 5 percent debenture stock maturing in 1919, into the new twenty-year issue.

It is predicted that the subscriptions for the new loan may be found to have reached $250,000,000, including those of the banks, and excluding those to be paid by conversion of the earlier war issues.

An official statement issued on Sunday says: "While the subscription lists of Canada's third war loan closed on Friday the 23rd of March, several days must yet elapse before the mails from distant points carrying thousands of subscriptions, are received. Sufficient applications, however, have come to hand to warrant the Minister of Finance in stating that the loan is an unqualified success. When all the subscriptions have been received it will be found that the loan has been considerably oversubscribed, without taking into account the subscriptions of the chartered banks, or conversions into this loan of bonds or stocks of any other issue. Indeed, the Minister would not be surprised if the total subscriptions, including conversions, would aggregate $250,000,000."

All three domestic loans floated in Canada have thus been oversubscribed. In 1911, when fifty millions were required, applications for one hundred were received. In 1916, when $100,000,000 of bonds were offered, subscriptions for more than double that amount were received. It is said that in the present case only the original authorized total of $150,000,000 will be issued, that the subscriptions of the banks will probably not be accepted, and that the funds in their hands will thus be left available for carrying on the ordinary business of the country.

SHIPPING CONTROL WILL BE EXTENDED

Government To Requisition More Liner Tonnage

It is understood in shipping circles that the British Government has extended its control of shipping and has now requisitioned at fixed rates all liner tonnage engaged in the Australian, South American and South African trades.

This extension of the control plan apparently is intended to deal systematically and to best advantage with virtually the entire British tonnage, and bring it under the management of the shipping controller.

UNNECESSARY PANIC.

Speaking in the House of Commons in behalf of the food controller last week, Charles Bathurst, member of Parliament for the Wilton division of Wiltshire, said: "While the food situation and the outlook for the future are not wholly satisfactory, the poorer classes in this country are suffering less than those of any other belligerent. The greatest danger at the present is in arousing unnecessary panic."

"Admitting a shortage of potatoes, the speaker urged all patriots to use a substitute for this food article during the next two or three months.

"Everyone, while practising the greatest possible economy," he added, "should at the same time maintain a spirit of patience which will carry the nation through what are bound to be the critical months ahead."

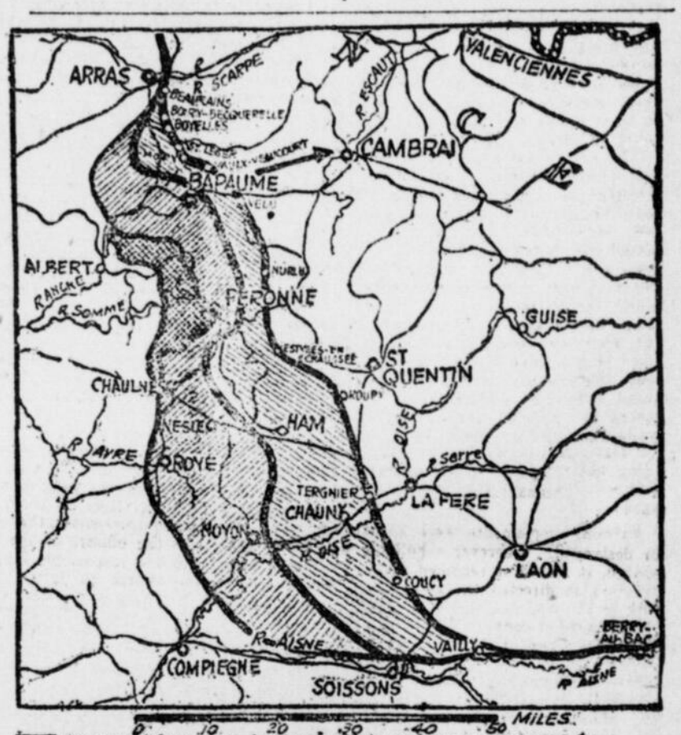
PROBABILITIES OF A REVOLT IN GERMANY

Considered Sure if Russia Becomes a Republic.

A despatch from Holland to the London "Daily Express" says: The stories circulated with such persistence that revolutionary outbreaks had occurred in various parts of Germany are untrue. This is proved by statements made to me by two Dutchmen who arrived here last week from Berlin. At the same time travellers report that the Russian revolution has brought about a tremendous change, especially in the southern states, in opinion of Prussia and Prussian militarism.

The Kaiser's theatrical message of thanks to Hindenburg is only one of many imperial manoeuvres to keep up the public confidence in the army's victories which has been shaken by the great retreat. The Kaiser's congratulations to the King and Crown Prince of Bavaria are destined to quiet the anti-Prussian feeling of the Bavarian people and the fact that the Kaiser had taken a personal hand in administrating chloro form to his people shows he is fully alive to the gravity of the situation not only for Germany, but for the Hohenzollern house. In order to prevent the establishment of a Russian republic if possible all German agents in neutral countries, especially Scandinavia, have been ordered to do their utmost to discredit members of the Russian government who are believed to be republican.

German papers with suspicious unanimity are starting a campaign against Korensky, the Russian minister of justice, and his supporters. Many people in Germany believe that if Russia becomes a repuolic, a revolution in Germany will almost certainly be the result. This opinion is shared by Maximilian Harden, who, in the "Zukunft," warns his readers not to believe that the Russian revolution will only have an effect in Russia. The revolution, he says, is not necessarily directed against imperial institutions, nor would a German republic be the aim of a revolution in Germany. It would simply be directed against Prussia and the Prussian military clique who are leading the German Empire to misery and starvation and disaster. If a revolution were to come it would certainly start in the southern states, especially in Saxony and Wurttemberg, where anti-Prussianism runs high.



This map shows the gains which the French and British have made in their two big forward marches since the battle of the Somme forced the Germans to make an extended retreat. News which has come in since the map was made shows that the British have pressed further forward and have captured the railway junction, which is shown just above the letter "u" in the word Nurlu, so that the line should run from Velu to this point, rejoining the heavy black line against Roupy. Also the French have gained ground in the direction of La Fere, so that the heavy black line should be moved eastward about half the distance from its present position to La Fere. The point at which the Canadians are stationed is just at the top of the map north of Arras. The capture of practically the whole of the railway through Bapaume to Saint Quentin will be of considerable assistance to the British and French, as, no matter how much the Germans have smashed it up, it is always easier to replace an old road than to build a new one.

PRODUCTION CLUB.

Launched at Meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade.

The "war production club," an organization designed to help to relieve the serious lack of help on Ontario farms, was launched at a meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade last week, which was addressed by Premier Hearst, Mr. G. S. Henry, M.P.P., and members of the board. The plan, as outlined by Mr. J. W. Woods, was to the effect that employers will be asked to aid the movement by extending the vacations of their employees from two weeks to three, on the understanding that they spend the time on some farm and accept the soldier's pay of $1.10 a day.

Sir Wm. Hearst stated that the government was prepared to co-operate with every organization in the province in carrying out the scheme. The facilities of the bureaus for the distribution of farm help would be placed at the disposal of the employers.

Mr. E. H. Gurney stated that the Manufacturers' Association and the Toronto Rotary Club had jointly adopted the scheme.

Several of the speakers stated that if help was not forthcoming many Ontario farms would go uncropped this year.

PREVENT STRIKE.

British Minister of Labor Will Ask the Government Not to Grant Taxi Licenses to Women.

Through the efforts of John Hodge, British Minister of Labor, the threatened strike of the drivers of 'buses, trams and taxis in London has been averted.

At a meeting of licensed vehicle workers it was announced that Mr. Hodge would ask the Home Secretary to cancel the order licensing women drivers, and it was consequently decided to abandon the men's meetings which had been arranged. The order that all these vehicles should cease to run was also cancelled.

Consider this, your goodness is of no use if you are not good to others. The good of goodness is that you can wrap others inside it. It ought to be like a big cloak that you have on a cold night, while the shivering person next to you has none. If you don't make use of your goodness, what is the good of it?—Mrs. Clifford.

MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS

NEWS OF THE WEEK

March 27th 1917

ALLIES OCCUPY FIFTY MORE VILLAGES IN THEIR RAPID ADVANCE

Progress Was Particularly Quick South and Southeast of Peronne—Ten Miles From Somme—Obstinate Fight at Savriennois Resulted in Victory for French, With Very Heavy German Losses

London, March 20.—Despite bad weather and almost insuperable conditions of terrain effected by the devastation wrought by the Germans in their retreat, both the British and French armies in France have made further notable gains.

Fourteen additional villages have been entered by the British forces from Arras southward to Ham, and they have passed the general line of Canizy, Estree-en-Chaussee, Nurlu, Velu, and St. Leger. The forward march beyond Estree-en-Chaussee places the British troops within 12 miles of St. Quentin.

On their part of the line, however, the French have thrown their cavalry to within four and a half miles of St. Quentin and also have reoccupied considerable territory between the Somme and the Aisne. The losses of the French troops in their pursuit of the Germans have been quite insignificant, while the enemy suffered heavy losses.

BEYOND CAMBRAI LINE.

British Headquarters in France, March 20, via London.—The pursuit of the Germans by the British troops continues, and at places sharp fighting ensued to-day. This was particularly true of the neighborhood of Croisilles (northeast of St. Leger), which is still strongly held by machine gun companies. The armies have been in such close touch at other places that field fighting tactics have been employed, the men firing from skirmish lines.

Wherever the British troops penetrated territory held by the Germans they encounter the same conditions of destruction and devastation as in Bapaume and Peronne. Only a few villages have escaped, the Germans in these instances having been compelled to leave before their plans to lay waste could be carried out.

The use of cavalry by the British and French seems to have taken the Germans by surprise, upsetting some of their calculations. In one village supper, which had been laid out, was abandoned, together with much ammunition, and in other places newly opened boxes if high explosives were found with which the Germans had planned to destroy the villages before leaving. That the wholesale destruction was systematized in a manner characteristic of German thoroughness was shown by captured orders on the subject. These directed the blowing up of all houses, wells and cellars, except those occupied by rear-guard outposts, the rear-guard being held responsible for making their shelters uninhabitable before falling back.

Farming implements were all burned or destroyed. Wherever a building was spared, it was first rendered filthy. The orders also directed the assembling of filth in the neighborhood of all wells for the purpose of contaminating the water. The destruction of fruit trees now apparently covers the entire belt of evacuated territory, even those clinging to the walls having been stripped off. In one abandoned position a large black cat was found nailed to an upright board. A cap was on its head and a cigar was in its mouth.

BEYOND CAMBRAI LINE.

Prisoners recently taken appear entirely bewildered when told of the extent of the German retirement. They said they thought it a great joke when they first heard of the German retirement; they supposed it was solely for the purpose of getting the British deeper and deeper into the mud of the Somme. But when it came to abandoning positions that had been fortified with months and years of labor, there was much depression in the ranks. Most of the German guns which formerly boomed along the Somme seem to have been utterly swallowed up.

There is no longer doubt that the main German forces had already installed themselves on a line before Cambrai and St. Quentin, but to-day fires could be seen beyond this line, as if the retreat had not yet been carried out to the full limit. In the meantime, the picture behind the British lines is one of greatest activity. The movement has given the army wonderful joy.

FIFTY MORE VILLAGES.

London, March 21.—Over fifty more villages have been reoccupied by the British and French forces following up the retreating Germans in northern France. South and southeast of Peronne the British are advancing particularly rapidly, having reached places ten miles east of the River Somme. The enemy resistance is developing strongly between Nurlu and Arras. The French are making gains on both sides of the Laon road, and have taken ten of the fifty villages. They were victors in a stiff fight for the possession of Savriennois Castle and the village of Jussy, very heavy losses being inflicted on the enemy.

GREAT GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

The Hague, March 21.—From confidential German sources comes a report to the effect that a great German offensive is due to begin April 5th.

Huge preparations are being made behind the front. Ammunition and stores of all kinds for an offensive are stored on rails behind the front, all ready to be rushed to any required point.

AN IMPRESSIVE ENTRY.

Paris, March 21.—General Nivelle's entry into Noyon was impressive. As the General and his aides alighted from an automobile the notes of the Marseillaise were heard. The emotion of the people was great. Sobs were heard throughout the crowd, and the tanned faces of the soldiers were wet with tears.

The mayor of the town, surrounded by a number of old men, advanced toward General Nivelle. A child with her hair done up with tri-colored ribbons offered a bouquet to the General, who took the child in his arms and kissed her. Gen. Nivelle then visited the hospital, and amid applause pinned a War Cross on the habit of Sister Romuald who, during the thirty months in which the town was occupied by the Germans, showed great devotion to the inhabitants.

Because of the precipitate disaster of the Germans, Noyon suffered less than Roye. Nevertheless a number of houses were destroyed, notably the cathedral. The Germans blew up the railway station on the eve of their departure. The historic fountain is intact.

Besides the fifty young girls who are reported officially to have been taken off, the Germans are said also to have carried away as hostages twelve young men, several priests, doctors, druggists, and some notabilities.

INDEFENSIBLE CONDUCT.

London, March 21.—The correspondent of the "Times" with the French army, after a visit to Chauny, relates the destruction by Germans for excusable military reasons, and continues: "But for the rest of their conduct there is no possible defence. In village after village, especially in Chauny itself, they burned whole rows of houses for no reason whatever, but pure spite and lust of destruction. In house after house they pillaged every room. They not only set fire to them, but have taken all the contents away, or more vilely still, smashed them to atoms.

"I have written of these things before when I myself have seen them on other sections of the line. I write about them again, because I cannot too strongly impress on the rest of the world that the power for this particular form of evildoing must be taken away from this uncivilized race. Even now, even in England and France itself, people who do not see with their own eyes what I have constantly seen, do not realize what is being done. Here are facts that may bring it home to them. It is the latest invention of this generation of housebreakers of the newest refinement in doing mischief. In fields between Noyon and Chauny, many of which (sure sign that the German retreat has not been foreseen until comparatively lately) had been carefully ploughed and even sown, there was a considerable number of fruit trees. Everyone of them within a certain distance of the road, for the thing had obviously been done in a hurry when they found they were bound to retreat, has been killed. They are either sawn through a couple of feet from the ground and left lying where they fell, or gashes three or four inches deep hacked in a complete circle round the trunk. These gashes are quite fresh. This massacre of trees must have been carried out by at least three or four companies acting under orders of officers just before the retreat began, when the troops wer in such a hurry that they even left behind stores of old metal which they had carefully collected. I want to insist on this point: that it is clear that it is the officers of the German army who are responsible for this particular crime of tree mutilation.

"Here are two more facts about a particular class who at the present moment have control of the German race in their hands. Both of them were told to me to-day by a distinguished French officer, whose truthfulness and honor is beyond question. When the Germans left Noyon on Sunday they took with them fifty young French girls, who, they said, were to acts as officers' servants. When he was on the part of the Somme front now taken over by the British, he saw with his own eyes photographs of German officers sitting at dinner and being waited upon at table by naked women."

FIND ONLY DEVASTATION.

War Correspondents' Headquarters, Tuesday night—The retiring German armies do not as yet show any inclination to attempt to check the British advance. Our patrols continued their progress to-day through the country east of Bapaume and the Somme without encountering greater opposition than stray long-range sniping by a distant rifleman, who seemed anxious to expend his last cartridge. We keep feeling for the German front, for it has side-slipped so far that up to this afternoon none of our energetic troops engaged in scouring the country behind the old front line have managed to secure a contact. By ten o'clock this morning the British infantry rested within two miles of the fortress of Ham, where their allies were already in occupation. Their outposts had gone eastward of Croix, Moligneux, Donilly and Autigny, and their progress further north was equally extensive. Everywhere they found the path of the Hun strewn with wanton wreckage, and civilians newly released from bondage told some pitiful stories of the farewell acts of vandalism perpetrated by the officers and men of the elite regiments of the German army during the last hours of their occupation. A number of German doctors, who had lodged for months in one of the largest and finest mansions in Roye, summoned the aged mistress of the house on Friday morning, when it was no longer possible to conceal from the inhabitants that they would evacuate the town that day, and said:

"We are going to give Roye back to the French. We hope they will like it."

FIRED ON FURNITURE.

They then went through the house firing revolvers at the mirrors and smashing the furniture in the drawing rooms. Similar scenes were enacted in many other houses where the officers ransacked family papers and looted the portable articles of value, including clocks and pictures. They chalked on fragments of the mirrors, and even on the sides of the buildings "We present Roye to the French people, and trust they will like it."

The prevalence of messages of this character and the nature of the pillage indicate that it is officially inspired and is not wholly the outburst of personal spite. The inhabitants of Roye, and indeed of all the evacuated towns, behaved with fine restraint and dignity in the face of these deliberate insults, and gave their enemies not a single chance of reprisals by being provoked to manifestations of resentment.

Official orders for the systematic destruction of property included the cutting down or mutilating of all fruit trees. I walked for some miles to-day through the country behind the German lines at Chaulnes, and everywhere the orchards had been levelled or the trees stripped, and the wells filled with rubbish from the latrines. More attention was paid to vandalism of this kind than to mere obstruction of the British troops, for I passed along many roads which were unbarred and broken, while the orchards on either side were hacked away. One characteristic German crime was discovered by the British patrol in the trenches behind Bapaume. The Prussians quartered there had crucified a cat to a board and stuck a child's cap on its head and a cigar in its mouth as a souvenir of their occupation.

GRAND DUKE PROTESTED TO CZAR

Was Banished for Pointing Out True State of Affairs to Emperor, Who Smiled

The Petrograd correspondent of the London "Times" cabled on Friday:—I was present last night at a meeting of marines and sailors at the Admiralty. Officers attended in large numbers. An aged professor of the Naval Academy was elected to the chair, and speeches were delivered by officers and men which breathed the spirit of enthusiasm and loyalty to the new government. The men explained that they had elected officers whom they knew and trusted, and thereby had saved by themselves the city from the worst excess of anarchy. They urged that the elections be not interfered with until the crisis is over. Neither officers nor men ventured to entertain the idea of adopting the principle of election of officers permanently.

As regards the supreme command, we may expect the resignation of the Grand Dukes who are unwilling to embarrass the government. Gen. Alexieff probably will become generalissimo. He had been, in fact, if not in name, the head of the armies at the front since the autumn of 1915.

Since yesterday there has been marked improvement in the situation in Petrograd.

Grand Duke Nicholas Michaelovitch, the well known president of the Russian Imperial Historical and Geographical Societies, who is first cousin of the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaivitch, was banished to his estates last December for telling the Czar the truth of the situation and for denouncing the Rasputin scandal. He relates that he was more moved than the Emperor who, during the conversations, politely lit matches for his kinsman. When the Grand Duke, fearing that he had gone too far, said, "Now, call your Cossacks and have me killed and buried in your garden," the Czar merely smiled and thanked him. A few days later the Emperor wrote him a note ordering and imploring him to retireto his country seat. Before retiring to the country the Grand Duke Nicholas Michaelovitch addressed to the Czar a letter, of which, by the courtesy of the Grand Duke, the "Russiko Slovo" is able to give the text. Extracts from this remarkable document follow:

SURROUNDED BY EVIL.

"You have frequently proclaimed that you will continue the war to a victorious end. Are you sure the present condition of the country permits this? Are you well enough acquainted with affairs within the Empire, particularly in Siberia, Turkestan and the Caucasus? Do you hear the whole truth or as much as you are concerned with? So long as your manner of choosing ministers was known only in narrow circles that thinks like you, you could muddle along, but when it became a matter of public knowledge with all classes in Russia who have talked of it, it is a senseless attempt to continue to govern Russia in this fashion. Often, you tell me, the country could put faith in no one, and you were being deceived. If this is so, then it applies particularly to your wife, who loves you, yet led you into error, being surrounded by evil-minded intimates. You believe in Alexander Feodorovna. This is natural, but the words she utters are the product of skilful machinations, not the truth.

"If you are powerless, then at all events be on your guard against the constant systematic influence of intriguers, who are using your wife as an instrument. If your persuasions are unavailing try other methods to rid yourself of them once and for all. I long hesitated to tell you the whole truth, but decided to do so after I had been convinced by your mother and sisters that it must be done. You are on the eve of new troubles, on the eve of attempts on your life. Believe me, if I thus press your emancipation from the shackles that bind you, I do so not from personal motives, but only in the hope of saving you and your throne and our dear country from dire and irreparable consequences."

The columns of the newspapers are filled with reminiscences of the Imperial family. Grand Duke Cyril describes the utter estrangement which latterly prevailed between the sovereign's kinsmen.

The Grand Duke Cyril's palace was the meeting place of numerous members of the Imperial family, public men and distinguished foreigners, who secretly discussed the coming peril, feared for the obstinacy of the Czar, and the postponing of reforms. Grand Duke Cyril's wife, the Grand Duchess Victoria, the divorced wife of the ex-Empress's brother, Grand Duke Reese, went to the young Empress and told her frankly of the danger.

Prince Lvoff, the Prime Minister, told Russian journalists yesterday that with the exception of a few excesses at the northern front, all the armies displayed a thoroughly loyal spirit, and were more than ever determined to strike a final blow at the Germans.

RABBI FINED IN TORONTO

The Crown Attorney Makes Strong Comment on Jewish Divorces

A fine of twenty dollars and costs or twenty days was the sentence imposed on Rabbi Maurice Kaplan by Magistrate Denison in the Toronto Police Court on a charge of having unlawfully married Edith Swartz to Frank Herskowitz, the woman's husband being still in the land of the living, and not divorced according to Canadian law.

That hundreds of Jewish people, anxious to destroy the bonds of holy matrimony, leave Toronto each year and go either to Buffalo or Montreal to obtain what is called a "ghet" or Jewish divorce, was the rather startling statement made by Crown Attorney Corley.

Rabbi Jacobs stated that their authorized rabbis were instructed never to marry people who had been granted nothing more substantial that the Jewish "ghet," or religious separation.

Sergt. McKinney stated that Mr. Kaplan had told him that he would marry anybody armed with a license and a "ghet."

DESTROYED FACTORY IS TO BE REBUILT.

Peterboro, Ont., has received the welcome news that the Quaker Oats Company has decided to restore the buildings of its large plant destroyed in the fire of Dec. 11. W. H. Denham, the local superintendent, received a telegram from Robert Stewart, of Chicago, president, stating the decision to rebuild at Peterboro. This is conditional on the city building over the River Otonabee, on the company's plant, an overhead bridge, and making a small grant of land to extend sidings.

2,300 MANITOBA CHILDREN IN TRUCK GARDENING.

Two thousand three hundred Manitoba boys and girls are entering a vegetable garden competition this year.

This is Frank But is it Fair?

Publishers of the "Witness,"
Montreal.

Dear Sir,—

I have been taking the "Witness" for a year and will renew my subscription if you will take a dollar as full payment. I certainly do not intend to pay more because I know a larger paper (the———) that accepts a dollar right along, which shows that you are overcharging, and that's what I won't stand for. So if you don't like the dollar send it back, and I'll send it where it will be appreciated. You'll never sell your paper for a dollar and a half to any one—anyway not to

Yours truly,

A. R.

The management showed the above letter to several members of the staff and proposed that each should write an answer.

Answer No. 1.—It is very hard to lose a subscriber. We cannot continue the "Witness" unless our readers are willing to pay a sustaining subscription rate for it. Every subscription lost is a knock down blow not only to us who are fighting the people's battles but to the causes which we fight for at no matter what cost of support. Fortunately this subscriber is not a representative reader of the "Witness" or it would not have lived through all these seventy years pulling hard against the stream and refusing unhallowed sources of income. It has always been our dearest purpose to put the paper out at the lowest possible price that it might do as much good as possible. But because from the first it refused all undesirable advertising and because we have at all times had the opposition of large classes of advertisers whose privileges we were opposing, it was easy for others to step into our field, and with much bigger incomes give more and more quantity for the subscription money which was with them a secondary consideration while it is life and death to us. The "Witness" has had no party favors or subsidies and has indeed suffered much at the hands of party cliques by ruinous competition of organs to be got into the field at any price. It has not treated its readers as a marketable commodity to be sold at each election to the highest bidder on the Judas principle of "What will ye give me if I deliver them unto you." The country's good and the good of its readers has been its sole aim and sole reward. But in this it can only exist as one of a partnership of those who are willing to sacrifice for their country's good. The above letter with its accusation of a hold-up recalls the question "Will ye also go away." Does the reader not see that the newspapers of a country are the ruling power, and that the world's danger lies in the exploiting of the newspaper press. The newspapers are able to deliver the unthinking in droves to whoever wants to use them—in Germany, to the Berlin government, in Canada to the privilege and place seekers. But there has always been a saving remnant of those who could do some thinking for themselves, and who sought only the public good and were willing to make sacrifice for it. These have always loved and stood by the "Witness." If people will be wise before it is too late they will consider and reconsider to which publication they will give their support as even more important, both for themselves and for the country, than which candidate they will vote for. The paper they can trust is worth a sustaining price and their active co-operation. If more people faced the matter thus, for every one who refused to pay a sustaining price, there would be a score who would be obtaining new subscribers at the reduced rate of sixty-five cents to the end of 1917. We hope A. R. will himself reconsider the matter and enlist among these. Meantime we have no choice, but surrowfully to send him back his dollar as being in itself inadequate to cover the cost of his paper. But if he secures two others at sixty-five cents each to the end of 1917 he may send that amount to cover his own subscription to the end of the year. In that way he will give less cash but more co-operation, which by increasing its circulation increase the influence of the "Witness," and incidentally its advertising revenues.

What answer would our readers have given?

Another answer will appear next week.

ROSS RIFLE FACTORY HAS BEEN CLOSED

But Government Will Take Over Works to Manufacture New Lee-Enfield

Following is the statement of Sir Charles Ross, giving reasons for closing of the Ross rifle factory:

"The management of the Ross Rifle Company regret to announce that they have closed down their factory for an indefinite period on account of the cancellation of all existing orders for rifles by the Imperial and Canadian governments.

"The Imperial cancellation reached us a few days ago, and is to take effect on the 31st instant. The cancellation by the Canadian authorities arrived on Thursday, and this without previous warning or representation of any kind.

"In view of this, we were with regret forced to close our doors, although we were capable and willing to continue operations."

That the government has passed the order-in-council providing for the expropriation of the Ross rifle factory at Quebec, with all its machinery, equipment and appurtenances, was announced by Sir George Foster, the Acting Prime Minister. The Ross Rifle Company, Sir George said, would have recourse to the Exchequer Court for the valuation of the property.

"The government will not manufacture any more Ross rifles," he continued, "but will make arrangements as quickly as possible for the manufacture of the improved Lee-Enfield and other subsidiary necessaries for the war. These preparations for the manufacture of the new Lee-Enfield will take a considerable time, as changes in machinery and dies of all kinds will be necessary. Such help as is requisite for this machinery will be retained, but for the present and until the factory is in a position to turn out a new rifle, the amount of help required will be small, as compared with the number of hands heretofore employed. The transition from the Ross rifle to the new Lee-Enfield would have caused the same delays and brought about the same diminution in employment had the expropriation not taken place, and the former contractors had undertaken to turn out the rifles in the numbers called for by the terms of the contract. It was inevitable that there should be a temporary diminution of employment. The employees, it is hoped, however, will be easily absorbed into other employment under present conditions of scarcity of labor."

CLAIMED TO BE TOM LONGBOAT

Indian Impersonator is Unmasked by an Ottawa Man at San Diego

The alleged Tom Longboat, who has been deceiving Southerners and summer resorters down in California, has finally been unmasked. A letter received last week from a well known Ottawa citizen, who is staying at Coronodo Beach, California, gives the true particulars in connection with the escapades of the fictitious athlete.

The unknown Indian arrived there about a month ago, it appears, and was given the freedom of the city, so to speaking, after declaring that he was the original Tom Longboat, Canadian winner, and that he was just back from France, where he had served fifteen months with the Princess Pats. He displayed a medal and a deep scar on his chest, and at once became a hero in San Diego. He was banqueted and dined on all sides, and he gave a lecture before a huge crowd on "Life in the Trenches." He also presented the colors to a new battalion being formed there.

Last week an Ottawa man who had met the real Tom Longboat saw the pseudo runner and informed San Diego people that they had been "spoofed." They put it up to the athletic idol and he coolly admitted that he was not Tom Longboat, and that he had never been to France. Immediately afterwards the unknown proceeded to use what Marathoning powers he had to place distance between himself and San Diego. He has not been seen since, either at San Diego or any other place, though officials and citizens of the town would very much like to meet him.

The real Tom Longboat is in England with his regiment.

SPAIN MAKES OFFER TO TRANSPORT FOOD

Turkey Quite Sincere in Trying to Get Safe Conduct For American Relief Vessels

The government of Spain has volunteered an offer to the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief to transport from Alexandria, Egypt, to Jaffa, Palestine, the food stuffs and other supplies which have been held up at Alexandria several months because the United States Government has been unable to arrange for the safe voyage of two of its naval vessels, now at that port, to the Syrian coast with these supplies. The supplies are on board the United States cruiser "Des Moines" and naval collier "Caesar," the former ship having a cargo of medicines which have been desperately needed.

The American vessels are unable to proceed because of the failure of the Turkish Government to obtain guarantees from the German and Austro-Hungarian Governments that the ships will not be torpedoed in the Mediterranean. The Constantinople authorities have been reported as being as anxious for the relief supplies to be delivered as the American committee, and to emphasize the sincerity of Turkey's desire and the absence in her government of any hostile feeling towards the United States, the Sultan himself recently had a personal interview with the American ambassador.

It is believed that the American committee for Armenian relief and Syrian relief will gladly accept the offer of the Spanish Government, and it is thought there will be no objection to the acceptance by the State Department.

BREAD RATIONS IN GERMANY TO BE DIMINISHED

No Fodder For Cattle and Accumulated Stock, Therefore are Being Killed and Meat Rations Increased

The bread rationing in Germany will be diminished one-fourth, beginning on April 15, owing to the scarcity of wheat, according to a despatch from Berlin in the "Weser Zeitung," of Bremen. The potato ration will be continued at five pounds weekly, and the meat ration will be increased by 250 grams weekly.

It is announced, adds the despatch, that the curtailment in the use of wheat is necessary to ensure the present stocks lasting until the next harvest.

The announcement of the bread ration reduction has caused surprise and consternation in Germany. The "Rhenische Westfaelische Zeitung," says:

"The reduction is a very painful surprise."

The Cologne "Volks Zeitung" reproduces a semi-official statement which contains the following: "It should not be concealed that this new restriction means a great sacrifice and can only be borne by a people who for the sake of the highest aims will bear even a heavy burden and who have a firm confidence that their patient endurance will be rewarded before long by a glorious peace."

The "Volks Zeitung" says editorially: "If the measure is absolutely necessary it must be accepted, but it must be stated that for many the limits of the bearable are thereby exceeded. The grounds advanced for the measure are not adequate. Even now it is only with great deprivations that the industrial populations of the towns manage with the bread rations."

NO FODDER FOR CATTLE.

The announcement of reductions in the bread ration in Germany and an increase in the meat ration, as received here is indicative of Germany's present food difficulties, to which the Prussian food commissioner, Dr. George Michael is referred in a recent speech in the Prussian Diet.

The grain stocks, which even with the supplies received from Rumania, were barely sufficient to carry through the population until the harvest at the old ration, had to be drawn upon to compensate for the potato crisis in the winter, when for weeks the supplies to the cities were interrupted owing to the intensely cold weather.

The "restoration" of the potato ration to five pounds is really a reduction, when it is considered that the original ration in the autumn was seven pounds. Then, for weeks, the actual ration of three pounds was unobtainable by a large part of the population, Hamburg, for instance, serving it out only at occasional intervals.

The meat ration, on the other hand, can be increased owing to the comparatively large stocks of cattle which have accumulated and which must be slaughtered owing to the shortage in fodder.

PRESIDENT WILSON GOES TO LIMIT IN STEPS OF PREPARATION FOR WAR

Directs Navy to Be Recruited Without Delay to Full War Strength of 87,000 Men—New Military Forces Must Be Mobilized in Atlantic Coast Region

President Wilson took steps on Sunday to place the nation on a war footing following consideration of the loss of American lives on vessels sunk by German submarines.

By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the President has exercised the full limit of his legal powers as commander-in-chief to prepare the navy for war.

For the army, the President directed that two new military departments be created in the Atlantic Coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army Congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders instead of four in the interests of speed and efficiency in mobilization.

The third step was to assume as a national duty the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities. For this purpose eleven full infantry regiments, two separate battalions, and one separate company of national guard were called back into the Federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplementing these troops, a regiment of Pennsylvania guards and two companies of Georgia Infantry, en route home from the border for muster out, were ordered retained in the federal service. The President's orders were made known in official statements issued by both departments. No explanation accompanied them except the statement that reorganization of the military departments effective May 1 was designed to facilitate decentralization of command.

BARBED WIRE CAUSE OF LENGTHY RESISTANCE

But for This War Would Have Been Over Long Ago

With the British armies in France, Thursday, March 22.—The real human interest in the great retreat of the Germans lies in the half-ruined villages formerly occupied by them. The joy of the people over what they proclaim to be their liberation is wonderful to see. A package of well buttered ham sandwiches, distributed among the children of one village caused greater excitement than the evacuation of the Germans.

"It is butter!" cried several shrill little voices at once, as the recipients scampered away to their houses to show their mothers, grandmothers and grandfathers what they had received.

Through the open doors could be heard such expressions as: "Praise God, there is butter again in France!"

There is an undeniable thrill attached to motoring over the old front line positions on these changeable spring days, when chilling snow squalls intermingle with flashes of warm brilliant sunshine. Within less than a week roads have spanned almost countless trench positions and extended themselves over what once was No Man's Land. Running along these roads in broad daylight, it is hard to realize that six days ago one dared not lift an eye over the parapet of the front fire trenches.

In penetrating the former German positions a lasting memory always is one of endless chains of rusted barbed wire. This has been a most valuable means of defence for the Germans, and from the amount which may be seen stretching away in every direction as far as the eye reaches, it would seem that all the German industrial plants had been turned to wire making.

WIRE LENGTHENED WAR.

"If it had not been for the barbed wire this war would have been over long ago," a British officer declared.

In leaving the territory recently evacuated the Germans have taken away, in addition to all strong men and boys above sixteen, all women and girls from fifteen years upwards who are able to work. A French official communication recently mentioned the taking of fifty women and girls from Noyon. On February 17 last the Germans removed 422 from Nesle. It is said that all women capable of working in German factories or on German farms, who have no children dependent on them, must go.

In taking away the fit population the Germans are replacing these persons by sending back hundreds of aged or infirm men and women from St. Quentin and other places behind their new lines, saying frankly that the burden of supporting the old and infirm is thus placed on the French people.

The problem of feeding the liberated people is being met promptly.

In most of the villages evacuated the Germans left behind enough supplies, chiefly brown bread, to last the inhabitants for five days. This seems to indicate that they did not expect to be followed quickly, but as a matter of fact British and French patrols entered many villages on the heels of the German rearguard.

The more the evacuated territory was explored the greater became the amazement at the amount of labor the Germans put in destruction. Hundreds of giant trees lining the roads had been felled after what must have been prodigious effort. Bonfires had been made of all sorts of farm implements. Some heavy French farm carts had been deliberately sawed in two and all the spokes had been sawed out of heavy wheels.

SKELETON DESECRATED.

One rather shocking bit of vandalism was seen to-day at the Chateau Gorgencourt, just outside Nesle. In the private chapel an ancient coffin containing the skeleton and effects of the well-known Deputy Fontaine had been opened and desecrated. Further, outside this same town it was striking to see one plot of land where everything was orderly and in marked contrast to the confusion and devastation elsewhere. It was a most elaborate German cemetery. Some graves were marked with marble slabs and the entire plot was surrounded by granite posts. At one end of the cemetery was erected a great marble statue of an angel of peace with wings outspread and with a German inscription beneath: "Here foes become friends." Bordering the graveyard was a fruit orchard where every tree had been cut down and the farm house shattered by dynamite.

G. T. P. STEAMER ASHORE

Runs on Conn Island and Reported as Being Badly Damaged

The Grand Trunk Pacific steamer "Prince Rupert," Captain Duncan McKenzie, which left Prince Rupert at midnight on Friday for Vancouver, is now ashore on Conn Island, east of Lawyer's Island Light, and is reported badly damaged.

The steamer ran ashore during a heavy snowstorm, and her distress signals place the time of the accident at 1.40 a.m. Assistance was sent from Prince Rupert and the passengers were taken off by tugs at daylight and returned to Prince Rupert.

The British Columbia Salvage Company has despatched the salvage steamer "Salvor" from Victoria to the scene of the wreck.

The G.T.P. steamer "Prince George," which isnow at Prince Rupert undergoing an overhauling, is being rushed out to take up the northern service.

PUBLICATIONS BARRED

Four Newspapers and Four Pamphlets Added to List.

Four newspapers and four pamphlets, all printed in the United States, have been added by the censors to the list of publications, circulation of which is prohibited in Canada. The newspapers are "America," printed in the Ruthenian languagein Philadelphia; "The Leader," published in San Francisco; "Westliche Post," published in German in St. Louis; "Der Amerikaner," printed in New York.

The pamphlets are "Germania Kalendar, 1917," published in Milwaukee; "Why Germany Will Win the War," by George Humphrey; "The War Plotters of Wall Street," published by the Fatherland Company, New York; "Chronika Svitovoi Wing," published at the Ruthenian Orphans Home, Philadelphia.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES.

Canadian casualties for the past week totalled over 500, or less than half the number listed in the previous week.

WAR-TIME PROHIBITION : AN APPEAL TO THE PATRIOTISM OF CANADIAN CITIZENS

The Dominion Prohibition Committee has sent out an appeal to all patriotic citizens for War-Time Prohibition. It reads, in part:—

This memorandum has been prepared for the purpose of explaining the proposal agreed to at the conference held in Ottawa on December 14th last, at which there were present representatives chosen by the active organizations of all the Provinces of the Dominion, that are seeking legislation to remedy the evils of intemperance. It is believed that such legislation is specially desirable and necessary because of the war emergency. The proposal will be presented to the Dominion Parliament when it reassembles in April, by petitions which are now being signed in every part of the Dominion, and which are in the following form:

It is earnestly desired that your Honorable Body will forthwith pass, as a war measure, an Act prohibiting

1. The manufacture in, and the importation into, the Dominion of Canada, of intoxicating liquors, for beverage purposes; and.

2. The sending or carrying of any such liquors into, and the delivering or receiving of any such liquors in any province or area in which the sale of such liquors for beverage purposes is prohibited.

Or in the alternative, if it is deemed desirable to have a vote of the electors on the question, that your Honorable Body will pass such an Act to come into operation within three months of the voting thereon, if it is approved by a majority of the electors voting, such voting to be at the earliest possible date and in any case before June 1st., 1917.

THE CALL OF THE KING.

This appeal is to the Dominion Government and Parliament. They have shown their high patriotism and their loyalty to the great principles and interests for which the Empire is making such unstinted sacrifices of the treasure which the toil of centuries has won, and of the flower of the manhood that has been the pride and joy of her hearths and homes. Mighty has been the response to the call of our King:

I rejoice in my Empire's efforts. I feel pride in the voluntary response from my subjects all over the world who have sacrificed home and fortune and life itself, in order that another may not inherit the free Empire which their ancestors and mine have built. I ask you to make good these sacrifices.

Now the needs of the war situation make another demand upon Canada's statesmanship and citizenship, and tens of thousands of citizens are hoping and praying that the demand will be met with wisdom and courage that will make the answer prompt and complete.

WASTE AND HARM.

The resources of the Dominion are being squandered to a serious extent, and the efficiency of our man-power is impaired, by the liquor traffic. That traffic is absorbing millions of dollars, millions of bushels of grain, the labor of thousands of men, and badly needed transportation facilities; to which immense loss must be added the weakening of mental and physical power and skill, and the misery, disaster and crime that the traffic entails. All this keeps our country from taking the full part she ought to take in the fierce struggle of which the British Premier said, "We are fighting Germany, Austria and Drink, and so far as I can see, the greatest of these deadly foes is Drink."

A GREAT ADVANCE

In practically every country in the world, the question of temperance is now receiving special attention, and in nearly all cases efforts to improve conditions are taking the form of legislation to restrain or suppress the traffic of intoxicating beverages. This legislation is not aimed at traffic in intoxicating liquors for industrial, medicinal and sacramental purposes, but only against the traffic for beverage purposes.

The Legislatures of eight out of nine Canadian Provinces have already passed Acts suppressing the sale of intoxicating beverages as far as it is believed a Province can constitutionally go: that is, to the extent of prohibiting transactions in liquor that begin and are completed within the limits of the Province; it cannot prohibit the sending in of liquor from outside places. These laws have already gone into force in six Provinces, and in every case there has been the most gratifying reduction in drinking, drunkenness and all the evils resulting from drinking. At the same time there still exist in all these Provinces sufficient drunkenness and other evils resulting from drinking, to call for further action, specially when war conditions make desirable the conserving of all our national resources and the attainment of the highest possible efficiency on the part of our citizens.

PROVINCIAL PROHIBITION A SUCCESS.

Attention is called to the following figures concerning two of these prohibition Provinces, as evidence of the great good that has been accomplished, and as evidence of the need there is for further and more thorough-going action:

Here is a table showing the arrests for the offence of drunkenness in the five largest cities of Ontario during the first full three months of prohibition, ending December 31st, 1916, as compared with the arrests for the corresponding three months of 1915 under license:

	1915	1916
Toronto	2,908	953
Ottawa	206	234
Hamilton	498	61
London	367	144
Brantford	152	16

The situation in Ottawa is, of course, readily understood, being caused by the operation of licenses in the City of Hull across the river, resulting in the arrests in Ottawa of not only residents but men who have come from other places and have to be taken charge of by the police after coming back drunk from Hull.

The following table of arrests for drunkenness in the principal cities of the Province of Alberta for the first six months of prohibition, compared with the corresponding six months of the preceding year under license, conveys the same lesson as do the Ontario figures:

City.	1915	1916
Edmonton	247	64
Calgary	476	47
Lethbridge	325	21
Medicine Hat	70	18
Wetaskiwin	35	4
Red Deer	6	1
Total	1,159	155

A REASONABLE REQUEST.

These facts show not only the good done, but the great evil that remains, and that would be vastly lessened, if not practically abolished, by legislation that prohibited the manufacture and importation of, and interprovincial traffic in, alcoholic beverages; which legislation the Dominion Parliament alone has power to enact, and which the Federal Government is now earnestly urged to initiate and promote.

As the petition shows, the request made by the Dominion Prohibition Committee, is for the immediate enactment of such legislation, to remain in force till after the war, and then to be subject to a vote of the electors;

Or in the alternative, the passing of such an Act, to come into operation only if ratified by the people at the polls, the voting on the question of ratification to be at the earliest possible date.

THE PRESENT LAW INSUFFICIENT.

At its 1916 session, the Dominion Parliament passed an Act making it unlawful for any person to send, ship, take, bring or carry into any Province any intoxicating liquor, knowing or intending that such liquor will be thereafter dealt with in violation of the law of that Province. It has been argued that the Dominion Parliament does not need to go any further, that this legislation would prevent the sending of liquor into a Province in which it was unlawful for any person to have or use liquor, because in such a case the sending of intoxicating beverages into the Province would be contrary to the Dominion law.

Of course, to make the sending unlawful, it would be necessary for the Provincial Legislature to pass an Act making it an offence for anyone to have in his private home, or to use under any circumstances, and intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes. It is further stated that a Provincial Legislature has authority to pass such a law.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the Provincial legislation thus suggested would be something entirely new, and would mean a complete alteration of the legislative method hitherto used in dealing with the evils of intemperance. All Canadian temperance legislation, so far, has been aimed at the traffic in liquor, without directly undertaking to dictate the personal conduct of private citizens.

THE BETTER WAY.

Legislation against the liquor-traffic has not only done immense good, but has had the support of many citizens who would not favor a law that punished private parties for having or using liquor. It has been thought wise to lessen drinking and drunkenness by making it difficult or impossible to procure liquor, instead of by imposing punishment upon a person who has or uses it. There is no doubt that there are very many citizens who will support Dominion and Provincial laws prohibiting liquor-selling, who would not favor laws imposing fines or imprisonment upon every person who had or kept a bottle of liquor in his home. It is also clear that the great good desired could be attained by wise Dominion legislation against the liquor-traffic, without the adoption of the other drastic method.

SLOW AND UNCERTAIN.

Let it be assumed, for the sake of argument, that the opinion stated concerning Provincial power is correct, and that the Dominion law already passed would prohibit the sending of liquor into a Province which enacted the new kind of legislation, which, it must be remembered, has not yet been tested, either judicially or practically, and which would involve an invasion of domestic life that legislators have hitherto endeavored to avoid. There still remains the facts that the result sought can be more readily attained by the Dominion legislation asked for, that this legislation may be more quickly secured, that it will certainly be less harsh in appearance, that different Provinces have practically approved of it in many votings, and that Parliament's power to pass it is not only unquestioned, but has been affirmed by Privy Council decisions.

Furthermore, to attain the object aimed at, under the legislation of last session, would require the passing of laws against the having and using of liquor in private homes, by the Legislatures of eight different Provinces, while the desired result could be attained by one Act passed by the Dominion Parliament, much less stringent in its form but equally effective.

During the last fiscal year, Canada destroyed 150,000,000 lbs. of foodstuffs in the making of intoxicating liquor, which drink in turn made Canadian manhood less efficient. Transportation facilities, badly needed because of war conditions, were clogged and hindered by carrying the grain to destruction and carrying the destructive product back to those who consumed it. For this hurtful product, the people of this country paid many millions of dollars. In the last ten years, Canada has spent for liquor far more money than she has yet contributed in every form for war purposes and for every form of patriotic service growing out of the war conditions.

EUGENE LAFONTAINE, Chairman.
MILES VOKES, Sub-Executive Chairman.
JOHN H. ROBERTS, Secretary.

PROHIBITION IN BRITAIN DURING THE WAR

Essential to Victory, Says Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P.

(From an English Paper.)

Alcoholic drink is not necessary to human life or to industrial efficiency. That more than a hundred millions of Russians for two and a half years have lived without it and thriven as never before has blown to pieces the theory of necessity.

It is not necessary for fighting or endurance. The biggest allied army has endured without it the most severe fighting against the heaviest odds and the most trying exposure in the climates of Russia and the Caucasus during three winters.

On the other hand, alcohol injures men not only in physique but in what is still more essential to industrial efficiency—character. Even the moderate drinker is not quite so much to be relied upon as the man who never touches it. Even a small quantity of intoxicating liquor injures the fineness of touch, the quickness of perception, the sureness of judgment necessary for the finest work and the biggest output.

These are not matters of opinion, but of fact, demonstrated beyond disproof by scientific tests and business management.

Another fact equally undeniable is that where it can be got, a minority of men, whether brain or handworkers, will drink to excess, not necessarily of intent, but because they cannot resist the craving.

These are the men who are the despair of contractors, who find themselves unable to meet the nation's needs by using their machines continuously to produce an output that would be easily possible but for the unreliables. Work done by gangs, as is commonly the case in shipyards, foundries, munition works, etc., sometimes cannot be done at all unless the gang is complete. One man absent or incompetent through drink may prevent a dozen or twenty from doing work that but for him would get done. That may and often does delay despatch of ships or guns whose early arrival at the front may save hundreds of lives, or even mean the difference between victory and defeat.

THE CONTROL BOARD

For such cases there is only one cure. Strong drink must be beyond their reach. The Control Board has done wonders, and earned eternal gratitude by making possible the development in output that has put the Western, and is gradually putting the Eastern armies on an equality with the enemy. The Board's restrictions have eased the position, but have not solved the problem. The latest and most favorable figures for their areas, which cover only two-thirds of our population, show a rate of nearly 70,000 convictions for drunkenness per annum. That the evil is still great is proved by the recent reply of the Clyde shipbuilders and marine engineers to the request of the Board of Trade for their suggestions as to how to accelerate production. "The first essential step is the immediate total prohibition of the sale of alcoholic liquor throughout the United Kingdom, applied to all classes and individuals alike, and until this is done further essential steps cannot advantageously be taken."

That view is shared by many trade unionists.

In other words, whilst strong drink is obtainable it will defeat, as it has defeated, every attempt to secure a maximum ouptput. Maximum output is essential to hasten victory or even to ensure it. To allow the continuance of a removable hindrance is to delay, perhaps prevent, victory, and is little short of treason to the State. It is said the country would not stand it. That was said when the Board of Control got to work. But their restrictions have been actually welcomed by the very people who, it was prophesied, would strike against them. The restrictions have been accepted with gratitude here, as prohibition was by the workers in Russia. For instance, "dock laborers have openly expressed their appreciation of the absence of the temptation to drink" (Control Board Second Report, May 1, 1916, p. 29). To say that any beyond a few would sacrifice their country before their drink is a wicked libel on their patriotism. If the government would act they would have behind them a public opinion far more favorable than they had or have now on conscription, and on many of their recent interferences with personal freedom.

The army is crying out for more men, and jeopardizing agriculture and the industry that pays for the war by taking men from them. At a stroke, without taking another man, prohibition would add tens, probably hundreds of thousands to the effectives of the army and of industry. For intoxicating drink not only cripples industrial output, but renders useless many otherwise fit soldiers, and by retarding recovery from sickness and from wounds keeps in hospital or out of the ranks men who, but for drink, would be fit for the trenches and the reserves. It would also divert into useful channels millions of tons of coal and foodstuffs now wasted in producing drink, thus easing prices and utilizing capital in productive instead of destructive enterprise, and helping instead of hindering the country's capacity to bear the awful burden of the war.

THE ONLY CURE

So long as a minority, even a small one, are unable to resist drink, these results can only be achieved by stopping, not by supplying it. The proposal for nationalizing the trade contemplates continuance of supply, under public management, during as well as after the war. However carefully any new system of sale is managed, however severe the restrictions imposed, the class I refer to will inevitably get their liquor and continue to be a source of trouble, a hindrance to output, and a weakness to the country. 'Don't get led away with the idea that the putting of the liquor trade into other hands will do you any good. Every man who is clicensed at present is put there by the magistrates, and I don't think you will get any better people to put in. If you were to put a Bishop into a cathedral and allowed him to sell drink there, that drink would produce the same results on those who took it."

That is Sir Thomas Whittaker's former view. It is not less true now than when he said it. He has changed his policy, but alcohol has not changed its nature. As the Clyde shipbuilders say, the only cure, the essential condition precedent to the success of other efforts, is total and absolute prohibition whilst the peril lasts, i.e., until the war is over and the men are demobilized. Then will be the time to consider the future of the trade, not now, when bitter controversy should be eschewed and all our people united in the effort to win. Nationalization divided the temperance forces. But all are united in the view that prohibition during the war is necessary, and a great and growing section of people agree withthem who never abstained and never till now had the smallest sympathy with "teetotal fanatics," but who see it is a case either of drink with stalemate or delay or of prohibition with early victory. They prefer the latter, and wonder why the government does not act.

Of course it is not to be expected that this patriotic and wealthy trade should consent to be treated like the thousands of little traders in needed commodities whom the war has ruined. I wish for no injustice to them. If the compensation awarded by the War Losses Committee is less than just, it would pay the nation to stop liquor sales and to pay the trade during prohibition a sum representing their net liquor profits. The "pubs" could remain open and continue to be the "poor man's club."

They could still sell food and non-intoxicants, and be centres of social intercourse. But if Nationalization is pressed it will mean a long controversy, a divided country, and no prohibition till long after the war is over—probably never. And it is full of dangers to which its advocates turn a blind eye, but which limits of space prevent by discussing here, though I have done so fully elsewhere.

PLEA FOR PROHIBITION.

What a cruel foe is lurking,
Watching for unwary feet,
To entrap the very brightest,
To their ruin so complete.

Oh, that Britain's sons of valor
Would but break this tyrant's chain,
Which is worse than German weapons;
Many millions it has slain.

Some have listed for the battle;
See them marching forward, strong,
Stalwart, brave, yes lion-hearted,
Ever with triumphant song.

How the people's hearts have sickened
As they read of Belgium's plight,
Of her children led to slavery,
Turning day to darkest night.

Yet within our very borders,
Crushing with relentless hand,
Is the greatest foe to freedom,
Ever seen in any land.

Alcohol in all its phases,
Cruel, merciless and bold,
Is perpetuating sorrow,
Sin and misery untold.

Come and help us free our country,
Save our boys and girls to-day,
Many may e'er long have fallen
Underneath this monster's sway.

Save our men who are returning
From the fight 'midst shock and shell,
Save them from the fiercer conflict
With the very hosts of hell.

Some do speak with mocking pity,
Of the one who is not strong,
To resist the gilded serpent,
They have tampered with so long.

Yet they know not that their manhood,
Has been robbed of all that's best,
Tried for physical endurance,
That they would not stand the test.

Let us then be up and doing,
For our province, too, must be,
From this bondage which enthralls us,
Henceforth and forever free.

May we say of our Dominion,
That our land from sea to sea,
Has been saved by Prohibition
From this awful enemy.

ETHEL M. BENN.

Anxious to Receive 'World Wide.'

Canadian Pacific Ry.,
Melaval, Sask., Mar. 20, '17.

Sirs:—

While at Wolseley, Sask., last Fe'y. I was introduced to the "World Wide" by my brother, and on request received a few sample copies from you.

I passed the copies around and the result is the enclosed list of new subscribers who are all anxious to receive the paper.

Herewith M-O for subscriptions as submitted.

Yours,
R. A. CROSSLEY.

Send Mr. ——, Melaval, Sask., sample, he is a likely man.

"World Wide" should be taken by everyone who wishes to read the opinions expressed briefly and strongly of the most expert writers in the leading Journals and Reviews published in Britain and the United States. It is a worth while publication for thinking people. No young man should be without it. Sample copies sent free to any address any where on application by postcard.

FRENCH PROTESTED AGAINST OUTRAGES

Embassy Takes Opportunity to Warn Americans Against Transactions in Securities.

The French Embassy at Washington has announced that it will present to the United States State Department on behalf of the French Government a warning to American citizens against transactions in securities which might have been taken as loot by the retreating German troops. The French Government states that at Peronne the office of a branch of the Bank of France was pillaged in violation of the regulations of The Hague convention of 1907, and asks the American Government to warn its citizens to scrutinize carefully any securities which might come from German subjects, because France cannot recognize any transactions in these stolen documents.

The embassy also announced officially that its Government was preparing a protest against "barbarian acts of devastation," committed by the Germans in the territory they are now evacuating. "They were devastations with no relation whatever to a military object," the statement says, "and meant to ruin for years one of the most fertile regions of France. The civilized world cannot but revolt at these proceedings of a nation which pretended to impose upon it her culture, but which shows herself once more still very near barbarism, and whose frustrated ambition expresses its rage in trampling upon the most sacred rights of humanity."

TURKISH GOVERNMENT AFRAID OF PEOPLE

Information has reached Athens that the mass levy ordered by the Turkish Government has proved so unpopular with the people so far that the Government has not ventured to enforce it fully. Resentment is rife among the people. The young Turks are trying to prevent the spread of the facts about the Russian revolution, referring to it as disorders and riots against the war. The attitude of the people is beginning to be feared by the Government.

NOVA SCOTIA WOMEN TO GET RIGHT TO VOTE

Assembly Passes Bill on Second Reading—Admit To Bar, Too

The bill to amend the Nova Scotia Act so as to give women the right to vote on precisely the same basis as men, last week passed its second reading in the House of Assembly unanimously.

The second reading was moved by Mr. Henry Graham, of Pictou, who ably championed the women's cause, and argued for the adoption of the measure as a great democratic reform, and a just recognition of the contribution which women are making to the country in the conduct of affairs and in war enterprises.

A bill providing for the admission of women as barristers and solicitors was also unanimously adopted on the second reading. Opposition to both measures may develop on the third reading, or in the Legislative Council, but their supporters, who number the leaders of thought throughout the province, are hopeful that the legislation will be passed.

ESTABLISHMENT OF EMPIRE FARM

Proposal Put Forward by the Empire Resources Development Company

The redemption of the National Debt of four thousand million sterling by the establishment of an Empire farm is the proposal put forward by the Empire Resources Development Company, of which Sir Starr Jameson, former Premier of South Africa, is chairman, and Mr. Wilson Fox, M.P. for Tamworth, honorary secretary. This great Empire settlement scheme hinges upon Canada, and the suggestion was made by Mr. Moreton Frewen, an Irish M.P., vice-president of the Imperial Federation League, and a frequent writer upon economic problems.

Mr. Frewen sees great possibilities in the acquisition and ultimate sale by the State of farm lands in Western Canada. He says that certain lands in the United States, inferior in fertility to those in Western Canada, originally bought for nominal prices, have advanced to $100 per acre. It is suggested that there might be lands in Canada which could be bought from the Dominion Government at fiv edollars an acre, which 20 years hence, under proper development, might realize $100 an acre. This would naturally depend upon the fertility of the soil, transportation facilities, proximity of elevators and markets. The fact that the United States will in the near future become a large purchaser of Canadian cereals, coupled with the fact that European wheat lands have suffered owing to the war, would exercise an important influence in these upward values. If these anticipations proved correct, then the purchase of 200,000,000 acres from the Dominion Government at five dollars an acre, resold twenty years later at $100, would redeem the whole of the national debt of $20,000,000,000. At the same time the Dominion would benefit by the attraction of a great body of emigrants of the land settler type, so much preferred.

WAS PRISONER OF HUNS.

Recently emerged from hospital in London, where he has been since reaching London as an exchanged prisoner from Germany, Private A. L. P. Law, of the 4th C.M.R., and son of Commander F. C. Law, R.N., Toronto, is now looking forward to returning to Canada. For three months after the heavy action of June last around Ypres he was "missing," and after some weeks had elapsed, his relatives wore mourning for him. Ultimately the Canadian Red Cross succeeded in tracing him and were able to report that he was in a prison camp near Hanover. When Pte. Law crossed to France he was transport sergeant, but at his own request he reverted and took a course in bombing and joined the battalion scouts. This is at all times exceedingly risky work, and he was generally to the fore on occasions which demanded courage. In the battle of June 2 last he was wounded in the right leg, and also sustained several shrapnel wounds elsewhere. While lying in this condition unconscious he was struck by a shell, which tore away the left-hand pocket from his serge, and further incapacitated his arm. Some days later he was picked up by a German patrol, who showed more humanity that the Boche is generally credited with, as he supplied him with water under hot fire and later removed him to a casualty clearing station.

Pte. Law had not much to complain of in camp, though he suffered the usual shortage of food. He found, however, that the Canadians were respected in the camp on account of their exploits and dauntlessness, and one of his comrades, McGregor, of Toronto, was actually complimented by the commander for his pluck in twice attempting to escape. Pte. Law thinks that the surgeons treated his leg so "scientifically" as to render it quite certain that he would never again be a combatant.

Don't Neglect Catarrh

In the SPRING

CATARRH SPECIALIST SPROULE
(Graduate in Medicine and Surgery, Dublin University, Ireland, formerly Surgeon British Royal Mail Naval Service.)

Take it in hand at once! Drive it out of your system before it ruins your health—your happiness—your very life's welfare itself!

Don't be blind to its dangers, because it works so quietly. Catarrh wrecks more lives than we realize.

Are you making that common, dangerous mistake of thinking Catarrh a trifling ailment? Are you fooling yourself with the idea it's only a stubborn, obstinate head-cold that in time will "cure itself?"

Don't deceive yourself any longer. Catarrh can't cure itself. While you heedlessly neglect it, you're fast becoming a hawking, spitting, foul-breathed nuisance—an object of disgust to everyone you meet. **Worse still—Catarrh may get down to your lungs.**

Once Catarrh settles on the lungs it's no longer Catarrh—it's Consumption. Consumption comes from neglected Catarrh, and over two million people die every year from Consumption.

CURE YOUR CATARRH NOW—don't let it run on another day. Write to me at once and let me give you the most helpful and valuable

MEDICAL ADVICE FREE

on Catarrh. It shall not cost you a cent, and it's bound to be of wonderful aid to you.

For thirty years I've been studying and curing Catarrh. Now I offer you, without any expense whatever, free consultation and advice on curing your troubles—the benefit of my wide knowledge and experience.

Don't let this chance go by—accept my assistance to-day! It's promised in genuine sincerity and friendliness. People all over North America, who've already received my advice, gladly testify to what it has done for them. I'll cheerfully send you names and addresses of those who have sought my aid. Now they are cured of Catarrh, as they willingly bear witness.

Write to me and see if you can be freed from Catarrh.

Simply answer my questions yes or no, write your full name and address plainly on the dotted lines, cut out the free medical advice coupon and mail it to me without delay. Address

CATARRH SPECIALIST SPROULE, *waste any time—delays are dangerous.*

OUT OUT THIS COUPON

It entitles readers of this paper to free medical advice on curing Catarrh.

Is your throat raw?
Do you sneeze often?
Is your breath foul?
Are your eyes watery?
Do you take cold easily?
Is your nose stopped up?
Do you have to spit often?
Do crusts form in the nose?
Are you worse in damp weather?
Do you blow your nose a good deal?
Does your mouth taste bad mornings?
Do you have a dull feeling in your head?
Do you have to clear your throat on rising?
Is there a tickling sensation in your throat?
Do you have an unpleasant discharge from the nose?
Does the mucus drop into your throat from your nose?

FULL NAME .....
ADDRESS .....
.....

286 TRADE BUILDING, BOSTON. *Don't Do it NOW.*

HOHENZOLLERNS TO FOLLOW ROMANOFFS

Senator Elihu Root Makes This Prediction at Mass Meeting to Celebrate Russian Freedom.

Fifteen hundred persons who attended the mass meeting at the Manhattan Opera House, New York, on Sunday night, to celebrate the success of the Russian revolution, cheered the prediction in a letter from Senator Elihu Root that the Hohenzollerns and Hapsburgs would follow the Romanoffs. Another cause of enthusiasm was the following cablegram from President Lvoff of the Council of Ministers, the head of the new democratic Russia, which was read to the meeting by Chairman Alton B. Parker: "We ask our American friends to rejoice with us in a free and happy Russia."

Throughout the meeting there were no pro-German or pacifist interruptions, while speaker after speaker asserted that the United States would take a man's part in the war and help fight the battles of Russia and her Allies against Prussian autocracy. At the end of an eloquent speech Chairman Parker said:

"I have no doubt that the time will come when the Hohenzollerns will be turned out by Germany just as the Czar has been ejected by Russia, and at last the time will come when a league of democracy can be brought together to preserve the peace of the world."

Theodore Roosevelt, who was cheered and applauded tumultuously every time his name was mentioned, sent this message to the meeting:

"I rejoice from my soul that Russia, the hereditary friend of this country, has ranged herself on the side of orderly liberty, of enlightened freedom, and for the full performance of duty by free nations throughout the world."

Confidence that Russian democracy would maintain a permanent and strong government was expressed by Elihu Root, who wrote:

"No human power can put Russia back where she was but a few weeks ago. Whatever comes, of good or ill, the old order cannot return. Russia must go on. She will go on, and the hopes and prayers of all liberty loving people of America will go with her.

"Let us rejoice that this terrible war which the arrogant ambition of Prussian militarism has forced upon the world has at last arrayed against the lingering autocracies, of Germany, Austria and Turkey the combined democracy of the world, that upon one side the spirit of the age maintains the principles of human liberty, that upon the other the spirit of the dark and cruel past strives for the continuance of absolution. The issue is not doubtful. A little sooner or a little later it is inevitable. The Hohenzollerns and the Hapsburgs will fall and the mighty and universal forces of democracy will prevail."

FIRST STEPS FOR "WIN WAR" CONGRESS.

Definite steps for the organization of a Dominion-wide "Win the War" convention were taken on Saturday afternoon at Montreal. A private lunch was given by Colonel ("Trooper") Mulloy, at which some twenty-five leading citizens of Montreal, both French and English, were present.

The object of the luncheon was explained by Col. Mulloy, who pointed out that it closely followed the ideas of the bonne entente movement.

This was set forth in the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, it is proposed to hold in the near future, a national convention in the city of Montreal, in which all the provinces of Canada will be represented; and

"Whereas, the object of this convention will be to promote national unity and to discuss the economic and national problems, arising out of the war;

"Be it resolved, that this meeting constitutes itself into a committee for the purpose of co-operating with other groups of citizens in this province, in order to ensure that the province of Quebec, like her sister provinces, shall be fully represented at this forthcoming national convention."

DEPORTED TO GERMANY

Belgian Clergy Who Sheltered Discharged Soldiers.

Monsignor Louis Legraives vicar-general to Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, has been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and deported to Germany for sheltering a discharged French soldier for one night, according to a Central News despatch from Amsterdam.

This information is confirmed by a Reuter despatch from Amsterdam which adds that Canon Allaer, spiritual director of the great seminary of Malines, of which Monsignor Legraive was president, has been sentenced to eight months' imprisonment in Germany for giving shelter to another discharged French soldier.

"GRANDMOTHER" RETURNS.

A despatch from Petrograd dated Friday said that Mme. Caterine Breshkovskaya, "grandmother of the Russian revolution," would arrive in Petrograd on Friday night after having been 43 years in prison or exile. She was sentenced to penal servitude in 1874, but was released early in the '90's. Later she was banished to Siberia for belonging to the Socialist revolutionary party.

GERMANY BROKE.

Bankers Say It Is Useless to Attempt Another Loan.

A Hague despatch from the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company, says: "The German Minister of Finance is organizing a great canvassing campaign for the sixth German war loan, which, in financial circles, is considered less successful than the previous loan, the subscriptions being one-third lower. Berlin and Frankfort bankers openly state that the present failure shows the uselessness of launching a seventh loan."

WOULD KEEP EYE ON MONTREAL PACKAGES

Important amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act were introduced in the Ontario Legislature on Saturday by the Hon. W. D. McPherson. They include putting into effect again the "Indian list," the giving of power to Government officials to examine the books of express companies, not for the purpose of making anything public, but for the purpose of seeing that the Act is carried out with regard to importations from Montreal and other places. Exemptions from business assessments until 1919 to holders of standard temperance hotel licenses was also provided for.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ENORMOUS EFFORT

The immense military effort which Great Britain is putting forth is strikingly illustrated by the army appropriation account for 1916, which shows that the net expenditure for the army was £543,187,548.

This amount includes: Pay, £98,157,156; supplies, £212,960,815; quartering, transport and remounts, £96,373,107, of which the sea transport of troops cost £30,687,382.

The sum of £5,570,320 is credited to the Indian Government for ordinary expenses of the Indian expeditionary forces.

GERMAN EXCUSES FOR THE RETREAT

Officer Says it Will Revolutionize Warfare on the Entire Western Front

Berlin, March 18.—The German evacuation of Bapaume, Roye, Noyon and Peronne, is but a part of a great strategic undertaking which promises to revolutionize warfare on the entire western front and constitutes one of the most decisive moves in the war.

Just as a month ago the Germans evacuated an important sector on the Ancre but kept the fact secret for a week while the British bombarded empty trenches, so to-day's report shows the most important development of 1917 on any front. The sector, including the evacuated cities, virtually covers the great Somme battle-front. Reports from this section of the front tell of effective work of destruction carried out before the occupied land was given back to the French and British, so that it will avail them nothing as captured soil, according to views expressed here:

"With the fronts as long as they are in this war and with the enormous amount of enemy territory held by our troops," said a high German military authority to-day, "there is no particular military significance attached to any especial section of the enemy's territory. Therefore, we can give up a portion of the western front, secure our troops that freedom of movement needed, and end trench warfare. That is what this really amounts to. We are now getting the enemy out of their trenches.

"The giving up of this portion of our front puts an end to all their finely laid spring offensive plans. Ever since November hundreds of thousands of men have been at work building trenches, munition depots, railways, and cable lines to prepare for the biggest spring offensive of the war. Now at one blow all that is gone for nothing. In the face of our withdrawal all this is useless. Four months' work, of millions upon millions of dollars in value, has been rendered valueless, while more important still, all the enemy plans are likewise of no worth. They must make entirely new ones to cope with the new situation. This is a difficult matter, entailing weeks, yes, months of work and requiring an enormous quantity of new observation. Meanwhile the enemy is left at the mercy of our plans.

"It is most important to remember that the new positions we are taking up back of the old front are built with the aid of every possible device developed by two and a half years of warfare. The old positions were the result of the breaking off of the unfinished offensive towards Paris. Many portions of our positions were held only with the greatest difficulty. The trenches were difficult to maintain and the artillery observation points, so important in this kind of warfare, were few.

"The new positions are laid out in the best possible locations, with the finest of observation points and deep concrete shelters for the battery positions. While the enemy is coming up to them he will be in the greatest possible difficulties himself in the devastated battlefield.

REGRETS THE DESTRUCTION.

"I regret exceedingly that this move is forcing a great destruction of a beautiful part of France. Yet the destruction is not so great as the devastation inflicted by the British and the French on the Somme battlefield and when the Entente refused our peace proposal it took the responsibility of this destruction upon itself. It is a war measure. We are compelled to take it to carry out a military plan to meet the big offensive the Entente had planned. We have destroyed nothing except out of military necessity. We have saved everything we could. We did not wish to destroy homes or other structures which offered no military advantage to the enemy, but we had to make a battlefield out of the territory we were giving up, for in it fighting will now take place and we could leave nothing in the hands of the enemy. So we were forced to destroy roads, railways, wells, buildings of value for military purposes, depots, even whole cities. It has been hard, too, for the French population, but that is the fault of their Government. All the men of military age we took back with us. The remainder we have turned over to their countrymen and they are now in French hands.

FIGHTING FOR EXISTENCE.

"I know we will be accused again of barbarism, but we are fighting for our existence. We are compelled by the refusal of the Entente to make peace to defend ourselves against their promised offensive. We have done everything we could to avoid needless suffering, but what happens is their fault, not ours.

"We expect the Entente to claim all this as a great victory. They will say they recaptured these cities. They have not. They have not won them by battle. We are not moving back because of enemy pressure, but we are reshaping the western front lines so that we will have an aggressive initiative. Just in this manner von Hindenburg drew back the lines in Poland in the winter of 1914 to make possible the great offensive of 1915, and similarly we permitted the Rumanians to sweep across the Carpathians last summer that we might destroy their armies when they got out of their own lines.

"The Rumanian campaign shows what the possibilities of the present movement are. It is the only kind of strategy that can make possible a decision on the western front."

CENSUS OF GERMANS

United States Department Checking Up Those in El Paso

A census of all German citizens residing in El Paso, Texas, is being taken by agents of the United States Department of Justice preparatory to interning them in case of war. It is said that several hundred German citizens have been listed already. Several of this number are being kept under surveillance. It was said that an internment camp may be established by military authorities at Fort Bliss in case of war. Rooms of German citizens in two local hotels have been searched for evidence that might lead to the arrest of Germans in the employ of the Imperial German Government. A number of German-Americans were warned to leave the country for Mexico immediately, it was said, and several have crossed the border in the last week.

ENTENTE HIGH COURT

To Judge Those Responsible For Atrocities Committed by Enemy.

A resolution proposing that the Entente Allies establish a high court of justice, to judge those responsible for all crime and criminal attempts committed by the enemies of the Entente during the war, was introduced in the French Chamber of Deputies by Edouard Ignace, of the Department of Zinc.

The resolution says that the Germans are systematically disregarding the law of nations, that atrocities are increasing and that the German nation, in tolerating silently the misdeeds perpetrated in its name, becomes an accomplice and assumes all responsibility.

RUSSIA'S FUTURE BEING ABLY PLANNED

Never Has Government Been Composed of Men Representing Best of Nation as at Present

"Never since I have been in the service of the country has the Government been composed, as at present, of men constituting the flower of the nation—the greatest and most distinguished men in every respect."

This is the estimate of the new Russian Government as expressed to the Associated Press by Baron Rosen, the former Russian ambassador to the United States. One of the greatest benefits accruing, so far as other nations, particularly the Allies, are concerned, in the opinion of Baron Rosen, is the sweeping away of the element of doubt concerning Russia's earnestness in the prosecution of the war. "It will be realized now as never before, that Russia is not nominally, but is actually, fighting for freedom," he said.

Baron Rosen likened the revolutionary movement to the bursting of a dam "loosing the pent up indignation of the country against the iniquities of the old regime, which broke down completely under the weight of its own folly and incompetence. The thing to be done now," he continued, "is to lead the overflow into safe channels. The situation is still full of danger, but is gradually improving. The effect upon the war can only be extremely favorable inasmuch as it is sure to inspire the army with new spirit, in the knowledge that they are actually fighting for a free country. The quick success of the movement was due to the fact that the whole country was absolutely unanimous in its condemnation of the interior policy of the old government.

"It had to come. Inflammable material had been gradually accumulating; it only required a spark. The spark was furnished by the criminal madman, the late Minister of the Interior. No one can imagine the weight of oppression which has been lifted from the lives of the Russian people."

Baron Rosen said it was impossible to foresee what character the new government would assume. It remained for the will of the people, expressed through the constituent assembly.

FREEDOM FOR SOLDIERS.

The former Dowager Empress Marie Feodorovna, who was at Kiev, went to meet her son, former Emperor Nicholas, as he was returning after his abdication. She had long resented the influence over Nicholas wielded by the Empress Alexandra, Gregory Rasputin, the mystic monk, and Mademoiselle Virubova, lady-in-waiting to the Empress and Alexandra's best friend, who had introduced Rasputin to the Empress.

Marie Feodorovna only saw Alexandra when court functions required that she do so. Since early in January she had been at Kiev and had refused to come to the capitol. Her meeting with Nicholas was said to have been very affecting. The object of her visit to him was to advise with him as to her future residence. It is reported that she intends to go to Denmark her native country.

Most of the Grand Dukes in the military service will retain their posts, at least temporarily.

The new Minister of Trade and Industry is in communication with the workingmen and promises to develop plans for workingmen's unions, which were formerly prohibited, abolish criminal penalties for strikes, regulate hours and conditions of work and promote workingmen's insurance.

Among the reforms in the army which has been indicated by Minister of War Guchkoff in a formal order to the troops are that soldiers shall be addressed as "you," instead of the familiar "thou"; that soldiers shall address their superiors as "mister," instead of "excellency," and that the ban on soldiers smoking in the streets, entering public places and street cars and participating in political organizations shall be abolished.

IMPERIAL MOURNERS.

The Petrograd press, no longer under the strict censorship of the old regime, is taking advantage of its new liberty to publish facts hitherto suppressed in regard to the assassination of Gregory Rasputin, the mystic, whose influence in court circles stirred the country. While the whole nation was breathing a sigh of relief at deliverance from Rasputin's malign influence, the Imperial family was laying away his remains, with great reverence and pomp at Tsarskoe-Selo.

After the body was found in the Neva, it was taken to Tsarkoe-Selo in the Imperial car, in which rode the then Minister of the Interior, Mr. Protopopoff, and General Voyekoff. The body was taken direct to the Imperial Palace. The funeral ceremony was held in the Imperial church. A silver coffin, containing the body, was carried to its resting place by the Emperor, M. Protopopoff, General Voyekoff and others, followed by the Empress in deep mourning. The affair caused a great scandal at the time and further inflamed the people against the Empress.

WEAKNESS OF NICHOLAS.

It would be unprofitable to go fully into all the court scandals or the constantly accumulating evidence by which seems to be clearly established the weak character and incredible lack of foresight of Nicholas 2nd and his apparent ignorance of conditions which spelled his inevitable downfall. Most surprising of all was the Emperor's stubborn refusal to be guided by the counsel of members of his own family, and his quiet assumption that all was well with the country at a time when the whole nation was on the brink of active revolution.

Grand Duke Nicholas Michaelovitch made most persistent efforts to apprise Emperor Nicholas that the country was in danger and the throne tottering, but the Emperor showed no more signs of being stirred by this warning than by that of the Dowager Empress and a multitude of other personages who approached him. Late in November, Grand Duke Nicholas Michaelovitch took to the palace a letter which he had written and read it aloud to the Emperor and Empress. It expressed in most blunt fashion the danger the country was in and showed how only by the promptest action the Emperor could save the empire from complete collapse. The Grand Duke took no pains to conceal the Rasputin scandal, but when the name of the Empress was mentioned, the latter snatched the letter from Nicholas Michaelovitch's hands and tore it up.

When the Emperor received in silence the statement that Protopopoff (Minister of the Interior) had been foisted upon him by Rasputin, and listened to the other accusations without denying or showing signs of being the least confused by them, the Grand Duke lost all patience and shouted at His Majesty: "Do none of these things move you? You make me think of Alexander I.'

An appeal to the Emperor signed by seventeen Grand Dukes made no greater impression, and Vladimir Purishkevich, Vice-President of the Union of True Russians and a prominent member of the Duma, paid a fruitless visit to the palace on the same mission. All spoke freely to Nicholas of the growing danger to the dynasty and the necessity of his protecting himself against the influence of the Empress. To all these the Emperor replied: "What has Alexandra to do with politics? I refuse to believe that she is unpopular among the people."

HORROR MARKS TRAIL OF RETREAT

Philip Gibbs Tells of What He Saw in Evacuated Towns and Villages

(By Philip Gibbs.)

War Correspondent Headquarters, March 21.—For several days now I have been going with our advancing troops into the towns, villages and country abandoned by the enemy in his retreat. He has ruined all his roads, opening vast craters in them, and broken all his bridges, but our men have been wonderfully quick in making their way over the gaps, and this morning I actually motored over the German trenches at Roye, zig-zagging over this maze of ditches and dugouts by bridges of planks before getting to the roads behind his line.

After passing the area of shell-fire on our side and his, the field of shell craters, the smashed barns and houses and churches, the tattered tree trunks, and the great belts of barbed wire, one comes to a country where the grass grows again, and where the fields are smooth and rolling, and where the woods will be clothed with foliage when spring comes to the world again. The German sentry-boxes still stand at the cross-roads, German notice boards still state at one from cottage walls or where the villages begin. Scattered about the fields are crosses on German graves. Thousands of coils of barbed wire lie about in heaps, for the enemy relied a great deal upon two means of defence, and in many places are piles of shells which he has not removed. Gun-pits and machine-gun emplacements with screens to hide the two rows from view, and observation posts built in tall trees, remain as signs of his military life. A mile or two back from his front lines, but behind the trenches, are two towns and villages in which he had his rest billets, and it is in these places that one sees the spirit and temper of the men whom we are fighting. Although through this war I have tried to be fair and just to our enemy, to give him credit for his courage and to pity him because the terror of war has branded him as it has branded us, but during these last days I have been sickened and saddened by the things I have seen, because they reveal a dirty cruelty which is beyond the inevitable villainy of war. The enemy has spared nothing on the way of his retreat. He has destroyed every village in his abandonment with systematic and detailed destruction. Not only in Bapaume and Peronne has he blown up or burnt all houses which were untouched by shell-fire, but in scores of villages he has laid waste the cottages of poor peasants and all their little farms, and all their orchards.

At Rathonvillers this morning, to name only one village out of many, I saw how each house was marked with a white cross before it was gutted with fire. The cross of Christ was used to mark the work of the devil, for truly it has been devil's work, even if we grant that the destruction of houses in the wake of a retreat is a recognized cruelty of war. There are other things I have seen which are not pardonable, even under that damnable code of morality. In Bapaume and Peronne, in Roye and Nesle and Lianecourt, and all these places over a wide area, the German soldiers not only blew out the fronts of diers not only blew out the fronts of houses, but with picks and axes smashed mirrors and furniture and picture frames. As a friend of mine said, a cheap jack would not give fourpence for anything left in Peronne, and that is strictly true also of Bapaume. There is nothing but filth in these two towns. Family portraits have been kicked into the gutters. I saw a picture of some children in Bapaume, and it was smeared with filth. The black bonnets of old women who once lived in those houses lie about the rubbish heaps, and by some strange pitiful freak are almost the only signs left of the inhabitants who lived there before the Germans wrecked their houses.

The ruins of houses are bad to see when done deliberately, even when shell fire spared them in the war zone, but worse than that is the ruin of women and children and living flesh. I saw that ruin to-day in Roye and Nesle, I was at first rejoiced to see, the first inhabitants were liberated after being so long in hostile lines. I approached them with a queer sense of excitement, eager to stop with them, but instantly when I saw those women and children in the streets and staring at me out of windows, I was struck with the chill of horror. The women's faces were dead faces, shallow and maskline and branded with the memory of great agonies. The children were white and thin, so thin that the cheekbones protruded and many of them seemed to me idiot children. Hunger and fear had been with them too long.

The Mayor of Nesle told me that after the first entry of the Germans on August 29, 1914, and after the first brutalities the soldiers had behaved well, generally speaking. They were well disciplined and lived on good terms with the people as far as possible. Probably he tells the truth fairly, and I believe him, but the women with whom I spoke were passionate and hysterical and told me horrible stories, not to be retold here.

I believe them, too, because these women, who are French, had to live with men who were killing their husbands and brothers, and that is the great horror. They had to submit to the daily moods of the men, who were sometimes sulky and sometimes drunk. Officers, they tell me, were often drunk. They had to see their children go hungry for, although the Germans gave them potatoes sometimes, they took away hens, so that there were no eggs, and cows, so that there was no milk. The children suffered and were thin.

KAISER CAME TO NESLE.

On October 5, 1914, the Kaiser came to Nesle with an escort of five motor cars, and the soldiers lined the square and cheered him; but the women and children stared and were silent and hated that white-haired man with a spiked hat.

During the battles of the Somme many wounded passed through the town and others came with awful stories of the slaughter and fierce words against the English.

Once twenty men of the 173rd Regiment came in. They were half mad, weeping and cursing, and said they were the sole survivors of their regiment. Then quite recently there came rumors of the German retreat. On Thursday, March 15th, the German commander sent for the mayor and announced the news. He gave orders for all the inhabitants to leave their houses at 6.30 o'clock and assemble in the street, while certain houses and streets were to be destroyed.

The German commandant, whose name was Herwaardt, said he greatly regretted this necessity. The work was to be carried out by Oberlieutenant Baarth. The people wept at the destruction of their homes, although some of the houses in Nesle were spared, but they were comforted by the promise of liberation. For a week previously the Germans had been withdrawing their stores. The garrison consisted of about 600 to 1,000 men of the Thirty-eighth Regiment of Chasseurs and Cyclists.

The gunners were the last to leave and went away at midnight, with a rear-guard of infantry. By 7.30 in the morning there was not a German soldier left in Nesle, and at 8.30 a British patrol entered. The women and children surrounded the British, laughing and weeping. To-day they are being fed by the British soldiers, and were waiting around the field kitchens with wistful eyes.

UHLANS APPEAR BUT NOT TO FIGHT

Flee as Fast as Their Horses Will Carry Them When British Patrols Arrive

(By Philip Gibbs.)

War Correspondents' Headquarters, Friday, March 23.—Our troops are still keeping in close touch with the enemy's rearguard posts on a line running east of Bapaume toward Cambrai, and west of St. Quentin. On both sides cavalry patrols are scouting in the woods and villages, and for a few days at least the situation has been extraordinary, like those early days of war in October, 1914, when our cavalry operating in Flanders was feeling forward cautiously to test the enemy's strength. For the first time since those days German Uhlans have again been seen on the western front. Little parties of them are hiding behind the broken walls of villages destroyed on the German retreat. Now and again they bump into advanced posts and then bolt away, not seeking a fight.

The enemy shows no mercy whenever he can plead military rule. I suppose he can plead that for what he did less than a week ago at Rouy-le-Petit, yet I can think of nothing more damnable than the horror which came to some hundreds of poor souls, mostly women and children, and stricken men, in that village by the Somme. Many of them had been driven into Rouy-le-Petit from the neighboring villages, which the Germans set on fire. There were hundreds in the streets of Rouy. They saw the smoke and flames rising from their homesteads, and they were terrorized and crushed.

SILENT AND FIRM.

Presently the last German rearguard went out from Rouy, not cheering and singing, as they came in August of 1914, but silent and grim. They had been friendly with the villages before they smashed their houses and had been good to the children before smashing their bedsteads and making them homeless. They said again and agin in self-excuse: "It is war. It is the order of our high officers. We are bound to do it."

German guns rumbled through the streets of Rouy and were away with gunners and cyclists and infantry. Early the next morning a British patrol entered, and the people crowded around clasping the soldiers' hands, thanking God for their deliverance and telling of their hunger, which was near the starving point.

Suddenly shells began to fall over the village, crashing through the roofs and flinging up the ground in the roadway. They were German shells fired by the German gunners, who left only a few hours before. They had not meant to kill the civilians who had been gathered at Rouy, all women and children and old, weak men. They were meant to kill the British patrols, and so were lawful as an act of war, but one could not be done without the others, and there were civilians who were wounded in Rouy-le-Petit that day. Weeping and wailing they rushed into cellars and took refuge there, while flights of shells followed and tore holes in their rooms and walls and filled the village with smoke and splinters. And that is the lawfulness of war and the horror of war.

GRAVE TROUBLE IN GERMANY NOW

Serious Riots Reported Now to Have Occurred in Berlin

Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent reports it is rumored that serious riots have broken out in Berlin in connection with the scarcity of food.

"A despatch from Oblenzaal, Holland, says persistent rumors are current of great rioting in Berlin," the despatch says, "Frontier regiments are reported to have left for Berlin to maintain order."

An Amsterdam despatch to the London "Daily Chronicle" says:

With revolution in the air it is not surprising that rumors are running around that Germany's turn has come, and that Berlin already is in an uproar. One or two curious developments tend to support the possibility that unusual events are occurring there. Firstly, these rumors all appear to emanate from German unofficial quarters. Secondly, I have just spoken to a German Social Democrat who was on his way to a railway station en route for Berlin. He said he regarded the rumors as possibly partly true, and having large interests in Berlin he felt it necessary to return thither immediately in order to see the actual state of affairs and take steps to protect his interests.

There has been a curious absence of private letters from Berlin and Hamburg during the past few days. Newspapers here are taking a serious view of the rumors. Correspondents have gone to the frontier to endeavor to get information of what is proceeding. It may be that one of the many hunger strikes on perhaps a larger scale than ever before is in progress, but from all available information it would seem by no means likely that any revolt in Berlin would have any chance of success among the old men, who alone remain as civilians. Nevertheless, after what the German army and people have gone through during the two years, it must not entirely be ruled out as impossible that part of the army at least might join with the munition workers. At the moment of telegraphing the latest tidings from the frontier are such as to suggest things are indeed grave, though no details are given. It is noteworthy that only two days ago an official announcement was made throughout Germany of the raising by twenty percent of the price of potatoes and other foodstuffs, including rye and wheat.

286 LIVES LOST ON FRENCH BATTLESHIP

France Confirms Sinking of the Danton in the Mediterranean

In the sinking of the French battleship "Danton" in the Mediterranean on March 19, says a statement from the French Admiralty, 286 men were drowned. The "Danton" was torpedoed by a hostile submarine.

The sinking of a French battleship of the "Danton" class by a German submarine in the Mediterranean on March 19 was reported in a statement issued by the German Admiralty on March 20 and received by wireless. The statement from the German Admiralty said that the battleship, which was protected by destroyers, listed heavily after being hit and capsized 45 minutes later. Lieutenant Captain Moraht was named as the commander of the German submarine.

The battleship "Danton" displaced 18,028 tons and her complement before the war was 681 officers and men. The "Danton" was built at Brest and was commissioned in 1909. She had a speed of 19.2 knots and was 481 feet long. She carried four 12-inch guns and 38 of

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HON. MARTIN BURRELL, Minister

FRENCH TAKE TWO DEFENCE FORTS ROUND LA FERE

Also Sweep Forward on Two and Half Mile Front on Castres-Essigny Line, South of St. Quentin

The French have captured the two forts defending La Fere on the west and have made considerable advances in driving the enemy towards St. Quentin. The French now control the western bank of the River Oise for several miles north of the City of La Fere. South and southwest of St. Quentin the French advanced on a front of two and a half miles, taking in the town of Castres, three miles southwest and Essigny-le-Grand, four miles to the south. Gains were also made south of the Oise and north of Soissons.

The British have occupied the important railway junction of Roisel, seven miles east of Peronne. Farther north the British made progress on a front of a mile and a half southeast of Croisilles. Heavy counter-attacks were launched in the region of Beaumetz-les-Cambrai and although the Germans gained a footing in a small section of an advanced position they were immediately driven out by a counter-attack.

The Germans are fighting for every inch of the plateau that lies between St. Quentin and the Oise, but despite their tenacious resistance the French are steadily driving them back. They are now firmly established on the eastern bank of the Ailette River in the outskirts of the lower forest of Coucy, one of the three great wooded tracts lying between Laon and the Ailette.

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AUSTRALIA SOLD HER WHEAT TO BRITAIN FOR $1.12 A BUSHEL

Sir George Foster Issues Statement re Western Farmers' Refusal to Accept Offer

Sir George Foster on Thursday issued a statement in respect to the recent refusal of the Western farmers to accept the British Government's offer for wheat. After pointing out that Britain has purchased the entire Australian wheat crop at $1.12 per bushel; that it desires to get its wheat supply as far a spossible from Empire sources; and that "the geographical position of Canada, taken in connection with sea war dangers and shortage of transport tonnage, makes it of great importance that its surplus should be at the disposal of the British Government," the Minister of Trade and Commerce goes on to say:

Whilst no price was definitely fixed upon in the communications had with the British Government, yet a possible rate was canvassed by taking as a basis the price paid the British farmer, with adjustments and deductions for freight and cost from Fort William to Europe. One can come pretty close to it by taking that base price as being about $1.82 to the British farmer and making his own calculations.

"The Council of Agriculture advised that the lowest possible price acceptable would be a flat rate of $1.70 per bushel for No. 1 northern at Fort William, or preferably a guarantee of prices from a minimum of $1.50 to a maximum of $1.90. This latter appears very much like making the price $1.90 for all, or defeating the purpose in obtaining certain supply.

"There are some considerations which will naturally suggest themselves to the farmers as to what constitutes a reasonable and safe price.

FARMER GETS FULL PRICE.

"The rate paid for No. 1 northern does not indicate the price the farmer will get for his whole crop. On an average he will have far less of No. 1 than of the lower grades. The farmer well knows the spreads to which, under the present method of purchase, he is subject on wheat of good milling value but of inferior grades as certificated. If, on the other hand, the British Government buys it from the farmer himself and not from the speculator, the farmer gets the full price for all. He does not have to divide with anyone."

Sir George points out that there are chances to be taken in respect to price in the open market.

Many things may happen before the late autumn of 1917 or the winter of 1918 when the farmer will market this year's crop. The price may be higher, if the war continues; the price may break lower, if war ceases before this year closes. There are in addition difficulties of transport from Fort William to Europe. As the war goes on those may grow worse, even if the war ceases the demand for tonnage to transport to their homes the men and equipment released from the front will probably for many months be little less urgent than now. The uncertainty of transport may seriously affect prices. If the farmer sells now to the British Government he will know that his wheat is marketed at a good profit before he puts a seed in the ground. He need trouble nothing about transport, the British Government will attend to that.

MR. H. W. WOOD'S STATEMENT.

Mr. H. W. Wood, president of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, and also president of the United Farmers of Alberta, when shown the statement of Sir George E. Foster on the wheat purchase question, said he did not see anything in it to make him change his mind regarding the attitude which the council had taken in rejecting the offer of the Government when it was considered by the council at its Regina meeting.

He took up the statement consecutively and first touched on the $1.12 which was paid to the Australian farmers. While there does appear to be quite a difference between this and the Canadian Government offer, it is more apparent than real. He said the Australian wheat is taken over on "fair average quality" grade, which is something very different from the strict grading to which Canadian wheat is subjected, and on which there is a very wide spread in price. The internal freight charge in Australia is considerably lower than the rates which are charged in this country. These are two very distinct advantages which the Australian farmer has so far as concerns the actual net price which he gets for his wheat at the farm. The matter of bottoms for transporting this wheat must also be considered, and there is every possibility that the Australian wheat will not be available until after the war, whereas the Canadian crop is available as soon as threshing is completed on account of the comparatively short water haul as against the Australian distance.

"I have it on good authority," continued Mr. Wood, "that the British Grain Commission expressed their willingness to make an offer of $1.50 as a minimum price for the crop of 1916 and a maximum of $2 for No. 1 at Fort William, as their basis of operations for that crop. So far Sir George Foster has not made it clear that they are not willing to take the crop of 1917 at the same price."

FEELING OF FRIENDSHIP WILL BE REVIVED

Russian Democrats Had Worried About Britain Because of Corruption of the Old Regime

The Petrograd correspondent of the London "Daily Chronicle," sends the following:

"I have just had a long conversation with the Socialist deputy Kerensky, the new minister of justice. He is of great importance at the present moment because he represents in the provisional Government on whose right guidance the stability of the new regime so essentially depends. I cannot give all details of the conversation.

"We discussed the situation thoroughly, and I got the impression that Kerensky not only was a convicted and enthusiastic democrat, ready to sacrifice his life if need be for democracy—that I already knew from previous acquaintance—but that he had a clear, broad perception of the difficulties and dangers of the situation and was preparing to meet them.

WORKERS BACK TO FACTORIES.

"On this urgent question of the moment, the resumption of normal occupations by workmen and soldiers, Kerensky said the workmen in most factories would return to work to-day. 'Their mood is changed,' said the Minister. 'They are tired of demonstrating and want to work.' The Government has decided to pay the wages of the workmen for the week of strike, which is to be regarded, not as a strike but as an act of national heroism. This should greatly stimulate the energy of the workers and inspire them to make up for lost time.

"Order among the soldiers is being quickly restored. Last week's ridiculous manifesto, issued in the name of the Council of Workmen's Deputies, calling on the soldiers not to obey their officers, Kerensky sharply characterized as an act of provocation. There have been a few instances of grave disturbance of disoipline, but the minister was confident this phase would soon pass, together with other eccentricities. He declared:—

"'I am convinced the revolution will give an immense uplifting to the spirit of the troops and so shorten the war. We are for strict discipline in working hours, but out of working hours we want the soldiers to feel themselves also free men.'

"We touched on internal politics. Kerensky strongly favors the internationalization of Constantinople, and stands for an independent Poland and autonomy for Armenia, under Russian protection. An autonomous Armenia, would, he said, greatly reduce friction between the various nationalities in the Caucasus by diverting the energy of Caucasian Armenians further afield. Finland's constitution will, of course, be restored.

EXPLAINING NEW POLICY.

"The change of regime has been received quietly in most parts of the Empire. There has been trouble in Moscow, but that is subsiding, and also in Siberia, owing to the action of the governors. The Government is sending emissaries all over the country to explain the new policy. Many of the ablest men of the Duma are charged with this duty. 'Our aim,' said Kerensky, 'is to use talent wherever we can lay hands on it.'

"As to the representatives of the old regime they will be secured against violence. 'I earnestly desire,' said the Minister, 'that the revolution shall be as far as possible bloodless.' He showed me, with great pride, telegrams he had received from a group of banks placing at his disposal half a million roubles for the relief of released political offenders.

"We talked of England, and Kerensky expressed the ardent hope that the democracies of England and Russia should be linked by close bonds of sympathy and common effort. Now, at least, the war will really be a war of liberation. 'I must tell you frankly,' said the young Minister, 'that we Russian Democrats have been latterly rather worried about England, because of the close relations between your Government and the corrupt Government we had. But now, thank God, that is over, and our deep, strong feeling for England as the champion of liberty will come to its own again.'

QUIET IN FINLAND.

"I have seen the Speaker of the Finnish Diet, the Socialist Tokkoi, who has just arrived in Petrograd. Finland is perfectly quiet and full of hope. Her normal life was interrupted only by disturbances of short duration among sailors at Helsingfors and soldiers at Viborg, and now everything is tranquil. The Finnish population remained passive spectators of events. The arrest of the hated Governor-General, Seyn, who has been brought to Petrograd and lodged in the Duma, caused intense pleasure.

"Tokkoi, as president of the Association of Finnish Trade Unions, took steps that work should not be interrupted for a day, so the munition factories and railways were all the time in full swing with the exception of a stretch of the Petrograd-Viborg Railway, which was torn up by troops for a day, to prevent the proposed despatch of an Imperialist force from Finland."

853 SQUARE MILES ARE RETAKEN

Homes of 181,935 Frenchmen; Germans Hold 7,126 Square Miles

The total amount of French territory liberated from the German invaders by the Somme offensive up to March 21, is 853 square miles, situated in the four departments of Pas de Calais, Oise, Aisne and Somme. It includes 366 towns and villages, the home of 181,350 Frenchmen. The Germans are still in possession of 7,126 square miles of Frenace.

Dr. Henri De Rothschild has given 100,000 francs for the relief of the inhabitants in the liberated sections of Picardy.

Dr. Henri De Rothschild is a grandson of Nathaniel Rothschild, the founder of the famous banking house. He is well known as a philanthropist and has taken a prominent part in the war against cancer.

OFFICERS LABEL THEM PRO-GERMANS

Those Who Place Bilingual and Home Rule Questions Before Winning the War

Captain S. N. Dancey, of Ottawa, now connected with the reinforcing draft of the Second Battalion, paid Cornwall, Ont., a farewell visit last week. He was greeted by a hall packed from pit to dome, and was accorded a fine reception.

In his address, which occupied nearly an hour, Captain Dancey carried his audience across the seas to France and Flanders, and gave a vivid description of conditions there.

The greatest problem before Ireland and Canada to-day was the winning of the war. He spoke of conscription as the fair thing. "Every man who places bilingualism or the Irish problem before the winning of the war is a pro-German," said Captain Dancey.

Reference was made to the progress of enlistment in the various provinces. In regard to Quebec the captain said residents of that province had practically accomplished nothing to prove themselves worthy of being called Canadians or Britishers.

Ottawa had 6,000 young men who had no excuse for being at home, and a large number of these were in the civil service, and even the heads of departments refused to allow them to go. Of some 1,900 in the civil service only four had volunteered for service. The government had said there will be no conscription, but if the government would not introduce it he believed that within three months the people of Canada would introduce it.

Lieut. M. J. O'Brien, also an Ottawa man, now identified with the local company of the 253rd Queen's University Battalion, delivered a vigorous address. He said that while the government positively stated that we shall not have conscription, traitors in the dark hours of the night placarded the streets of Montreal with posters bearing the inscription, "Down with Conscription," which plainly shows that a well planned organization of anti-British sympathies is trying to stir up trouble. "If the whiskey that J. B. Prince referred to in his remarks about England, when he said that there was too much of it mixed with the blood of old England, was here, I would inject it into his arm and the arms of those in Quebec if it would make them fight as Englishmen have," said Lieut. O'Brien. The energy and eloquence of the Hon. Charles Murphy and Bishop Fallon, of London, Ont., would be better employed at present in securing recruits to go over and make certain that we should escape, not an Irelandized Canada, but a Prussianized Canada, instead of instilling in the minds and hearts of the people a feeling of distrust and suspicion of the greatest man the Empire has produced in her hour of trial, the Right Hon. David Lloyd George.

SEIZURE OF LIQUOR

Halifax Inspector Finds $18,000 Worth in Warehouse

The Nova Scotia prohibition act has been in force for about nine months. In Halifax, however, an inspector was only appointed a week ago. He has made a number of seizure of liquor, but the climax came last week when, in a warehouse on Central wharf, he seized five hundred cases and a number of casks of liquor, the whole valued at $18,000. The liquor belonged to J. B. Mitchell, who, previous to the passing of the prohibition law, was a wholesale and retail dealer.

OTTAWA SCHOOL BILLS

Two Important Measures Before the Ontario Legislature

The Hon. Dr. Pyne introduced in the Ontario Legislature last week two important bills respecting the Roman Catholic separate schools of the city of Ottawa. The first bill gives the Government authority to appoint a commission to carry on the work of the separate school board of Ottawa in the event of the board's failing to carry out its duties. Only when the board was in default of its duties would the bill be put into operation.

The second bill is to give relief to the commission from responsibility for the money expended by the separate school board, and to indemnify the commission for any loss incurred in carrying on the work of the schools.

REFUSED NEW TRIAL

Sixteen-Year-Old Boy Convicted of Killing Farmer and Wife

In the Court of Appeal at Winnipeg application was refused for a new trial for Bertram Spain, the sixteen-year-old boy convicted for the murder of his employer, James Vincent, and Mrs. Vincent on their farm near Stonewall, Man. The Chief Justice and three other judges on the Bench unanimously decided against the appeal.

A petition will be circulated at once to have sentence of death commuted.

MONEY FROM GERMAN EMBASSY FOR BOMBS

Trial of Plotters Charged With Putting Bombs in Steamers Has Begun

An admission that money for the establishment ofa bomb factory in Hoboken, N.J., was furnished direct from officials of the German embassy at Washington was read at New York, when the trials were begun of six men charged with having atempted to create a reign of terror on the high seas by destroying vessels sailing from American ports with cargoes for the Entente Allies.

The defendants are Captain Chas. von Kleist, a chemist, who is accused of having been engaged in the making of the bombs; Kari Schmidt, formerly chief engineer of the steamship "Friedrich der Grosse"; Ernest Becker, electrician, and Frederick Karbade, George Praedel and Wilhelm Parades, assistant engineers of the same vessel.

How the police trapped the alleged plotters, after bomb explosions in 1915 had destroyed vessels and cargoes worth upwards of $4,000,000, was recited to the jury by Detective Henry Barth, who gained the confidence of von Kleist by representing himself as an agent of Wolf von Igel, said to have been head of the German spy system in this country. Von Igel was an attache of the German embassy and returned to Germany with Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador.

The detective said he telegraphed to von Kleist last April and told him that he had been informed that von Kleist had written to Wolf von Igel.

GOT $10,000 FROM VON PAPEN.

"I told him he could only see von Igel through me," declared Barth. "I later met him by appointment and he told me that he and Dr. Walter T. Scheele, also a chemist, were partners in the manufacture of fire bombs and dealt also in fertilizer as a blind.

Scheele, von Kleist told me, had received $10,000 from Captain von Papen, of the German Embassy, to finance the bomb making,but he was in need of more cash.

Deputy marshals brought into the courtroom a trunkful of bombs which were exhibited as evidence against the defendants.

The plan is alleged to have been to put bombs either in the holds of vessels about to leave port, or to attach them to the rudders. Acids within the instruments were so arranged as to eat their way into contact with each other after the ship was well out of port and cause an explosion. In this way, it is claimed, many a fire was caused on ships bound to British and French ports and much damage was done.

The head of the alleged plotters was said to have been Dr. Scheele, who escaped arrest by flight to Mexico.

COMMANDER WILL NOT BE GRAND DUKE

Generalissimo to be Appointed in Order to Checkmate Mischievous Propaganda in Russia

Petrograd, March 19.—In order to checkmate mischievous propaganda the new government found it necessary to appoint as generalissimo a person unconnected by ties of blood with the House of Romanoff.

This disposes of the report that Grand Duke Nicholas is to become chief of the Russian armies. It is presumed the generalisimo will be either Alexieff, Russky, or Brusiloff. For similar reasons they found it advisable to leave open the question of Imperial succession. Prince Lvoff and his ministers, accompanied by Deputies Shulgin and Karauloff, went to the Palace of the Grand Duke Michael, and after consultation, it was decided that the Grand Duke should provisionally waive his rights and hand over sovereign power to the provisional government pending his election to a constituent assembly.

Fancied danger of a counter-revolution was likewise prompted by dissatisfaction over the news that the abdicated monarch had been permitted to go to Livadia.

A committee of labor and soldier delegates met at Tauris Palace. Altogether 1,300 delegates attended. M. Cheida presided, and amid uproarious cheering, announced the advent of internationalism, but refrained from explaining how the new era could be introduced in the face of German guns thundering on the Allied fronts. As the gathering proved incapable of attending to business, it was decided to restrict the number of delegates. Some consternation has been caused in the committee of labor deputies by the arrest of two members whose names were found on the list of police spies, and informers discovered in the Ministry of the Interior, which was saved from the general destruction of the archives. It is strongly suspected that this destruction was mainly the work of the former agents of the Kkrana.

One result of the jail delivery in Petrograd that has been effected by the populace was the release of several German spies undergoing sentences of imprisonment. A number of convicts were also released, and are responsible for the looting of private houses. They also set fire to the archives of the Law Courts.

REPROVED BOARD FOR VOTE ON ACT

A meeting of the Montreal Junior Liberal Association under the presidency of Mr. Irenee Vautrin, president of the association, was held in the city last week. The association went on record as reproving the Board of Trade for having passed a resolution calling on the Government to enforce the Militia Act. Mr. Ayme Lafontaine, who resigned as vice-president of the association, was present as a member, and proposed an amendment to the effect that the association should not pronounce itself until the federal Government had laid down its policy on conscription. The amendment was defeated, only six voting for it, out of about 600 present.

At the outset there was an injunction to curb the expression of extreme opinion, and the result was that the meeting was more moderate than the gatherings held previously in Montreal.

The chief speaker of the evening was Oscar Gladu, ex-M.P. for Yamaska.

CANADA'S NICKEL EXPORT

Germany a Buyer in 1913 and Also Early in 1914.

Figures showing that Canada's exports of nickel in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1916, amounted to 70,443,000 lbs., valued at $7,714,769, are contained in the report of the Department of Trade and Commerce just issued. Of this total 11,610,000 pounds, valued at $1,779,801, went to Great Britain, and 58,832,000 pounds, valued at $5,934,969, went to the United States.

From the figures it would appear that in the fiscal years ended March 31st, 1912, and March 31st, 1913, no Canadian nickel was exported to Germany. In the fiscal year which ended March 31st, 1914, that is to say four months before the war began, Germany received 108,138 pounds of Canadian nickel ore, or matte. In the following year ended March 31st, 1915, again Germany received 179,454 pounds, valued at $22,866. Then the measures taken to prevent Canadian nickel reaching Germany took effect, and from that date onward not a pound of it was exported to that country.

LATE CZAR QUIETLY SUBMITS TO ARREST

"I am Ready to Go Anywhere and Submit to Any Decision."

The former Emperor of Russia, Nicholas Romanofi, has arrived at Tsarkoe-Selo Palace, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd.

"Alighting from the train at Tsarkoe-Selo," says the correspondent, "Nicholas appeared calm, but was haggard. He wore the flowing uniform of the Sixth Kuban Regiment of Cossacks and a black busby. Around his shoulders was a purple muffler, and he had a Cossack dagger in his belt. Pinned on the breast of the former monarch was the order of St. George. Nicholas was accompanied by Prince Dolgouroff.

"Nicholas was awakened while aboard his train at nine o'clock on Thursday morning and entered the dining saloon about ten o'clock. He invited his suite to have morning coffee with him and conversed with them for an hour. He then bade farewell to his suite and servants, kissing all of them. The servants kissed him on the shoulder. Addressing those about him, Nicholas said: 'I thank you for your services. Farewell.'"

The four commissioners from the Duma whom the government sent to Mohilev to arrest the former Emperor were received by General Alexieff, to whom they showed their mandate. Their arrival caused no excitement at headquarters. Nicholas was aboard the Imperial train, where the Dowager Empress bade him farewell. General Alexieff informed Nicholas of the commissioners' arrival, and he replied: "I am ready to go anywhere and submit to any decisions."

The various formalities occupied about an hour. Rear-Admiral Niloff wished to travel with the former Emperor, but the commissioners refused to permit him.

A silent crowd witnessed the departure of the train, which consisted of ten carriages, and a group of officers paid their respects to the former monarch.

MAYOR'S PROTEST ON MILITIA ACT RESOLUTION

Adjournment Blocked Aldermanic Debate re Compulsory Military Service

Nipped in the bud was the attempt made at the Montreal City Council meeting recently to bring on a debate regarding compulsory military service. In the first place, Mayor Martin's letter was read, protesting against the action of the Board of Trade, in endorsing the idea the Militia Act should be enforced. Such a subject would ordinarily have been discussed, but Ald. Blumenthal called "next meeting." This had apparently ended the matter for another week, but later Ald. Mayrand drew the attention of the Council to a newspaper article, which contained the substance of the mayoral communication. He asked for information on the matter, which was of public interest. Points of order were raised and for a while the council room presented a noisy scene.

When Ald. Brodeur contended that the matter was foreign to the business of the Council, he was sustained by Ald. O'Connell, acting mayor. Ald. Menard proposed that a vote be taken on whether the decision of the acting mayor should be sustained. But a motion to adjourn having been put, and as an adjournment always has preference over other business, the Council proceeded to vote on the adjournment, which was carried by 11 to 9.

It was announced afterwards that Mayor Martin had called a special Council meeting for this week, at which time Ald. Mayrand stated, he would propose his motion, which he intended submitting to the consideration of the Council at the previous meeting.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ARAB JOINS ALLIES

Big Chieftain Revolts Against Turkish Rule—Aden Isolated from Turkish Headquarters

Another important chieftain in Arabia has risen against the Turks, Foreign Secretary Balfour announced in the Imperial House of Commons. The Turkish force near Aden has been isolated from Turkish headquarters.

Extensive uprisings of native tribes in Asiatic Turkey have been under way for several months, and the Turkish Government has made little progress in suppressing them. The first important defection was reported in June last. The rebels captured the holy city of Mecca, as well as several other important towns. The Grand Sheriff of Mecca proclaimed independence of Ottoman rule and, in November, Washington was notified of the establishment of a new kingdom of Arabia.

Recent mail advices from the Irak said the British in Mesopotamia were being assisted materially by native tribes, two of which, numbering not fewer than 4,000,000 persons, were furnishing men who were receiving military instruction from the British. Mr. Balfour's announcement indicates that the rebellion has spread to the southern part of Arabia. Aden is a British port on the southern coast.

THREATEN DEATH TO BOARD PRESIDENT

Anonymous Letter Predicts Fate Unless Montreal Board of Trade Rescinds Resolution

An anonymous letter was received by Mr. Z. Hebert, president of the Montreal Board of Trade, threatening that, unless he at once called another meeting of the board and had its resolution in favor of compulsory serivce rescinded, he would be assassinated. The letter was apparently written by a person of education, and was couched in decidedly threatening terms.

No notice has been taken of the letter. Mr. Hebert left a message at the offices of the Board of Trade that no notice was to be taken of the communication. It was stated at the Board of Trade that if another meeting were called, a resolution much stronger than that already passed would undoubtedly be presented and carried. Mr. Hebert, however, is not taking the matter seriously enough to demand special police protection.

These letters were evidently part of a pre-arranged campaign, which included the posting of the Board of Trade building with anti-conscription cards. The building was found to be stuck all over with these placards, and it took the janitors some time to remove them.

Further threatening letters were received by the military officers who spoke at the recent Board of Trade meeting. These were apparently written in English by an educated Frenchman, who signed himself "Vengeance."

These letters were filed for future reference by the officers concerned, and no further attention paid to them and no further attention paid to them. General Wilson said that, while such letters had been received, he did not consider them of sufficient importance to demand any military steps.

GAVE ORDER TO RE-OPEN VODKA STORES

Russian Public Were To Bbe Supplied With Alcohol a Few Days After the Outbreak

A story is related of the former Russians Empress Alexandra, as illustrating her pro-Germanism. The occasion was a visit to a hospital where, in conversing with a wounded officer, the officer described a German defeat where the routed regiment turned and ran.

"What regiment?" inquired Alexandra.

A certain Hessian regiment was mentioned, whereupon Alexandra indignantly replied: "It is untrue! The Hessians never show their backs to the enemy."

M. Protopopoff, former minister of the interior, is said to have called in the chief of police of Petrograd in the early days of the street demonstration and inquired if everything was in readiness. He instructed the chief to inform the police that they would receive a bonus of seven rubles daily during the disorders, and in the event of their death their families would receive 3,000 rubles.

There has been found, among M. Protopopoff's effects an order reopening the vodka shopes to the public. The order was to be effective a few days after the beginning of the disturbances. At the headquarters of the "black hundreds" a quantity of provocative literature has been discovered.

The "Listok," prints the last circular issued by the censors' department. It threatens editors for leaving blank places or having smudged columns in their newspapers in an endeavor to make it appear that the work was that of the censor.

Th house servants are grasping the freedom idea. They held a mass meeting to-day and approved of proposals to limit their work day to eight hours, and specifying that in future they should be given time off, separate rooms and be allowed to address their mistress in a modified manner, dropping the familiar "Barina," a title of respect used by menials.

There are 35 prisoners, ministers and other former Government officials, in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul. The synopsis of a story in a morning paper concerning the conduct of the prisoners follows: "Former Premier Sturmer desires to make declarations. Former Minister of the Interior Protopopoff has asked for religious books. Former Minister of Justice Makaroff is moody. Prince Golitzine, former Premier, has made a declaration that he was forced to take the Premiership through fear of Emperor Nicholas, and that he desires to join the new Government. M. Chtcheglovitoff, former Minister of Justice, is a model prisoner. General Soukhomlinoff, former Minister of War, wants more comforts. Former Premier Goremykin has been given the right to have white bread.

Hundreds of delegates elected by the troops in the provinces are travelling to Petrograd, all of them being anxious to share in the labors of the committee of workmen's and soldiers' delegates, which sooner or later will number many thousands.

CANADIAN UNITS ON TERRITORIAL BASIS

Twenty-six Reserve Battalions Each Representative of a Section in Canada Formed

Details of the organization of Canadian infantry units in England and at the front on a territorial basis were made putblic by Sir Edward Kemp, minister of militia and defence last week.

Twenty-six reserve battalions, each representative of a section of Canada, have been formed in England from the Canadian infantry reinforcements there other than the battalions selected for the Fifth Division. The establishment of these reserve battalions is not limited to the customary 1,092 men. Each of the new units will absorb all the reinforcing drafts arriving in England from the areas of the military districts in Canada, which the battalions represent. The reserve battalions will supply reinforcements to certain specified battalions at the front with which they are linked. Thus the recruit will go to England to a reserve battalion composed of men from their own district at home. From England they will go forward to units which were orginally recruited in their own section of Canada.

Also further to ensure the maintenance of the territorial association between Canada and the linked overseas battalions, and for facility of administration the regimental system has been adopted. Into one regiment are grouped the reserve battalions and the overseas battalions to which they supply reinforcements. For purposes of training in England the reserve battalions are formed into reserve brigades.

There are two Quebec regiments. The First Quebec Regiment receives recruits from Montreal, and consists of the 20th and 23rd reserve battalions. The 20th Reserve Battalion will supply reinforcements to the 13th and 42nd Battalions, at the front. The 23rd will provide men for the 14th and 24th Battalions. With this regiment is also associated the 4th Canadian Labor Battalion. The 2nd Quebec Regiment is composed of the 10th Reserve Battalion. A French-Canadian unit which will draw recruits from all parts of Quebec for the 22nd and 150th Overseas Battalions, and the 22nd Reserve Battalion, which will receive men from the Eastern Townships for the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles Battalion, from Military District No. 4 for the 87th Battalion, and from Ontario and Quebec for the 199th Irish Rangers.

When the 5th Canadian Division goes to the front arrangements will be made by the creation of new reserve battalions or by providing that those already in existence shall handle drafts for additiona lunits at the front.

ALL FREE BUT GERMANY.

Significant Question Asked by the Berlin "Vorwaerts."

The Berlin "Vorwaerts," comparing the situation in Russia with that in Germany, asks: "Shall the world say that all the nations on earth are free except Germany?"

The newspaper compares the declaration of the Russian Provisional Government with the declaration of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Prussian Diet to the discredit of the latter.

It coments: "How much longer? The King should straightaway give back to the Prussian people their franchise, which was taken away in 1848."

IMPURE BLOOD IN THE SPRING

The Passing of Winter Leaves People Weak and Depressed

As winter passes away it leaves many people feeling weak, depressed and easily tired. The body lacks that vital force and energy which pure blood alone can give.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are an all-year-round blood builder and nerve tonic, but they are especially useful in the spring. Every dose helps to make new, rich, red blood. Returning strength commences with their use and the vigor and cheerfulness of good health quickly follows.

There is just one cure for lack of blood and that is more blood. Food is the material from which blood is made, but Dr. Williams' Pink Pills double the value of the food we eat. They give strength, tone up the stomach and weak digestion, clear the complexion of pimples, eruptions and boils, and drive out rheumatic poisons.

If you are pale and sallow, if you feel continually tired out, breathless after slight exertion, if you have headaches or backaches, if you are irritable and nervous, if your joints ache, if your appetite fails and food does not nourish nor sleep refresh you, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills will make you well and strong. To build up the blood is the special purpose of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and that is why they are the best spring medicine. If you feel the need of a tonic at this season give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a fair trial and you will rejoice in new health, new strength and new energy. Do not let the trying weather of summer find you weak and ailing. Build yourself up now with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills—the pills that strengthen.

Ask for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and do not be persuaded to take something else. If your dealer does not keep these Pills they will be sent by mail, post paid, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 by writing The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Notice of births, marriages and deaths must invariably be endorsed with the name and address of the sender, or otherwise no notice can be taken of them. Birth notices are inserted for 25c; marriage notices for 50c; death notices for 25c, prepaid. The announcement of funeral appended to death notice, 25c extra; other extension to obituary, such as short sketch of life, two cents per word extra, except poetry, which is 50 cents per line extra, prepaid.

Annual subscribers may have announcements of birth, marriages and deaths (without extended obituary or verses), occurring in their immediate families, free of charge, in which case name and address of subscribers should be given.

DEATHS.

CORDY—On Feb. 27th, 1917, Somewhere in France, killed accidentally, Arthur Frederick Cordy, aged 23 years and seven months. Sadly mourned and deeply regretted.

KINGSTON—At Cottage Sanatorium, Gravenhurst, on Sunday, March 18, 1917, Constance Helen Kingston, only daughter of Wm. Kingston, Esq., of Guelph, formerly of Mount Forest, after a long illness, borne with singular cheerfulness and courage.

GEIKIE—At Elmira, Ont., on Wednesday, March 21, 1917, Lucy Elwin, beloved wife of Dr. W. W. Geikie.

LANGSTAFF—On Saturday, March 17, 1917, at his late residence, "Thornhill Springs," Thornhill, Ont., Dr. L. G. Langstaff, in his 57th year.

LUNDY—In Aurora, Ont., on Saturday, March 17, 1917, Catherine A. Lundy, widow of the late Horace D. Lundy, in her 79th year.

RICE—In Winnipeg, on Sunday, March 18, 1917, of appendicitis, George Douglas Rice, fourth son of the late Rev. Samuel Dwight Rice, D.D., of Toronto.

BALDWIN—On Monday, March 19th, 1917, at his late residence, Mosley street, Aurora, Ont., Geo. S. Baldwin, in his 79th year.

CHAVE—At Vancouver, on Monday, March 12, 1917, Frances Orth, dearly beloved wife of the Rev. E. J. Chave, and daughter of Mrs. S. J. Orth, Islington.

WOODSWORTH—At Toronto, on Monday morning, March 19, 1917, of pneumonia, the Rev. R. W. Woodsworth, in his 71st year.

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WOULD HALT CANADA'S EFFORTS IN WAR

Anti-Conscription Meeting in Montreal Sends Resolution To Government

Following the expression of some warm sentiments on the part of speakers, an audience of approximately 1,000 people at the "Coureurs des Bois," Montreal, last week passed a resolution protesting against anything in the nature of conscription or of the enforcement of the Militia Act, at the same time expressing loyalty to King George. The meeting was called by the St. Denis Workmen's Club, and is one of a series of protest meeting that is being held in various French-speaking sections of the city.

That Canada had done quite sufficient in the war, and too much, in fact, for her means, was a sentiment expressed. Mr. Charlemagne Rodier, K.C., was the most vigorous speaker, and his remarks were very strong in denunciation of the policy of the government, and of the Board of Trade's attitude. The Militia Act, declared he, did not mean the enforced enrolment of Canadians for service abroad, but only for the defence of Canada's soil. Canada had done more to aid the Allied cause, said he, than Australia, New Zealand, and other countries, including Italy, yet it was sought to enslave Canadians.

The other speakers were Mr. Alphonse Verville, M.P., who was much more moderate in regard to the military situation, and devoted his strong remarks to attacking the Conservative Government, and Tancrede Marsil.

Mr. Henri Bourdon, president of the St. Denis Workmen's Club, presided, and said the meeting was called to point attention to the immediate danger of conscription of other military service. This movement had grown by steps, first registration, then was to come conscription. "We claim that we have no need of conscription, and the constitution does not provide for it unless Canada is in danger, and our shores are being invaded," said he.

WANTS A HALT CALLED.

"We are ready to defend the frontiers of Canada, and have no objection that Canada participate to a certain measure. I think that Canada is going too far. Canada has done enough, according to the measure of our force and our means. Four hundred thousand men is enough. We think that Canada has done more than its share in its contributions, and it is time to call a halt. A promise of 500,000 men has been made, but we know those people who make big promises to get decorations for themselves, or something else. I am opposed, as far as I am concerned, to going any further. Canada is not in danger. If it were, I would be the first to take up arms. There is nothing to justify conscription." He made an attack on the Board of Trade for passing its resolution in favor of the enforcement of the Militia Act.

"I hope that the French-Canadians are as loyal as other subjects of King George V., but we do not want to be pushed into doing things. We want at least a referendum as was done in Australia, where the people were against conscription by 100,000 votes."

THE LOOMING ABYSS.

Mr. Rodier said that if the people turned out as well at election time as at the present time the evil of conscription would not now be looming ahead of them. It was easy to see that those before him did not want conscription, said he, but it was also necessary that an answer should be made to those who did want conscription. The Board of Trade had done the people a signal service in passing its resolution, for it had sounded the note of warning, and let them see the depth of the abyss that was before them. The public was a sleeping giant, but he pointed to the case of Russia, where a ruling family in three days had been cast out. To-morrow there would be a revolution in Germany, and he said that at the bottom of the hearts of the German people there was a sense of justice, despite their perverted education, and the Germans had to be separated from those who oppressed them. The people in Germany did not enjoy liberty.

"Liberty does not exist in Germany, but at the bottom of the hearts of Germans, as with Russians, as with Canadians, there is something of justice, and it will lead to revolution. If the Russian people spoke so strongly, and if the German people will speak to-morrow, the Canadian people should not be ashamed to give their opinon on conscription and the war."

The Board of Trade had made two errors, said Mr. Rodier. The first was to advise the government to turn to conscription, and the second was to advise the government to commit an illegality. The first error could be forgiven, as the Board of Trade had never made a success of politics, as shown when they had picked men for civic honors, but the second error could not be forgiven, for it must have been known that the resolution asked the government to commit an illegality. The first error was due to lack of patriotism in trying to establish what was not necessary, something that was fatal to the future of the country. Mr. Rodier then gave his conception of the meaning of the Militia Act, and did not agree that it could mean that the militia should be called out and sent to battle in France.

Sir Robert Borden had taken into his party after the elections of 1911 some 25 deputies from Quebec, who had been elected on an anti-militarist pledge, and by doing so had accepted their principles. Instead of carrying out the policy laid down in Quebec, the Premier had gone to extremes, but he had no right to establish conscription without consulting the people.

Mr. Rodier did not believe that conscription was necessary for the defence of Canada, or for the higher interests of civilization. Canada had done magnificently, with a population of 7,000,000 people raising 400,000 soldiers, and in addition there was the money which the people were called on to pay.

CANADA'S SHARE ENOUGH.

"England, which does not oblige Ireland to have conscription and thereby deprives her armies of thousands of men, asks us to defend what she does not defend. It is absurd to ask us to leave our homes to defend a country that does not want to defend herself. We have done more than Ireland, and more than the other colonies. We have done more than Australia, who have suffered only a 25 percent increase in the cost of living, while we have suffered an increase of 41 percent. The cost of living has gone up in proportion to what we did for England. The proportion of the increased cost of living of a country is according to the part the country takes in the war, so we have done 16 percent more than Australia, the country which refused conscription by a superb effort, and you will make a greater effort to defeat it, and do so by 500,000 votes."

In New Zealand the cost of living had jumped only 10 percent, and in Italy it had been only 25 percent, consequently Mr. Rodier argued that Canada had done more than these countries.

"If we have done more than Italy, which was consulted as to the war, more than Ireland, more than Australia, and New Zealand, what more can we do? What more do they want? The effort that we have made is sufficient, and when Borden promised 500,000 men he was wrong. It is not only myself who says so, but a year ago Lord Shaughnessy said so, and hen there were only 300,000 soldier enrolled. If those who run the country knew their duty, they would stop now. We have sent enough men to represent Canada in a war in which we were not consulted. I will not say that the war is not of interest to us, but eachhas a right to contribute according to ability."

"The government has no right to act like the Kaiser, but should remember that the people are the masters, not those who make money like the Board of Trade people, money made out of the blood of our soldiers. Before establishing conscription let them commence to stop the exploitation started since the war, see that England puts all its own sons under arms, and, when the time comes and when the people are called on to pronounce themselves, we will see what we will do."

OTHER PROVINCES AGAINST.

"Are we in Canada traitors, cowards, or slaves?" asked Mr. Tancrede Marsil. The French-Canadians were a free people, and had defended the British Crown in Canada against invasion. Were the people to be used simply as food for cannon, or were they free men. It was time for an awakening, and show themselves men. It was not only in this province that there was objection to conscription, but in the English provinces there was the same feeling. He asked whether the workmen of cannon were content to have the government bring in Americans to replace them while they were forced to arms, and loud cries of "No," answered him.

WILL MOBILIZE 50,000 MILITIA AT HOME

Men To Be Enlisted by Voluntary Service and Will Go To Camp for Summer Work

Orders were received last week by the commanders in the various military districts throughout Canada for a partial mobilization of the militia forces which will call for a mobilization of some 50,000 men, with training at first in the cities with regular drills, and then at camp, during the summer. The mobilization is to be by voluntary enlistment and immediate steps are being taken by the battalions affected to carry out the orders from Ottawa, with preparations to organize staffs and recruit, so far as possible.

According to the instructions from Ottawa, these regiments are to be recruited to full war strength at once both for home defence and to provide reinforcements for overseas service. The recruits will train two nights a week or one afternoon weekly and will be paid 50 cents for each parade. Any recruit for the overseas forces will train full time, and will draw full pay and allowances.

In May, when it is hoped the regiments will be up to strength, unless they are detailed for special service, they will proceed to camp and stay there during the summer for training.

The age of enlistment fixed for this service is: For overseas service, between 18 and 40, and for home defence between 18 and 45. While on service in camp, the home service men will receive the same pay as the overseas men, but their allowances will be somewhat less.

FIERCE BATTLES ARE YET TO COME

Britain is Forewarned of a Smashing German Effort

In an appeal to the employers to amalgamate by pooling their interests so as to release all available labor to fill gaps in the British army, Colonel Sir Neville Chamberlain last week said: "When the Germans make a stand we will see terrible fighting and heavy casualties and, in order to defeat them and secure a decision this summer, we must keep the army reinforced. It is a long way from Bapaume to Berlin or even from Bapaume to the Rhine, and we must prepare for the fierce battles to come. We must not let the army languish for reinforcements and, therefore, must rob some trades of their labor in order to fill the places of men who have gone to join the army in other places."

FOUR HURT IN EXPLOSION.

A message from Notre Dame des Anges, Que., says that a powder magazine was blown up and that four men have been injured, two of them seriously.

The magazine was the property of the Weedon Mining Company.

Two hundred boxes of dynamite were in the magazine which bew up, and the small village was severely rocked by the shock. Not a single pane of glass is to be seen for miles around the place, and the effects of the explosion was felt in the parishes of St. Casimir, St. Alban and Port Neuf, a score of miles away. The reflection of the explosion was also plainly visible in these parishes.

THE ONLY MEDICINE FOR LITTLE ONES

Mrs. Timothy Bowes, Blissfield, N.B., writes:—"I have always used Baby's Own Tablets for my three children and I can speak very highly of them as I could not get along without them. Baby's Own Tablets are the only medicine I would use for my children." The Tablets cure all the minor ills of little ones and the mother who always keeps a box of them in the house may feel reasonably safe against the consequences of sudden attacks of illness. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

GRAND SHERIF OF MECCA NOW KING OF ARABIA

Hussein I., King of Arabia, and hereditary custodian of the Holy Mohammedan cities of Mecca and Medina. Until he rebelled against the Sultan of Turkey, he was called Grand Sherif of Mecca. He is the second Eastern potentate to achieve royal rank as a result of the world war, the first having been the Sultan (late Khedive) of Egypt.

RELIEF SHIPS SHELLED BY SUBS

Had Safe Conduct from German Government and Had All Safety Markings

London, March 19.—A boat containing the first, second and third mates and five seamen of the Dutch steamer "Haelen," chartered by the Belgian Relief Commission, has been shelled by a submarine and all the occupants killed, according to a despatch from Stavanger.

"The Dutch steamer," says the despatch, "has reached here (Stavanger, Norway) bound for New York in ballast. She left Rotterdam Friday, bearing the usual designations of the Belgian Relief Committee, and was attacked at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon by a German submarine.

"The 'Haelen' did not stop, but after some shots lowered a life boat, in which the first, second and third mates and five seamen embarked. The boat was then struck by a shell and all eight were killed.

"The 'Haelen' put on full speed ahead and the submarine disappeared."

HAD SAFE CONDUCT.

Amsterdam, via London, March 20.—Rotterdam despatch to the "Handelsblad" says: "Two of the five relief ships, which with letters of safe conduct from the German legation were en route northward, were shelled by a German submarine in the so-called 'safe passage.' Seven men were killed aboard the "Tunisie," which entered Stavanger. The other vessels continued on their voyages."

WITHOUT WARNING.

London, March 20. — The London office of the Commission for Relief in Belgium has given out the following regarding the shelling of the relief ships "Tunisie and "Haelen":

"The 'Tunisie' and the 'Haelen' were attacked by a submarine, without warning, outside the danger zone, 56.15 north latitude, 5.32 east longitude (off the southwest coast of Norway). The ships were not sunk. The port boat of the 'Haelen' was smashed by a shell and seven men were killed. There is a hole in the 'Haelen's' port bunker at about the water line. Sundry damage was done to decks and engines. The 'Tunisie' is proceeding on her voyage. The killed include the first and third officers.

"Apparently the 'Haelen' proceeded under her own steam to Stavanger (Norway), where temporary repairs were ordered, after which she proceeded to her American destination.

"The pilot reports that while he was leaving the ships off the Hook of Holland, five German seaplanes appeared and, after circling around and examining the ships, flew northward.

"The ships sailed from Rotterdam last Friday and passed the Hook of Holland for Sandy Hook, all via the north route, with sailing orders to keep out of the danger zone. All had double sets of lighting equipment and safety markings, consisting of four each of flags, pennants, side cloths, deck banners, signal balls, lamps and tanks, also safe conducts issued by the German Government, with photographic reproductions of the sailing directions and a guarantee of safety after March 15, sealed and certified as correct by the German Legation at The Hague, attached to the passes.

"The shelled ships sailed in company with three other Belgian ships under commission charter, all carrying similar safety markings and passes and all sailing in ballast for American ports to load food supplies for the people of Belgium and Northern France.

"Protest has been made by the commission to the German Government through the Dutch, Spanish and German authorities in Belgium and the Spanish ambassador in London, and a report has been sent to the State Department in Washington."

COMMANDER'S EXCUSE.

Christiania, via London, March 20.—The commander of the submarine that shelled the relief steamer "Haelen" excused his action to Captain Standart, of the "Haelen," by saying that he had not understood the signals of the steamer. This was after the captain had gone over to the submarine and shown his papers, including a letter of safe conduct from the German minister to the Netherlands. The submarine's commander, after seeing the papers, ordered Captain Standart to proceed.

The members of the crew killed were Belgians.

TEMPERANCE ACT

Amendments Introduced in the Ontario Legislature.

The expected amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act were brought down in the Ontario Legislature last week by the Hon. W. D. McPherson. They did not in any way affect the principle of the act. The most important is the extension of exemption of standard hotels from business assessment until the end of 1919. Other amendments are one requiring express companies to permit officers of the license board to examine their books, and the institution of an "Indian" list for the protection of inebriates.

Mr. McPherson stated that there were several other amendments under consideration, among them the question of soliciting orders and advertisements, also restriction of the sale of malted liquors to standard hotels. There is no intention to abolish the license commission.

A NEW FRENCH CABINET IS FORMED

Ribot Forms Ministry With 5 Old Members

Alexandre Ribot has formed the following French cabinet:

Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs—Alexandre Ribot.

Minister of Justice—Rene Viviani.

Minister of War—Paul Painleve.

Minister of Marine—Rear - Admiral Lacaze.

Minister of Munitions —, Albert Thomas.

Minister of the Interior—Louis J. Malvy.

Minister of Finance—Jos. Thierry.

Minister of Public Instruction—Jules Steeg.

Minister of Public Works—Georges Desplas.

Minister of Commerce—Etienne Clementel.

Minister of Agriculture—Fernand David.

Minister of Subsistence—Maurice Viollette.

Minister of Labor—Leon Bourgeois.

Minister of the Colonies—Andre Maginot.

Under - Secretary of Aviation—Daniel Vincent.

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT.

After hearing the new Cabinet's declaration and supplementary explanations in answer to a number of interpellations, the Chamber unanimously adopted a resolution of confidence in the new Government.

Premier Ribot, during his speech, was frequently greeted with applause and he appeared to win the full support of the house. Alluding to the military situation, the Premier expressed the greatest confidence, but added that the war was not ended. He denounced the atrocities which are being committed by the Germans in France. France, he declared, would put into the line all its forces and utilize all the scientific skill of its chiefs. The country was ready for the new battles for which the Germans were preparing.

"There is no other party in France," said M. Ribot, "but that which is fighting and dying for France. Of this admirable country everything can be demanded."

Before adjourning the Chamber voted greetings to the inhabitants of the French departments which are still invaded, "those who have suffered with noble patience the yoke of the invader."

NOVA SCOTIA HOUSE TO AID SHIPBUILDING

Bill Provides for Raising $2,000,000 and Appoints a Commission of Five

Two million dollars will be raised on the credit of the Province of Nova Scotia "for the encouragement of shipbuilding" if a government bill introduced by Premier Murray last week, passes both Houses, which it no doubt will.

The bill proposes to place in the hands of the Governor-in-Council the power to appoint a shipbuilding commission consisting of five commissioners and a secretary. The duty of such commission shall be to investigate the facilities existing within the province for the building of ships. For the accomplishment of such the bill empowers the commission to employ technical or expert assistance, or to enter into any arrangement or agreement with any department or commission having the authority of any other province, or of the Dominion in such works. The bill also provides that the commission by order of the Governor-in-Council may be created a body corporate under the name of the Nova Scotia Shipbuilding Commission with powers to construct, operate, lease or otherwise acquire ships. Various clauses give the details of quite extensive powers. The last paragraph of the act will probably be of the greatest interest to the shipbuilding districts as it provides for the granting of subsidies to those engaged in, or about to engage in shipbuilding. The paragraph reads:

"The Governor-in-Council may grant to the commission, or to any company engaged in, or about to engage in, the construction of ships within the province, a cash subsidy payable out of the money borrowed under authority of this act, or by delivering to such commission or company provincial debentures issued under the authority of this act. The payment of such subsidies shall be on such terms and conditions as the Governor-in-Council prescribes." It is provided that the interest realized from the sale of debentures of Nova Scotia or of Nova Scotia consolidated stock, issued for the purpose of raising the said sum of $2,000,000, or any part thereof, shall be paid into the provincial treasury, and shall be used for the payment of expenses incurred by the commission in the carrying out of the objects of this act.

WILL BE ASKED TO GO.

Grand'Mere Man Said He Would Enlist With Mr. Blondin.

There is a man in Grand Mere, P.Q., who is going to be asked to go to the front. He is going to be asked to do so because of his own representation on his National Service card that he would do so if a certain condition were fulfilled. That condition was that the Hon. P. E. Blondin, Postmaster-General, should enlist. That condition has been fulfilled, Mr. Blondin is going to the front. Accordingly, the Grand Mere citizen is to be asked to carry out his promise and do likewise.

A. McKim Limited Advertising Agency New Executive

The new Executive of A. McKim, Limited, Advertising Agency of Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and London, Eng., has been announced.

During the last few years, the late Mr. Anson McKim had gathered around him an executive staff capable of relieving him of all but a general oversight of the rapidly growing business of the advertising agency which he founded nearly thirty years ago, and which now comprises four offices in different cities and over 140 employees.

Since his death, these experienced men have been carrying on the work in the same efficient way that has characterized "McKim's" for so many years. The personnel of the executive as now organized is J. N. McKim, President and Treasurer; Mrs. Anson McKim, Vice-President; W. B. Somerset, General Manager; H. E. Stephenson, Secretary; C. T. Pearce, Manager at Toronto; Thos. Bell, Manager at Winnipeg; W. Keeble, Manager at London, Eng.

For some time before his death the late Mr. McKim had not been able to give his old-time attention to his business owing to ill health. But so thoroughly had the great business been organized, and so ably was it manned by those whom the late Mr. McKim had associated with himself in the conduct of the business that its development continued, and last year, in spite of its late president's ill health, and in spite of war times, the business overstepped, we understand, all its previous splendid records. It is natural and fortunate that his brother succeeds to the presidency, and that the head office will be under the able management of Mr. W. B. Somerset and Mr. H. E. Stephenson, while Messrs. C. T. Pearce, Thos. Bell and W. Keeble will respectively manage the Toronto, Winnipeg and London, Eng., branches.

While McKim, Ltd., will doubtless continue to prosper and extend its sphere of operations, the advertising world has lost a real personal friend in the late Mr. Anson McKim.

BRITAIN TIGHTENS BLOCKADE OF RIVERS

Important Extension of Boundaries of the North Sea Danger Area Made

An important extension of the boundaries of the North Sea danger area established by Great Britain as part of its plan for intensified action of German submarines is announced. This danger area was originally established by the British Admiralty announcement of January 27 last, and extended in a cone-like formation to Flamborough Head on the English coast. On Feb. 13 the Admiralty announced a modification of the danger area, making it smaller so as to bring about intensified operations against German submarines and naval vessels, and also for the purpose of establishing a safety lane through which neutral vessels might pass between the British and German "danger areas" in the North Sea.

The change now to be made in the British danger area becomes effective on Sunday, April 1, and makes small, but what are regarded as exceedingly important additions to the area embraced in the new danger zone embraced on Feb. 13. These alterations are evidently intended to tighten the net that the British navy is endeavoring to weave in the corner of the North Sea for the purpose of preventing German U-boats, sea raiders and war vessels emerging from their bases at Embden, Wilhelmshaven, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven and Brunsbutte into the North Sea, to make depredations on Entente interests as well as to prey on peaceful neutral shipping.

The annuouncement of the modification of the British danger zone comes simultaneously with the German Admiralty announcement of the safe return to a German port of the commerce raide "Moewe." The British danger area of Jan. 27 was established after it became known that this raider had found its way into the Atlantic, and was sinking belligerent and neutral craft along and at the intersection of steamer lanes between Land's End and Brazil.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND CONSCRIPTION

Statement by the Postmaster-General at Sorel

At a meeting at Sorel on Sunday of last week the Hon. P. E. Blondin, the Postmaster-General, made the following statement regarding conscription:

"There are at the present time 50,000 men enrolled for overseas service, but who are kept here to protect the country in view of possible events, and it is the wish of the Government to permit these men to realize their ambition to go to the front by replacing them by others. The fifty thousand young men who will be raised by volunteer enrollment will remain here to protect our frontiers, our canals, our railways and our munition factories. Conscription existing on the statute book there is no need of setting a trap to take people by force and, although I will not say that we will never have conscription, I am, however, authorized to tell you that if the country were in danger and we had recourse to conscription, it would be imposed frankly and above board."

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS.

More Than Half Those Qualifying Are Returned Soldiers.

The names of candidates, who have succeeded in passing the special preliminary examination for the outside division of the civil service of Canada held on March 8th, are published in the "Canada Gazette." Those who passed at Montreal are: Robert H. Bernard, John Norman Boothby, A. Gathe Chene, Frs. Xavier Coderre, James Henry Colebrook, John A. Daly, Harris Demers, James V. Edgar, Moise Ferland, Achille Gagnon, Percy Edgar Garland, Wilson E. Grant, Wm. Augustus Harris, J. Ls. Hebert, Jos. A. Hudon, Malcolm D. Jordan, Come Lamarre, Jean Baptiste Lapointe, John Lawson, Ross John McLeod, Marguerite Monet, Jos. Arthur Paiement, Walter Ernest Powell, Fred. L. Prince, Jean Baptiste Proulx, Albert Quesnel, Wm. C. Ryan, John M. Stephen, James Ferguson Stewart, Benjamin St. Pierre, John C. Townsend, J. Hormisdas Trudeau, W. B. Turner, Sydney Charles Wills.

More than half of the number are returned soldriers.

WIN RECOGNITION BY VALUABLE SERVICES

Many Canadians Brought To the Notice of the Secretary of State for War

The following have been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered in connection with the war:

Addy, Act. Staff Q.M.S., C.E.R.; Affleck, Act. S.M., W.G.; Alderton, Sergt. W.; Alexander, St. Q.M.S., S.W.; Alexander, Act. Co. S.M., O.H.; Allam, Sergt. G.W.; Anderson, Staaff Sergt. R.M.; Andrews, Act. St. Q.M.S., A.A.; Arnold, Act. Q.M.S., H.A.; Ashwell, Sergt. S.M.; Arthure, Sergt. G.C.

Bagnall, Sergt.-Major G.P.; Bailey, Sergt. J.; Baker, Sergt.-Major W.; Bannerman, St. Sergt. J. J.; Barlow, St. Sergt. J.; Barnett, Sergt. H. A.; Barran, Sergt. E.; Bartholomew, Pte. J.; Baxter, St. Sergt. T.; Bell, St. Sergt. J. M.; Bender, Pte. G. P.; Bennett, Sergt. V. E.; Bertie, Sergt.-Major E. H.; Best, Sergt. L. E.; Bett, St. Sergt. D. G.; Bettes, Sergt.-Major W.; Blackburn, Pte. J.; Blake, Sergt. E. R.; Borchard, Sergt. A.; Boulger, Sergt. A.; Bourdeau, St. Sergt. C. A.; Boyd, St. Sergt. T.; Britton, Lance-Corp. A. W.; Brooks, Act. Sergt. H.; Browne, St. Q.M.S., R. E.; Brumby, Sergt.-Major A. T. K.; Brydges, Q.M.S., J. J.; Bull, Sergt. E. A.; Burmingham, St. Sergt. G.; Bushell, Act. St. Q.M.S., A.; Butler, Act. Regt. Sergt.-Major F.

Cadman, Regt. S.M.S.; Cairns, Q.M.S., S. J.; Coldwell, S.M. D. J.; Cameron, SM. D.; Carr, Sergt. G. P.; Carruthers, Q.M.S. J. E.; Carter, Sergt. H. E.; Caunce, Sergt. H.; Caunt, S.M. A.; Christie, St. Sergt. D. S.; Cole, Sergt. E. C.; Coleman, Act. St. Q.M.S. F. C.; Cooke, Act. S.M. C. F. G.; Cosh, Sergt. R. F.; Cottam, Sergt. P. A. J.; Cowley, Pte. W. H.; Cox, St. Sergt. J. E.; Cox, Q.M.S. R. G.; Crean, Sergt.-Major C.; Crossdell, Sergt. E. S.; Crombie, Q.M.S. C. V.; Cruickshank, Sergt. J. D.; Cruickshank, Act. Corp. L.; Curry, Q.M.S. E.; Cutter, Pte. C. J.

Daunt, Q.M.S. A. O'N.; Davis, Pte. I.; DeBrisay, St. Sergt. R. L.; Denton, St. Sergt. W.; Depencier, St. Sergt. J.; Donaldson, Act. St. Q.M.S. A. C.; Douglas, Sergt.-Major H. A.; Dowle, Corp. H. J.; Duncan, Q.M.S. H. St. C.; Dunkerley, Sergt.-Major J.; Dusart, Sergt. L. P.; Dyce, Act. Sergt. J. W.

Ellis, Act. Sergt. W.; Elworthy, Act. Sergt. W. L.

Fairfax, St. Sergt. K.; Fayere, Sergt. A. A.; Featherstonaugh, St. Sergt. E. H.; Ferrier, St. Sergt. B. L.; French, Q.M.S. H. H.; Findlay, Act. Sergt. W. H.; Finlayson, Sergt. J.; Fish, Act. St. Sergt. F. J.; Fisher, Pte. W.; Flynn, St. Sergt. J.; Fohy, Act. Sergt. W. J.; Foote, Act. Sergt.-Major F. A.; Ford, St. Q.M.S. J. E.; Forrest, Act. Sergt. J. B.; Fowler, Sergt. R. T.; Frederick, Sergt. L. M.; Fox, Sergt.-Major H. V.; Freemantle, Sergt.-Major A. H. O.

Garrick, St. Sergt. R. A.; German, Act. Sergt. G. E.; Gibson, Sergt. J. B.; Gibson, Sergt.-Major R. S.; Gillingwater, Sergt.-Major F. C.; Gooday, St. Sergt. N.; Goodfellow, Corp. A. S.; Gordon, S.M. F. N.; Graham, St. Sergt. A. W.; Graham, Sergt.-Major S.M.; Granecome, Sergt. C. L.; Green, St. Q.M. E. M.; Greenlaus, Pte. L. W.; Greigm, Pte. H. J.

Harris, Sergt. A. D.; Harrison, St. Hastings, Sergt. C. H.; Hay, St. Sergt. Sergt. F.; Harrison, Sergt. T. R.; L.; Headland, St. Sergt. W.; Heatly, Sergt.-Major J. J.; Hicklan, Sergt.-F.; Hodder, Sergt.-Major C. V.; Hogg, Sergt. J. E.; Hoole, Corp. J. R.; Major C. H.; Higgins, St. Sergt. C. Hollands, Q. M. Sergeant A. G.; Hooper, Q. M. Sergt. A. M.; Hope, Corp. W.; House, Sergt. F. C.; Houston, Lance-Corp. N. R.; Hubbard, St. Sergt. A.; Hughes, Sergt. H. E.; Hunter, St. Q. M. Sergt. H.; Hudson, Q. M. Sergt. G.

Ingles, Sergt. W. L.; Irving, Q. M. Sergt. F. L. W.

Jackson, Q. M. Sergt. A. H.; Jarvis, St. Q. M. Sergt. H. A.; Jobson, Sergt. H. R.; Jones, St. Q. M. Sergt. C.; Judd, Q. M. Sergt. W. S.

Kenyon, Sergt.-Major P. J.

Lamontagne, St. Sergt. R.; La Rose, Sergt. J. H. F.; Lavick, Pte. J. Lawton, Sergt.-Major A.; Leat, St. Sergt. W. J.; Lock, Sergt.-Major W. J.; Lonergan, Rgt. Sergt.-Major H.; Lovell, St. Sergt.-Major J. G.

McBride, Corp. G. M.; McBride, Corp. H.; McDerment, Sergt.-Major W.; McKenzie, St. Q. M. S. A. R.; Sergt.-Major A. A.; McClelland, Lance-Mackersey, St. Sergt. W. R.; Mackle, St. Sergeant J.; McLeod, St. Sergeant H. D.; McNish, St. Sergeant H. H.; Malcolm, St. Q. M. Sergt. E.; Mare, Sergt.-Major F. A. F.; Margetts, St. Sergt.-Major J. E.; Marsden, Sergt. W.; Martin, Sergt.-Major S. H. C.; Masson, Sergt.-Major J. S.; Mellis, Corp. R. H.; Melvin, Q. M. Sergt. J. P.; Metcalfe, Sergt.-Major R. E.; Middleton, Sergt. A. S.; Moodie, St. Sergt. A. L.; Muir, Corp. C. B.; Murray, Sergt.-Major J. S.

Neill, Sergt.-Major W.; Noble, Sergt. T. W.; Norfolk, Sergt. W. F.

O'Brien, Sergt. M. M.; O'Sullivan, Lance-Corp. E.; Ostrander, Lance-Corp. N.

Painter, St. Q. M. Sergt. H.; Palmer, Sergt.-Major E. S.; Parslow, Corp. F. E.; Peacock, Sergt. J. R.; Peake, Q. M. Sergt. N. A.; Peel, St. Sergt. A. E.; Pentland, St. Q. M. Sergt. W. W.; Pepper, St. Sergt. C. W.; Pomroy, Sergt. H.; Posey, Sergt. C.; Preston, Sergt. V. B.; Prince, Sergt. W.; Prinn, Sergt.-Major W. J.; Proctor, Sergt. S.; Prouton, Sergt. F. G. B.; Purverm, Sergt.-Major W. H.; Puzey, Sergt. T. W.

Raines, Sergt. L. W.; Rathbone, Sergt.-Major P. W.; Richards, Q. M. Sergt. S.; Roberts, Sergt. A.; Roberts, St. Sergt. C. J.; Robertson, Sergt. E. J.; Robertson, Sergt.-Major R. W.; Robinson, St. Sergt. J.; Robinson, Pte. H.; Rogers, Sergt. F. A.; Roller, St. Sergt. H. C.; Rose, St. Sergt. A. G.; Ross, St. Sergt. A.; Roy, St. Sergt. E. G.; Rutherford, Sergt. R. G.

Sainsbury, Sergt.-Major F. J.; Scott, Sergt.-Major J. P.; Scott, Sergt.-Major M. S.; Scott, Sergt.-Major R. A.; Scully, St. Sergt. D.; Seaman, St. Q. M. Sergt. J. C. S.; Sexton, Sergt.-Major J. F.; Sherring, Sergt.-Major J. G.; Simonson, Sergt. V. H.; Slade, St. Sergt. W.; Sloan, St. Q. M. Sergt. G. A. D.; Sloman, Pte. F.; Smith, Sergt.-Major T. J.; Spalding, Sergt. F.; Sparrow, Sergt. R. V.; Steljes, Bandmaster E. J.; Stevens, Q. M. Sergt. W. H.; Stewart, Sergt. C. O.; Stewart, St. Sergt. T.; Stirling, Sergt.-Major D.; Sutherland, Sergt. Major D.

Tait, Sergt.-Major J. M.; Tait, Pte. G.; Taylor, St. Sergt. A.; Taylor, Sergt. M. J.; Taylor, St. Q. M. Sergt. H.; Thomas, Sergt. W.; Thompson, Sergt. F. A.; Thomson, Sergt. E. A.; Tinkness, Sergt. A. J.; Turney, Sergt. J. A.; Tytherleigh, Sergt. P. J.

Underwood, Sergt. R. M.

Vad, Sergt. F. H.

Waddell, Q. M. Sergt. F. J.; Walsh, Lance-Sergt. J. W.; Walton, Sergt. F. Ward, Sergt.-Major R.; Watt, Sergt.-Major J. T.; Wells, Sergt. W. A.; Wermig, Sergt.-Major S.; West, Sergt. St. C.; Wey, Q. M. Sergt. R.; White, Q. M. Sergt. W. S.; Widdowson, St. Sergt. F. M.; Wilkinson, St. Q. M. Sergt. A. B.; Williams, St. Sergt. A. E.; Wintrup, Sergt. H.; Wones, St. Q. M. Sergt. B. B.; Woods, Sergt. P. L.; Wright, Sergt. H.

Yeoman, Sergt. R. H.; Young, Q. M. Sergt H.; Young, Sergt. J. P.; Young, Sergt. T.; Yule, Pte. C. G.

KAISER'S ABDICATION PREDICTED BY WRITER

Emperor William Depicted as Full of Forebodings

The ablication of the German Emperor is forecast by the former German magistrate who wrote the celebrated book "I Accuse," in an interview published in "Oeuvre," Paris. He says:

"The Kaiser is obsessed by the thought that he is responsible for the war, a thought which poisons his whole existence. He feels that he is menaced by three enemies at home, without counting those abroad: First is the Crown Prince, the real author of the war; second is the junker Pan-Germanist—you cannot imagine the smouldering hatred of the Emperor for those whom he believes to be maniacs who are driving him into an abyss; third are the people, not the Socialist party, but the people who are starving and who, he feels, are growing in number and rising little by little against those who organized the war.

"The other day, at the meeting of the Parliamentary Presidents and the Ministers of the Federal sovereigns at which the submarine war was decided upon, the struggle between the Kaiser's party and that of von Tirpitz was most bitter. The majority against the Emperor was so great, however, that he was obliged to submit and pretend that he was convinced.

OPPOSED BREAK.

"In particular, he was personally opposed to a break with President Wilson, but he was forced to consent. Documents will be published one day which will prove that secretly he did everything not to bring America down upon him and that he considers that the rupture was an irreparable mistake. The failure of the submarine war will soon show that he was right, but it will be too late.

"The people he fears most are the anti-militarists, anti-Prussian, Liberal Republicans, who want the Reichstag to be based on universal suffrage. That is why Wilhelm is so anxious to convince the nation that he did not want war. All his protestations are made to appease the Liberals, and his famished and ruined subjects whose murmurings are growing stronger. He wants to continue popular at any price, and that is why he spoke the first word of peace. The people were grateful for it, but the submarine war came and spoiled everything.

It is hard to realize how this Emperor, who enjoyed a popularity unexampled in our epoch, suffers in his pride. He alone perhaps in Germany knows the whole truth, since he alone has in his possession the elements for forming a judgment on the situation as a whole. How can he resist morally and physically under such a strain? Certainly he hopes sometimes, but less and less, for the success of the unrestricted submarine war which he opposed. He sees the isolation of Germany become more and more complete.

ONLY ABDICATION LEFT.

"Once he tried to initiate peace negotiations and failed. To try again would be to admit and proclaim to the whole world, but above all to the German people, which he fears most, Germany's real situation. If the Allies solemnly declared, as they did with Napoleon in 1815, that they would refuse to treat for peace with the Hohenzollerns, it would be a knock-out blow. Our German people, who still believe in him, would abandon him, for peace at any price will soon be the unanimous and hidden thought of tortured Germany.

"What resource is left to him but a dramatic abdication in order to retain the sympathies of the German people and save the political future of Prussia? He will say: 'I sacrifice myself to make peace. Without me those only are responsible who desired a savage war and the complete isolation of Germany, those who took at the beginning my son as their party leader and forced me to mobilize, a measure I hesitated to take.'"

DRAMATIC INCIDENT ON CANADIAN FRONT

Dugout Found Where Four German Officers Sat at Table and Awaited Death.

Canadian Headquarters in France, March 22.—The civilian population behind the Canadian front is jubilant over the display of "voluntary elasticity" by the enemy. On that part of the western battle line, between Noyon and Arras, the enemy still holds his trenches here and there. The raid on Tuesday morning by the Canadians proved that. It resulted in the capture of a number of prisoners with a minimum of loss.

A dramatic incident is reported from a part of our front on which, early in the war, stubborn battles took place between the French and Germans. Some Canadian soldiers searching the field quarters noticed a grass-grown mound of curious shape. On penetrating the mound they discovered the entrance to a dugout in which were four German officers seated at a table, where sudden death had overtaken them. Their equipment was still hanging on the wall. The cause of their death was asphyxiation, either from gas entering the dugout or from the closing of its entrance by shell fire. If the latter, knowing there was no escape, the officers must have sat around the table waiting the end.

PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT

Whereby Calgary Miners Will Continue Work After March 31.

A provisional agreement whereby the miners in the Calgary district will continue work after March 31, providing the operators show a reasonable attitude in the negotiations now in progress, has been reached by the sub-committee in conference between the operators and their employees. Concessions have been made by each side, and the operators have signed their consent to a five per-cent increase and the retention of the war bonus of from five to twelve and one-half percent until the end of the war.

PRIEST MAKES APPEAL TO IRISHMEN

Calls the Refusal to Enlist Until Home Rule is Granted the Policy of Sulk

In a statement issued to the press last week Major Rev. John J. O'Gorman, parish priest of the Blessed Sacrament Church, Ottawa, who is convalescing from wounds received in the Somme, showed how intense indignation at the refusal of Ireland's autonomy is, in the Irish-Canadian, combined with intense devotion to the Empire. An ardent Irishman and fluent Gaelic speaker, Dr. O'Gorman dismisses the refusal to enlist till Home Rule be granted, as the policy of sulk.

Father O'Gorman's statement is as follows:

The eloquent and vehement denunciations of England's policy towards Ireland heard in many meetings in Canada during the past few days, have raised in many minds the question: Should the indefinite refusal of Home Rule by the British War Cabinet and the continuance of martial law in Ireland, interfere with the enlisting of Irish-Canadians for overseas service? I have heard Irish-Canadians say, "I'll enlist when Ireland gets Home Rule—and not before." Is this attitude justifiable?

To answer this question we should distinguish the double duty of the Irish-Canadian—the duty he owes to Ireland, and the duty he owes to Canada. For there certainly exists this double duty. There are indeed some who claim that we of Irish descent are Canadians pure and simple: that Ireland was indeed the land of our ancestors, but it is not our land, and that consequently we have nothing whatever to do with it. This claim we Irish-Canadians cannot admit. Ireland has bequeathed to us, in addition to the Catholic faith of St. Patrick, an intellectual, moral, emotional and artistic inheritance, which is of the highest spiritual and cultural value. It is our right, as it is our duty, to know Ireland's history, her great saints, her mighty men and women to impregnate ourselves with the ideals which they realized, that we, their descendants, may be imbued with their high spirituality. We have inherited as a legacy from our ancestors, whether we will it or not, an Irish temperament. If we ignore or neglect its existence it may rush us into many mistakes or sink us in many sorrows, sorrows so tender, so sad that only Irish music can describe them. If, however, we wish to make this Irish temperament of ours the firm basis of a perfect Christian character, we can be greatly aided in this building up of a new man within us, if we are swayed and buoyed with the thoughts, the hopes, the ideals, and the prayers of sixty generations of Irish Catholics. Though we were born in Canada, though our parents were born in Canada, Drummond spoke truly: "We are Irish yet." Canada is our home; she supports us in her bosom. She rears and educates us. But the life blood that is on our veins, the nerves that are the channels of our emotions, are not from the plains or the mountains or the lakes or the air of Canada. We have received them from our Irish parents or grandparents, from a long line of ancestors who lived even from the Morn of Christ's Nativity to the present century by the plains of the Shannon, or among the mountains of Kerry or Wicklow, or along one of those deep Atlantic bays that indent the coast from Cork to Derry. Canada is indeed our native land; but Ireland is our fatherland, all the dearer and nearer to us, because the ties that bind us are wholly spiritual. He who strikes Ireland strikes us. We are sometimes advised, that Anglo-Irish history is for Englishmen to remember, and for Irishmen to forget. Well, I do not see many Englishmen remembering Irish history, and I am one Irishman who does not intend to forget it. Every act of injustice against Ireland, every insult to her, every attempt to denationalize her, every stupidly insolent act which would rivet the fetters forced on her by a feudal ascendancy party—every such act raises a sigh of sorrow from our breast, and awakens within us a burning desire to avenge the injustice.

Hence certain Irish Canadians have said and are saying: "If England won't listen to reason and give Ireland a small nation's right, then we will use an argument that she will understand. We will refuse to enlist till Ireland gets Home Rule." Now, it must be admitted that the practical argument is one that Englishmen, even political reactionaries, can understand. The Irish vote prevented conscription in Australia; the pro-Ally Irish influence in the United States has been anti-English; and even in Canada, Easter Week and its aftermath interfered considerably with the recruiting of the Irish Canadian Rangers. The British Government knows these facts and they help to make her feel uneasy about her Irish policy. But the fatal flaw in this anti-recruiting policy is, that while it may indirectly help to bring about Home Rule for Ireland, it directly aids the enemy, and weakens our allies. Ireland's liberty must not be sought at such a price; and, this, the Irish being a spiritually-minded race, realized from the outbreak of war.

IRELAND'S WAR RECORD.

Before the victims of Bachelors' Walk were cold in the grave, Irish Nationalists were rushing in thousands into the British army. Ireland, without the rights of a small nation, began to sacrifice herself for small nations and big nations. She did this not with the foolish generosity of the Celt, but because Ireland realized that the interests of humanity are more important and must be preferred to the interests of any one nation. Of Ireland and Belgium alone of all the nations engaged in this war can it be truthfully said that they sacrificed their national interests to the wider interests of mankind. England, France, Russia, Canada, Australia, are indeed fighting for noble ideals, but they are fighting for ideals coincident with or parallel to their own national interests. Not so with Ireland. With seven centuries of wrong, in a great measure unredressed, with an arrogant anti-national ascendancy party in control of all the important military and civil positions in the country, in spite of a stupidly malignant anti-Irish campaign of the British War Office the Irish enlisted in their tens of thousands. When the Sixteenth Division was formed, a division of which the privates were 99 percent Irish Catholics, out of the 500 officers, only three were Catholics, and they were subalterns. The War Office considered Irish Catholics good enough to go to get killed for the Empire, but an inferior, untrustworthy lot who, like the Sepoys, must be officered by Britons. The officers of the regular army who organized the Curragh revolt could not trust the mere Irish. Yet in spite of this, and a hundred similar humiliations, there are to-day, in the British army and navy, or in the casualty lists 175,000 Irish of Ireland, two-thirds of whom are Catholics. Recruiting continued in Ireland, till the country was put under martial law after the unjustifiable though not unprovoked, Dublin Sinn Fein revolt. The men who have not enlisted are feeding Britain.

FIGHT FOR THE EMPIRE.

Such is Ireland's war record. What will be that of Irish-Canadians? We can adopt the policy of sulk, and not enlist, or we can continue the policy of self-sacrifice. If we have any of the high spirituality of Ireland, that Ireland which was ever ready to pardon the persecutor, even when new forms of persecution were being prepared for her, then we will scorn the policy of sulk, and continue the policy of self-sacrifice. We, kith and kin of the men of Ireland who have no longer the rights of citizens but who, under martial law, are being spied upon and jailed and deported without trial to satisfy the prejudices of Irish landlords such as Lansdowne, and Orange fanatics, such as Carson, we will heap coals of fire on the heads of these junkers by making even greater efforts than in the past for the Empire. Thus, the duty we owe to Ireland coincides with the duty we owe to Canada. For as Canadians we have known nothing of the anti-national type of Imperialism, which Norman kings introduced into Ireland, and has there become a perennial policy. British Imperialism towards Canada has been of the nation-fostering not nation-destroying type. The interests of Canada, as a nation, as an autonomous part of the British Empire, and as a member of the world's family of nations, demanded that we should enter this war against the Turco-Teutons, and that having entered it, we should prosecute it, till we finished it or it finishes us. The few voices that are raised here and there, asking that we should halt till Ireland gets Home Rule, have rightly been disregarded by the vast majority of Irish-Canadians. We do not intend to do wrong that good may come. We are second to none in 1914, and 1915 and 1916, in the sincerity of our loyalty, and the greatness of our sacrifices, and we will be second to none in 1917. In this very city, the McGee's and the O'Donahoe's and the O'Connor's and the Young's and the Huggin's and the Brankin's and a whole litany of those of Irish name have done and are doing their share. Nor have the O'Gorman's done too badly, as there are eleven of us from the Ottawa Valley on active service. No matter how unjust be the policy of England towards Ireland, we shall not change. For our patriotism is the result, not of the changing conduct of individuals or of institutions, but of principles as unchanging as our Catholic faith.

However, the same patriotism which compels us to fight for the Empire, urges us to voice aloud our indignation at Ireland's treatment. We expect that Canada's representative at the Imperial Conference will voice that indignation in no uncertain tone. It matters little that Bonar Law, some time ago, arrogantly refused that Home Rule should be discussed by the dominion premiers. Does he imagine that Canada has sent Sir Robert Borden to London merely to learn a lesson in European geography? Canada's premier is there to discuss Imperial and war matters with Britain's premier, and there can be no discussion except between equals. Some Englishmen have yet to learn that Imperialism means that Canada and Australia are the equals of England and Scotland, and that when Canada and Australia demand Home Rule for Ireland, England and Scotland cannot well refuse. Hence the policy adopted by Irish Canadians to fight Germans on the field of battle and British junkers in the council chamber of the Empire, is one which fulfils our duties as the sons of Irishmen and the sons of Canada.

ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH WOMAN'S DEATH.

Arthur Free, of Seeley's Bay, was arrested in a barber shop at Cape Vincent, N. Y., by Chief Constable Wyley in connection with the death of Mrs. Hill, near Brockville, Ont. He was brought to Bockville and remanded for a hearing by Police Magistrate Deacon. Constable Cornelius Brady, of Seeley's Bay, and Provincial Detective Boyd, of Toronto, were working about twenty miles south of Cape Vincent on the case and were called to the Cape by 'phone. Upon arriving at the jail there Free was immediately recognized by Constable Brady.

The murder of Mrs. Hill was committed at her home, on a farm near Seeley's Bay, a short distance north of Gananoque. The crime was an especially brutal one, the victim being killed by being struck on the head by a blunt instrument, presumably an axe, and the body thrown into a shed occupied by horses and pigs. Suspicion turned upon Free, who occupied a portion of the farm, and who had disappeared from the scene of the tragedy. A hat and coat belonging to Free were found with a blood-stained axe, submerged in the water of Gananoque Lake, a short distance from the scene of the tragedy, by Constable Cornelius Brady, of Seeley's Bay.

CANNED SALMON FROM B. C.

In the Imperial House of Commons the Secretary of the Board of Trade said that the matter of imports of canned salmon from British Columbia was under consideration, and it was hoped that it will be possible to arrive at some arrangement whereby any prejudice to the industry will be reduced to a minimum consistent with the attaining of the object of the recent proclamation prohibiting imports.

Paint Without Oil

Remarkable Discovery That Cuts Down the Cost of Paint 75 Per Cent.

A Free Trial Package is Mailed to Everyone Who Writes.

A. L. Rice, a prominent manufacturer of Adams, N.Y., has discovered a process of making a new kind of paint without the use of oil. He calls it Powdrpaint. It comes in the form of a dry powder and all that is required is cold water to make a paint weather proof, fire proof, sanitary and durable for outside or inside painting. It is the cement principle applied to paint. It adheres to any surface, wood, stone or brick, spreads and looks like oil paint and costs about one-fourth as much.

Write to Mr. A. L. Rice, Manufacturer, 200 North Street, Adams, N.Y., and he will send you a free trial package, also color card and full information showing you how you can save a good many dollars. Write to-day.

GERMAN CASUALTIES, 60,471 LAST MONTH

Exclusive of Navy and Colonies Their Casualties During War Total 4,148,163

According to official lists kept in London, the total casualties of the Germans, reported for the month of February, in killed, dead due to wounds, or sickness, men made prisoner, and missing, aggregate 60,471, making the total German casualties since the beginning of the war, exclusive of those in the navy or the colonies, 4,148,163.

The February losses are given as follows:

Killed or died from wounds or sickness	13,826
Prisoners	1,396
Missing	7,279
Seriously wounded	12,451
Slightly wounded	25,519
Total	60,471

The German casualties in the month of January, according to London, aggregated 77,534, and the total for the war up to that time was announced as 4,087,692.

MR. R. R. GAMEY DIES IN TORONTO HOSPITAL

Political Investigation Into His Charges Against Hon. J. R. Stratton is Recalled

Mr. R. R. Gamey, member for Manitoulin in the Ontario Legislature, died last week in the Toronto General Hospital, where he underwent an operation for abscess on the lung, following an attack of pneumonia, which he contracted some weeks ago.

FAMOUS GAMEY CHARGES.

Robert Roswell Gamey, who was born at Maxwell, Grey County, on Aug. 20, 1865, was known to fame as the author of the famous Gamey charges against the Hon. J. R. Stratton, Provincial Secretary of Ontario. These charges, which were made by Mr. Gamey in the Legislature on March 11, 1903, provided a political sensation for the Dominion probably not equalled since the days of the Pacific scandal at Ottawa. The dramatic nature of the charges, that he had been bribed by Mr. Stratton to support the Ontario Government, although elected for Manitoulin as a member of the Opposition, was heightened by the secrecy which surrounded the whole matter until the announcement in the House that afternoon. On the preceding Jan. 30, Mr. Gamey had given the interview announcing his decision to support the Ross Government on account of their progressive New Ontario policy. In his charge, however, he alleged that he had been given $4,000 in return for his change of allegiance.

The Gamey case caused a profound stir, and was the chief topic of conversation for weeks following. Sir John Boyd and Chief Justice Falconbridge conducted a lengthy investigation despite the protest of the Conservative Opposition against the probe being made by a Royal Commission. During the hearing of the case Gamey disappeared to Buffalo for a day or two, an act which caused his chief counsel, the Hon. S. H. Blake, to declare his intention of throwing up his brief. The finding of the Commissioners was unfavorable to the prosecution, the report declaring "the real source of the money is not yet disclosed." The credibility of Gamey as a witness was also attacked. Notwithstanding the report of the Commission, Gamey continued to repeat his charges on the platform throughout the province until he became one of the best speakers and best known members of the Conservative party in Ontario.

INTERESTED IN MINING.

Mr. Gamey's business life was devoted to that of a broker, mining speculator and insurance agent. He was one of the pioneer brokers in the Cobalt and Porcupine districts, and was extensively interested in different mining concerns. For several years he was a member of the mining brokerage firm of Gamey and Lorsch, and held a seat in the Standard Mining Exchange. Of recent years he had an office in the Traders Bank Building. He also owned and controlled considerable real estate in the neighborhood of Gore Bay, Manitoulin Island, where he lived prior to his removal to Toronto a few years ago.

Mr. Gamey was first elected to the Legislature for Manitoulin in 1902, and was re-elected at the general elections of 1905, 1908, 1911 and 1914.

ENDS MYSTERY ABOUT RAIDER'S IDENTITY

Berlin Says Moewe Has Been in Atlantic for Months Past, is Back in Port

The German auxiliary cruiser "Moewe" has returned into a home port of the navy from a second cruise in the Atlantic Ocean, it was announced last week by the German Admiralty.

The "Moewe," according to the statement, captured 22 steamers and five sailing ships, aggregating 123,100 tons gross.

The text of the statement follows:—"The German auxiliary cruiser "Moewe" has returned into a home port of the navy from a second cruise in the Atlantic Ocean, where she stayed for several months under command of Burgrave and Count von Dohna Schledien.

"The ship captured 22 steamers and five sailing vessels, with a gross tonnage of 123,100. They included 21 hostile steamers, of which eight were armed and five in the service of the British Admiralty, as well as four hostile sailing ships.

"Among the vessels captured by the "Moewe" were the "Voltaire," an English steamer of 8,617 tons gross, in ballast, carrying a 12-centimetre gun; the Norwegian steamer "Halbjoerg," of 2,587 tons gross, and the "Mount Temple."

The foregoing statement, issued by the German Admiralty, announcing the return of the German auxiliary cruiser "Moewe" from a second raid on merchant ships of Entente and neutral countries, is the first definite declaration as to the identity of the vessel which sank eight British and two French merchant vessels, and captured two other steamships in the Southern Atlantic last January.

JAPAN TO DO UTMOST

Will Multiply Efforts Until the Final Victory is Won.

The Japanese ambassador to France, Keishiro Matsui, speaking at a demonstration held at the Sorbonne in appreciation of Japan's part in the war, said: "Japan adhered to the Declaration of London of September 4th, 1914, whereby the Allies agreed not to conclude a separate peace with the Central Powers. Once her word is given, Japan's sense of honor would not allow her to act otherwise. We are not among those for whom such engagements are nothing but scraps of paper.

"Judging other nations by herself, Germany has, on the contrary, tried to separate the Allies by all possible means. Recent revelations in America give an example of that sort of machination. Such manoeuvres are absolutely revolting to Japan. How would it be possible for us to betray our valiant allies who have been fighting for two and a half years for our common cause? How could we abandon a great friend of the new world whom we have held in such high esteem and contends for the same noble ideal?

"The national sentiment and real interests of Japan are with the Allies. Japan gave them her word and came promptly to their aid, and Japan will still multiply her efforts until final victory is won."

FRENCH LOSSES

Six Ships Over 1,600 Tons and 6 Under Sunk—3 Failures

The French Ministry of Marine has issued the following statement of arrivals and departures of vessels in and from French ports during the week ending March 18 and of vessels sunk by submarines or mines:

During the week ending March 18 at midnight, 920 merchantmen of all nations, about 100 tons net, excluding fishing boats, entered French ports, and 914 departed.

Six French merchantmen of over 1,600 tons gross each, and six under 1,600 tons, and 15 fishing boats were sunk by submarines or mines. Three vessels were attacked without success.

BEGINNING TO BREAK WITH THE JUNKERS

Hohenzollerns' Sole Aim Will be to Save Dynasty

The executive committee of the British Socialist party has decided to hold an informal party conference on April 4, to consider the situation in Russia, and for the discussion of subjects arising in connection with the Russian situation. The recent speeches of Socialist members in the Prussian Diet in which sensational attacks were made on the Government has caused considerable discussion as to the possibility of a revolutionary outbreak in Germany.

Regarding this Henry Hyndman, leader of the British Socialists, said in an interview:

"While the situation in Germany grows more hopeful from our point of view we cannot see much prospect yet of a revolution there. It must be remembered that the privations which the German populace have had to endure in the past year has sapped much of their strength and made the probability of their revolting less likely.

"The recent pronouncements by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, promising suffrage reform indicated that the Hozenhollerns are breaking with the junkers, who brought on the war and are endeavoring to get on better terms with the people. The whole aim of the Hohenzollerns from now on will be to save the dynasty in the crash which seems almost inevitable.

GREAT CHANGES IN MAKING.

"While, as I say, there are no signs yet that a revolution in Germany is probable or even possible, every thinking man must admit to feeling that there are great changes in the air. A year ago a man who would predict that the Socialist Milinkoff would within twelve months become such a power in Russia would have been called crazy. It is not more absurd to predict to-day that Liebknecht will become the leader in Germany before another year goes round. I do not predict it, but I am willing to say that it would not at all surprise me. Remember this: "it is unthinkable that the Entente would conclude a lasting peace with the Hohenzollerns. The people of the Allied countries would repel the thought of such a peace after the sacrifices we have endured. Revolution in Germany and the fall of the dynasty seem the only way to the reconstruction of Europe on a stable basis."

WHAT DRINK DID FOR BELGIUM.

Dr. Charles Sarolea, a distinguished Belgian and war correspondent for the London "Daily Chronicle," writes: "I am convinced that drink played an appalling part in the conduct of the German campaign in Belgium. It ought to be borne in mind that the Germans are naturally a nation of heavy drinkers, and that the German soldiers found in Belgium every facility and temptation to indulge. Officers and soldiers were largely quartered in the houses of the bourgeoise and in the chateaux of country gentlemen. Now we know that every bourgeois dwelling or country house possesses a well-stocked cellar. For ages the best wines of France have found their way into Belgium. Only yesterday my cousin told me that at his chateau of Gomez the soldiers gave themselves up to an orgy which lasted three days."

COLONIAL PREFERENCE

Opposed in Memorandum of Free Trade Union.

The British Free Trade Union has issued a memorandum against colonial preference, declaring that no effective preference can be given the chief products of Canada or Australia without such discrimination against products from Russia, for instance, as would force her to turn to trade more and more with Germany. If a satisfactory scheme of preference was difficult to work out before the war, the memorandum says, it will be found doubly so to-day.

BRITAIN EXPECTING DRASTIC FOOD STEPS

Stringent Measure to Prevent Exploitation — Machinery for Compulsory Economy

The food question is pressing daily with increasing stringency on the British public, and according to authoritative reports, a few days will see new and drastic steps on the part of the food controller, Lord Devonport to meet the situation and prevent exploitation of the public by traders.

The controller announced in the House of Lords that, although voluntary rations had brought about excellent results, much more in this direction was required; otherwise, it might be necessary to resort to compulsory rationing, which would be a national calamity. He was very desirous of avoiding this, owing to the tremendous machinery needed. This machinery, however, was ready, he declared, if required, and a great reduction in bread and sugar was still imperative. The controller also intended, he said, to introduce a strong measure to prevent the hoarding of food.

According to an unofficial report the government intends to introduce two meatless and two potatoless days weekly in all restaurants and hotels and to forbid more than five ounces of uncooked meat to be served for each person.

With regard to hoarding, it is said, that the police will be empowered to search private houses and if more than a fortnight's supply of sugar, on a basis of a weekly allowance of three-quarters of a pound per capita, is found, the persons so hoarding will be severely punished. Traders would also be prohibited, under penalties, from attempting to compel purchasers to buy other things before being supplied with sugar, potatoes and similar commodities, as this system has led to mischievous waste.

DR. BELAND SUFFERS IN HUN PRISON CELL

Repatriated Britisher Condemns Enemies' Treatment of Prisoners

The story of the Hon. Dr. Beland's sufferings in prison were told to Mr. Douglas S. Robertson of the Toronto "Telegram" by Mr. C. Mellor of London, who was imprisoned with Dr. Beland in Germany.

In a letter to the Toronto "Telegram," dated February 20, Mr. Robertson states: "Lodged in the cell next to that of the Hon. Dr. Beland, late of the Dominion Cabinet, Mr. C. Mellor of London has just arrived at his English home, after thirty months' captivity in Germany. Amazement and indignation at the gentle and considerate manner in which the British are looking after German prisoners in this country brings bitter remarks to the lips of this repatriated man. He only wishes the authorities here could see the way Britishers in Germany are treated.

"Germans actually walking loose in the streets of London!" exclaimed Mr. Mellor; "yes, thousands of them. I was simply astounded to hear and to see it. Why, I will venture to say that you wouldn't find one Englishman walking about Berlin—unless a couple of soldiers were guarding him. The humaneness of the Government makes me tired. What we need here are reprisals for the damnable way the Huns have treated our people. We all know Donnington Hall, where we keep German officers in luxury, and when I think of how British officers were refused the right of buying butter in Germany just because they were English, it makes my blood boil.

MIXED WITH CRIMINALS.

"Poor Beland!" remarked the erstwhile captive. "I feel very sorry for him. For two months I occupied the cell next to his in a prison—yes, just a common prison for criminals, where he had been interned ever since war started. And the man has done absolutely nothing to deserve it. It is an outrage on all the laws of warfare that an unoffending civilian—especially a former Minister of the Crown and a member of Parliament—should be closely confined and herded with criminals. It is entirely the doings of the Berlin authorities, who seem to have a special spite against Beland, and either think or, what is more likely, pretend to think that Beland is a particularly valuable captive, who must be restrained with more than usual harshness.

"At 7 o'clock every night a turnkey comes along the passage and locks Dr. Beland in his cell, whence he is not released until nine next morning. Although measuring only eight feet by ten, with pictureless wall and devoid of furniture, save for the wire mattressed bed and bedding and a wooden stool, the tiny chamber is well lighted, comfortably heated and clean. But think of two years spent in such a place! For exercise Beland is permitted to walk up and down a passage some seventy feet long, and at stated times to go out into the yard, a brick-walled enclosure some fifty by sixty feet in area. Here he is forced to herd with thieves and other common criminals, who are serving terms of from eighteen months to two years.

"The doctor is well enough, and gets his parcels of food regularly," continued my informant, "but he is naturally very depressed with his long confinement, and particularly at the shameful way the German authorities in Berlin treated him in connection with his wife's illness. Hearing she was dying, Dr. Beland appealed to the authorities that he might be taken under escort to see her. He offered to pay all expenses. But his prayers were met with a flat refusal. His poor wife, longing to see him once again, passed away without the last farewell, and the tortured man sat agonized in his cell awaiting the news.

"It is nonsense our Government putting up with such cases. Let us tell Germany that for every instance of the kind a German officer of high rank will be clapped into a common jail and kept there until the German Government stops seeing red and gets reasonable."

MEAT FOR ARMIES.

Canadian Firms Sent Ten Thousand Tons Since November.

It was stated in the Imperial House of Commons last week that the Canadian Government have not found themselves in a position to buy meat for the home Government, but have helped in various other ways. Canadian firms have sent ten thousand tons of frozen meat for the armies since November, and the Government are buying more as fast as possible.

600 TONS MONTHLY

Canadian Canned Salmon For the British Troops.

The British Government has signified its intention to purchase 600 tons of Canadian canned salmon monthly for consumption by the British troops. Sir George Foster announced last week. The fish so purchased will be admitted to Great Britain in addition to the quantity, equal to 50 percent of last year's importations, entry of which has already been authorized.

The British import restrictions have been modified so far as fresh fruit is concerned. Such fruit will be admitted to Great Britain up to 50 percent of last year's importations into those islands, until July 1st next. After that date the importation of fruit into the United Kingdom will be prohibited altogether, except by license.

Supplies of tin sheets will soon not be obtainable from Great Britain, even for the benefit of the dairy, canning and allied industries in Canada. A cablegram from the Canadian High Commissioner in London intimates that the shortage of such material in the United Kingdom is of such a nature as to preclude exportation to Canada in the near future.

FULL POWERS TO BE RESTORED TO THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE

The following manifesto has been issued by the Russian provisional government to the nation: "Citizens—The great work has been accomplished. By a powerful stroke the Russian people have overthrown the old regime. A new Russia is born. This coup d'etat has set the keystone upon long years of struggle.

"Under pressure of awakened national forces, the act of October 30, 1905, promised Russia constitutional liberties which were never put into execution. The first Duma, the mouthpiece of national wishes was dissolved. The second Duma met the same fate, and the government being powerless to crush the national will, decided by the act of June 16, 1907, to deprive the people of part of the legislative rights promised them.

"During the ensuing years the government successively withdrew from the people all the rights they had won. The country was again thrown into the abyss of absolute ruin and administrative arbitrariness. All attempts to make the voice of reason heard were in vain, and the great world struggle into which the country was plunged, found it face to face with moral decadence and power not united with the people—power indifferent to the country's destinies and steeped in vices and infamy.

"The heroic efforts of the army, crushed under the cruel weight of internal disorganization, the appeals of the national representatives, who were united in view of the national danger, were powerless to lead the Emperor and his government into the path of union with the people. Thus when Russia, by the illegal and disastrous acts of her governors, was faced with the greatest disasters the people had to take the power into their own hands.

"With unanimous revolutionary spirit, the people fully realizing the seriousness of the moment and the firm will of the Duma, established a provisional government, which considers that it is its sacred duty to realize the national desires and lead the country into the bright path of free civil organization. The government believes that the lofty spirit of patriotism which the people has shown in the struggle against the old regime will also animate our gallant soldiers on the battlefields.

"On its side, the Government will do its utmost to provide the army with everything necessary to bring the war to a victorious conclusion. The Government will faithfully observe all alliances uniting us to other powers and all agreements made in the past. While taking measures indispensable for the defence of the country against a foreign enemy, the Government will consider it its first duty to grant to the people every facility to express its will concerning the political administration and will convoke as soon as possible a constituent assembly on the basis of universal suffrage, at the same time assuring the gallant defenders of the country their share in the parliamentary elections. The constituent assembly will issue fundamental laws guaranteeing the country immutable rights of equality and liberty.

"Conscious of the burden of the political oppression weighing on the country and hindering the free creative forces of the people during years of painful hardships, the provisional Government deems it necessary, even before the constituent assembly, to announce to the country its principles, assuring political liberty and equality to all citizens making free use of their spiritual forces in creative work for the benefit of the country. The Government will also take care to elaborate the principle assuring all citizens participation in communal elections, which will be carried out on a basis of universal suffrage.

"At the moment of national emancipation the whole country recalls with pious gratitude those who in the struggle for their political and religious ideas fell victims of the vengeance of the old power, and the provisional Government will joyfully bring back from exile and prison all those who thus suffered for the good of their country.

"In realizing these problems the provisional Government believes it is executing the national will and that the whole people will support it in its efforts to ensure the happiness of Russia."

CAMP FOR CANADIANS.

Large Army at New Training Centre in Kent, England.

The new camp for Canadians, established in Kent, is now holding an army greater numerically than the total enlistment from several individual provinces.

The men were put there suddenly. The first need was to establish hospital accommodation. In less than two weeks there was fully established a system of hospitals and convalescent camps, although when the army first moved to the district the nucleus of the hospital system comprised two bare offices, two chairs and a kitchen table.

The normal average of sick at this time of the year is about three percent.

MAKES REPLY TO SIR ADAM BECK

Sir Wm. Mackenzie Says His Methods Are Free From Taint

Sir William Mackenzie has addressed a letter to Sir William Hearst in which he replies to the charges made in the Legislature by Sir Adam Beck. In reply to Sir Adam's charge of "manipulations and machinations" in the Private Bills Committee, he states that these words are "a despicable calumny on the honor of the House and the reputation of the company," and declares that there has been no lobbying and that the company's methods have been free from taint. Sir Adam, he says, has made no direct charges, but has dealt in innuendoes "evidently designed to discredit me in public opinion."

He also quotes Sir Robert Borden's statement in the House of Commons after a rigid investigation by experts, that "not a dollar of the money raised has been diverted by Sir William Mackenzie or Sir Donald Mann to any other enterprise, or appropriated to any other purpose than the construction of this line."

With regard to the charge that the Electrical Development Company had been stealing water power, he refers to the refusal of a fiat when the company desired to test its rights in the courts, and declares that the company would welcome a decision by the courts, and, moreover, is anxious for an interpretation by the courts of its contract with the Government."

SAYS BRITAIN PLAYING INTO GERMAN HANDS

Mr. John Dillon, Irish Leader, Says Politicians are Doing So

"A new day has dawned for Russia," said Mr. John Dillon, the Irish leader, to a correspondent in London last week. "Just as the reactionaries there have been overthrown in an uprising of the people, so must the reactionaries of the British Government give way. As Russia gains her freedom, so will Ireland. The doom of reactionary forces in Europe is sounded."

The Irish leader, by his grasp of international affairs and acute and judicious criticism of certain aspects of the British foreign policy, has stepped into the position once held in the House by the late Sir Charles Dilke. Mr. Dillon said the Irish people would find intense hope in the events in Russia.

AGAINST POLITICIANS.

"The uprising in Russia," Mr. Dillon said, "does not mean that the people have risen against Czardom, but that they are tired of a Government that has not responded to their innate conception of what the Government ought to be. In other words, the Russian revolutionists have not risen against the Czar, but against politicians who deliberately worked against the interests of the country. It means that hereafter in Russia, the Government, however constituted, must respond to what the people want.

"In this crisis the people became convinced that their Government was not whole-heartedly prosecuting the war against Germany, a war that Russians believe must be fought out if their country is to survive as an independent nation. They have thrown out the reactionaries who, they were convinced, were practically selling out to Germany.

"Now, what was going on in Russia—playing the German game—is exactly what the British Government has been doing in Ireland. No one accuses the British Government of wittingly playing into the hands of the Germans, but they have been doing it, no matter how unintentionally. Reactionaries of the British Government have been blind to German influence in Ireland, blind to the fact that Germany has been trying all through the war to stir up Irishmen against British rule. German money has poured into Ireland to keep up bitterness against England.

"Irish leaders have warned the British Government of the danger of this German propaganda, which is so disguised that the bulk of the Irish people do not realize that it springs from a German source. Germany has based her play upon broken promises made by Britain to Ireland. British reactionaries have shrugged their shoulders in smug complacency, in the assurance that there really was nothing to fear. But there is something to fear, and it is a real danger.

"Ireland is bound to have Home Rule. She is discouraged by the reactionaries in the British Government, but behind her in her fight is the well-considered thought of Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and of the country she has always regarded as her warm friend, America. Britain's Dominions are urging the British Government to settle the Irish question at once, and settle it in the only way that will be lasting. That is, give Ireland her independence.

"The voice of the United States, speaking through President Wilson in his address to the Senate not long ago, was raised in Ireland's cause, for the President could not have meant to exclude Ireland when he said there could be no world peace until the government of nations without the consent of the governed disappeared. President Wilson's remarks were interpreted then as directed to Poland after its seizure by the Germans. But they equally apply to Ireland, and all Ireland takes them that way.

"When is it the time to settle Ireland's problem—now, or after the war? you ask. The time is now. Ireland wants Britain to win this war, and when it began all Ireland buried its troubles with England, consenting to allow Home Rule to go over until the war ended. Only after a bitter argument with our people were our leaders able to get the people's consent to the proposal of a conference for Home Rule that excluded Ulster until after the war. Our people did not want divided Home Rule, but accepted it when we urged them that, so as not to hurt Britain in pushing the war, we adjust the Irish question that way. But now reactionaries have made it altogether impossible to adjust the problem except in one way, and that must be Home Rule for undivided Ireland."

MINE-SWEEPERS SUNK.

Two British mine sweepers have been sunk by mines, according to an Admiralty announcement. In one case there were no casualties; in the other 14 men are missing and are presumed to have been drowned.

CONNECTED HISTORY OF EVENTS LEADING TO THE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

For Several Days Long-Suffering Russians Went Hungry But Still Had Faith—Troops Were Also Hungry and Said They Would Not Fire — Killed Their Unpopular Officers

(From an American Correspondent.)

Petrograd, March 20.—As a narrative of the events leading up to last Monday could not be correctly transmitted owing to the censorship of the old regime, I am sending a summary of the dramatic occurrences which resulted in the startling success of the Russian revolution. There have been repeated references in earlier messages to the growth of discontent among the people owing to the disorganization of food supplies. The working classes have been earning enormous wages in all the mills, particularly in munition works. The wives and families have bought expensive clothing, but found it difficult to procure bread. The reserves of grain and flour available in the city were insufficient to continue the full rations of the troops. Instead of the regulation quantity of three pounds of rye bread per soldier, the ration was reduced to one and three-quarter pounds. This reduction was destined to play a large part in what followed.

I remember a scene on the Nevsky, when a crowd shouted to the soldier, "You are not going to fire on us, brothers; we only want bread." The men replied, "No, we are hungry like yourselves."

Not only was the quantity of breadstuffs in the capital insufficient, but the distribution was extremely defective owing to lack of proper organization of the bakeries and bread shops. Exorbitant prices were charged, but the people had the money. They waited in endless queues on a chance of buying a loaf, towards the beginning of last week the queues becoming longer and longer and the discontent more and more pronounced.

Here is a characteristic episode related by men of the Publoff works. This enormous concern employs 50,000 hands, and its output of guns and munitions is so great that in one month it could produce more armaments than we could send from England in a whole year. Early in the year the management decided to transfer the plant to South Russia, where coal, steel and food is close at hand. The late government interfered with the plan and it had to be dropped. The inevitable result followed. The works ran short of fuel, steel and bread. The co-operative stores were unable to sell bread in sufficient quantities at the proper hours. Th men on leaving work for dinner found no bread in their homes because their wives and daughters had been standing since early morning in the bitter cold waiting vainly for the stores to open.

NICHOLAS WAS MISLEAD.

Ex-Minister of the Interior Protopopoff and his crew of incompetents were aware of the trouble brewing. They expected it would come to a head when the Duma opened at the end of February, but everything remained quiet. The long suffering Russians still hoped that something would be done to remedy the bread crisis. Protopopoff, however, misrepresented the case entirely to the Czar, claiming that the police and military measures had been taken, including day large crowds appeared on the Gouchoff's war industries committee, had saved the situation. The Czar left for the front with the firm conviction that all anxiety had been removed.

This, I may add, was the impression everywhere I went. For a few days in Moscow there was a bread crisis even more acute than in Petrograd; but nobody anticipated an immediate revolution.

On Wednesday, March 7, there were signs of incipient unrest. A few Cossacks and patrols appeared on the streets, but the people remained quiet. The following day large crowds oppeared on the thoroughfares. The government became anxious and announced urgent measures would be immediately taken in conjunction with representatives of the Zmestvos and presidents of both Houses of Parliament for bringing in food supplies.

Cavalry patrols were moving in every direction. Many bread shops were wrecked and some fighting occurred. General Khabaloff, commanding the troops, issued a notice saying that the bakeries were receiving the usual quantity of flour and that supplies were arriving regularly.

SOME TROOPS MUTINIED.

Friday the Duma engaged in debates on the food crisis. All the speakers declared the situation critical. Minister of Agriculture Rittich complained that he had been unjustly accused of the misdeeds of his predecessors. Meanwhile, the police tried to confine the workmen to their own quarters. The city soldiers remained in barracks. The same morning the crowds at the Nevsky and other thoroughfares were as numerous as ever, but were quiet, and even sang patriotic songs. The situation remained unchanged Saturday, except that the police in some instances used rifles and machine-guns. Cossacks and some infantry which had for the first time been brough out of barracks, were obviously disinclined to be rough with the people. Later in the day, however, some of the troops fired a few rounds, while others mutinied and killed their officers. The police were ill-treated by the crowds and some killed.

Saturday morning Khabaloff issued a notice that all gatherings in the streets would be dispersed by force of arms. The situation became distinctly ugly. The people, still unable to obtain bread, had lost faith in the government. Moreover, the newspapers did not appear on Sunday morning. Few people knew what had happened to the Duma. Protopopoff, feigning illness, remained in the Ministry of the Interior.

Sunday was the first day of the revolution properly speaking. Several guard regiments whose barracks adjoin the Tauris Palace mutinied, killing the most unpopular of their officers and proclaimed themselves for the people. The Duma was called and a provisional committee of deputies elected. The government, however, still controlled a large number of troops, but everywhere the friendliest attitude was noticeable between the soldiers and people, who continuously cheered them. Trams stopped running, and all vehicular traffic ceased.

The Pa ' vsky guards fired on crowds in the Nevsky, killing and wounding 100 people, but the same company afterwards mutinied. The Preobrajensky regiment with its officers went over to the Duma. The police, secreted in garrets, and on roofs of public and private edifices and churches, began firing wildly. The deputies, who had assembled at the Duma the previous night, remained in the Tauris Palace under the protection of troops. There was no evidence of concerted organization on the part of revolutionaries, military or civilian.

Monday was the second decisive day of the revolution, nearly all the troops joining in the revolution. Next day witnessed the surrender and capture of all government offices,buildings and palaces.

Monday morning Rodzianko, president of the Duma, who had telegraphed to the Czar the day before, telling him that the situation was desperate, sent him a last appeal to give way to the demands of the people for reform, but the events of the day precluded any hope of salvation. With what happened afterwards you are already familiar.

U.-BOAT COMMANDER SAYS THAT GERMANY IS DOOMED; ABHORS THE KAISER

Given a former commander of a German submarine, who is a member of the Prussian nobility, a wireless station in his charge right in the vicinity of Philadelphia, and the first conclusion of anybody would be a plot to harm the United States.

But Lieut. Otto von Kories, who is now engineer at the girls' department of the Glen Mills Schools, near Darlington, denies such a charge, and to back himself up says the United States Government knows he has the wireless plant, that it sends inspectors at various intervals to look it over, and gave him permission to erect the station. He admits he has received messages from Germany, Japan, Mexico and the transatlantic submarine "Deutschland."

Investigation develops the presence of romance which blossomed quickly into marriage. A pupil of von Kories, an instructor of cooking in the school, whose name until last week was Miss Dorothy Waldo, is now Mrs. Otto von Kories. Only a few weeks ago she went to him for lessons in wireless, he said, and last week, they secretly came to Philadelphia, were married by the Rev. Samuel W. Purvis, pastor of the Thirteenth Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

Von Kories denies that he put up his station to aid the Kaisor in any way. He says he abhors the Kaiser and refused to return to Germany to fight when the war broke out. He also says he has applied for naturalization papers.

Von Kories says he is a member of the German nobility and a former commander of a U-boat under von Tirpitz. He says he is horrified at the ruthless submarine warfare and predicts the defeat of Germany this summer, the dethronement of the Kaiser and an idealistic era in European politics.

"The Emperor is doomed to lose his power in Germany," said von Kories. "The people are swiftly realizing the hopelessness, the utter folly of this war. The Kaiser will certainly follow the Czar of Russia. In fact, the great people of Germany will take heart as a result of the events that have just happened in their enemy country. They will view themselves in the rearguard of human progress, instead of in the lead as they always have boasted. I look to see this revolutionary movement in Russia spread like a prairie fire to Prussia, to Turkey, and Greece, and probably to Austria, already maimed by the war. After that there will be a chance for relations between the warring nations to settle into something like a sane and reasonable settlement of difficulties.

PREDICTS RETREAT FROM FRANCE.

"But Germany is sure to be defeated. Her undersea war cannot help her. The British will strike the final blow this summer, will force the German army to retreat from France, and give Prussia the chance of hearing the roar of hostile guns on her own soil. Germany's man power cannot last and the English are growing stronger all the time. I shall not be surprised at a general withdrawal at any time. Piratical practices and plain murder on the high seas won't help her a bit, either."

So deeply does von Kories feel against the Prussian Government, that not only did he twice refuse to answer the Kaiser's call to enter the service at the opening of the war, but forthwith took out his naturalization papers and has offered his automobile and wireless apparatus to the American Government, if war with Germany comes.

HEARD THE "DEUTSCHLAND" TALKING.

Von Korice's wireless transmitter has only a range of eighteen miles, he says, though he can receive messages from Japan, Germany and Mexico. He has done this many a night, though no amount of questioning could get him to reveal a single word that had come through the ether to him. That would be a violation of the laws of the land, he says. One morning he was startled to hear the merchant submarine "Deutschland" on her first trip to this country talking. He made and put up the whole apparatus himself.

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U.S. IN SAFETY BEHIND THE BRITISH FLEET

Roosevelt Calls for Action and Wants a Real War When the Nation Strikes

With a warning that the United States is unprepared for war with any first-class power, a committte of the Union League Club, headed by Robert Bacon, former Ambassador to France, and including in its memberseip many men of prominence, presented at a meeting in New York last Tuesday a report calling upon the country to get ready for action. Charles E. Hughes presided.

"If we go to war with Germany," said the representative, "our only real protection will be ships of the French and British navies, and our own navy, which is undermanned."

In opening the meeting and outlining its object, Mr. Hughes said: "There is a principle involved in the attacks that havo been made, and the success of that principle threatens the integrity of our country. I regard these, attacks, the method of their conduct, as an onslaught on liberty and oncivilization itself. It is time that the American people understood it."

Elihu Root declared Germany is making war upon the United States.

"Technically there may not be war," he said, "because it may be that it takes two to produce that, but Germany is making war upon us and we are waiting to see whether we are to take it 'lying down.' It is either war or it is submission to oppression.

"My diagnosis of the situation is that the President wants to hear from the people. Let us answer him and tell him that the American ptople do not want him to discuss, to plan, or to talk about what is going to be done, but to act."

Theodore Roosevelt insistently urged action. He charged Germany with murder, and asserted that the United States was biding, at present in safety, behind an English fleet.

"War is going on now," he said, "Germany is making war upon us and we are not striking in self-defence. Armed neitrality under these circumstances is war. It is feeble war, but it is war.

MAKE IT A REAL WAR.

"We do not have this port blockaded only because the British fleet keeps the enemy at home. It is un-American; unpatriotic. It is a shameful thing for us to be content to owe our safety to the fleet of a power when we are all the time insisting that we are neutral between the power that is protecting us and the power that is making war upon us.

"If we go to war, for heaven's sake let us make it a real war. We are terribly unprepared, more unprepared than the people have any idea of. We are bound, when we fight, to strike hard and effectively. We want to prepare at once a great army—I should hope, of a couple of million men—so that if the war lasts for a year, we will be able to be a decisive and controlling element in it.

"But do not wait for that great army. We can send an expeditionary force abroad now to fight in the trenches or figist in the Balkan peninsula, wherever it is desired. We can get that expeditionary force, if we choose to, within four of five months into the trenches and it will mean everything for the morale of France, of Belgium, of the Allies generally, to have an American force under the American flag training in France and moving forward into the trenches to take its place beside the other armies, which are fighting our battles at this moment.

"Use our fleet in any way possible, but prepare our armed strength so that no one shall be able to say that if we do go to war we will make it only a 'dollar war.'

"Use our money, use our credit for ourselves and for our Allies, but let us show that Americans are willing to pay with their bodies for their souls' desire; that we are willing to put our men into the trenches; that we are willing to put our men into the battlefield to show that we have not lost the courage, the steadfast endurance shown by our sires and our grandsires in the great days."

Resolutions, which were adopted, declared the club "will earnestly support the President of the United States in making immediate and vigorous use of the powers already vested in him to forestall and repel German attacks" called for universal military service and asked the American people to "face the fact that war with this country exists by the act of Germany and that the whole united weight of American loyalty must be concentrated upon effective governmental action."

HELP RURAL SECTIONS.

Bill Introduced in the Ontario Legislature.

The Ontario Government will place its treasury at the disposal of the rural municipalities of the province to enable them to finance farm loans for the extension of agricultural industry.

The necessary legislation was brought down in the House by the Hon. I. B. Lucas. The bill practically adopts the system used in connection with municipal drainage loans. The municipality will accept responsibility for the size and character of the loan and the nature of the security for it. The money will come out of the provincial treasury, the Government taking in return for each amount paid out a covering debenture of the municipality.

PATRIOTIC IN HIS LAST HOUR AS CZAR

"I Shall Never Become a Traitor," is Expression Credited to Him

The history of the last hour of Emperor Nicholas as ruler of Russia is related by a correspondent of the "Outro Rossii," of Moscow, as follows:

Two trains arrived at the station at Vishera (on the Moscow-Petrograd railway, 125 miles southeast of Petrograd) on the night of March 14. One train carried the Emperor's suite, the second the Emperor, General Baron Fredericks, Minister of the Imperial House, Rear-Admiral Niloff, General Zabel and others. Nicholas, called from headquarters by the Empress, was on the way to Tzarskoe-Selo. None of the telegrams about the revolution sent by President Rodzianko, of the Duma, had reached the Emperor. Every effort was made to keep him in ignorance of these affairs. General Zabel protested, declaring that if the others refused to inform the Emperor he would do so. Nicholas, who had been sleeping, was awakened at 2 o'clock in the morning. He went to the dining car and demanded that Admiral Niloff tell him what had happened in Petrograd. He was told that a crowd of students, hoodlums and young soldiers had terrorized the Duma, but that a few detachments of troops would be able to put them down.

Just then Commander Voyekoff, of the Imperial Train, entered with a telegram stating that 700 cavalry were on the way to Tzarskoe-Selo to present a cross to the Emperor, and had arrived at the nearby station of Dno, headed by General Ivanoff.

"Your Majesty," said Voyekoff, "it is enough that you appear at the Tzarskoe-Selo in the midst of these heroes and, with the Tzarskoe-Selo garrison, go to the Duma. All the troops will remember their oath. It will be easy to overcome these young soldiers."

"It is a lie. Your Majesty," shouted General Azel. "You are being deceived. Read these telegrams. Here is the order. 'To the Imperial train at Vishera: Do not send train to Tzarskoe-Selo, but to Petrograd.'"

LEARNS THE TRUTH.

The Emperor arose and exclaimed: "What does this mean; is it revolution? Is Grekoff (who signed the order to divert the train) commander in Petrograd?"

Then General Zabel spoke out: "There are 60,000 troops, with officers, backing the temporary government. Your Majesty has been declared dethroned. It is impossible to go further."

Nicholas, completely nonplussed, exclaimed: "Why was I not told before? Why tell me now, when all is finished?" After a moment he added, with a gesture of helplessness: "Let it be so. Thank God. I will abdicate if that is what the people want. I will go to Livodia (the estate of the Russian Imperial Family, on the south coast of the Crimea) to my gardens. I am so fond of flowers."

The train moved toward Bologoe. At Dno a telegram was received that the Tzarskoe-Selo garrison had revolted and that the Empress had appealed to the Duma for protection. Nicholas pondered the situation, then said: "I shall go to Moscow. Mrozovski (commander of the Moscow garrison) used to say Moscow always would defend me."

At Bolognie was received a telegram stating that the Moscow garrison had joined the revolution. The train returned to Dno, where it met the train bearing General Ivanoff. The General related everything which had taken place, adding "There is only one thing to do now. It is to open the Dvina front to the Germans and let them quiet the canaille."

Nicholas rejected the suggestion, exclaiming angrily: "I shall never become a traitor to my country."

Then Nicholas broke down and wept. After a moment he said: "If only I knew my wife and children were safe I should go to Livodia quietly to finish my life, and let Michael govern the country. He is liked by the people. I will sign my abdication and then go back to the army, say goodbye to the soldiers, and let them do as they like. I shall not stand in the way."

This last colloquy occurred on the station platform. Nicholas, who was dressed in a soldier's coat, with a colonel's shoulder-straps, and a sheepskin hat tilted back, frequently mopped his brow. He gazed about in an abstracted manner and then mounted the steps of his car. Thereupon the train moved off.

FEBRUARY CASUALTIES.

British Army Lost 1,285 Officers, of Whom 417 Killed.

Casualty lists published by the War Office show that during February the British army lost 417 officers killed, 831 wounded and 37 missing, a total of 1,285.

This brings the aggregate losses in officers since the commencement of the war to 56,365, of of which 16,819 have been killed or died of wounds, 36,021 wounded and 3,465 missing.

VENEZUELA SUPPORTS U.S.

Reverses Former Attitude of a Strict Neutrality.

Venexuela, according to persons who have arrived from Caracas, recently answered Germany's announcement of unrestricted submarine warfare by expressing adherence to the traditional policy of maintaining the rights of humanity and of neutral nations. Simultaneously, it is declared, the Venezuelan Minister in Washington was instructed to notify the American Government of the answer and to give assurance of Venezuela's unqualified endorsement of the stand taken by the United States in protecting neutral rights, thus reversing her former action, which merely re-arrested her attitude of strict neutrality.

1,000 AMERICANS ARE STRANDED IN BEIRUT

Teutons Refuse to Give Assurance of Safe Passage For U.S. Ships to Rescue Them

Turkey has again notified the United States State Department that neither Germany nor Austria-Hungary had indicated a willingness to give assurances for the safe passage of the American cruiser "Des Moines" and the American naval collier "Caesar" from Alexandria, Egypt, to Beirut, to deliver relief supplies to the destitute Syrians, and to bring out 1,000 or more American refugees.

The plight of the Americans stranded at Beirut is causing increasing concern, for officials feel they virtually have exhausted every diplomatic resource to reach them. Ambassador Elkus is expected to renew his efforts for a safe conduct, but in face of the growing seriousness of the situation between the United States and Germany there is little hope that any guarantees will be given making it safe for the American vessels to proceed through the mined and patrolled waters to their destination.

Turkey some time ago consented to give such a guarantee for herself, but Germany and Austria apparently have been procrastinating while other difficulties with the United States were solving themselves. What the Americans at Beirut may be suffering meantime is not known, though it is hoped that the British advance soon may extend far enough to free some of them.

HON. MR. BLONDIN HAS RESIGNED OFFICE

Will Raise Battalion in the Province of Quebec

With a view to joining the Canadian Expeditionary Force, the Hon. Pierre Edouard Blondin, Postmaster-General of the Dominion, presented his resigation of his portfolio to Sir George Foster, the acting Prime Minister, last week. He also wrote on Tuesday to Sir Edward Kemp expressing his desire to be enrolled in the overseas forces. His letter to the Minister of Militia is as follows:

"Dear Sir Edward,—I must inform you that I have put my resignation as Postmaster-General in the hands of the Acting Premier in order to offer my services in the overseas forces. I am willing to put myself at your orders, and consequently I apply for enlistment in the overseas forces of Canada."

Sir George Foster has cabled to Sir Robt. Borden the news of the step which their Quebec colleague hastaken. Sir Edward Kemp proposes to ask Mr. Blondin to recruit a battalion for service at the front as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

It is suggested that in the event of Mr. Blondin's resignation being accepted, an acting Postmaster-General may be appointed to take his place during his absence.

The Hon. Pierre E. Blondin is 42 years of age and married. He is the Conservative leader from the Province of Quebec. He was first elected to the House of Commons as member for the constituency of Champlain in 1908. He was re-elected in 1911, when the Conservative party took office, and was selected for the position of deputy speaker of the House of Commons. He succeeded the Hon. Bruno Nantel as Minister of Inland Revenue in October, 1914. A year later, upon the appointment of the Hon. Louis Coderre to the bench, Mr. Blondin became Secretary of State. He was appointed Postmaster-Genera l in succession to the late Hon. T. Chase Casgrain at the beginning of the present year.

INCENDIARY DOUKHOBORS

Insist in Court That Lord Ordered Them to Burn House

Charged with setting fire to the $15,000 home of Peter Veregin near the village of Ortradnoe during a "naked pilgrimage" last July, five Doukhobors, arrested by the provincial police, have been committed for trial at Kamsack, Sask. Paul Skrypnick, W. Rezansoff, S. Mahortoff and P. Vorkin insisted that God had told them to destroy the house.

Veregin told the court that when he heard of the crime he drove out to his farm and found 11 men, 10 women, two girls and eight children, all naked, standing round the conflagration. One man had told him that God had ordered them to fire the building and that they were going to burn down all the "rich residences."

The men were arrested last July while on a nude pilgrimage.

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD HEROINE.

Dorothy, the eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James McManus, proprietors of a hotel in Sandwich East Township, Ont., lost her life by drowning in an attempt to save her younger brother, who had broken through the ice close to the shore near their home.

Mrs. McManus heard the little girl's screams for help, and arrived on the scene in time to save the boy as he was going down for the third time, but the girl's body was swept away by the strong current underneath the ice. It was recovered later.

DEATH PENALTY QUASHED.

The death sentence passed some time ago on Alexel Litenock, a Russian, serving with the Canadians, was quashed by the London Court of Appeal, the court reducing the sentence to 15 years' imprisonment for manslaughter. The death sentence passed on Litenock was for killing Corporal Colmer at Witley, England.

SIR GEORGE PERLEY'S MESSAGE

Dominions Must Have a Real Voice in Peace or War

Sir George Perley has written the following message for publication in the Empire Number of the Manchester "Guardian":—

"It must always be the desire of a virile people to attain the full measure of self-government. This necessitates a change in the present British system, so that the dominions may have a real voice in peace or war and all matters of common concern. One can justify our sacrifices in this struggle, but it would be impossible to argue that we can regularly and permanently assist in the Empire's wars unless we have something to say as to their declaration and management.

"I believe this war is doing more to weld us together than fifty years of peace would have seen accomplished.

"Canada may well be as populous and powerful in the next century as the United States is now."

Premier Lloyd George writes:

"Overseas representatives have been asked to attend what are, in effect, meetings of an Imperial cabinet, because we felt it imperative that the whole Empire should assist in arriving at certain impending decisions about the war and terms of peace. These meetings are important, as they are only evidences of still greater changes the war is bringing about relative to the different parts of the Empire. The full nature of these changes will not be apparent and their consequences can only be dealt with after the war."

19 ATTACKS FAILED

16 British Merchantmen Over 1,600 Tons Sunk in Week

A British communication says that for the week ended March 18 sixteen British ships, each of a tonnage of more than 1,600, were sunk, and eight of a tonnage under 1,600 tons. Twenty-one fishing vessels also were sunk.

The communication also gives the number of vessels arriving and sailing from United Kingdom ports during this period.

It says:—

"For the week ended March 18, merchant vessels of all nationalities of over 100 tons, exclusive of fishing and local craft, United Kingdom ports: arrivals, 2,528; sailings, 2,554.

"British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine of 1,600 tons or over, 16; under 1,600 tons, 8.

"British merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked, including one during the week ended March 11, 19.

"British fishing vessels sun, including 17 sailers, 21."

INCREASE IN TRAFFIC.

The "Times" naval correspondent, commenting on the figures of submarine losses, says: "The most noticeable feature is the increase in traffic in and out of the British ports. The figures are higher than they have been in any of the earlier returns. When the target is larger it may be expected there will be a proportionate increase in the number of bits."

3 DEAD IN VANCOUVER SHOOTING AFFAIR

Three killed and two others wounded, is the total to date of an attempt by the police to effect the arrest of a negro named Tait in a house at the corner of Jackson avenue and Harris street, Vancouver. George Rolph, a nine-year-old boy, is the name of one killed.

Tait is well known to the police as a "dope" fiend. The police were called to the house by the landlord, whom Tait had assaulted. When Tait saw the police approaching the house he opened fire with a shotgun, the first shot hitting young Rolph, who lived half an hour. Chief of Police McLennan joined the attacking force and in a rush on the house was brought down, and when the body was recovered it was found his head had been half shot off. Detective Cameron received two wounds in the head and Constable Johnson was wounded in the face.

At 11 p.m. the police rushed the house and gained entrance only to find that Tait was dead, but a woman, Frankie Russell, was uninjured. She was arrested. It is not known whether Tait shot himself or was killed by a shot from the police. It was found that Tait had been armed with a shotgun and with an automatic revolver.

PROHIBITION DELEGATION

Asks Alberta Government To Amend Liquor Clause Act

A big delegation of prohibition advocates waited upon the Alberta Provincial Government last week urging the amending of the much-talked-of Clause 55 of the Liquor Act. This clause was at first thought to mean that the maximum quantity of liquor that a person could have in his possession was one quart of spirits or two gallons of malted liquor, but later was interpreted differently by the courts. The delegation urged that he clause be made binding as to those quantities.

Premier Sifton, in reply, said it was the duty of the government to see that the act met the requirements and interests of the people at large. He did not give any definite promise, however, as to what amendments would be passed.

TO RAISE BATTALION.

The Hon. E. L. Patenaude, secretary of state, has been appointed to act as postmaster-general in the place of Mr. Blondin.

The news that Mr. Blondin had tendered his resignation of his place in the Cabinet was cabled to Sir Robert Borden by Sir George Foster, the acting premier. It is suggested that Mr. Blondin's resignation may not be accepted, but that an arrangement may be made whereby until his period of active service is completed his duties of postmaster-general will be performed by one of his colleagues in the Cabinet. Final action in this regard will, however, not be taken until the Prime Minister is heard from.

The Hon. P. E. Blondin will, it is stated, accept the task of raising a battalion with recruiting headquarters at Montreal and Three Rivers.

He has already received applications from a number of men who are anxious to serve in his battalion, either as officers or in the ranks. It is claimed that he will be able to complete the establishment of the unit in sixty days.

HAD FOURTEEN FITS IN ONE AFTERNOON

BUT IS MADE WELL AND STRONG BY DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS.

Mr. R. J. Thompson, of Uxbridge, Tells the Story of His Terrible Trouble and Almost Miraculous Cure.

Uxbridge, Ont., March 27.—(Special.) Mr. R. J. Thompson, living near here, had fourteen convulsions in one afternoon. The doctors did not think he could live. To-day he is well and strong. He says Dodd's Kidney Pills did it. But let him tell his own story:

"I am delighted with Dodd's Kidney Pills," Mr. Thompson states. "I have only taken eleven boxes and I feel like myself again.

"I was taken ill very suddenly. I ate my dinner and went to take a man home. I just got about three-quarters of a mile when I was taken with a convulsion fit. I had fourteen that afternoon, and the third day I had nine more.

"The doctors said I could not live and if I did I would never be able to do anything again as I had chronic Bright's Disease. But, thank God, I am doing my own work once again, by the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills."

Bright's Disease is the most advanced stage of kidney disease. It can be avoided if the earlier stages of kidney trouble are remedied by the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills.

THOUGHT BULGARS WOULD FIGHT TURKS

British Government Clears Up a Few Points in Dardanelles Reports for the Public

The British Government has issued a white paper to Parliament containing in its own words, "certain notes which, so far as the public interest will allow, will replace the sense of some portions excised from the full report of the Dardanelles commission."

The chief effect of the revelations is to show that Mr. Churchill at the end of August, 1914, being of the opinion that Turkey was about to join the Central Powers, proposed a plan for the seizure of the Gallipoli peninsula "by means of a Greek army of adequate strength," with a view to admitting the British fleet to the Sea of Marmora. General Charles E. Callwell, director of military operations at the War Office, pointed out that this would prove an extremely difficult operation and that it would not be justifiable to undertake it with an army of less than sixty thousand. It is also shown that the Admiralty officials believed the appearance of a British fleet would be the signal for a revolution in Constantinople, and that the Dardanelles forts were short of ammunition.

On March 1 (1915), the British Minister at Athens, telegraphed that M. Venizelos, then Greek Premier, proposed to offer the co-operation of a Greek army corps of three divisions. The British Minister the following day added that the King of Greece already had been sounded on this proposal and that he had heard the King "wanted war." On March 17, General Sir Arthur Paget, who was engaged in a special mission in the Balkans, sent a telegram to Earl Kitchener, Secretary for War, as follows: "The operations against the Dardanelles have made a deep impression. All possibility of Bulgaria attacking any Balkan state that might side with the entente is now over, and there is some reason to think that the Bulgarian army will move against Turkey to co-operate in the Dardanelles operations."

DESTROYER SUNK

Merchant Ship Also Lost in Raid on Ramsgate

A British destroyer and a merchant vessel were sunk, and another destroyer was damaged in a German naval raid at Ramsgate, the Admiralty announces.

The announcement follows: "Enemy destroyers shelled the undefended watering place of Ramsgate on Saturday night. They retired hurriedly before our local forces and escaped in the darkness. It was not possible to ascertain the damage inflicted on them.

"At almost the same time enemy destroyers engaged one of our destroyers on patrol duty to the eastward of the Straits of Dover, sinking her with a torpedo. She returned the fire, using torpedoes and guns. The result is not known. There were eight survivors from the crew. All the officers were drowned.

"A second British destroyer was torpedoed, but not seriously damaged, whilst picking up the survivors from the first. A British merchantman in the northern part of the Downs was sunk by a torpedo during Saturday night."

COALITION NOMINEE WON.

In a by-election held at Stockton-on-Tees, made necessary through the recent death of Jonathan Samuel, Liberal member of Parliament, the Liberal coalition candidate, Bertram Watson, won the seat. He received 7,641 votes as against only 596 for the "peace by negotiation," candidate, Edward Backhouse.

THE WORLD'S VERDICT.

One sent out his ships to earth's farthest shores,
And brought to his coffers the Orient's stores;
The wild desert sands
Became gold in his hands;
And the world called him Genius
—and wondered

One sought out the secrets of planet and star;
He reveled in problems of granite and spar;
He thirsted to know
All the earth could bestow;
And the world called him Scholar
—and praised him.

One looked on a suffering, down-trodden race;
He wept as he gazed upon each troubled face;
He heeded their plea,
And he set their hands free;
And the world called him Brother—and loved him.

—Thomas Curtis Clark.

FARMERS MARKETS

Strong Tone to the Montreal Market For Butcher Cattle During the Week

The Montreal market for butcher cattle has shown a strong tone during the entire week. What few choice stock arrived met with a good demand, but more could be used. No Easter stock has yet arrived, and drovers report very few extra choice stock for the trade which will develop next week. Milch cows have taken a decided slump owing to the offerings being greater than the demand. Poor grade milkers have sold as low as $40 a head, and the best only brought around $125 each.

Sheep and lambs show no particular change. Receipts have been light.

Choice hogs are still selling for $16 to $16.25 cwt. off cars, but this grade has been scarce, and as a consequence heavy roughs and unfinished grades have moved off slowly with a consequent loss to drovers.

The increasing receipts of veal calves have caused an easier feeling to develop. Many calves too young to pass the government inspectors have been arriving and many have been confiscated as unfit for food.

Receipts of live stock during the week amounted to 1,300 cattle, 175 sheep and lambs, 2,470 hogs and 1,950 calves.

Quotations for full loads:

Butcher cattle—Steers, choice, $10.50 to $10.75; good, $10 to $10.25; medium, $9.25 to $9.50. Bulls — Choice, $9 to $9.50; good, $8.25 to $8.75; canners, $7.50 to $8. Cows—Choice, $8.50 to $9; good, $7.50 to $8.25; fair to medium, $6.50 to $7.25, and canners, $5.25 to $5.75 cwt. Milch cows, $40 to $125, and springers, $35 to $80 each.

Sheep, $8.50 to $9.50 cwt., and lambs, $7 to $8 each.

Hogs, selects, $16 to $16.25 for long runs; $15.50 to $15.75 for select short runs; $15 to $15.25 for rough and unfinished; sows, $12 to $14.25; stags, $11 to $13.25 cwt., all weighed off cars.

Calves, feeders, $6 to $7, and milk fed, $8.50 to $10 cwt.

PROVISION MARKET

Trade in Hogs Quiet, But Undertone to Market Strong

Montreal, Saturday Evening.

There was no actual change in prices for live hogs on spot to-day, but the prospects are that they will go higher in the near future if the recent advance at other leading Canadian centres is maintained. The trade to-day was quiet, owing to the fact that buyers and sellers were disposed to wait for the arrival of the balance of the stock on the way for Monday's market and, in consequence, prices were nominally quoted at $16.25 to $16.50 per 100 lbs., weighed off cars. The demand for small lots of dressed hogs to meet actual wants was steady and prices ruled very firm, with sales of abattoir stock, in a wholesale jobbing way at $22 to $22.50 per 100 lbs.

A very firm feeling prevailed in the market for smoked and cured meats and the general impression in the trade was that if prices for hogs scored a further advance in the near future, values all along the line would have to be marked up. The demand to-day was rather quiet, as most buyers had provided for their wants earlier in the week and, in consequence, the volume of business was smaller, with sales of 8 to 10 lb. hams at 27c per lb., 12 to 14 lbs. at 26c, and medium and heavy weights at 25c, while breakfast bacon sold at 28c. Windsor selected bacon at 31c, and Windsor boneless at 33c per lb.

There were no new developments in the condition of the market for lard, but the feeling was very firm, with a good steady demand for supplies, of which the offerings were none too plentiful, but they were ample to fill all requirements. Sales of pure leaf grades were made at 24c to 24 1-2c per lb. in 20 lbs. wood pails, and at 23 1-2c in 20 lb. tin pales, while compound lard sold at 23c in 20 lb. wood pails, and at 22 1-2c in 20 lb. tin pails.

Chicago, March 24.—Provisions derived strength from the higher quotations on hogs and grain. Lard and ribs touched the highest prices yet this season. Future quotations were:

	Open	Close
Mess pork, per bbl.—		
May	$34.37	$34.60
July	33.80	33.90
Lard, per 100 lbs.—		
May	19.72	19.90
July	19.75	19.92
Short ribs, per 100 lbs.—		
May	18.05	18.12
July	18.15	18.27

Cash prices closed: Pork, $34.60. Lard, $19.90 to $20. Ribs, $17.72 to $18.20.

Those who have been taking two or three of our publications on the "Combination" rates may send in the NEW subscriptions of their friends at the Bargain Subscription Rates offered for one, two or more NEW subscriptions.

As for instance, one NEW subscriber to the "Witness" at $1.00, two NEW subscribers for $1.60, three NEW subscribers for $2.25. They are entitled to send these rates in inasmuch as they have already subscribed under the combination rates for themselves—and because they thus increase the circulation, influence, and advertising revenues of the publications. But such rates may only be sent in by or through a subscriber who is already taking the publication and the subscription at above rates must be NEW.

DAIRY PRODUCE MARKET QUIETER

Receipts of Butter for Week Larger Than Year Ago and Cheese Smaller

Montreal, Saturday Evening.

This has been a rather quiet week in the butter market owing to the fact that the demand has been principally of a local character, and chiefly for small lots to meet immediate requirements, consequently the volume of business was not large, but, as the receipts were smaller than last week and supplies of fine to finest goods on spot not excessive, a steady feeling prevailed in the situation, and prices show no important change, sales of finest creamery being made at 43c per lb.

The receipts of butter for the week ended March 24th, 1917, were 2,311 packages, as compared with the previous week, and an increase of 1,266 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts from May 1st, 1916, to date, show an increase of 112,313 packages, as compared with the corresponding period a year ago.

We quote prices as follows:

Finest fall creamery, 40c. to 43c
Fine fall creamery, 42c. to 42 1-2c.
Winter creamery, 41c. to 41 1-2c.
Undergrade creamery, 40c. to 40 1-2c.
Finest dairy butter, 37 1-2c. to 38c.
Fine dairy butter, 36c. to 36 1-2c.

There were no new developments in the local cheese situation during the week, business generally being very quiet, and the undertone to the market firm. A few small lots of fodder goods were picked up for export account at 24c. per lb., and sales for local account were made at 23c. to 25c. per lb., as to quality.

The receipts of cheese for the week ended March 24th, 1917, were 1,278 boxes, which show a decrease of 3,475 boxes as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 260 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st, 1916, to date, show an increase of 260,905 boxes, as compared with the same period a year ago. Of the total receipts for the week there were 636 boxes received from the United States, as against 183 for the same week last year.

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The following table shows the receipts of butter and cheese in Montreal for the week ended March 24th, 1917, with comparisons:

	Butter, Pkgs.	Cheese, Boxes.
Receipts March 24, 1917	590	362
Receipts March 17, 1917	579	369
Receipts March 25, 1916	186	133
Week ended March 24, 1917	2,317	1,278
Week ended March 17, 1917	1,002	4,753
Week ended March 25, 1916	1,031	1,538
Total receipts May 1, 1916, to March 24, 1917	512,735	2,259,990
Totals receipts May 1, 1915, to March 25, 1916	400,422	1,999,084

New York, March 24.—Butter firm. Receipts, 5,071 packages. Creamery, higher than extras, 42c. to 42 1-2c.; creamery, extras, 92 score, 41 1-2c.; firsts, 38 1-2c. to 41c.; seconds, 35 1-2c. to 38c. Cheese irregular. Receipts, 7,977 boxes. State, whole milk, held, specials, 27c. to 27 1-2c.; do., average fancy, 26 1-2c. to 27c.

EGG MARKET CLOSED EASIER

On Milder Weather and Prospects of Increased Receipts Prices Declined

Montreal, Saturday Evening.

The tone of the market for eggs for most part of the week showed firmness, which was attributed to the fact that there was no marked increase in the arrivals of Canadian stock, consequently, dealers have had to continue to import from the United States to supply the shortage. The demand has been good, and quite an active trade was done, which resulted in all offerings being cleared up daily, and sales of fresh gathered stock were made in some instances as high as 40c per dozen in a wholesale jobbing way, but the bulk of the business was done at 38c to 39c. The tone of the market to-day was easier owing to the milder weather which has prevailed throughout the country, and the prospects for increased receipts of Canadian stock next week, and the prices were reduced at the close one cent per dozen, and the market will open on Monday on the basis of 37c to 38c per dozen. Owing to the near approach of Easter, when there is generally a large consumption, the indications are that a very active trade will be done during the next two weeks.

With reference to foreign markets, recent cable advices from Liverpool reported a drop in prices for eggs, which was the result of increased local supplies, and in sympathy with the Canadian and American markets. That Canadian eggs will be a factor on the British market this year is indicated by the increased inquiries from the different English firms. The scarcity of tonnage and the high freight rate on eggs, viz., $1.20 a cu. ft., approximately 10c per dozen is now being asked, has caused some concern among Canadian shippers, but the feeling here is that when navigation opens from the port of Montreal more tonnage will be available and conditions will improve.

The receipts of eggs for the week ended March 24, 1917, were 6,581 cases, as against 5,792 for the previous week, and 8,331 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1, 1916, to date, were 667,867 cases, as compared with 570,091 for the corresponding period a year ago, showing an increase and concases.

There has been no important change in the condition of the market for honey during the week, prices having been fully maintained, owing to the fact that supplies were not excessive, for which there was a steady demand, and a fair amount of business was done, with sales of white clover honey in comb at 14 3-4c to 15c, white extracted honey, in 30 lb. tins, at 12c to 12½c; brown honey in comb at 11 3-4c to 12 3-4c to 12c, and buckwheat honey at 9c to 11c.

A steady trade has been done in maple product throughout the week, but the demand has been principally for small lots to meet immediate wants, owing to the fact that buyers in most cases are now awaiting the arrival of the first new crop goods, which should come on the market within the next few days. Old crop maple syrup in 8 lb. tins sold at 95c to 97½c, and in 10 lb. tins at $1.05 to $1.07½. A few small lots of maple sugar changed hands at 13c to 15c per lb.

A much stronger feeling has prevailed in the market for beans since this day week, and prices, in consequence, have scored another sharp advance, which is attributed principally to the shortage of supplies and the continued good demand for the same. Sales of Ontario hand picked beans in a wholesale jobbing way have been made at $8, and one and two pound pickers at $7.75, while Rangoon beans have brought $7 to $7.50, and yellow eye beans $7.50 per bushel.

Owing to the more liberal supplies of potatoes coming forward, and the milder weather prevailing a weaker feeling has developed in the market, and prices have scored a further decline of 10c to 25c per bag. The demand is only fair for small lots to meet actual wants, and sales of Green Mountains were made at $3 to $3.10, Quebec white stock at $2.90, Quebec red stock at $2.65, and Quebec mixed stock at $2.50 to $2.60 per bag of 80 lbs., ex-store.

New York, March 24.—Eggs steady. Receipts, 8,290 cases. Fresh gathered, extra fine, 30c; extra firts, 29½c; firsts, 28½c to 29c; seconds and lower grades, 27½c to 28c; State Pennsylvania and nearbywestern, whites, fine to fancy, 33c to 34c; nearby hennery, browns, 30c to 31c.

CHICAGO WHEAT MARKET STRONG

On Further Bad Crop Reports Wheat Prices in Chicago Advanced 3/8c to 2 3/4c

Winnipeg, March 24—Fluctuations in grain to-day were:

	Open	Close
Wheat—		
May	$1.89⅛	$1.88⅜
July	1.83⅝	1.84⅛
Oct.	1.51¾	1.52⅝
Oats—		
May	.63⅞	.64⅛
July	.62¾	.62⅝
Oct.	.56⅜	.56

Cash prices closed—

Wheat—No. 1 northern, $1.89 3-4; No. 2 northern, $1.86 1-4; No. 3 northern, $1.80 1-4; No. 4, $1.78 3-4, feed, $1. Oats—No. 2 C.W., 64 1-8c; No. 3 C. W., 61 7-8c; extra No. 1 feed, 61 7-8c; No. 1, 60 7-8c. Barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.07; No. 4 C. W., $1; rejected, 90c.; feed, 90c. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $2.63; No. 2 C. W., $2.59 1-4.

The receipts of grain in Winnipeg were as follows:

	Thursday.	Friday.
No. 1 northern	26	21
No. 2 northern	67	63
No. 3 northern	51	52
No. 4 northern	3	13
No. 5 northern	12	12
No. 6 northern	5	8
Feed wheat	15	9
Rejected	4	11
No grade	183	172
No. 4 special	16	4
No. 5 special	17	7
No. 6 special	6	6
Winter wheat	0	0
Totals	434	378
Same date last year	592	638
Oats	206	152
Same date last year	77	194
Barley	22	11
Same date last year	10	19
Flax	19	24
Same date last year	33	14

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET.

Chicago, March 24.—Big losses in acreage as a result of winter killing did much to-day to boost the value of wheat. The market, however, reacted because of profit taking and in the end was unsettled at the same as yesterday's finish to 2 3-4c up with May at $1.90 3-4 to $1.91 and July at $1.63 to $1.63 3-8. Corn gained 3-4c to 1½c and oats closed 1-8c off to 1 1-8c advance. Reports from eleven leading states indicated that abandonment of winter wheat territory aggregated 4,885,000 acres, the heaviest total ever known, except once. This showing with a fresh flood of damage reports from west of the Missouri river, led to unusually free buying that carried the market to the topmost prices which the new crop deliveries have attained this season. Prospects of increased cooperation of the United States in supplying foodstuffs to the Entente nations counted materially as a help to the bull side of the market. In addition, there were rumors current that Argentina was about to declare an embargo on the export of all grain. Anticipations of a good sized falling off in the United States visible supply total on Monday offset to some extent the influence of heavy realizing sales in the last hour. In connection with the visible supply outlook, significance was attached to word from a Texas exporter that he had sold out all his wheat to Allied Government buyers and that they were taking everything in sight.

Aggressive buying made corn soar to a new high record price for the season. Rumors of an Argentine embargo and the continued scarcity of domestic rural offerings were proficient factors. Oats rose with corn and wheat. A favorite theory was that oats were relatively cheaper than other cereals.

Future prices were:

	Open.	Close.
Wheat—		
May	$1.90⅞	$1.90¾
July	1.60¾	1.63
Corn—		
May	1.14⅞	1.16
July	1.12⅞	1.14¼
Oats—		
May	.60⅝	.61¼
July	.58	.58

Cash prices closed:

Wheat—Nos. 2 and 3 red and No. 2 hard, nominal. No. 3 hard, $2.00¼. Corn—No. 2 yellow, $1.19; No. 3 yellow, $1.17 to $1.18; No. 4 yellow, $1.15¼ to $1.16¾. Oats—No. 3 white, 63½c to 65c; standard, 64½c to 65½c. Rye, No. 2, 61.65. Barley, $1.05 to $1.35. Timothy seed, $3.75 to $5.75. Clover seed, $12 to $18.

MONTREAL GRAIN MARKET.

Montreal, Saturday.

A fair amount of business was done in grain during the week for domestic and country account and, in sympathy with the strength in other markets, a firm feeling prevailed in most lines and especially so at the close. A feature of the trade was the steady demand from millers for Manitoba wheat and sales of quite a few cars were made for shipment from Fort William, and in addition to this there was also a good demand for Manitoba feed and besides the sales of car lots made at $1.25 to $1.30 per bushel, ex-store, some round lots changed hands at $1.22. Owing to the advance in prices for corn in the Chicago market a strong feeling prevailed on spot and sales of car lots were made at $1.35 to $1.40 per bushel ex-track. The market for oats wasr ather quiet as the demand was only for car lots, but prices closed strong, with sales of No. 2 Canadian western at 76c. No. 3 C. W. at 75 1-2c., extra No. 1 feed at 73 1-2c., and No. 2 feed at 71 1-2c. per bushel, ex-store. Manitoba No. 4 barley in car lots en route was quoted at $1.20, and Manitoba feed barley at $1.06 per bushel, ex-track.

TORONTO GRAIN MARKET.

Toronto, March 24.—Quotations are as follows:

Ontario wheat—No. 2 winter, $1.88 to $1.90, outside, according to location.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 northern, $2.07 1-2; No. 2 northern, $2.04 1-2; No. 3 northern, $1.98 1-2.

Oats—Canada western, No. 2, 75c.; No. 3 Canada western, 73 3-4c. at lake ports, for immediate shipment; Ontario No. 2 white, 67c. to 69c., outside; No. 3 white, 66c. to 68c., outside.

Corn—American No. 3 yellow, $1.28, subject to embargo.

Peas—No. 2, $2.70.

Barley, $1.21 to $1.23.

Buckwheat, $1.32.

Manitoba flour—Listed quotations at Toronto are: First, patents, $9.70; second patents, $9.20; strong bakers, $8.80.

Ontario flour—Winter flour, 90 per cent patents, $7.75, Toronto.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, $38 per ton; shorts, $40 per ton, on track, Montreal freights.

MONTREAL CLOSING PRICES

	March 24. Asked	Bid.
Ames Holden	21	17
Do. preferred	63	..
Asbestos C.	18	..
Do. preferred	48	..
Bell Telephone	..	..
Brazilian	43½	43⅜
Brompton P.	57¼	57
Can. C. and F.	28½	28¼
Do. preferred	71¾	71½
Canada Cement	65	64½
Can. Converters	..	41
Can. C. Rubber	..	95
Canada Cottons	54	53½
Do. preferred	80	79
Can. Forgings	160	150
Do. preferred	90	82
C. G. Electric	x110	109¾
Canada Locomotive	57½	56⅞
Canadian Pacific	x166½	166
C. SS. Lines	40	39½
Carriage Factories	..	12
Civic Investment	81½	81
C. Mining	x32	31½
Detroit United	xx117¾	117½
Do. Rights	3½	3⅜
Dominion Bridge	140	134
Dom. Can.	..	23
Dom. Steel C.	65⅜	65½
Dom. Textile	x86	84
Do. preferred	..	102½
Goodwins preferred	45	..
Inter. Coal preferred	80	..
Laurentide	189	187
Lake of Woods	..	126
Lyall Construction	80½	79
Macdonald	15¾	15
Maple Milling	114½	114
Montreal Cotton	55	51
Do. preferred	103	..
Montreal L. and M.	175	165
Ogilvie Milling	..	138
Do. preferred	..	..
Ontario Steel Products	19	18¼
Paton Manufacturing	..	120
Penmans	72¾	72
Porto Rico	..	36
Price Brothers	..	..
Quebec Railway	30	25½
Riordon	123	122
Do. preferred	x93½	..
Shawinigan	130	125½
Spanish River	18	17¾
Do. preferred	..	59
Steel Corporation	67¾	67⅝
Do. preferred	..	92½
Toronto Railway	89½	89⅜
Tooke preferred	76¾	..
Tucketts preferred	85	..
Wayagamack	83	82¾
Winnipeg Railway	..	65

BANKS—

Commerce	187	..
Hochelaga	149	..
Merchants	170	..
Molsons	..	..
Montreal	223	..
Ottawa	202¼	..

BONDS—

Asbestos C.	..	72
Bell Telephone	99	..
Canada Cement	..	97½
Can. Con.	85	..
Can. Locomotive	..	..
Cedars Rapids	90	..
Dom. Iron and Steel	..	87½
Dominion War Loan—		
1925	..	97½
1931	95¾	..
Lake of Woods	103	..
Laurentide	..	101½
Lyall Construction	85½	..
Penmans	..	84½
Porto Rico	85	..
Price Brothers	83	..
Quebec Railway	71	..
Riordon	98	..
Sherwin Williams	..	99
Spanish River	87	..
Winnipeg Electric	94	..

UNLISTED SECURITIES.

Dom. Glass preferred	82	80x
Smith P. Limited	75	72
Laur. Limited	..	..
M. T. and P. Co.	38	..

xEx-dividend. xxEx-Rights.

TORONTO LIVE STOCK RECEIPTS.

	Thursday. Union Yds.	Civic Yds.
Cars	35	4
Cattle	312	4
Calves	61	9
Hogs	1,211	45
Sheep and lambs	4	14

Cattle prices held firm at the close of the week's markets, and with a small run of only 312 head at the Union Yards, the entire supply was exhausted before 11 o'clock. In view of the strong closing, prospects are good for a strong market for Easter cattle on Monday. An extra large run is expected, and some dealers sounded a warning note with regard to the marked effect which a large surplus of cattle would have on values. Prices held the advance of 25c to 40c over last week at the finish, and there was a steady demand for all offerings of good quality.

The feature of yesterday's trade was the stronger market for hogs which again touched the $16 mark, on the fed and watered basis. No purchases were reported at lower than $15.85, and a very large majority of the transactions were fifteen cents higher. With 1,211 hogs on yesterday's market, the run for the week is extremely small as compared with last week, and this ability to hold back hogs goes a great distance towards explaining why the farmers are able to get the best of the argument in the battle over prices. No f.o.b. or off-car purchases were reported yesterday, and one buyer stated that he had refused an offer at $15 f.o.b. Yesterday's price was 40c to 50c higher than that of Wednesday.

Choice heavy steers were steady at $10.75 to $11.50, with medium at $10.25 to $10.60. Choice handy butchers' were $10.50 to $11. Choice butcher cows and bulls were steady and firm at Wednesday's quotations, medium quality offerings were fairly well taken in this department, and the best quality was very firm.

Stocker steers of the right weight and quality were in good demand and prices were firm. As high as $9.50 is being paid for 900 and 950 pound steers of good promise.

Milkers were moderately active, with all offerings being taken up at prices ranging between $70 and $90 for fairly good cows, and the best quality is capable of bringing at least $10 more.

Canners and cutters were steady, with no sales lower than $5.25 and with prices ranging up to $6.25 3-4.

In the small meats department prices were steady, but extremely small offerings made trade restricted. Choice lambs, sheep and calves were wanted, wanted.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

London Cattle Market, March 5.—To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, in beast market showed an increase of 222 head. For both prime and second quality fat beasts trade ruled slow, the tendency in regard to value ruling in favor of buyer, but not sufficient to quote. Arrivals from Ireland consisted entirely of Dublins, for which a decline of 2s per stone had to be accepted to force sales. Fat cows, bulls, and rough cattle were slow to vend, but in most cases were able to maintain late rates.

London Dead Meat Market, March 5.—Good supplies and trade slow, with rather easier tendency in prices for beef. English beef 8s 3d to 8s 6d; Scotch sides 8s 6d to 8s 8d; shorts 8s 6d to 8s 10d; Liverpool killed sides 8s 3d to 8s; do. fores, 6s 10 to 7s. Mutton—to 8s; do fores 6s 10d to 7s. Mutton—Scotch wethers 8s 6d to 8s 10d; do. tegs 9s to 9s 8d; do. ewes 7s 2d to 7s 6d; English wethers 8s 2d to 8s 4d; do. ewes 7s 2d to 7s 6d; English lamb 9s 4d to 9s 8d; veal 5s 8d to 6s 8d; extreme 8s 8d; English and Irish pork 8s 4d to 9s 4d; frozen pigs 7s to 7s 4d per 8 lbs.

Birkenhead Cattle Market, March 5.—Sheep 909, sheep 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Cattle 3713; beef 1s 2d; top dressed beef section 1s 6½d in sink. Cattle trade very slow, with downward tendency. Prices favoring buyers. Sheep, fair trade. A decrease of 41 sheep and an increase of 1583 cattle.

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET.

Chicago, March 24.—Cattle.—Receipts, 800. Market, steady; beeves, $9.20 to $12.65; stockers and feeders, $7 to $10; cows and heifers, $5.60 to $10.70; calves, $10.50 to $15.

Hogs—Receipts, 12,000. Market, steady; light, $14.45 to $15; mixed, $14.50 to $15.15; heavy, $14.45 to $15.15; rough, $14.45 to $14.60; pigs, $10.50 to $14; bulk of sales, $14.85 to $15.10.

Sheep — Receipts, 3,000. Market, steady; lambs, native, $12.75 to $15.25.

FIRST MEETING OF EMPIRE CONFERENCE

Tentative List of Larger Subjects to be Discussed Submitted by Rt. Hon. W. Long

"During the discussion, which Conference was held last Tuesday. After a sitting of two hours the conference was adjourned.

The gathering was largely occupied with the procedure to be followed at the ensuing meetings of the British and overseas representatives in conference. The Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Right. Hon. Walter Hume Long, submitted a tentative list of the larger subjects that will be brought in for discussion. He made a statement, welcoming the members of the conference and expressing regret at the absence of the Australian representatives. He also expressed gratification at the presence of representatives from India for the first time at an Imperial conference. The Dominions representatives replied in congratulatory sentences.

The Secretary of State for India, the Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain, spoke of the satisfaction with which the gatherings inaugurated to-day would be regarded in India.

Premier Lloyd George, owing to pressure of other business, was unable to attend the meeting. All the Canadian ministers, now in London, were present.

AN HISTORIC EVENT.

An authoritative statement issued to Reuter's regarding the Imperial War Conference, says:

The first meeting of the Imperial War dealt purely with preliminaries, the general desire was expressed to concentrate all energies upon the prosecution of the war. Unmistakeably the absence of Australia is much regretted. The feeling is growing that one of the most satisfactory features of the conference is that it will afford an opportunity to the Dominions to express their views upon the terms of peace.

"It is felt more and more that the part they have played in the war and the fact that they have regarded it as their own struggle equally with Britain's fully entitle them to this right. From this viewpoint, as well as others, the conference is undoubtedly an historic event of first importance."

CONTINUE FOR A MONTH.

The conference will formulate a program and procedure, pending which no one knows what subjects will be considered. The war cabinet and the war conference will meet on alternate days and, as the proceedings may continue for more than a month, Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues will probably be here longer than they intended.

The functions of the two bodies have been the subject of much confusion, but it is understood that the Imperial War Cabinet, composed of the premiers and one colleague, together with the permanent members, will deal with the immediate prosecution of the war, while the Imperial War Conference will deal with the diplomatic and political issues arising from the war, particularly after settlement. Any decisions reached by the conference must be ratified by the council.

PREMIER CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO HON. MR. BLONDIN.

The Hon. Pierre E. Blondin's resignation of his office as Postmaster-General will not be accepted. A cablegram to this effect was received from Sir Robert Borden, it is announced. Arrangements will be made whereby the Hon. E. L. Patenaude will administer the post office department during his colleague's absence on military duty.

Mr. Blondin has also received a cable from the Prime Minister congratulating him upon the step he has taken and the patriotic spirit which dictated it. He visited the Militia Department to consult the minister and the officials there upon the military work which he will shortly undertake.

Mr. Blondin has been congratulated by his colleagues upon his decision to volunteer for active service. Sir Sam Hugnes, former minister of militia, who returned from Boston, expressed himself as much pleased with the action of the Postmaster General. "I wish him every success," said Sir Sam, "If I can do anything to assist him and any French-Canadian fellow-citizens to raise a battalion I shall be glad to do it."

Albert O. Sander and Charles N. Wunnenberg, who pleaded guilty at New York to a charge of having sent spies to England to gather information for the German military authorities, were sentenced to serve two years in the Federal Prison at Atlanta and to pay a fine of $2,500 each.

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THE FLEECE OF RUSSIAN COARSE-WOOLED SHEEP

The rapid decline of merino breeding in Russia, the advent of "artificial wool" on the market (obtained by teasing or spreading the fibres of woollen rags), and finally the remarkable stability of the industry of coarse-woolled sheep-rearing on peasant farms, suggested a series of experiments with a view to determining the technical and economic value of the fleece from coarse-woolled sheep, especially as, in view of M. Federov, Professor in the Higher Technical Institute of Moscow, investigations of this kind on local breeds have been entirely wanting up to the present, though they are of great interest, not only for sheep rearing, but also for the wool industry.

The investigations of the wool of local breeds in the Province of Voronej (Southern Russia) and other regions, sought to determine: (1) The yield of pure wool; (2) the proportion of coarse wool (containing medullary substance) and the fine wool (without medullary substance); (3) the length and diameter of these wools; (4) their strength and extensibility.

The conclusions arrived a may be summed up as follows:

(1) The fleece of coarse-woolled sheep is made up of two kinds of wool, coarse and fine. The latter can, in point of technical quality, replace merino wool in many woven fabrics, being stronger than the latter. The table showing the results obtained by this and also other experimenters with regard to the strengt of different wools, brings out clearly the fact that that while for merino wool the breaking load does not exceed 0.009 to 0.013 grams per square micron, for wools of different coarse-fleeced breeds this load varies between 0.014 and 0.020 grams, and is only below breaking strain of merino wools in two or three cases. Owing to their great strength, these wools will be valuable for woven fabrics requiring great stretching powers, for instance, socks and stockings.

With regard to the economic side of the question, a comparison of the respective prices of merino wools and those of coarse-woolled sheep shows that the latter, which averages 40 percent of fine wool, does not fetch a price proportionate to its value, fetching only a little more than half that of merino wool. If the importance of the fine wool in sheep with coarse fleece were more appreciated, and manufacturers separated the fine from the coarse, they could then pay one and a half times to twice as much for the coarse wool as they do at present, and be useful both to users and growers. At the same time, the exact valuation of the wool from coarse-fleeced animals according to its contents of fine wool and the quality of this latter, would furnish valuable indications for improvements in sheep-breeding.

(2) The investigations of the wool of Karakul sheep did not bear out either the view held in practice as to the coarseness of wool of this breed as compared with other coarse-woolled breeds, nor the oft-given advice that breeding rams should be selected on the basis of coarseness of wool. Nor was any relationship observed between the quantity of fine wool and the quality of the fleece in coarse-woolled breeds.

(3) The first requisite for the improvement of sheep-rearing and of wool production is the creation of a special central institution for the study of the subject.

(4) According to the writer, who studied wools from the morphological point of view, and compared the results of his investigations with those obtained by Masalik Basil, in reference to the wool of Balkan sheep, the coarse wool (i.e., that containing the medullary substance) of coarse-fleeced sheep is polymorphous as regards the form and arrangement of the small epidermic scales. As regards the determination of the breed from these two characters, it will only be possible after an attentive study of the variations peculiar to a given breed.

ON THE CAPACITY OF WHITE MUSTARD TO FIX NITROGEN AND ENRICH THE SOIL

Some years ago Professor Hiltner stated that white mustard can enrich the soil in nitrogen. With a view to verifying this statement an experimental answer was sought to the following questions:—

1. If a cereal and white mustard are sown together and the mustard is killed before flowering time (with sulphate of iron), is the cereal able to benefit by the fertilizing elements fixed by the mustard, so as to furnish a larger yield than the cereal sown alone?

2. What are the nitrifying powers of the soil in the cases when a cereal and mustard together, and a cereal alone, are grown respectively?

The experiments were made in twelve pots, 30 cms. high, 36 to 37 cms. in diameter and 0.1 square metre in clear section, each containing a mixture of clayey-silicious earth and sand, to which a basal manure, consisting of 13 gms. of monocalcic phosphate, 4 gms. of supphate of magnesia, 16.6 gms. of sulphate of potash and 10 gms. of calcium carbonate was added.

After the first period of growth, nitrogen was given to the plants in the form of sulphate of ammonia, namely: 0.1 grm. per pot on the 27th April, and 0.5 on the 11th May.

In nine pots, oats and white mustard were sown together; in three pots, oats only. When the mustard began to flower it was killed in six pots by means of sulphate of iron. In three pots of this set the mustard was left after the treatment with sulphate of iron, to serve as green manure; in the other three pots is was removed. Again, in three pots the mustard was not killed and was allowed to grow until the oats were completely ripe.

Results of the Experiment. — The white mustard left on the earth of the pots not only did not increase the oat crop, but even reduced it to some small extent.

The analysis of the oat plants showed that they had not benefited by the nitrogen of the green manure formed by the mustard which had been allowed to remain.

The pots containing oats only gave a yield much higher than that of pots containing oats and mustard together. The explanation is that the mustard utilized a portion of the nitrogen of the soil for its growth, at the expense of the oats.

With regard to nitrification, it was feebler in the pots containing oats + mustard than in those with oats alone, but the difference was very small, being 0.33 plus or minus 0.103 mgms.

The experiment thus shows that, contrary to Hiltner's assertion, white mustard is not a source of nitrogen for the soil and plants cultivated therein.

A CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY FOR MACHINE PLOUGHING

A co-operative society for machine ploughing was formed in January of this year at Mossais, near Confolens (Vienne, France). It is composed of eight members whose farms extend over 578 acres. The fields are situated close to each other and near the farms; they are from 25 to 62 acres each, and on flat or slightly undulating ground, thus being in all respects favorably situated for ploughing by machines. About one-third of the acreage is heavy clay, the rest is loam. On the former, three pair of oxen cannot plough more than half an acre a day.

Th co-operative society has chosen a 25 horse-power Case tractor and a three-furrow Sattley plough. The tractor cost about $2,600, and the plough $275; the expense is borne by the eight members in proportion to the areas to be ploughed.

The statutes of the society are copied from the model drawn up by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The yearly subscription of each member is $3.90, and the supplementary contributions may not exceed $20. The expenses of all kinds will be divided every month pro rata of the acreage ploughed during the time

The order of succession in which the members are to use the outfit is settled by drawing lots, and when the machines have been round once the order will be reversed. A preference, however, is given to the heavier land, which is to be ploughed during fine weather.

The society has been granted a subvention of about $800 by the Ministry of Agriculture.

HORTICULTURE

(By W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.)

PRUNING.

The regular pruning of fruit trees and bushes not only ensures the production of better fruit than if they were left unpruned, but saves heavy pruning in any one year. The latter part of March or early in April, before it is time to spray, is when the bulk of the pruning should be done. The two best tools for pruning are the hand shears or secateurs for the small branches, and a good hand saw for the larger ones.

SPRAYING.

Few seasons have shown the advantage of thorough spraying as did that of 1916 when, in some parts of Canada, unsprayed apple trees produced little else but No. 3 fruit, while thoroughly sprayed trees gave a large proportion of No. 1 fruit. Spraying should be begun before the flowers open. In the case of apples, a first spraying is made when the leaves are partly open, a second before the flowers open, a third just after they fall, and, if necessary, from one to three later sprayings. Formulæ will be found in Pamphlet No. 12, Experimental Farms.

SEEDS.

The importance of having good seed is often not impressed upon the grower until after he has had a partial or total failure of his crop, either due to a poor strain or to poor germination. The price of the seed is a small matter compared to the value of the crop, and it will well repay any one to get the best strains even though the price seems high. It is sometimes too late to make a second sowing after it has been discovered that the seed which has been sown in the field or garden will not germinate, hence the desirability of testing the germination in the house before it is time to sow outside.

PLANTING.

It is desirable to plant fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, bush fruits, strawberries, and hardy and other herbaceous plants as soon as the ground is dry enough in the spring, as the results will usually be much better than if planted later. Tests of planting potatoes in different parts of Canda have demonstrated that, in most places, the earlier the planting, after danger of frost is over, the larger the crop will be, although in the more moist parts of Canada, and where the summer is cooler, the advantages of early planting are not so marked. It is important to have seed potatoes of strong vitality.

EARLY CULTIVATION.

Sometimes dry weather sets in soon after the frost is out of the ground in the spring, and may develop into a protracted drought. Just at the time when the fruit should be setting, the ground becomes very dry, the result being that the fruit does not set well, there not being enough moisture to supply the needs of the tree. It is important, therefore, to begin cultivation early to conserve what moisture is in the soil, and one should not delay turning under a cover crop for the sake of the extra vegeable matter, as more harm than good may be done.

HANDLING WINTER MANURE

(By J. A. Jackson, Elgin Co., Ont., in the "Farm and Dairy.")

The method we follow in handling the winter manure crop is to draw it directly from the stable to the field and spread it immediately on the land. I consider this method has many advantages over any other, one great advantage being that it is possible, when this is done, to have purer and sweeter air in the stable than when the manure is dumped in a shed or about the barn. This means a great deal where dairy cows are kept. When help is so scarce and hard to get on the farm it is a great advantage to have the manure all out on the land and spread ready when the work begins in the spring. It will plough under better or work into the ground on fall ploughed ground better when spread in the winter. I have also found that where long manure has been beaten into the ground by a few storms and then ploughed under that the spring crop stands a drouth much better than it does where the manure has not been exposed to any rain before being ploughed under.

We use the spreader in the winter as long as it is possible to work it, as I find that it is impossible for men to spread manure with the fork as even as a good spreader does it. We keep our spreader in a dry, tight shed adjoining the stable, and use a litter carrier that carries the manure from the stable directly to it. When the load is on it is taken to the field. By keeping the spreader as dry as possible, we are able to use it all winter, except when it is very dry or a thick crust is on the snow. While the ground is in that condition it is drawn with the sleigh and spread with the fork.

I think it is best to spread the manure as it is brought to the field. If put off in piles it becomes frozen and cannot be spread until the frost goes out. The piles keep the ground cold and wet where they stand so that it will not be fit to work as soon as the ground where the manure has been spread. Besides, the grain crop that grows on the ground where the piles have been is likely to grow too rank and fall down before properly filling out. If the ground is seeded the young clover is likely to get smothered out under the lodged grain. The piles of manure often become caked, so that it is impossible to spread them properly. It is important to leave as few bunches as possible when spreading, as the ground will not retain the moisture in a dry time where bunches of manure are put in the ground. Like the most of farmers' horses, my horses are idle part of the times in the winter time, and are better for the exercise of going to the field with the manure each day.

Besides the above advantages of the direct route from the stable to the field over the open barnyard system, there is about one-third more of the fertilizing value of the manure saved, and it costs less than one-half as much to put it on the land.

FROST PROTECTION

(By W. J. Humphreys, Professor of Meteorological Physics.)

(From the United States "Monthly Weather Review," October, 1914.)

INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of this paper is to point out the fundamental principles that make frost protection a practicable branch of atmosphere physics. The natural laws that should guide the design and use of apparatus in this connection will be emphasized, but the relative merits of the heaters and other equipment already put out by different manufacturers will not be discussed, nor will any effort be made, at least not in this paper, to describe anything new in equipment or method of frost protection, though clearly there still is plenty of room for improvement in both particulars.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

As every one knows, an object may exchange heat with the things that surround it in either of two ways: (a) by conduction in case of actual contact, facilitated by conviction when immersed in a fluid, and (b) by radiation when separated by a diathermanous region. However, it is not always easy to determine "a priori" whether a given object under an observed set of conditions must lose or gain in temperature, for this obviously is a complex problem of area exposed, thermal conductivities, and coefficients of radiation and absorption. But whenever only two objects are concerned the result is never in doubt; whatever the ultimate mechanism or process of heat conduction, and whatever the ultimate nature of radiation and of absorption, it appears to be universally true that the balance of heat exchange between them (and there always is such exchange), whether by the one process or by the other, is ever in favor of the coldest body. In other words, where there is only a thermal exchange it is always the cold object that gets warmer and the warm object that gets colder, and never the reverse; a warm object never gets warmer at the expense of the remaining heat in one that is already colder. To the physicist this is familiarly known as the second law of thermodynamics.

Now, the surface of the earth, whether soil, rock, water, or vegetation, is constantly exposed to both the above processes of heat exchange, one of which, conduction, is greatly facilitated by atmospheric circulation. Hence, normally, the lower atmosphere and the covering of the earth, whatever that may be, begin to grow warmer about sunup, continue to gain in temperature till some time in the afternoon, when loss and gain are equal, and then gradually to get colder and colder till the following sunrise, when the whole cycle is repeated. As a matter of fact, there are numerous temporary conditions due to clouds, winds, rain, and the like, that more or less disturb the ideal regular sequence of thermal events, but nevertheless the average normal sequence is substantially as given, and the clearer the atmosphere and the stiller the winds the more nearly is this sequence followed.

By virtue of this alternate heating and cooling, and especially because the temperature of the surface layer of the atmosphere is chiefly controlled by the temperature of the greedily absorbing and freely radiating surface of the earth, it happens that in the lower atmosphere the change of temperature per given change in altitude greatly varies, particularly from day to night. Thus, when the weather is calm and clear, the temperature up to some hundreds of feet, at least, during the day and especially of early afternoons, when vertical convection is active, may decrease almost at the adiabatic rate of approximately 1.6 deg. F. per 300 feet. On the other hand, under the same conditions of clear skies and no wind, the air close to the ground at and before daybreak frequently is several, even many, degrees colder than the air at very moderate elevations. In extreme cases the atmosphere at an elevation of only 5 to 10 feet is as much as 5 to 10, or even more, degrees warmer than that on the surface. This surface temperature inversion, as it is called—that is, the increase instead of the decrease of temperature with increase of elevation—becomes less pronounced with increase of height, and while it may extend to an elevation of several hundred feet it seldom reaches any great altitude.

From the above it is obvious that the tops of open and sparsely foliaged trees, especially if rather tall, often are less subject to frost and more easily protected than are the lower limbs. On the other hand, when the tree is low and its outer foliage sufficiently dense to produce a protecting canopy over the under and inner branches, as is generally the case with orange trees, the difference between the free radiation from the exposed fruit and the restricted radiation from that which is covered may usually be sufficient, even when there is a marked temperature inversion, to subject the former and not the latter to the greatest danger from frost and freeze.

But how, returning to the main discussion, it properly may be asked, can any object—to be specific, the surface covering of the earth—become colder than either the soil beneath or the atmosphere a short distance above? As a matter of fact, this could not be a permanent condition, but it frequently is a temporary one, brought about as follows: When the air is still and clear, the surface of the earth, which is a good radiator, rapidly loses heat by radiation to and probably to some extent even through the atmosphere, and at the same time receives heat by radiation from the atmosphere, and to some extent also by conduction from the atmosphere, though mainly by conduction from the warmer soil beneath. But as the thermal conductivity of the soil is poor and that of the atmosphere many times worse, it follows, under the assumed conditions of clear skies and still air, that the surface temperature is largely determined by the tendency toward an equilibrium between the amount of radiation given out by the surface covering itself and the amount of radiation it receives and absorbs. But since the atmosphere is more or less diathermanous or transparent to heat radiation it follows that the interchange of heat by radiation between the surface covering and the atmosphere extends in some measure to great altitudes, where, of course, the temperature is very low, and also that some of the surface radiation may even escape directly to space whose effective temperature as a black body, or full radiator, is only a few degrees at most above the absolute zero. Hence the radiation received by the surface of the earth is only the little that would come from a full radiator at a very low temperature, and therefore, under the given conditions, the surface must lose more heat than it gains, and thus cool to a temperature considerably below that of the nearly adjacent atmosphere; it radiates to a great extent through and not to the adjacent atmosphere, and thereby temporarily cools to a lower degree.

It is this disthermanous property of the atmosphere that, in a great measure, is responsible for the production of frost; and the resulting strong inversion of the vertical temperature gradient, perhaps more than anything else, renders frost protection through ordinary heating both an experimental and a commercial success. The inversion prevents the air, if but slightly warmed by a protection method, from rising to any considerable height quite as effectually as would a solid ceiling, and thereby limits to a comparatively small amount the mass of air actually so heated. In other words, the inversion of temperature makes it possible and apparently practicable to restrict the actual heating to as little as 1 or 2 percent of the total atmosphere overhead, and that little the very part that it is necessary to heat in order to prevent frost.

Of course the ideal condition above assumed, of absolutely still air, never obtains in nature, and therefore when the lowest air is chilled through contact with the radiation-cooled surface it becomes more or less mixed, through movements of one kind or another (over valleys largely by air drainage from the sides), with the atmosphere of greater elevations, and thus the temperature inversion spoken of above always extends to higher levels than it would if there was no air movement and no air mixing.

Figure 1 (omitted), representing a somewhat idealized typical case, will help to make some of these points clear. Here the usual temperature decrease with increase of altitude is supposed to obtain only above the 500-foot level, while below that level the temperature is supposed to decrease with decrease of elevation more and more rapidly quite to the surface of the earth. Obviously if, under these conditions, a wind of only one or two miles per hour should start up, the dense, freezingly cold air at the bottom would become mixed with the much warmer atmosphere a little way above, and the surface temperature would quickly rise to a degree safe from frost. Similarly, any artificial stirring up of the lower atmosphere, if of sufficient magnitude, would have the same effect of raising the surface temperature.

Figure 1 shows how it is that ordinary heating can protect from outdoor frost, and also indicates how this heat can most economically be applied. Let the temperature distribution be as indicated in the figure, and suppose the object is to keep the temperature of the lower atmosphere just safely above the freezing point. Clearly the most economical way to do this, so far as the consumption of heat energy alone is concerned would be to have the entire surface warmed to the particular temperature in question.

(To be Continued.)

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In view of the great importance of preventing information concerning the embarkation of troops becoming generally known, letters for officers and men of the Canadian military forces must be addressed to the last station in the United Kingdom at which their unit was stationed. Any letter contravening this regulation will be treated as undeliverable.

Incidentally it should be noted that there is a chronic and doubtless unavoidable delay in the delivery of mails. Some letters posted at Toronto on Feb. 14 only reached London on March 19, along with others mailed twelve days later.

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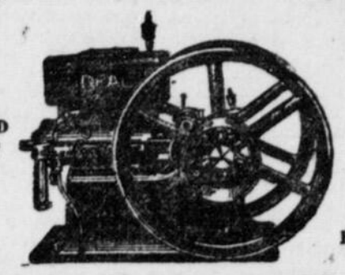

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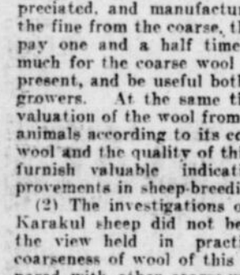

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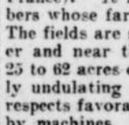

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What the Farmer can do with concrete

HOW TO START YOUR GARDEN PLOT

If food production in this country is going to be a real practical money-saving and money-making affair it must be done on a businesslike system. Everyone taking over an allotment, or even those putting down their gardens to purely practical uses, should start from the beginning to reckon the cost. Every cent spent should be recorded, and though in many cases saving will be effected in kind, not in money, where the produce is used in the home, this can all be reckoned up at the end of the year. Haphazard food-producing may benefit the gardener and his family to a certain extent, by supplying vegetables that he might otherwise not have but an allotment run on purely business lines, with all expenses and receipts balanced, is of value not only to a family but to the nation.

Much has been written and much more has been said within the past few weeks on the cultivation of the land by the novice. One imagines the sturdy farmer, and his friend and partner the practical nurseryman, smiling at the volume of advice gratuitously thrown out to this army of budding agriculturists. Far be it from me to suggest that this advice should be ignored, but taking into account the lateness of the season for breaking new ground, and the impossibility of securing a supply of well rotted natural manure, the following hints may be a help and encouragement to those enthusiasts who are taking up the work for the first time.

THE SITE.

As regards the site, although few options are offered in or near a large city, the further away from buildings and trees the site is the better. If the ground is sheltered from the north and the east it is an advantage to growing crops. If the ground slopes, and this affords better drainage should the soil incline to clay, then choose, if you can, a slope facing the south. The general practice is to divide the allotment in two, running the path up the centre about 30 inches broad, and to enable full advantage to be taken of the sun's light and heat this path should run east and west, the crops being grown at right angles to it.

SOIL.

A great deal could be said for and against the varieties of soil to be met with in our open spaces. Ground which has been used as pasture will certainly contain a large percentage of the chemical elements necessary for plant life, and where perennial grasses and weeds have flourished in the past it need not be taken as an indication of depravity, as the fibrous roots of these will have formed a good loam under the surface which only calls for suitable aeration to free the valuable properties it contains.

There is one objection, however, to the stray roots of dandelions, thistles and docks. These being of a perennial nature, care should be exercised when digging to remove and destroy all such which are thrown up by the spade. They have a peculiar knack of reproducing even from the smallest section left in the ground.

Soils might be classified as light and heavy, the former including sandy, loamy, and peaty soils, while the latter would incline more to a clay. Heavy soils retain the moisture and should have stable manure forked in to break them up.

GETTING TO WORK.

It is hardly necessary to state that before we proceed to dig our ground we will require a spade. A spade or garden fork, a rake and a hoe, are all the tools you need. A "D" handled No. 3 garden spade is of nice weight for an adult, but for a lady or young person No. 2 size is heavy enough. My own personal experience has been that a garden fork will do almost any kind of digging more easily and better than a spade. For lifting sandy soil the spade is a necessity, but for pulverizing soil, for digging out roots, etc., give me a fork. In handling the spade, acquire the habit of breaking new ground by a good thrust from the left shoulder which will carry the blade an inch or two below the surface, then the foot can be applied to the tread and the blade forced up to the hilt in the soil. This is known as one spit deep. The left hand ought to grasp the handle of the spade with the back uppermost. By this method when the soil is loosened and excavated a sharp turn of the left wrist deposits it inverted in its new position. Never take too wide a spadeful at once, you will do better and quicker digging if you cut off narrow slices of soil. Having acquired the nursery habit we begin to make progress.

For those who can afford the time or acquire the labor, the system of double or even triple trenching recommended by authorities is certainly of great advantage, but what we must consider now is how expeditiously we can get over our small plot, keeping in view that our soil has to grow a good crop and that at all costs we must be ready for springtime when it comes along. Unless, then, we are in a position to put much time and labor into the operation I want to strongly advise the simple turning over of the top spit of soil for the first year's crop. The substratum below this is often found to be very stony, and as such ground is porous, and does not contain food for plant life, the simple loosening of it in the process of digging is sufficient until an opportunity affords in the autumn to trench properly. On the other hand the top 8 inches or 9 inches of loam is known to be rich in bacteria and plant food and unless a speciality is desired to be made with onions, carrots, and the like, this surface soil will be found to yield all that is desired for the coming season.

THE DIGGING.

Now to proceed with our digging. Let us assume that it has been decided to form a path up the centre of the plot. This we can define by taking a V-shaped wedge of turf out on either side, using a line for straightness. It is well to hunt up at once two good strong stakes about 18 inches long and fasten to them a heavy cord long enough to go from end to end of your allotment. Sharpen the stakes and when working drive them well in at either end of your plot; then tighten up the cord and your beds and rows will be straight. In the first place, starting say at the top left-hand side, with the spade we remove a strip of turf 12 inches broad from the line of the path to the margin of our plot and deposit this, grass side down, along the top on the opposite border. Then we attack the soil one spit deep under where the turf has been removed and transfer it to the other side, also laying it alongside the turf we took out. We have now a trench 12 inches broad and say 10 inches deep to commence upon. It would be well at this stage to procure a rake. We will require one in any case, and with it one can loosen the under layer of soil without interfering too much with stones which will be encountered. The largest stones however should be set aside.

Proceeding along this section of the allotment we skin the second foot of turf and lay it in the bottom of the first trench, grass side down, then the contents of section 2 are dug and inverted on the top of this turf, this leaves section 1 filled up and section 2 empty. Continue by this method to the end. The last trench will be empty, and we cross over to the bottom of the other side. Dig a strip of turf 12 inches broad from the surface, put it in the bottom of this trench, and transfer the contents from below this turf on top of it. We have now completed the 1st section, and we proceed to dig back our second half. Coming to the end, to fill in the top trench, we have the contents of the first one, placing the grass in the bottom and the transferred soil to cover.

If you are digging a piece of grass land do not make the mistake of mixing grass ad roots through the soil. If the rass is couch or quick grass it will need to be hand picked or forked out. Ordinary sod or turf, however, is equal to a dressing of barnyard manure, forming as it does, when well rotted, as good plant food, enriching the soil with nitrogen. It should not be mixed in lumps through your soil, but a thin slice of turf cut off should be turned upside down as directed above on the stirred subsoil, and 10in. of top soil turned over on top of the inverted sod.

All stones of a size that will not pass through the rake should be deposited on the site of the path. To get rid of these stones we skin the turf off the path, throw the top suit of soil on either side, invert the turf on the bottom, and fill in with stones. This gives a good solid footpath free from weeds. It adds to the drainage of the allotment, and is enhanced by a cart of ashes being spread over it.

TROUBLE WITH GRASS LAND.

The trouble in planting potatoes in newly-dug grass land is that wire worms are almost sure to injure the crop. Gas lime may be used, but this is dangerous, as nothing can be sown or planted for at least six weeks after its distribution. The best thing to do is to get lime, 8 lbs. to 30 square yards is sufficient, and it should be spread after the allotment has been dug. Very probably the soil is deficient in lime; and if it is clay land it is almost certain to be, so the lime will benefit the soil by crumbling into small pieces the sticky clay and in liberating the potash held locked up in the soil particles.

All foul weeds on dirty arable land should be forked out and burnt in a heap. The worst weeds are those which have top roots, such as docks and thistles, and those which have creeping roots, such as couch grass and bindweed. The ashes should be saved and kept dry and used as a dressing for the potatoes for the sake of the potash they contain. Some of the lime should be saved and put by for use on the onion bed. Both lime and soot, which make cheap and valuable dressings, should be constantly used not only for onions, but also for other crops, such as peas, beans and lettuce.

It is with the vegetables that store well that the cultivator should chiefly concern himself; and these are potatoes, onions, artichokes, carrots, parsnips, beetroot, and nutritious crops which stand the winter well, such as leeks and celery and autumn sown onions. Artichokes and parsnips should be planted and sown later, the former being a very useful tuber which will grow in almost any soil.

HOW MUCH CAN A MAN DO.

How much ground should a man cultivate in order to keep his family supplied with vegetables all the year round? To keep a family of five or six persons well supplied with vegetables for a year he would require a piece of ground one hundred feet long by one hundred feet wide, half of which should be cultivated with potatoes, the other half with other vegetables; but he cannot expect to be abe to work this amount of land entirely by himself if he has only a few leisure hours to give to its cultivation weekly. He would require the assistance either of his wife or of one or two capable boys.

STOCKY TOMATO PLANTS FOR EARLY FRUIT.

S.G.—Stunt your tomato plants. The older they are when set out the better—indeed they may have both flowers and fruit set, but do not let them grow too large. Contrary to the treatment of many plants, they do all the better for a little abuse.

Sow the seeds in boxes, and when 3 inches high transplant into large flat boxes with 4 inches of dirt in them. They will have to be fairly watered, of course, while getting re-established from this and the next transplanting, which will be given when the plants are 6 inches high and fairly stocky. This second time transplant into small pots, 4 or 5-inch pots. As soon as they get well established in these pots and begin to again take on a rank growth treat to develop well in, the roots soon occupy it entirely. That of itself is dwarfing. About 10 days before intending to remove to the open ground, water a little more freely, and pour some liquid manure into the pots. When set out finally, they should be stocky plants about 12 inches high, with bloom and even young fruit set. Having been restricted in the small pot, they will get right along when given room.

dormant sort of rest. Keep them away from the heat and only give them about half the usual amount of sunlight. Take away the most of their feed and water.

The pot being too small for a plant when he wants them to take a half as one does potted plants of all kinds

Those Pansies Again

The giver of the pansy seed begs me to explain that the two hundred packages lasted only three days, and the extra 25 packets he had given us in case they were needed went as quickly. Then, as the requests still came, he made up forty more slightly smaller packets. Now all these are gone, and he has no seed left not even enough for a single packet.

ARE YOU READY TO SPRAY

(Concluded from Last Week.)

SPRAYING CALENDAR.

Plant.	1st Application.	2nd Application.	3rd Application.
Apple. Scab or black spot fungus, sooty blotch, black rot, codling moth, leaf-eating caterpillars, borers, blister mite curculio, apple aphis scale insects.	Lime-sulphur wash or Poisoned Bordeaux. Just as leaf buds are opening (Important).	Lime-sulphur wash or Poisoned Bordeaux. Just before blossoms open. (Important.)	Lime-sulphur wash or Poisoned Bordeaux. As soon as blossoms fall. (Important.) From one to three more sprayings may be necessary to control the apple scab, depending on the season and prevalence of the disease.

Nicotine sulphate, Kerosene emulsion, or Whale-oil soap just when buds break and eggs are hatched for aphis; again in late May or June when young scale insects hatch. Nicotine sulphate, if used mixed with the Lime Sulphur wash, will kill many of the aphis.

For oyster-shell scale, spray trees late in autumn with Lime wash, two coats, applying the second as soon as the first is dry. Lime Sulphur wash for San Jose scale, first application.

FORMULÆ.

LIME-SULPHUR WASH.

For San Jose Scale and Fungous Diseases.—Lime, 20lbs.; Sulphur, powdered, 15lbs.; Water to make 40 gals. Slake the lime with only enough water to do it thoroughly. Add the sulphur by dusting it over the lime while slaking; stir well and boil for at least an hour adding only so much hot water as is necessary for easy stirring. When thoroughly cooked, strain through sacking, and apply hot.

COMMERCIAL LIME SULPHUR.

When commercial concentrated lime sulphur wash is used, it should be diluted for use, when there are no leaves on the trees to 1 gallon of the concentrated wash to about 9 gallons of water, varying with the intensity of the wash. For use when there is foliage the lime-sulphur should be diluted to 1 gallon of the concentrated wash to 35 to 40 gallons of water. Arsenate of lead is the best poison to use with the lime-sulphur wash. Arsenite of lime will injure foliage. Arsenate of lime is a promising insecticide to use with lime sulphur wash.

CONCENTRATED LIME SULPHUR.

This can be made at home instead of buying the commercial lime sulphur. With a formula of 50 pounds fresh lime, 100 pounds sulphur to 40 gallons of water. Heat the water to near boiling, then put in the lime, and when it is slaked, add the sulphur having first broken any lumps and screened it. Keep the mixture boiling well for an hour when, if it has been frequently stirred, it should be in condition. Then replace water lost in boiling to make up forty gallons. Strain through a 20 to the inch mesh and store in barrels until needed. If barrels are not closed, covering the surface with oil will prevent evaporation. This is usually a little weaker than the commercial washes.

USE OF THE HYDROMETER IN DETERMINING PROPER DILUTION OF CONCENTRATED LIME SULPHUR

The hydrometer which can be obtained from most druggists with specific gravity readings, is a small instrument costing about $1, which it is very desirable to use when lime sulphur is used as a summer spray, as different concentrated solutions vary somewhat in strength, and in dealing with tender foliage it is very essential to be sure of the strength one is using. To test the strength of the solution with the hydrometer, the latter is put in it when it is cool and any sediment has gone to the bottom, and the reading noted. The reading will indicate the density of the concentrate. To obtain the total dilutions required, the decimal of the reading of the concentrate is divided by the decimal of the strength required. For summer strength the reading should be 1.000 to 1.01.

SELF-BOILED LIME SULPHUR.

Especially for Brown Rot affecting Peaches.—Unslaked lime, 8lbs.; Sulphur (flour or flowers), 8lbs.; Water, 40 gals. Slake the lime in a barrel with a little cold water. After screening to break up lumps, put the sulphur in another vessel and add enough water to make a thin paste. Now pour the sulphur paste, or even the dry sulphur slowly into the barrel containing the slaking lime. Stir the mass thoroughly and add enough cold water to keep the lime from sticking to the bottom of the barrel and to ensure thorough slaking, but avoid using more water than is necessary until the lime is slaked when enough water should be at once added to cool the mass. Strain before spraying and add enough water to make up to the proportion in the formula. It is found that a desirable amount of heat is obtained by slaking 24 pounds of lime with 24 pounds of sulphur at one time.

LEME WASH.

For Oyster Shell Scale.—Unslaked lime, 1 to 2 lbs.; Water, 1 gal. Strain through sacking before spraying. To be applied late in autumn.

BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

For Fungi.—Copper sulphate (bluestone), 4 lbs.; Unslaked lime, 4 lbs.; Water (1 barrel), 40 gals. When spraying peach and plum foliage which may be injured by the ordinary formula, it is safer to use Bordeaux mixture in the proportion of 3 pounds copper sulphate, 4 pounds lime to 40 gallons of water.

Dissolve the copper sulphate (by suspending it in a wooden or earthen vessel containing 4 or 5 or more gallons of water). It will dissolve more quickly in warm water than in cold. Slake the lime in another vessel. If the lime, when slaked, is lumpy or granular, it should be strained through coarse sacking or a fine sieve. Pour the copper sulphate solution into a barrel, or it may be dissolved in this in the first place; half fill the barrel with water; dilute the slaked lime to half a barrel of water, and pour into the diluted copper sulphate solution, then stir thoroughly. It is then ready for use. (Never mix concentrated milk of lime and copper solution.)

A stock solution of copper sulphate and milk of lime may be prepared and kept in separate covered barrels throughout the spraying season. The quantities of copper sulphate, lime and water should be carefully noted. Bordeaux mixture deteriorates with age and should be used as soon as made.

To test Bordeaux mixture, let a drop of ferrocyanide of potassium solution fall into the mixture when ready. If the mixture turns reddish-brown, add more milk of lime until no change takes place.

POISONED BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

For Fungi and Leaf-eating Insects.—To the 40 gallons of Bordeaux mixture prepared as above, add 4 to 8 ounces of Paris green, or 3 pounds of arsenate of lead.

INTERNAL POISONS (FOR BITING INSECTS.)

Paris Green.—Paris green, 1 lb.; Unslaked lime, 1 lb.; Water, 160 gals.

Arsenate of Lead.—Arsenate of lead, 2 to 3 lbs.; Water, 40 gals. Mix thoroughly before using. If dry arsenate of lead is used, one half the above quantity will be sufficient.

CONTACT POISONS (FOR SUCKING INSECTS.)

*Nicotine Sulphate, containing at least 40 percent nicotine. (For Aphis.)—Nicotine sulphate, 1 oz.; Water, 6¼ gals. or 1 part to 800 to 1,000 of water. It should be more concentrated for some species.

Nicotine.—(For Rose Thrip and Aphis.)—Nicotine, 1 teaspoonful; Water 1 gallon.

Kerosene Emulsion.—(For Aphis, Scale and other Sucking Insects).—Kerosene (coal oil), 2 gals.; Rain water, 1 gal.; Soap, ½ lb. Dissolve soap in water by boiling; take from fire, and, while hot, turn in kerosene and churn briskly for 5 minutes. For use dilute with 9 parts of water so that the above 3 gallons of stock emulsion will make 30 gallons of spraying mixture.

Flour Emulsion.—(For Aphis, Scale and other Sucking Insects.)—Kerosene, 1 quart; Flour, 8 ozs.; Water, 2 gals. Stir together the flour and kerosene, then add the water, and churn violently for five minutes. To be used at once.

Whale-Oil Soap.—For brown or black aphis, 1 lb. in 4 gals. water; For scale-insects ,young), 1 lb. in 5 gals. water; For green aphis or thrip, 1 lb. in 6 gals. water.

Tobacco and Soap Wash.—(For Aphis and other Sucking Insects.)—Soak in hot water for a few hours 10 pounds of tobacco leaves (home-grown will do); strain off and add 2 pounds of whale-oil soap. Stir until all is dissolved, and dilute to 40 gallons. Apply early and two or three times at short intervals.

N.B.—All the above recommendations are dependent on weather. If heavy rain falls immediately after spraying, applications should be repeated, but spraying shortly before rain is better than spraying after rain.

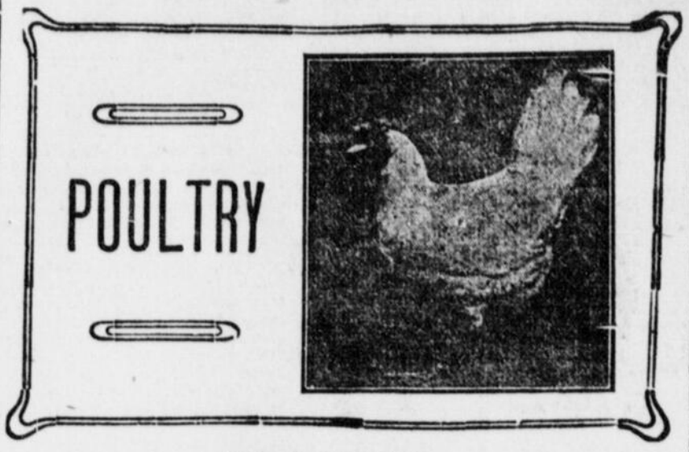
Always wash out thoroughly with clean water all pumps and nozzles immediately after using. The gallon referred to above is the Imperial gallon.

Several different formulae are recommended in some cases for the same insects or diseases. This is to make it easier for those in out-of-the-way places to obtain at least one good insecticide or fungicide.

SPRAYING APPLIANCES.

To do spraying satisfactorily, one should have a good pump. The man with a few trees in his garden will find a pump fitted to a half barrel on wheels quite suitable. A pump of this kind costs from eighteen to twenty dollars. For small orchards up to two or three acres a barrel pump which can be placed on a cart or truck and worked by hand will be found satisfactory. Such pumps cost from twenty-five to thirty dollars. With pumps of all kinds, it is desirable to keep up a good pressure, hence with small pumps where the pressure is kept up by hand it is important to have a good pump. For larger orchards the power sprayer has now taken the place of the hand sprayer as the work can be done quicker, more thoroughly and more economically than with the hand pump. A 2½ horse power engine with a two cylinder pump can be purchased for about $300. The hose recommended is three-eighth inch which is not so heavy as one-half inch, and there is less friction than in the one-quarter inch. There are many kinds of good nozzles those giving a wide spray being preferred for most purposes to those giving a narrow or relatively straight spray, although the latter are desirable where great force is wanted. Two nozzzles to each line of hose have been found to be, as a rule, the most desirable number, a "Y" on which these are carried is preferred and angle nozzles are better than straight ones as one can, with the former, spray better in all directions. For further information in regard to spraying machinery the reader is referred to Bulletin No. 79 of the Experimental Farm Series by M. B. Davis on Renovation of the Neglected Orchard with Special Reference to the Best Orchard Practice.

*A preparation of this known as "Black Leaf 40" is offered for sale in Canada.



INCUBATION

(Continued from Last Week.)

This is a critical period, and special attention is necessary. In most cases the incubator door should not be opened after the nineteenth day, and all work requiring handling the eggs or opening the door should be completed on the eighteenth day. The trays should be so arranged that the chicks will drop into the nursery as they come toward the light. If the thermometer in use stands on the tray it should be securely fastened, otherwise the chicks will upset it; this would necessitate opening the machine in order to right the thermometer, or running the risk of a wide variation in temperature.

A temperature higher than 105 deg. and one lower than 103 deg. should be avoided at this time. Both of these undesired extremes will occur at some time during the hatching period unless careful provision is made against them. It would be much better to remove the lamp for a time than to permit the great increase in temperature that usually occurs when the hatch is at its best. Generally, this increase may be overcome by turning down the lamp flame. Very often toward the end of the hatching period it is necessary to raise the flame in order to keep the required temperature. These two changes in temperature in so short a time will be readily understood when it is remembered that the eggs supply a great amount of animal heat during the last week of incubation, and that this animal heat naturally increases as the chickens commence to work their way out of the shells. After the chickens are all hatched and have dropped into the nursery, the heat decreases. There is also more or less condensation of moisture from the newly-hatched chick at this time, and this has a tendency to lower the temperature.

The position of the ventilators at hatching time depends on the make of the incubator. It is not considered advisable to permit a very great change of air until the chickens are all out. After the hatch is completed the egg trays should be removed, together with any eggshells that may have dropped into the nursery, and the ventilators should be opened full width. If the room is warm the incubator door may be fastened open one half inch at the top.

The chickens should be left in the nursery until the day after the hatch. They should be thirty-six to forty-eight hours old when removed to the brooder. If a market basket is used, it should be lined with burlap and a burlap blanket placed over the chicks.

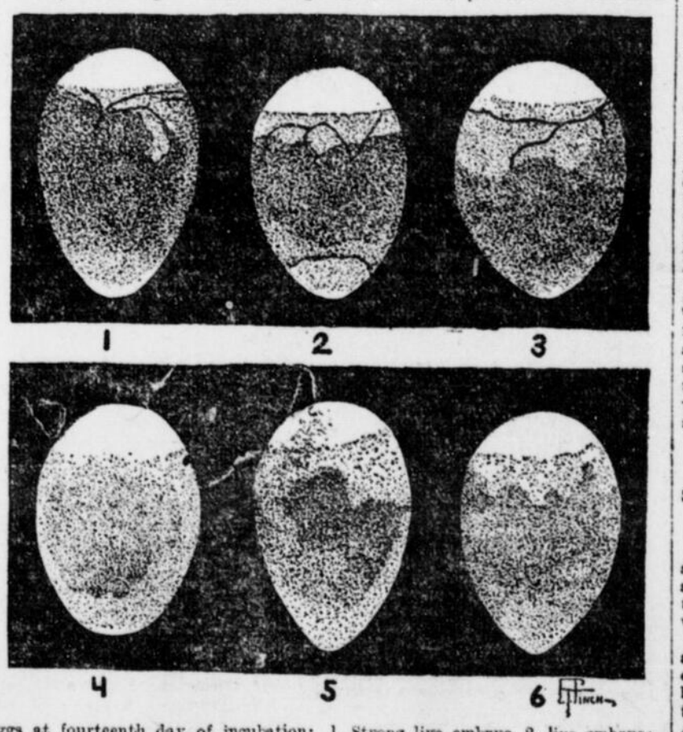
DISINFECTING.

Absolute cleanliness is essential in incubators. The germs of the various communicable diseases most common among young chicks are sometimes carried on the eggshell. In order to guard against future infection, the incubator should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each hatch. If eggs are used from flocks not absolutely free from disease, they should first be dipped in 95 percent grain alcohol. The eggs should be dipped quickly and dried immediately.

To prepare for disinfection, all the portable parts of the incubator should be removed, and should be washed with warm water containing a little soap powder. A putty knife or a stiff brush is excellent to use in removing the pieces of shell and down that stick to the egg and nursery trays. As often as the burlap in the bottom of the nursery becomes soiled, it should be replaced with clean burlap sacking.

After the parts have been thoroughly cleaned, they should be disinfected and placed in the sun to dry. A disinfectant should also be applied to the inside of the incubator. A spray pump or a hard brush is a convenient instrument for distributing this. The disinfectants used are creoline, zenoleum, and crude carbolic acid. Either creoline or zenoleum may be recommended to do the work without having an injurious effect on the hatch, provided the directions are followed. Crude carbolic acid is a good disinfectant, but it has a very strong, disagreeable odor. There is also danger of leaving oily spots in the incubator unless the solution is kept well stirred. The odor from the two first-named liquids is mild and inoffensive. It is also easier to dry the machine after their use. Of these two, creoline is the more expensive. In using any one of the three agents, the proper proportion is one part of the disinfectant to nineteen parts of waer, the mixture being stirred thoroughly.

The inculator should be carefully dried and aired before it is used again. It is well to close the door of the machine for a day, keeping the lamp lighted, after which the door may be left open over night or until the incubator is well aired.



Eggs at fourteenth day of incubation: 1, Strong live embryo. 2, live embryo; 3, weak live emoryo; 4, 5, 6, dead embryos.

THE PHENOMENAL LAYER

(By J. W. Parks.)

Just recently we had an inquiry regarding who really owned the highest individual record Barred Plymouth Rock female. Naturally we profess to keep posted along this line. I believe Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Canada, holds Official first place with a record of 310 eggs. Hen No. M414, Maine Experimental Station at Orono, Maine, holds second place with a record of 298 eggs in a year. While I believe the next best hen to have been produced by Rev. W. S. Crowell, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, with a record of 292 eggs, and I believe my hen Busy, No. 309, to come next with a record of 290 eggs. Busy, together with Laora, No. 338, with a record of 277 eggs, I believe to have a greater total egg record (567) eggs than any two hens on any one plant anywhere.

While these phenomenal layers are worthy of mention, and show what is possible in the way of individual results, we will be frank to state that we don't get excited over the phenomenal layer, unfortunately past experience and records prove to us that these phenomenal layers will not measure in results up to their face value that is from a breeding standpoint. It's very seldom that we find a hen that goes away out of her class that is capable of reproducing to a fixed degree. We value hen No. 2214 the highest, although she laid but 206 eggs. She has shown her ability to transmit her lay, as she produced Laora, as well as a number of hens of 220 eggs and better.

The phenomenal layer as a rule is pretty much as Rev. Edgar L. Warren says in his book the 200 egg hen. Where he writes, "A hen that greatly exceeds her family outclassing her nearest kin may be termed a freak, and it seldom pays to use her as a breeder." Our greatest trouble has been in getting fertility from such hens, and that it is general is shown by the trend of reports. Rev. Crowell reports that he never got over 50 percent fertility and most of the time entirely unfertile. Mr. Mittendorf of David City, Nebraska, writes, "I have a pullet that is setting the world afire laying. I believe she is bound to be a phenomenal layer, but unfortunately her eggs run very unfertile." While Mr. Baer of Connellsville, Pa., a man who has imported a number of the heaviest English Layers, tells me that he had trouble with fertility from the top notchers.

We believe these phenomenal layers as a whole do the industry more harm than good, especially when they happen in breeders hands that boost them to the sky and place values up to $100,000 on a bird. The amateur is led to set his standard too high, expects too much, and soon gets discouraged and quits.

Yes, we're still using males in some of our best pens from dames with records as low as 206 eggs in preference to some uncertain males from the phenomenal layers, and I believe we are justified in claiming the only American Strain that has come back by keeping in the front ranks of the Laying Contests ever since they have been started in this country. And above all they have carried away a majority of the Winter Laying Honors when laying pays best. When the future Laying Contests are judged as they should be from a dollar and cent standpoint, when a winter 5c egg is credited as 5c and a summer 2c egg as 2c you'll find where the summer layer stands in comparison with the winter layer from a profit standpoint.

HUN LIE HURLED BACK.

Stole American Relief Food During a Retreat.

A semi-official communication issued at Paris absolutely denies the German affirmation that the retreating troops on the Somme front left five days' provisions for the civilian population.

"On the contrary," the communication adds, "the Germans not only took everything eatable produced in the region, butseizeda part of the stores in localities which had been provided by the American and Spanish relief committees. Fruit trees were cut down without being used for military purposes, poplars along the roads were sawn three-quarters through, vines were torn from walls and trellises, agricultural tools were smashed wantonly, numerous grenades were placed around the edges of villages, and wells and streams were chemically poisoned or defiled."

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SOUR MILK

By H. L. Kempster.)

food for the laying hen. College and Experiment Station men have found by their tests that the use of buttermilk or sour milk reduces the cost of production per dozen of eggs as compared with either beef scraps or no meat ration. Sour milk is cheaper than beef scraps as it is on the average farm. Graham tested three different breeds of chickens and reported that the use of either buttermilk or beef scraps reduced the cost of egg production very greatly. Phillips found that when no meat or other animal food was fed to hens in their ration they laid thirty-two eggs apiece, while those which received meat scraps laid a hundred and thirty-five eggs apiece, and those that received skimmed milk laid 135.4 eggs apiece a year, or more than four times as many as those which received no animal food.

Somewhat similar tests were conducted with three twenty-five bird pens at the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station from Nov. 1, 1914, to Oct. 31, 1915. Sour milk was used instead of buttermilk, as it is much more likely to be available on the ordinary Missouri farm.

About two-thirds of the ration given in order that they might go to roost with full crops. The purpose of this method of feeding was to keep the hens busy all day, and keep their appetites keen, and yet give them all the feed they would use. Feeding a small amount of the scratch feed in the morning encouraged the hens to eat more of the mash. An attempt was made to get them to consume about half as much of the mash, as they did of the grain or scratch feed.

Cost of Feed.—The prices paid for feed will of course vary from county to county and state to state, and from year to year, but these prices quoted by a local mill are probably fairly representative of Missouri for 1915. Even if they should be a little too high, or a little too low to show the probable cost in the reader's locality they will enable him to compare the cost of egg production on no meat, beef scrap, and sour milk ration.

Eggs Laid.—The tweney-five hens in the no-meat pen laid 1,373 eggs, or an average of 65 per hen for the year. The beef fed hens laid an average of 107 eggs apiece, or almost twice as many as the no-meat hens, and the sour-milk hens beat them both with an average of 131 eggs apiece, or almost two and a half as many as the no-meat hens. There is no question but that the meat scrap and sour milk is responsible for

Sour Milk for Chicken Feeding

to each pen consisted of a scratch food made by mixing two parts of corn and one part of wheat. The remainder of the feed given to each pen was a mash made by mixing bran,middlings or shorts and cornmeal for the no-meat pen, or the pen which received no animal food whatever. The sour milk pen received the same mash and all the sour milk the fowls wanted, while the beef scrap pen received the same mash with the addition of beef scrap mixed with the mash The exact number of pounds fed during the year to each of these pens of fowls is indicated in the table.

The usual poultry yard method of feeding was followed, practically the only difference being in the protein concentrate, or the animal food given to the hens. In the morning a little scratch feed was sprinkled in the straw litter deep enough to make the fowls scratch and take exercise. Water was placed in clean pails, and a pain of sour milk was given to the sour milk pen. At noon, the proper amount of dry mash was measured into trough and green feed was frequently given at the same time during the winter. Two or three times a week the fowls were made to eat more of the mash by mixing the dry mash with water, or with milk in case of the sour milk pen. This wet mash was fed at the rate of a handful for every four birds. At night the scratch feed was given again, and the birds were allowed to eat all they would

the great increase in the number of eggs laid.

Profits.—The probable effect upon the pocketbook, of course, decides what ration a poultryman will choose, accounts gept show that the fowls fed no meat, milk or other animal food laid only 1,373 eggs in return for the $23.90 worth of feed they ate, or that at twenty cents a dozen they returned eggs worth $23.90. In other words, the poultryman gave his work for nothing, and paid $1 more for the feed than the eggs returned him in cash. The beef scrap fed hens, on the other hand, brought a profit of $19.78, because, although the feed they ate cost $1.78 more than if they had received no meat scraps, they laid nearly twice as many eggs, and so paid many times for the beef scraps they ate.

The biggest profit of all, however, resulted from feeding sour milk, in spite of the fact that it was charged at twenty cents a hundred pounds. This is, perhaps, more than it would be worth on the average Missouri farm, where it would probably otherwise be fed to the hogs. Even at this price there was a profit of more than a 100 percent from the hens fed sour milk. The cost was $26.32, but the eggs laid were worth $28.26 more than those laid by the same number of hens which received no animal food, and laid less than half as many eggs.

Feeding.—The pullets should be fed heavily for egg production and the hens—the breeders—fed on a light ration. Feed the pullets mixed grain morning and evening. This should be buried in a deep litter to make them work for it. Keep a hopper filled with dry mash before them. The feeds used both for grain and mash feeding will depend on what are most available. Wheat, barley, oats, corn, buckwheat are all excellent, but they are better mixed than any one fed alone. Bran, middlings or low grade flour and cornmeal, equal parts with half part bloodflour or beefscrap makes a good mash. If gluten meal can be had at a reasonable price half a part may also be added. Give them a regular supply of sour milk or keep a hopper of beefscrap where they can get what they want; also hoppers of grit and oystershell, and don't forget the green feed; mangels are one of the best and most convenient forms that can be used; a forkful of clover hay put in a rack where the fowl can have access to it will be appreciated.

The old hens should be fed sparingly and kept busy. Instead of the mash recommended for the pullets give them dry bran, or, if the mash is used, the hopper should be only opened for a limited time each day.

Crate Feeding.—Continue crate-feeding. Do not try to dispose of all your surplus cockerels as soon as the cold weather comes. See that they are properly fleshed and if you are selling them dressed see that they are properly killed. Sticking, bleeding and then dry picking is the proper method. (See Exhibition Circular No. 70.)

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SEED CORN FOR SALE—FIRST-class. Ontario grown seed, improved seaming. Bailey and Wht. Cap Yellow Dent. Reduction on club orders. Satisfaction guaranteed. ROBT. W. KNISTER, Comber, Ont. 12 8

FOR SALE—ABOUT 300 BUSHELS OF clean wheat. JAMES HIGGINSON, Inkerman, Ont. 11.6

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SEED OATS, O.A.C. No. 3, GOOD, clean seed. For price, apply to GEO. ARMSTRONG, St. Paul's Station, R.R. 2, Ont. 9.7

TIMOTHY SEED FOR SALE. WRITE for particulars. LOUIS WELLER, Vera, Sask. 9.6

NURSERY STOCK. — APPLE TREES, fifteen to twenty cents. Pear, plum, cherry trees, twenty-five to thirty-five cents, according to size of order. Herbert and Cuthbert Raspberry, two dollars per hundred. Snyder Blackberry, two dollars per hundred. Grape Vines, twelve cents and a half to twenty. Asparagus roots, two-year, one dollar per hundred. Norway Spruce, from six dollars per one hundred up. Shrubs, twenty-five cents. Roses, twenty-five cents. Business established over forty years. References, Commercial Agencies. CAMPBELL BROS., Simcoe, Ont. 8.6

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POULTRY.

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TESTED HATCHING EGGS NOW ready. Sheppard's Famous Anconas. Both combs. Unexcelled winter laying strain. Exhibited 30 birds; won 28 1st and 2nd and special prizes, 1916. These winners all in my pens now. Anconas, $4.00, $3.00, $2.00, fifteen; $12.00, 100 to 500. Sicilian Buttercups, $3.00, fifteen. A .C. APPS, Brantford, Ont. 12.7

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EGGS FROM LARGE SIZE, GENUINE bred-to-lay Barred Rocks, $2.00 per 15; $3.50 per 30; from high class exhibition stock, $3.00 per 15. Eggs guaranteed fertile. H. A. HOVEY, Clinton, Ont. 12.6

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WRITE FOR PRICES ON OUR S. C. White Leghorn Cockerels; also, on incubators and brooders which we can supply. THE WHITE FEATHER POULTRY YARD, Deloraine, Man. 3.12

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S.C. BLACK MINORCAS—UTILITY and Exhibition strains; hatching eggs, $1.50 per 15; $6.00 per 100. ELDON LAIRD, Thedford, Ont. 13.6

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MINORCAS, S.C.B.—CHOICE BRED-to-lay and Exhibition strains. Eggs, $1.50 and $2.50 per fifteen. REV. W. F. CARPENTER, Horning's Mills, Ont. 13.7

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SINGLE COMB REDS.—FAMOUS EXhibition strain. Heavy winter layers. Beauty and utility combined. Specially selected hatching eggs, $1.50 per 15. DR. F. G. HENDRY, Delhi, Ontario. 12.6

POULTRY.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

GOOD REDS. SINGLE COMB, LLENROC strain. Utility and exhibition stock. Eggs, $3 and $5 per fifteen. DR. VANCE, Waterdown, Ont. 9 7

ROSE COMB REDS — EGGS FROM guaranteed good winter laying strain, 15, $1.50; 100, $5.50. From exhibition pens headed by Guelph winning males, 15 eggs, $5.00. Miss COLLINSON, Scotia Junction, Ont. 13.6

S.C. R. I. REDS. — LARGE HARDY birds; good laying strain. Eggs, $2.00 per 15. E. J. HOWELL, Vernon, Ont. 13.7

SINGLE COMB REDS. AT GUELPH I won second cock, first hen, on two entries. Eggs, five dollars per thirteen. P. D. SHOREY, Waterdown, Ontario. 11.6

SINGLE COMB REDS—HANDSOME hardy birds, splendid layers, hard to beat at any price; 15 eggs, $1.50; 30, $2.75. GEO. WHITE, Box 301, Strathroy, Ont. 11.12

ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND RED and Rose Comb Ancona Eggs; $1.25 for 15. LEO BOLT, Provost, Alta. 10 6

ORPINGTONS.

BUFF ORPINGTONS. — WINNERS, 2nd laying Contest, 3rd and 4th utility Females Panama Exposition. Eggs, $2.00 setting. C. ROBINS, Chilliwack, B.C. 13.6

BLUE ORPINGTONS. — FINEST IMported English stock; grand table fowl; wonderful layers. Eggs, choicest pens in America, $5 per setting. CHAS. MASSIE, Box 441, Port Hope, Ont. 13.6

QUALITY BUFF ORPINGTONS, Ancona Fawn Indian Runner Ducks. Write for prices. E. E. McCOMBS, Fenwick, Ont. 10 6

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

"THEY LAY BECAUSE THEY ARE bred that way." Our Barred Plymouth Rocks are bred from the best strains in America. Eggs, $2.00 for 15. ARTHUR RAY, Creelman, Sask. 10.12

ROCKS.

EGGS FROM CANADA'S BEST LAYing strains, Barred, Buff and White Rocks, $1.50 per 15; $6.00 per 100. ELDON LAIRD, Thedford, Ont. 13.6

WHITE ROCKS. BRED TO LAY. Fine type, good bone and vigorous birds. Get Canada's Best (Graham strain). Pens headed by $10.00 cocks. My strain is unexcelled for hardiness. Housed in open front houses. Eggs from all pens $1.50 for 15, $2.50 for 30, and $6.00 per 100. Book orders early. A bargain. One new Poultry silo, making three bushels of one bushel. Write for particulars. ED. HELM, Britton, R.R. 1, Ont. 11.6

"BEAUTILITY" WHITE ROCKS. Last season's best layers; proven by trapnest to be worth-while pullets. These are mated to a son of 1st Ontario Cock, '16. A splendid pen, with showroom and trapnest in its make-up. Eggs at $2 for 15. J. A. BUTLER, M.D., Newcastle, Ont. 11.6

PURE BRED WHITE ROCKS, FISchel and Dulmage strains; cockerels, $4 to $5. Write for prices on eggs. A. D. THOMSON, R. R. No. 1, Scarboro Junction, Ont. 9 6

SUSSEX.

SPECKEL SUSSEX. WINNERS OF First and Second, Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph, 1915, and Toronto, 1916. Stock for sale. Eggs, $3.00 for 15; Anconas, $2.00 for 15. SUSSEX POULTRY YARD, Hamilton, Ont. 13.6

WYANDOTTES.

WHITE WYANDOTTES.—EGGS FROM magnificent pens of exhibition laying strains, $3 per setting; two settings, $5. Incubator eggs, $10 for 108. CHAS. MASSIE, Port Hope, Ont. 13.6

SILVER PENCILED WYANDOTTE eggs for hatching from winners at Toronto Exhibition, Ottawa and Guelph; have the goods. Drop card for particulars. A. AINSLEY, Newmarket, Ont. 12 6

WOODRIGHT WHITE WYANDOTTES. Single Comb Black Minorcas. Pekin Ducks. The better kind. Eggs, two dollars per setting. WAINWRIGHT & WOODCOCK, R.R. 2, Seagrave, Ont. 12.6

REGAL WHITE WYANDOTTES. — Champion Winners, New York State Fair, 10 years in succession. Big, vigorous, snow white cockerels, $2, $3, and $5 each. Bred from heavy laying females. Pullets, $2 and $3 each. Eggs, $3 per setting. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send for catalogue. JOHN S. MARTIN, Drawer A, Port Dover, Canada. 12.6

REGAL STRAIN WYANDOTTE EGGS for hatching, $1.50 per 15; 50, $3.00; 100, $5.00. Mrs. J. W. CURTS, Port Perry Ont. Member National White Wyandotte Club. 12.6

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS, bred from individual with splendid winter record, $3.00 each. P. O. BERKLEY, Morrisburg, Ont. 11.6

WHITE WYANDOTTES EXCLUSIVEly. Eggs from prize stock cost $5.00 a setting; the price to introduce my stock, $6.00, 100; $1.50, 13. OAKDALE POULTRY FARM, Sarnia, Ont. 11.6

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FOR SALE. — SILVER LACED WYANdottes. Cockerels, two-fifty each. Pullets, two dollars each. Blue Andalusians pullets, two dollars. JOHN THOMSON, Fergus, Ont. 10.6

MISCELLANEOUS.

BLUE ANDALUSIAN AND WHITE Orpington. Eggs, $1.50 setting, from choice pens. Orders filled in rotation. E. A. CARSWELL, Grafton, Ont. 11.6

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FIFTEEN HATCHING EGGS, ONE dollar. White Leghorns, Wyandottes, Buttercups, Silver Campines, R. I. Reds, Buff Orpingtons. Also, stock for sale. CHAS. DOBSON, Oxford, N.S. 13.6

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LAYERS AND PAYERS, BRED-TO-lay strain of Barred Rocks and Single Comb White Leghorn. Eggs from trapnested stock, $1.50 per 15. ROY OVERHOLT, Wellandport, Ont. 12.6

AUSTRALIAN WHITE LEGHORN noted laying strains, also exhibition breeding, White, Brown and Buff Leghorns; White and Buff Orpingtons; S. C. Ancona; Single and Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds; White Wyandottes; Silver-breasted Polands; Bearded and Non-bearded Barred Plymouth Rocks; cockerels from the above breeds for sale, from three to five dollars; eggs two and three dollars per fifteen, in season. We can make up pens of the above varieties at very reasonable prices. The Idlewild Poultry Yards, Burlington, Ont. C. F. COLEMAN, Prop. 12.6

FAIRY WHITE RUNNERS. TEN trios for sale. My birds won over 30 1, 2 and 3 prizes this winter in the strongest competition, at Hamilton, Guelph, Buffalo and Dunnville. Eggs for sale after April 1st from two grand pens. Three pairs of Black Tailed Japanese Bantams for sale, fit to show, $5 per pair. D. T. ROGERS, Dunnville, Ont. 8.6

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HIGH-CLASS PIGEONS — COME TO the fountainhead with breeders of reputation for all varieties. (English imported) prize pigeons. Express prepaid. (Send stamps.) PINE GROVE PIGEON LOFTS, Ottawa, Ont. 12 2

PHEASANTS.

PHEASANT EGGS—ORDERS BOOKED now for spring delivery. Per dozen, Ring-neck, $5.00; Golden, $8.00; Silver, $8.00; Reeves, $10.00; Amherst, $10.00. Laurentian Pheasantry, J. J. GAREAU, Prop., St. Roche l'Achigan, Que. 12.6

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TURKEY'S EGGS FOR INCUBATION. We are the largest poultry breeders and exchange in our province. Forty healthy Bronze Turkey hens, mated to husky, vigorous young and old Toms. Eggs, $5.00 per 15. You don't have to wait for your turn; eggs waiting for your order. Few Toms left. We specialize in domesticated Wild Geese and Ducks; young and three years old Pea-Fowls; pairs mated. Three years old Black Bears; very gentle and tamed. We want your surplus of pure-bred fowls and eggs per 100 lots. We are wide opened for bargains in all you can interest us. Stamps for information. Write us. YAMASKA POULTRY FARMS, St. Hyacinthe, Que. 11 11

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MANN'S GREEN BONE CUTTER, hand or power, almost new, $12, half-price. E. W. BURT, Paris, Ont. 11.6

HEATED BROODER, $2.95. BURNS two weeks without attention to heater; boy can make in hour; easy directions, 25c. Oat Sprouter, $1.95. Doubles egg yield, saves feed; boy can make in one evening; easy directions, 25c. RADIO CO., Box 1704 "E," Winnipeg, Manitoba. 2.18

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EGGS FOR HATCHING FROM THOROUGHBRED Exhibition stock, $1.50 for 15. Anconas, Speckled Sussex, Sicilian Buttercups. E. W. WARDLE, Corinth, Ont. 12 6

32 VARIETIES POULTRY AND BANtams; 8 varieties ducks, eggs, $1.50 per 13, $8 per 100; geese, 5 varieties; turkeys, 3 varieties; eggs, $4 per 11. Won 1,226 prizes, specials, medals at the big shows, 1916; 20 years breeders and exhibitors. Give us a trial. LUXTON & SONS, Mt. Forest, Ont. 11.6

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BEES FOR SALE—ITALIANS, 50 first-class colonies in up-to-date hives. If interested, write for prices, etc. J. RAYMOND BALL & SONS, Knowlton, Que. 10 6

TREES, SHRUBS, ETC.

APPLE AND PLUM TREES.—YOU can get the best fruit trees of the province, at the best conditions, at FREGEAU BROTHERS, Nurserymen, Rougemont, Que. 12.4

FRUIT TREES, SMALL FRUITS, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Roses, Climbing Vines. Send for descriptive priced catalogue. J. E. McCOMBS, Fenwick, Ont. 9 6

RAW FURS WANTED.

TRAPPER POISON — GOES' LIQUID Poison Capsules kill animals on the spot. Goes' Luring Bait attracts them. Eleventh season in use, with excellent results. First-class testimonials. Write for free circulars. EDMUND GOES, Milwaukee, Wis., Station C. 8 6

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S. C. BUFF EGGS FOR HATCHING from heavy winter layers, mated to imported bred-to-lay birds; grand color; $2.50 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. DAVID RUSSELL, Two Creeks, Man. 12.6

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ENGINES, 30 OF VARIOUS SIZES, marine and stationary. Send for lists. GUARANTEE MOTOR CO., Hamilton, Ont. tf

ENGINES, MAGNETOS, PROPELlers, carbuerators, and all motor boat fittings for sale or exchange. Send for new lists. GUARANTEE MOTOR CO., Hamilton, Canada. tf

FARMERS' SALES AND WANTS

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under this heading advertisements will be inserted without display at a cash-with-the-order rate of one cent a word per insertion, twenty-five cents being the minimum amount of an order for a single insertion, and forty cents the minimum amount for orders of more than one insertion. SIX consecutive prepaid insertions will be given for the price of FOUR a number or a single letter to be counted as one word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the 'Witness' Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made.

Copy for insertion in these columns should be in the 'Witness' Office not later than Friday morning to secure proper classification in following Weekly Edition.

FARMS FOR SALE.

FARMS FOR SALE.

135 ACRES TO RENT OR FOR SALE, 20 miles from Toronto; good roads; close to station, churches, stores, and a beautiful neighborhood. Immediate possession. WALLACE SECORD WALTON, Scarboro Jct., Ont. 13.3

408 ACRES UNBROKEN SASKATCHEwan, near Jasmin. Sixteen dollars acre; easy terms. Address Owner, A. W. HODGSON, Nelson, B.C. 13.6

480 ACRES GOOD WHEAT LAND, modern buildings, good water, beside school, 3½ miles to Carberry; 60 acres; pasture; $23,000. HANS JENSEN, Carberry, Man. 12.6

FOR SALE—3 GOOD FARMS, 160, 320, 800 acres. H. S. JENSEN, Viking, Alta. 12.6

DESIRABLE FARMS FOR SALE IN the "Banner District" of Manitoba. The Municipality of Strathclair has been settled over thirty years, and the best for farmers making money. Many of them are wealthy, wishing to retire, have listed their farms with me for sale. Apply to, DAVID ROSS, Strathclair, Manitoba. 12.2

FARM—A NUMBER ONE GRAIN stock farm, convenient to school, station; Lincoln county; 30 ewes. Bell telephone; must sell; too old to work. D. BARTLETT, Smithville, Ont., R.R. No. 1. 12.6

FOR SALE—EASY TERMS—WINNIPEG DISTRICT—960 acres finest prairie; 800 acres river frontage; soil unexcelled; daily trains; Torrens titles; references. STANGER CO., Lockport, Man. 11 6

A NUMBER OF SPLENDID FARMS for sale in Ottawa Valley. R. H. LIVINGSTON, Farm Broker, Smith's Falls, Ont. 11.12

FARM—150 ACRES. 25 HARD WOOD, balance excellent for mixed farming, near Sherbrooke, one mile from Dom. Experimental Farm; new modern barn, cemented; good, eleven roomed, furnace heated house; abundance excellent water; lightning rods; telephone; daily mail; school team. Further information, apply, GEORGE G. McCURDY, Lennoxville, Quebec. 11.6

FOR SALE. — HUNDRED ACRES, near station; good buildings; all cleared; near Toronto. Twenty-four hundred, half cash. WALTER HYLAND, Port Perry, Ont. 11.3

200 ACRES LAND. SPLENDID BUSH, containing large quantity pulpwood, cedar and other tie timber, wood and mill timber; 30 acres cleared; and $300 cash buys it. Six miles to station. P. J. DWYER, Wilberforce, Ont. 11.6

FARM—BRITISH COLUMBIA FRUIT Lands, two 10 acre blocks, two miles from Castlegar station, on Canadian Pacific Railway. Five passenger trains daily, good store, large hotel, big saw mill, and in the heart of a good settlement. Some improvement on each block; price $600.00, $10.00 monthly. Write for particulars, J. E. ANNABLE, Nelson, B.C. 10.6

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS—LARGE and small farms in the beautiful county of Stanstead, near thriving towns and Stanstead College. Free booklet E. W. HAY, Stanstead, Que. 9 6

FARM FOR SALE—IN THREE FIFTY acre lots, Oxford Township, Grenville Co., two miles from Experimental Farm. One lot with barn 30 x 60, and cow stable; also frame dwelling and orchard, drilled well and flowing spring; one lot has 65 acres, 20 cleared, balance well wooded, with splendid sugar bush. Apply JOHN SELLACK, Kemptville, Ont. 9 6

FOR SALE—IMPROVED 1-4 SECTION in Central Alberta; 70 acres cultivated; never failing spring; good buildings, fences, etc.; 6 miles of railroad train, with good creameries, elevators, etc.; plenty free range adjoining. Ideal place for dairyman or small rancher. A bargain. Write for particulars, A. T. GOODWIN, Perbeck, Alta. 8 6

FIFTY ACRES, WITH BRICK HOUSE and frame barn, about 30 miles from Toronto, adjoining nice village; close to station; on trolley car line. This is a good farm with splendid location. Write the owner for full particulars. J. HUTCHINSON, Sharon, Ont. 8 6

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK AND Single Comb White Leghorn eggs from pure bred, highest laying prize strains; $1.50 per 15; $2.50 per 30. WOODYCREST POULTRY FARM, Perth, Ontario. 8.6

POST CARDS.

12 BEAUTIFUL EASTER CARDS, 10c postpaid; 100, 60c. C. BEERWORTH, Beebe, Que., Box 55. 13.2

STRAWBERRY AND RASPBERRY PLANTS.

FALL BEARING STRAWBERRIES, June bearing Strawberries, Raspberries, Currants, Gooseberries, Grapes, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Seed Potatoes. Large illustrated Berry Book and Price List free. M. L. McCONNELL & SON, Port Burwell, Ontario. 5.15

STRAWBERRY PLANTS, CURRANTS, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Loganberries, fruits, chicks, hatching eggs, ducklings, hares, goats. Catalogue free. CHAS. PROVAN, Rural Industries Specialist, Langley Fort, B.C. 10.6

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WANTED—STRONG GIRL ON FARM, able to milk; Christian home; state wages and experience. MRS. E. H. DAVIES, Southminster, Sask. 10 6

PRINTING.

100 ENVELOPES, 100 LETTERHEADS, $1.00; 100 statements, 100 shipping tags, $1.00; charges prepaid. Reliable Supply House, Box 164, Hull, Que. 8 6

LIVE STOCK FOR SALE.

CATTLE.

HEREFORD BULLS, 9 TO 15 MONTHS, size, quality and breeding. Inspection invited. ARTHUR F. O'NEILL & SONS, Denfield, Ont., R. No. 2. 13.7

HOLSTEIN HEIFER CALF, TWO weeks old, nicely marked, good conformation and size, from high producing stock. Price delivered in Ontario, papers complete, $25.00. Also, a few grade heifers, same age, practically pure, $12.00, delivered. F. H. WESTNEY, Pickering, Ont.

CLYDESDALES—STALLIONS. — BIG size. True character. High in quality. Rich breeding. With the addition of my 1916 importations, I am offering high quality, big weight and character, and the very best breeding. See them before you buy. Also, Canadian-bred Clyde stallions and the high class French coach stallion, Fronsac. JAMES TORRENCE, Markham, Ont. 13.6

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN COWS, with official yearly records, some 2 and 3 year old heifers from them, one two year old bull. M. PEACOCK, Aylmer, Ont. 12 6

WE OFFER HOLSTEIN BULLS, FIT for service, sired by a half-brother of Lakeview Dutchland Artis 2.540, whose record for seven days is 567.7 lbs. milk, 34.66 butter; thirty days, 2,320 lbs. milk, 110.84 butter. Write us about your requirements. We can sell or procure you what you want. F. R. BRECKON, Bronte, Ont. 10 6

SPRUCE LAWN DUAL PURPOSE Shorthorns and Yorkshires. T. W. McCAMUS, Millbrook, Ont. 7.6

GRADE HOLSTEIN, DURHAM AND Ayrshire calves, from 3 days to one week old; prices and stock right. J. A. CADMAN, R.R. 3, Tilsonburg, Ontario. 8.6

DOGS FOR SALE.

AIREDALE KENNELS, BOX 218, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. Airedales exclusively, best all-purpose dogs. Companions, guards, hunters, big and small game, land and water. Pedigreed puppies and grown-ups usually on hand for sale. Prices reasonable. Registration C.K.C. 11.3

CLEARING SALE — BEAUTIFUL IMported registered Russian wolfhounds, guaranteed killers, $30.00 to $40.00 each; stag hound, $25.00; bloodhounds, half bloodhounds, foxhounds, harriers, beagles; real trailers for fox, coyote, deer, coon, cat, rabbit, etc. Must be sold. PEARSON, Box 457, Guelph, Ont. 13.6

FOR SALE. TWO TRAINED FOXhounds, 2 female foxhounds, 7 months old; 2 female cocker spaniels, 9 months old; 1 female fox terrier, 8 months old. Bred from best hunting stock. CHAS. REASBECK, Vankleek Hill, Ontario. 11.6

FOR SALE—FOX HOUND, 2 yrs. old; Coon Dog, 3 yrs. old; Black and Tan Bitch, 2 yrs. old; Collie Bitch; two Fox Terriers (females) and Cocker Spaniel Bitch. Apply to JAMES CLARK, Box 203, Amherstburg, Ont. 9 6

WHITE COLLIE PUPS, THE POULtryman's ideal dog, beautiful and useful; males, $15; females, $10. W. R. POWELL, Galt, Ont. 7.6

HORSES.

TWO IMPORTED REGISTERED PERCHERON MARES. One a nice dark iron grey, coming four; the other light grey. One yearling entire colt. EDWARD ANGLIN, Brewer's Mills, Ont. 7 6

SWINE.

REGISTERED POLAND CHINA BOARS for sale; a serviceable age. Apply to Box 54, Crossfield, Alta. 9.6

FOR SALE.

TWO BUCKEYE TRACTION DITCHERS, gasoline; one twelve horse power; one fourteen horse power. For particulars write to WELLINGTON HOLMES, Walkerville, Ontario.

FOR SALE. — SPLENDID UPRIGHT Piano, one hundred and fifty dollars. H. HYLAND, Port Perry, Ont. 11.3

FOR SALE — STEAM THRESHING outfit—28 h.p. Simple American Abell Engine, and Nichols & Shepard Separator, with new feeder and bagger. This outfit is in good shape. Cook car and bunkhouse included. Price, $3,000. T. H. L. ORR, Vera, Sask. 9 6

STRAW FOR SALE. APPLY FOR prices in car lots. D. W. FISKIN, Howick, R.R. No. 2, Que.

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HODDER AND STOUGHTON
LONDON

The CURTAIN OF FIRE

By
JOSEPH HOCKING

SYNOPSIS.

In the first instalment the reader was introduced to an intimate picture of the British front at Ypres. Captain Bob Nancarrow meets his uncle, who is on a writer's tour by permission of the War Office. Nancarrow is the son of a Quaker, averse to war, and has had difficulty in coming to the conviction that his duty was to be a soldier. He receives news that his sweetheart Nancy, a nurse, who had been up to the front lines to take care of a friend, has been captured by the Germans. Accompanied by his pal, Fanshawe, he journeys to the hospital where she had been nursing but gets very little information from her friend, Nurse Tresillian, whom he cannot quite make out.

CHAPTER XII.—Continued.

"People say that women can't be loyal to each other. It's all nonsense, and if they knew those two girls as I know them they would have to alter their opinions. All the same——"

"What?" asked Fortescue.

"No, I am not going to tell you; but I am worried about Nurse Tresize, far more than her friend is. She seems to be sure she's all right, but what reason has she to be sure? If they mean her no harm why don't they send her back? She's a nurse and she's a woman, therefore, a non-combatant. I should not be surprised if Admiral Tresize doesn't come over here; he can't help being worried out of his life, poor man."

"Is Dick Tresize here?" asked Fortescue.

"No; he was taken to another place further down. I am told he is getting on wonderfully, and will go back to England quite soon."

"By the way," said Fortescue, "since you have been so kind as to ask me to lunch, I suppose you can manage to give my man something?"

"Oh, by all means, but he will find everything very rough. That was what I told Doctor Rayner who is here this morning. He has come up from one of the Base Hospitals. Do you know Doctor Rayner? He is in the W——'s."

"No," said Fortescue; "I don't know him."

"Such a nice pleasant fellow. We shall be quite gay to-day. This is Doctor Rayner coming this way. He has been waiting here the last half-hour for Doctor Myddleton."

A man dressed in a Major's uniform came up and spoke to them.

"How delightfully clean and pleasant you have everything here. I couldn't have believed that these farm buildings could have made such a perfect hospital."

"It was terrible when we came here first," said the Commandant, "but we have got things a little shipshape now. You don't know Lieutenant Fortescue, do you?" and a minute or two later she left the two men together.

"No one would think this was a temporary hospital, would they?" said Doctor Rayner. "You see it's fitted up as though it were for a permanence, and it is only a few miles from the line either. Evidently the authorities think the position is very strong here, they have no fear of the Huns driving us back."

"Good sign, anyhow," was Fortescue's reply. "Have you been through the place?"

"I am waiting for Doctor Myddleton. I wanted to consult him about the treatment of certain cases; I hear he has been specially fortunate. We have some difficult jobs down my way and I wanted his advice before tackling them."

"There are some Germans here I suppose."

"Oh, is that so? That's interesting. Mostly the French claim all the wounded Germans and pack them off to Paris."

"You haven't seen any of them then?"

"I may have; I don't know. I went casually through one or two of these old barns which have been fitted out for wards, but of course I know nothing. Ah, is not this Doctor Myddleton coming?"

At that moment Doctor Myddleton came up, and Doctor Rayner, regardless of Fortescue's presence, made his way towards his medical confrere with hands outstretched.

"I must apologize for coming in this way," he said. "I know how we all feel when strangers trespass on our domains, but you have only yourself to thank. It is you who have discovered this new serum which is working such wonders among the men, and I have come up to consult you about it. I congratulate you," he went on without giving the other time to reply; "if you don't get a knighthood out of this, then something is wrong with the Government."

"I think my treatment has been successful," said Doctor Myddleton, evidently pleased with the other's remarks.

"Successful! Why, man, it's miraculous. If all the stories one hears are true you will have revolutionized medical science. Gangrene or anything akin to it has become impossible; in fact, blood poisoning of any shape or form whatever have now no terrors for us. But, do you know, there are some questions I would like to ask you about it."

Doctor Myddleton was not very effusive, whereupon the other noticing his look drew a packet of papers from his pocket.

"You may want to see my credentials, but I understood that my Brigadier had communicated with you. Have you not heard from West?"

Doctor Myddleton shook his head.

"That's strange. He told me he would let you know of my intended visit at once. Let me see, that was the night before last. I expect the post has gone wrong."

"In any case it is not wonderful," replied Myddleton, "our letters are often delayed."

"Just so. Here are the papers you will naturally want to see."

Doctor Myddleton scanned them quickly without paying very much attention. He saw at a glance that they were the usual official documents. Then he said more cordially "Of course, I shall be pleased to tell you anything in my power. I am sorry to have kept you waiting so long too," he went on, "but we have had several bad cases and I could not get away. Still, you had someone to talk to," and he nodded towards Fortescue.

"Glad to see you, Fortescue. Colonel Brunner told me you were coming. I shall be glad to have a chat with you."

"I hope I do not interfere with your arrangements," broke in Doctor Rayner; "but I must be getting away early this afternoon, and if I could have my talk with you soon it would convenience me greatly."

"Oh, we can manage that all right," replied Myddleton looking at his watch. "The Commandant told me you were staying to lunch, and there should be oceans of time. I am afraid this medical talk will have no interest for you, Fortescue."

"Don't trouble about me," replied John; "I will fill up my time somehow. By the way——" and he took Doctor Myddleton aside, "I should like very much to see the German officer you have here."

"You have seen Fanshawe then?" and Myddleton looked at him questioningly.

"Yes, he was greatly interested."

"I don't think you will do any good," was Myddleton's reply, "but still there's no reason why you should not do as you say. I will leave instructions."

A few seconds later the two doctors walked away together, while Fortescue, instead of finding his way to the German officer's ward, went outside the house to where his car was. Not seeing Stilton he wandered down the drive, idly gazing around him all the time. He had not gone far before Stilton appeared.

"I am staying for lunch," said Fortescue to his chauffeur, "and I have fixed you up all right."

"Thank you, sir."

"Didn't I hear you talking with someone, Stilton?"

"Well, sir, I was trying to talk with someone, but I didn't make much of a job of it. I think it was one of those French Johnnies."

"What, one of the peasants?"

"Oh no, sir, he's in uniform all right."

"What uniform?"

"Same as mine, sir, only he belongs to the Norfolks."

"Then what made you think of saying he was a Frenchman?"

"He wouldn't talk, sir, that's all. He didn't seem to understand what I was saying. He has got a car down here by the gate. From what I could gather he's brought a doctor up to the hospital."

"Oh, that's all right," replied Fortescue; "I have just been talking with his officer."

"Funny chap, though," went on Stilton; "couldn't get a word out of him. I spoke to him in a friendly way like, but he looked as though he didn't understand what I was saying."

Fortescue was silent for a few seconds after this. Then he looked around him, eagerly, questioningly. After that he spoke to his chauffeur again in slow, earnest tones. Like the well-bred servant he was, Stilton made no remark, but it was evident he was much surprised at Fortescue's commands.

"You understand, Stilton?"

"Yes, sir, I understand."

"And you will see that what I say is done?"

"You trust to me, sir, you needn't fear about that."

John Fortescue walked back to the Hospital, while Stilton stood looking after him with wide staring eyes. "By gosh!" he said, "what does he mean by that, I wonder. He wasn't born yesterday, he wasn't; neither was I for that matter," and then Stilton slowly made his way towards the entrance gates.

When Fortescue reached the hospital again he found the Commandant waiting for him.

"Doctor Myddleton asked me to take you to the German officer," she said. "As it happens, he is alone now; the the British officers who were in that ward are so much better that they are able to get out, and as it is a fine morning they have gone for a walk."

"And how is the German?" asked Fortescue.

"He does not seem to get on at all well," replied the Commandant; "his wounds are certainly better, but he says he is ill. He has shewn no desire to get up, and he asks to be left alone. I don't think you will get him to talk. I will take you to the room, but you will excuse me for not going in with you, we are very busy just now."

A minute later John was ushered into the room which Fanshawe had described to him, and saw half-lying, half-reclining upon the bed, with his head propped up by pillows, the man whom he had seen months before under entirely different circumstances. As the Commandant had said, the room was empty save for the officer's presence. As far as Fortescue could judge, the German was not ill; indeed, his somewhat florid face was flushed and his eyes sparkled brightly. On Fortescue's entrance he looked up eagerly and he seemed on the point of speaking; then suddenly his eyes became hard, his face rigid. He bore the same expression as when Fanshawe had called to see him weeks before.

For a few seconds the young men looked at each other, neither speaking a word. John Fortescue gazed at the German curiously, he was trying to understand the character of the man before him; trying to read his mind. The face of Von Hulton, on the other hand, was at first expressionless. Directly Fortescue had entered, his eyes, as I have said, became hard and his features rigid. He seemed to regard Fortescue's entrance as an unwarrantable intrusion. He might be a British officer, but he had no right to invade his privacy. Nevertheless, he could not help looking at the man before him. Slowly his expression changed; at first there was a look of wonder in his eyes, then incredulity, then anger, then recognition. He no longer pretended to keep up the role which he had used with the Doctor and the Commandant; he ceased to pretend that he did not know English. There was no fear, no subservience in his eyes, rather there was a suggestion of masterfulness, of conscious superiority. He might be a prisoner, he might be guarded by a brutal soldiery, but he was still a German gentleman of an old Saxon family whose name and history could be found in any abridged record of his nation. He whose ancestors had stood before Kings was not likely to show humility before the man who a few months before was in his power to do what he liked with.

"Ah, it's you, is it?"

"Yes," replied Fortescue quietly, "it's I. This is interesting isn't it?"

"Have you come to gloat over the change of affairs? Come to remind me that it is you who are in power and that I am your prisoner? That you who have—— have——' He did not finish the sentence, but his eyes flashed as a polished bayonet flashes in the light of the sun.

"No," replied John, "I come to meet you as one man may meet another. When we last met I was prisoner and you were captor; now things have changed, but what of that?"

"Then why have you come here? What purpose can you have save to gloat over the temporary misfortune of one who a few months ago had you in his power, and who before long may have you in his power again. Fortune seems on your side now; when we next meet it will be on mine."

"You seem certain," said John.

"I have no more doubt about it than that the sun will presently sink in the west."

John was silent a few seconds. He was trying to realize the situation, to marshal his thoughts.

"I imagine my presence is not pleasant to you," he said presently, "and you wish me to leave you?"

The other did not answer at once. He seemed to be struggling with conflicting emotions. "Since you are here it might be interesting if you were to stay a little while. I may have something to say to you. It seems strange, doesn't it, that our lives should be intertwined in his demeanor; indeed he spoke as something, perhaps proffer a request." There was no suggestion of the prisoner in his demeanour. indeed he spoke as though he were in command, and that it was the other's duty to obey. "No," he went on, "I have no complaints to make as to my treatment. For a prisoner," and there wa sa sneer in his voice, "I am treated well; better, if I must be frank, than you weretreated in Germany during the earlier stages of the war. I have enough to eat, my food is good; I hav ea clean bed; I am nursed as though I were one of your own officers."

"I am glad you are comfortable," was John's reply.

"Comfortable!" replied the other indignantly, "Who said comfortable? My body is in comfort if you like, but how can a man such as I have any peace of mind under such circumstances?"

"Fortunes of war," smiled John.

"Yes, fortunes of war if you will. Fortunes of war, eh!" and Fortescue could not help noticing the look on his face. "Of course that man who was here some time ago—Fanshawe, he told me his name was—has related to you our conversation, eh?"

Fortescue nodded.

"He told you what I said? What my plans were? What my purposes were, what I intend to do?"

"Exactly," and John could not help smiling at the tone which the other adopted.

"Well, I wish to tell you this. I shall do what I said. You think it impossible. You say to yourself, 'He isa prisoner; when his wounds are well enough he will be taken, perhaps, to England; he will be placed under the strictest vigilance.' But what of that? I laugh at your vigilance, laugh at your iron bars, laugh atall you can do."

"I do not wish to wound your feelings," said John, "every soldier who has fallen in fair fight or has been made a prisoner of war should be treated as an honorable man. I have learned that you at least are not responsible for those things which have made humanity shudder. You at all events have been an honorable soldier, and in that respect I hope I have learned the lessons which soldiers of olden times have taught us; but there is such a thing as crying after the moon, there is such a thing as attempting the impossible."

"Nothing is impossible to the man who wills to win and who loves," replied the other. "Yes, I will speak to you plainly. That man, Fanshawe, told me that you have dared to love the woman to whom I have given my heart. That it was you who planned the escape, you who carried it out; you who seem to have outwitted, bested me. Have you ever travelled in Spain, Herr Forescue?"

"Sorry, but that has not been my good fortune."

"No? They have a saying there which is at once their strength and their weakness, because the meaning of it has sunk deep into the national character. 'There is a to-morrow.' There seems nothing much in it, does there, and I think it has done the Spaniards harm. It has meant to them idleness, ease, lack of will-power, want of determination. A kind of philosophy which has made them willing to wait, wait indefinitely. But that's not true of a German. When he says, 'There is a to-morrow,' he mans that the thing that has not come to pass to-day will come to pass to-morrow; that he will make it come to pass. How does not matter, it is only the fact that he cares for. There is a to-morrow, Herr Englishman, for revenge, for revenge; a to-morrow for victory; a to-morrow on which all your little plans wil be frustrated. Yes, I am guarded, I am wounded, I am in an enemy's country. What of that? I shall gain what I desire. I shall do that which I have willed to do."

Fortescue could not help admiring the man. There was a suggestion of braggadocio in his speech, but there was also the suggestion of a strong, determined man. There was a pride in his voice which proclaimed his vanity, but there was also a pride which spoke of power.

"It would be interesting to know how you are going to accomplish your designs."

The German laughed. "That is here," he said, tapping his forehead, "and here," and he placed his hand upon his heart. "One day you will know."

At that moment there wa sa voice outside the door, and Fortescue heard the voice of Doctor Myddleton speaking to Doctor Rayner. Von Hulton raised himself slightly in his bed and his face hardened again. Evidently he expected his room to be further invaded. Myddleton and Rayner entered.

"You are here, then, Fortescue," said Myddleton. "Has your knowledge of German enabled you to get into conversation with the patient?"

But John did not answer. His eyes had flashed like lightning between the faces of the man to whom he had just been talking and that of Myddleton's companion.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE WAR AS SEEN THROUGH GERMAN EYES.

"Oh, I see," and Myddleton laughed as he looked towards Fortescue, "we are 'de trop' here just now. Well, that's all right; we allow our patients to have all the liberty that is good for them. You do not wish to stay here, do you, Rayner?"

"Not at all," and Rayner's voice expressed perfect indifference. "There is nothing particularly interesting in this case, is there?"

"Except that he is from the Other Side," laughed Myddleton. "He is a most uninteresting patient from the doctor's standpoint. We will move on then. I shall see you at lunch, Fortescue; Doctor Rayner also will be with us then."

"That's the kind of thing I object to," said Von Hulton when the two doctors had departed. "Such as I seem to be regarded as a kind of rare animal in a menagerie. Everyone seems allowed to intrude upon one's privacy; in fact, there is no privacy."

"I am sorry you are worried," and John spoke very quickly. "Of course," he went on, "war is a ghastly business, even when you make the best of it. I little thought two years ago when travelling in Germany that things would be as they are now. Then I had many friends in your country."

"And my people treated you well?"

"I had nothing to complain of at all," replied John. "Yes, I was treated with courtsey and kindness. That's why this war seems so terrible. I have seen a good deal of it now, and seems to me so senseless, such madness. It's a ghastly crime, a crime against humanity, a crime against everything worth living for."

John watched the other's face as he spoke. Perhaps he was interested to see how a German regarded it.

"You should not have gone into war. No one wanted you to; it was not your affair."

"Is that how it strikes you?" replied the Englishman. He hesitated a few seconds before speaking again, and then he determined to go further.

"I wonder," said Fortescue, "whether you would mind being quite frank with me."

"Frank? What do you mean?"

"I wondered whether for the moment we could forget our relative positions, and whether you would mind explaining to me from your standpoint what you think of this ghastly business, which has made me and you enemies, and which has thrown a shadow over the whole world. It's a terrible thing, isn't it, that millions of the finest men in Europe should at this moment be engaged in thinking how they should kill each other; that the best brains in the world are being devoted to the invention and manufacture of instruments of destruction; that the treasure of the world should be wasted like water, and that misery amounting to agony should be the order of the day? Sometimes I feel like going mad as I think of the homes that are desolated, of the lives that are being wasted. I wonder what you think about it?"

Von Hulton looked at the other with a curious look in his eyes. Perhaps he was trying to understand his motives in speaking in such a way.

"Nations are the better for a little blood-letting," he remarked.

"Is that how you look at it? Do you not think of war as a ghastly thing?"

The other was silent a minute. He seemed to be thinking of the inwardness of Fortescue's question.

"Looked at from the civilian standpoint, and from the money-maker's point of view," said the German after a time, "it is of course horrible; but nations have always lived by war and gained by war; they always will. You British gained all your big Empire by war and robbery and intrigue. Well, what would you? Of course homes are desolated, lives are wasted; we have reason to know that in Germany, Gott in Himmel, yes!"

"But why?" then asked Fortescue, "was it worth while? Was revenge for the murder of the Crown Prince of Austria worth all this?Put him at his best, he was heir to the Austrian throne. Think of him as he actually was."

"Bah," said the German with a laugh, "what was he? A thick-headed clown."

"Then it was not his death that caused the war!"

(To be Continued.)

LITERARY REVIEW

SMOLLETT AND DICKENS

A new edition is a fair excuse for going back to an old author, and I have been renewing my acquaintance with Smollett in the clear and handy volumes of Messrs. Jarrold's "International Library." With very young readers who are not critical from the literary side, according to Professor Saintsbury, Smollett is probably the most popular of the four great novelists of the eighteenth century. This may be so, but I doubt whether many people re-read him in later life. At any rate, he is now more than a little out of fashion. Women, who form so large a proportion of modern readers, have never cared for him, and I fancy few of them cordially enjoy Fielding either. "There must always be, we presume," wrote Mrs. Oliphant, "however age and experience may modify nature, a certain inability on the part of a woman to appreciate the more riotous forms of mirth, and that robust freedom in morals which bolder minds admire. It is a disability which nothing can abolish." The riotous forms of mirth are certainly abundant in Smollett. To read him is to witness plenty of swearing and thumping and all the bustle of knock-down blows and buffoonery. He is, in addition, undeniably and inexcusably coarse. So far was Smollett from understanding his offence in this respect that in the Advertisement to the third edition of "Peregrine Pickle" he deliberately states that "he flatters himself that he has expunged every adventure, phrase, and insinuation, that could be construed by the most delicate reader into a trespass upon the rules of decorum." This is almost equal to Vanbrugh's retort to Jeremy Collier that he had never written anything which the most virtuous damsel might not keep in her chamber with her Bible.

* * *

Hazlitt made it one of the marks of a commonplace critic to prefer Smollett to Fielding. Scott was far from being a commonplace critic, yet he maintained that the two writers balanced in the scale, though he admitted Fielding's higher and purer taste and his greater elegance of composition and expression. But he credited Smollett with more brilliancy of genius, more inexhaustible richness of invention. And Hazlitt himself has done Smollett full justice. "Humphry Clinker" is, he held, "perhaps the most pleasant gossiping novel ever written: that which gives the most pleasure with the least effort to the reader. It is quite as amusing as going the journey could have been; and we have just as good an idea of what happened on the road as if we had been of the party." In this estimate, Hazlitt was followed by three of our great novelists. Scott speaks of "Humphry Clinker" as "the last, and, like music, 'sweetest in the close,' the most pleasing of his compositions." Thackeray classed it as "the most laughable story that has ever been written since the goodly art of novel-writing began." And Dickens, in a letter to Frank Stone, the artist, appended the postcript:—

"'Humphry Clinker' is certainly Smollett's best. I am rather divided between 'Peregrine Pickle' and 'Roderick Random,' both extraordinarily good in their way, which is a way without tenderness; but you will have to read them both, and I send the first volume of 'Peregrine' as the richer of the two."

* * *

Dickens, it has been said—and the theory is maintained by Mr. Harold Child in "The Cambridge History of English Literature" — was Smollett's literary descendant. "In both we find the observation of superficial oddities of speech and manner carried to the finest point; in both, we find these oddities and the episodes which display them more interesting than the main plot; in both, we find that, beneath these oddities, there is often a lack of real character." It seems to me that the parallel has but a superficial truth. Dickens was a great reader of Smollett, but in essentials they are most unlike. There is in Smollett none of the real sympathy and tenderness of Dickens, nothing of the feeling expressed in the Virgilian tag, "mentem mortalia tangunt." And this is evident in every page of Dickens. As Mr. Chesterton puts it in his lively little volume on "The Victorian Age in Literature":—

"Dickens inherited the old comic, rambling novel from Smollett and the rest. Dickens consented to expurgate that novel. But when all origins and all restraints are allowed for, the creature that came out was such as we shall not see again. Smollett was coarse; but Smollett was also cruel. Dickens was frequently horrible; he was never cruel. The art of Dickens was the most exquisite of arts: it was the art of enjoying everybody. . . His books are full of baffled villains stalking out or cowardly bullies kicked downstairs. But the villains and the cowards are such delightful people that the reader always hopes the villain will put his head through a side window and make a last remark; or that the bully will say one thing more, even from the bottom of the stairs. The reader really hopes this; and he cannot get rid of the fancy that the author hopes so too."

* * *

There is one feature of Smollett's novels that deserves at least passing notice. It is in them that sailors and pictures of life at sea make their first real appearance in English fiction. It is strange that among a people so proud of its mastery of the sea, there have been so few novelists to treat of a sailor's life. Sailors, it is true, often pop in and out of novels—there are a couple even in Jane Austen, probably drawn from her own sailor brothers—but for first-hand studies of seamen there is little to be found outside the pages of Smollett, Marryat, and Clark Russell. And it was the first of the three who established the tradition. Tom Bowling, Commander Trunnion, Captain Oakum, and Pipes are as alive to-day as Midshipman Easy or Peter Simple, and they are likely to secure immortality as the types of a vanished world. Yet great as the distance that separates them from the seamen of to-day, the transition was, until very recently, one of easy stages rather than an abrupt divergence. "When I joined the Navy, it was oaths, drink, and chewing tobacco," I was once assured by a retired bluejacket, who added with some appearance of regret, "and now it's all cigarettes and electricity."

"MY SECOND YEAR OF THE WAR"

("My Second Year of the War," by Frederick Palmer. Published by McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto.)

The old, romantic type of war correspondent, who sported a revolver and an elaborate special kit, whose specialty was "getting the news through" whether the authorities liked it or not, and whose personal adventures were numerous and fearful, came to the beginning of his end on the last march to Khartoum when the late Lord Kitchener treated those "confounded correspondents" as camp followers of a particularly undesirable sort. The South African War, wherein the old type of correspondent was still further squelched, leaves only one correspondent's name well remembered to-day, that of G. W. Steevens, who died in Ladysmith. In the present war the old type is absolutely non-existent.

In this war the correspondent is limited in numbers, has no means of obtaining important news on his own account, is under the most exacting censorship, writes most of his stuff in a hotel away back of the lines, and sees the actual front only on "personally conducted tours" once in a while. He can wear a silk hat and city clothes if he likes, and if he carries a revolver he is liable to be arrested as a menace to public safety.

He is no longer an expert campaigner able to "rough it" with the troops, nor is he necessarily versed in tactics and strategy. His professional analysis of a military operation is not worth a row of pins.

He is, first and foremost, an impressionistic writer, a skilled journalist who knows how to take a string of cold supplied facts, assemble them in an orderly manner and give the "color" and "atmosphere" to them that the people seek. In his way he is just as important in the chronicling of modern warfare as was the old-timer at the older game, but he is not half so romantic a figure.

The present war has produced only three correspondents for English-speaking readers. These are Philip Gibbs, the Englishman; Frederick Palmer, the American; and H. G. Wells, the English novelist, whose psychological studies of the front are amongst the most informative material yet written.

Gibbs is a new man, and said to be a "physically unfit" in contrast to the Bennett Burleighs and the Archibald Forbes' of a past day. Palmer is the only old campaigner,—and not so very old at that—of the trio. Frederic Villiers, with his thirty campaigns, his frostbite in the snow of Plevna to starvation in the siege of Paris and hemorrhage on the veldt, tried to "come back" in the present campaign—but failed, all honor to him.

Palmer's book, "My First Year of the War," a title which has an egotistical ring about it which we will forgive him, was probably the best of the library for those who wanted description of the human interest. His book, "My Second Year of the War," just published by McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart of Toronto, is probably on a par with his first. The war lives before our eyes in his descriptions, than which there is no more to be said.

Parts of peculiar interest to us are those dealing with the lives and deeds of our own Canadian soldiers in the maelstrom. Here, is an extract from the story of the fight at Courcelette:—

"With dead and wounded scattered over the field behind them, all who could stand on their feet, including officers and men knocked over and buried by shells, and with wounds of arms and heads, and even legs which made them hobble, reached the edge of the village on time, and lay down to await the lifting of the fire of their own guns before the final rush.

"After charging such a distance and paying the toll of casualties exacted they enjoyed a breathing space, a few minutes in which to steady their thoughts for the big thing before, "lean for the hunt," they sprang up to be in for the fray with the burst of the last shells from their guns. They knew what to do. It had been drilled into them; they had talked it and dreamed it in billets when routine became humdrum, these men with practical minds who understood the essentials of their task.

"There were fewer Canadians charging through the streets than there were Germans in the village at that moment. The Canadians did not know it, but if they had it would have made no difference, such was their spirit. Secure in their dugouts from bombardment, the first that the Germans, in their systematized confidence that the enemy would not try for a second objective that day, knew of the presence of the Canadians was when the attackers were at the door and a St. Lawrence River incisiveness was calling on the occupants to come out as they were prisoners—which proves the advantage of being quick. The second wave was left to "mop up" while the first wave passed on through the village to nail down the prize by digging new trenches. Thus, they had their second objective, though on the left of the line where the action had been against a part of the old first-line system of trenches progress had been slow and fighting bitter.

"The Canadians who had to "mop up" had the "time of their lives" and some ticklish moments. What a scene! Germans in clean uniforms coming out of their dugouts blinking in surprise at their undoing and in disgust, resentment and suppressed rage! Canadians, dust-covered from shell-bursts, eyes flashing, laughing, rushing about on the job in the midst of shouts of congratulations and directions to prisoners among the ruins, and the German commander so angered by the loss of the village that he began pouring shells on Germans and Canadians at the same time! Two colonels were among the captured, a regimental and a battalion commander. The senior was a baron—one cannot leave him out of any narrative—and inclined to bear himself with patrician contempt toward the Canadian democracy, which is a mistake for barons in his situation with every Canadian more or less of a king that day. When he tried to start his men into a revolt his hosts acted promptly, with the result that the uprising was nipped in the bud, and the baron was shot through the leg, leaving him still "fractious and patronizing." Then the little colonel of the French-Canadians said, "I think I might as well shoot you in a more vital part, and have done with it!" or something equally to the point and suddenly the baron became quite democratic."

BOOKER WASHINGTON

(The "New Statesman," London.)

"Booker T. Washington, Builder of a Civilization." By L. B. Stowe and E. T. Scott. Fisher Unwin. 8s. 6d. net.

Booker Washington, the famous negro leader who died a little over a year ago, was a great man, and his greatness lay in his sublime common sense. By that virtue he raised himself from slavery to be the leader of ten millions of people and not only, as Mr. Roosevelt says in his preface to the biography, "the most useful, as well as the most distinguished, member of his race in the world," but "one of the most useful as well as one of the most distinguished of American citizen of any race."

Common sense is necessary in dealing with every problem, but there are some problems which need more than the proverbial grain. To the racial problem in North America Booker Washington brought a granary of common sense, and it was wanted. The extent to which the segregation laws and customs discriminate against the negro is barely known to Europeans who have not been in America, and the accounts of race prejudice which this book gives come as a shock to our ignorance. Even Booker Washington, who thought and acted to an uncommon degree on the impersonal plane, was occasionally moved to a little bitterness. He and his secretary one day, on entering a building, were referred by the porter to the elevator for colored people on which was written, "For Negroes and Freight." That evening, at a great meeting of both races, when he was urging the negroes to look upon their southern white neighbors as friends, he said very slowly and distinctly: "I visited this morning a building which had on the elevator for colored people a sign reading, 'For Negroes and Freight.' Now, my friends, that is mighty discouraging to the colored man!" But he very rarely drew his own race's attention to the hardships they suffered. No one worked harder than he to remove these, and to secure that segregation should not be accompanied by further injustices, such as exist in respect to railway travelling, where injustice is done, not in providing separate accommodation for blacks and whites, but in furnishing the negroes with vile accommodation while charging them the same rates. His business was not to stir up hatred—enough of which was done by the professional agitator—but to teach the black man how to overcome it. He understood blacks and whites. He realized the menace of an ignorant, idle mass of black voters both to themselves and to the whole country. He looked at the negro from the white man's point of view and "vice versa," and he laid the basis of peace between them in the Tuskegee Institute. It was practical education from first to last. It wasn't easy to convert the negroes to this view of education; education to them meant freedom from the need to work. But he did convert them. He taught them better farming, better housekeeping, cleanliness, manners, thrift, and ambition—in short, as an old negress said fervently, "ter quit libin' in de ashes." His methods found their way into his pupils' houses. Extension schools for the negro farmers were started; at the opening of one of these a local preacher prayed: "O Lord, may it purmenate dis whole lan' an' country," which is exactly what is happening. But the book must be read in full to get an idea of the enormous influence of Tuskegee and Booker Washington. There are delightful stories in it and good advice in plenty for black and white. He kept very close to his people; he knew exactly what "they were up against," whether they lived in town or country. He kept his ear to the ground and his feet stayed there, too. He once told a story about an old negro who was in a hurry to catch a train and who hailed the first driver he came to, who happened to be a white man, and was answered: "I ain't never drove a nigger vit and I ain't goin' ter begin now." The old negro replied: "All-right, my frien', we won't have no misunderstanding or trouble: you jest hop in on der back seat an do der ridin', and I'll set in front and do der drivin'." So the old negro caught his train. Booker Washington used to catch his train in that way, too. The story of how he caught it is well worth reading.

IAN HAY'S NEW BOOK.

In "Getting Together," a little book by Captain Ian Hay (Beith), author of "The First Hundred Thousand," published jointly by Doubleday, Page & Co. and Houghton Mifflin Co., is found the reaction of the average Briton visiting the United States who constantly is being asked questions about the war by Americans. In this book we have the Briton and the American sitting down to talk things over in a heart-to-heart fashion, and getting right down to human fundamentals on various matters of international issue.

"Why does England feel as she does toward the United States?" asks the American, and more specifically—"What about the blockade, and the opening of American mail?" "When will the war end?" and so on. To these the Briton replies, reasonably, good naturedly, and without prejudice—yet stating his own side.

Captain Beith is now on this continent for a short visit after having spent a year in the trenches. He was in Montreal and Toronto recently.

A FIGHTING CHANCE FOR THE EX-CONVICT.

(Report of the Honor League of Canada. Printed at the "Witness" Press.)

The first general report of the Honor League of Canada is an interesting document. The Honor League is an organization fathered and personally conducted at Montreal by one Mr. Thomas O. Woods, a reformed ex-convict, and its object is to give ex-convicts a "fighting chance" on their discharge from prison. Bishop Farthing commends the project, and judging from the subscription list evidently a good number of leading citizens lend their approval and support. A "gallery" of ex-convicts who have "made good" under the auspices of the Honor League is given in the report.

"THE TERROR."

Published at one shilling by Duckworth ("The Terror," by Arthur Machen. & Co., Covent Garden, London.)

"The Terror," by Arthur Machen, is a fantastic tale of a mystery force which plays its part in the United Kingdom during the great war. It would not be fair to tell the story in advance and solve the mystery, but it may be said that the narrative has enough thrills and "creepy" incidents in it to satisfy the most exacting searcher after these things. The tale is cleverly told.

SHAMROCKS.

(Received in the Trenches on St. Patrick's Day.)

I kissed the Shamrocks, first of all
Because they came from thee,
And next because no snake can crawl
Where they were plucked for me;
All in a land so green and fair
Encircled by the sea,
With kindly welcome in its air,
The home of purity.

And though they tell of sunny streams
The Shannon and the Lee,
And though they bring back boyish dreams
And speak of home to me,
And though they grew where soft dews fall
On hills I long to see,
I kissed the Shamrocks, first of all
Because they came from thee.

HARPER WADE.

Quebec.

A MAGAZINE PAGE FOR HOME-MAKERS

OUR HOME CLUB

"THE LADS DESERVE THE BEST"

THEIR LIFE DEPENDS ON US.

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If you can, organize a Red Cross Branch; if you cannot, then get together those of your own family and do all you can; sew and knit, make supplies and gather funds.

All inquiries as to how and what to make, or how to organize a branch of the Red Cross will be cheerfully answered by the Editor of the Home Club.

Lists of contents should be placed inside and outside of every parcel, and a copy should also be forwarded by mail to the Editor of the "Home Club," "Weekly Witness," so that it may be acknowledged through our columns.

Be careful to put "Witness" Home Club at the top of your list, and also your own name and address. This is essential, as otherwise mistakes in acknowledging the parcels are almost impossible to avoid.

Almost all railways and express companies are carrying Red Cross packages free of charge. N.B.—Parcels should be sent C.O.D., addressed simply "Red Cross Society," 45 Belmont Park, Montreal, Que., and marked "Red Cross Supplies."

All work sent direct to the "Witness" Office, Montreal, must have postage or express prepaid.

PRISONERS OF WAR DEPARTMENT.

In her latest report of the Information Department's work, Lady Drummond writes:—

Owing to the new regulations issued by the Central Committee, Prisoners of War, the work in this department has been considerably increased, and we are very sensible of the grave responsibility placed upon us now that we are the only means of sending parcels of food to Canadian prisoners.

It has been decided to send a 7s. parcel one week and a 12s. one the next to all our men, irrespective of any parcels sent them with money from their pay or with money subscribed by their relatives. The amount suggested by the Central Prisoners of War Committee was three 6s. parcels a fortnight, including tobacco. It will be seen that our minimum is 1s. better than this, and I think our arrangement of sending two parcels instead of three is better in every way. To begin with there is a great saving of time, labor, packing, materials, etc., in the sending of two large parcels instead of three small ones; also by this arrangement we are able to make much better parcels. Tobacco and cigarettes are sent separately fortnightly.

"A CROWNING GLORY OF THE EMPIRE."

Just a line to express my warmest appreciation of every department of our medical work. From front line trench to Base Hospital the Red Cross is in evidence everywhere, and the splendid care and attention which sick and wounded receive is a crowning glory of the Empire in these tragic days.

"May God's richest blessing rest upon your every endeavor to cheer those bruised and broken in this cruel war."

We are glad to share with the Army Medical Service this touching tribute sent to our London office by one of those who had been helped in his hour of need by the Red Cross.

THANKS FOR RED CROSS HELP AND HOSPITALITY.

The following letter was written to the Information Department by an officer from the home of one of our kind hostesses, and we give also a letter of appreciation from a private:

LETTER FROM AN OFFICER.

"May I write a line to thank you and those who help you, for all you have done for us.

"It was from your office I was sent here and have received nothing but kindness and thought wherever we go, and it is impossible to express our gratitude to those women who are doing so much for us. Not only for the officers, but from every private to whom I have written, I have never heard one complaint; nor has there ever been a wish expressed, that if reasonable, has not been gratified. It means such a lot to us, and personally I can't thank you enough."

LETTER FROM A SERGEANT.

"May I write a line to thank you a to you to express my appreciation of the work of your Society?

"Having been wounded during the Somme offensive, I was fortunate enough to be sent to Stobhill, Glasgow, where I was visited by a Mrs. R.—— We used to call her 'Our wee Scotch mother,' for she was so good to us, and all were always pleased to see her come into the ward.

"Many pleasant and happy theatre parties, with 'ham and egg teas' afterwards were enjoyed very much, and Mrs. R—— and daughter and other good ladies in attendance saw to our every want. Their whole heart and soul seemed to be in their work, and the pleasure of the boys, I feel, gave them real pleasure also. When I look back I can see that their efforts saved us many weary and dull hours in the wards.

"Have taken the liberty of writing this to you, feeling that you would like to know you have some very energetic workers in Glasgow, who are giving the boys a good time and helping to make life cheerful.

"I mention Mrs. R—— particularly, because she seems to be the moving figure and is the life and go of all the parties. Well, it would have been different without her cheery smiles and jokes. She makes one forget pain for a time. It was with regret I said good-bye to Glasgow.

"May I offer all good wishes for the further success of your good work."

(Signed) SERGEANT.

LORD, I BELIEVE.

(By W. E. Killough.)

That sin and sorrow may not kill
Lord, I believe
The weakest soul that strives to do thy will,
And that thy strength will my weakness fulfil;
But doubt creeps in, sees former sin,
Grows bold and will not leave;
Help thou mine unbelief.

Lord, I believe
That thou art strong where men are weak,
Hast words thine own disciples could not speak,
And so can give whatever help I seek:
But doubt says: "Nay, 'twas God, not they,
Who failed: his words deceive."
Help thou mine unbelief.

Lord, I believe
That mountains will remove and suns
Stand still all day to help thy chosen ones,
Thy herald gathers freshness as he runs.
Says doubt, "If true, yet only few
Do miracles relieve."
Help thou mine unbelief.

Lord, I believe
That I, though weak, by that One may be led
Whose might in me shall bruise the serpent's head
And fight for me till other foes be dead,
Then fling old doubt triumphant out,
And in my heart not leave
One tinge of unbelief.

—"S. S. Times."

The war has created an unprecedented demand for Socks-for-the-Soldier-Boys and affords a Grand-Opportunity to anyone interested in uniting Loyalty, Patriotism and Self-Interest by investing in a First-Class-Family-Knitting-Machine for Red-Cross-Socks, Money-Making, Home-Work and Military-Socks

Do It Now—Write for our Free-Latest-Catalogue No. 101, with *Special-War-Offer* to Red-Cross workers during the WAR ONLY. *Your Choice of 6 Machines.* Agents wanted for our Home-money-maker-machines. Address

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A TALE OF THE BAGDAD TRAIL

Once on the long trail that reaches from Cairo to Bagdad, Balak and Ezel chanced to meet. That is a thing which does not happen often, for the desert is vast and the travellers are not many. On that account, when travellers do meet they are not likely to be old friends, such as Ezel and Balak were.

Be that as it may, after the masters had put up their tents for the night and the full moon had come up above the eastern edge of the desert, the camels doubled their legs under them, as camels will, to tell each other what had happened on their long journeys.

"The world is a dull place, Ezel," groaned Balak. "It is weary tramping from Bagdad to Cairo and then back to Bagdad again. My master says there is no new thing under the sun, and I am certain it must be true."

sooner do they feel that they can spare answered the other camel. "I myself have lately seen one new thing after another. What think you when I say I have had five new masters in as many months?"

"What say I? Why, either that you do not serve your master well or that he is a most restless and dissatisfied creature. I only hope that you brought each of them some good luck when you were traded off. It makes me think of that old story—you must have heard about it—about the peasant and his wife who decided to trade off their horse."

"Indeed, Balak, I do not remember ever to have heard such a story. Do tell it while we rest here in the moonlight."

"Well, Ezel, there was once a peasant and his wife who lived in a cottage with a thatched roof. They were very poor, yet they always kept a dog to bark at strangers who passed, and a few ducks in a pool beside the cottage.

"Their only animal was a horse, that found his own living nipping the grass along the highway. For that reason he cost them nothing, but the peasant and his wife agreed that folks as poor as they should not have so great a luxury as a horse. The animal was useful to carry the peasant and his vegetables to town on market days, but for that matter the peasant declared that he could easily walk, and the good wife always said that whatever her husband thought was best."

"How little our masters think of us, Balak. However well we serve them, no sooner do they feel that the ycan spare us than they are ready to barter us away to some stranger. But go on with story."

"Well, one day there was to be a fair in the town, and the wife told her husband that the time had come to get rid of the horse. 'Ride off to the fair,' said she, 'and whatever exchange you make for the horse will please me, for you always know what is best.'

"Before the peasant had gone far he came up with a man who was driving a cow, and at once he thought how useful a cow would be, providing them every day with a fine pailful of foaming milk. Just then the man with the cow looked around and said: 'That is a fine horse you are riding. What do you say to exchanging him for my cow?'

"'That is exactly what I was thinking of,' answered the peasant. So the exchange was quickly made, and the peasant pictured to himself the happiness of his wife when he should tell her the news.

"'But,' he said to himself, 'I must at least see the fair," so he strode on, proudly leading his new possession. Pretty soon he walked up beside a man who was leading a sheep—a fine, fat sheep with a heavy fleece of wool on his back. Quickly the shrewd peasant thought how much easier it would be to care for a sheep than for a cow. In summer the sheep could be fed by the roadside as easily as other animals, and in winter it could be taken into the cottage to live, which was more than could be done with a cow. So the offer to trade animals was made and accepted.

"'How pleased my good woman will be,' thought the peasant, for he had often heard her say, 'If we only had a sheep!' 'Now, I must hurry home.'

"But then he thought again of the fair. Surely his wife would want to hear all about that when he came home. So he hastened along and soon came up with a man carrying a white goose under his arm. The peasant noticed that it was fat and well feathered. At once he thought how fine it would look tied to a string by the edge of the duck pond. He remembered, too, a wish of his wife's that some day they would be rich enough to own a goose. Here, indeed, was his chance. In a very few minutes the sheep was traded for the goose."

"Does it not seem to you, Balak, that the peasant was a bigger goose than the one he carried?"

"Be patient, Ezel, the story is not yet ended. No sooner had the peasant come to the tollage than he saw a fowl there, strutting about with a string to its legs lest it might get lost in the crowd.

"The short tail feathers, the blinking eyes and the cunning cluck, cluck of the fowl so caught the peasant's fancy that he asked the gatekeeper to trade the fowl for his goose.

"'That I will,' replied the gatekeeper, 'though a better fowl I never owned.' So once more the peasant trudged on chuckling over his good fortune in owing so fine a fowl.

"By this time the peasant had reached the inn, and at the very gate he met the hostler carrying a huge sack. The peasant's curiosity was aroused and he stopped the hostler to ask what was in the sack.

"'Rotten apples!' answered the hostler with an amused grin; 'a whole sackful of rotten apples, enough to feed all your pigs. Tell me, Mr. Countryman, what will you give me for the sackful?'

"The peasant recalled how their one old apple tree had borne only one apple last year, and how they had kept that until it was all shrivelled up. He was sure it would be a great treat to his good woman to see a whole sackful of apples, even if they were rotten. So he eagerly told the hostler that he would gladly give his fowl for the apples and would feel thankful besides.

"The hostler, indeed, was only too willing, and the peasant entered the guest room of the inn with the great bag of rotten apples on his shoulder. Here he met many strangers, who were much amused to hear how he had ridden from home that morning on horseback, but would walk home at night laden with a sackful of rotten apples. They bantered him gayly and predicted stormy times when he got home.

"But the peasant good-naturedly told them that his fond wife was always pleased with his bargains, and that she would be delighted when she heard his story.

"Rather let it be the peasant than me, Balak, to go home after such a day's trading," remarked Ezel.

"Well, two or three of the strangers, with more gold than good sense, at last wanted to wager the peasant all the gold they had that he would get his hair pulled and his ears well boxed when he reached home.

"'Agreed!' said the peasant. 'And if my wife does not treat me like a kind husband you may take all the apples and be welcome to them.'

"Then the rich strangers ordered their carriage, and, inviting the peasant to ride with them, they soon came to the humble cottage.

"After greeting the good woman with a kiss the peasant told her he had exchanged the horse for a cow.

"'That is glorious!' said she. 'Now we shall have milk and butter and cheese upon the table.'

"But the peasant hastened to explain that he had traded the cow for a sheep.

"'Better still!' exclaimed the wife. 'There is only pasture enough for a sheep. Now we shall have wool for stockings and packets. You always think of everything.'

"'But, my dear wife, I exchanged the sheep for a goose,' said the peasant.

"'Ah! You are always thinking of something to give me pleasure. This year we shall have roast goose to eat.'

"'I gave away the goose for a fowl,' said the man.

"'Now that was a good exchange,' said the wife. 'The fowl will lay eggs and hatch them and we shall soon have a whole poultry yard. A fowl is just what I was wishing for.'

"'Yes, a fowl would have been a blessing, good wife, but I traded the fowl for that sackful of shrivelled apples.'

"'What? My dear, good husband, now I must kiss you. Didn't I always say you knew what was best? Why, you were scarcely gone this monring when I went to the schoolmaster's wife to borrow a handful of herbs for our supper. And what did she tell me but that she hadn't even so much to lend as a rotten apple. I must go over directly and tell her I can lend her a whole sackful. How well it all comes out!'

"By this time the rich strangers, who had come to laugh at the simple peasant, were dumb with amazement.

"At last one of them said: 'Here, peasant, our gold is yours. It is worth ten times as much to see so happy a couple!' And with that they piled their gold on the table and said good-night.

"It is a rare thing, Balak, to be contented with one's lot."—Washington "Star."

CHILDREN'S WAR ECONOMIES.

Dr. C. W. Kimmins, Chief Education Inspector of the London County Council, has examined 1,340 papers written by eleven-year-old boys and girls on the subject of how they can help in the war, and has delivered an interesting lecture, based upon his conclusions, to the Child Study Society. Some of the interesting things which his investigation yielded were given by Dr. Kimmins to a "Daily News" representative.

"It is quite clear," he observed, "that there are fundamental differences in the attitude of boys and girls of this age which are absolutely independent of school conditions."

For example, in considering war economies, the boys are against total abolition, as applied to their luxuries, whereas the girls are in favor of it. Says the boys: "Only buy sweets when you feel that you simply cannot do without them." But the average girl's advice is: "Give up such luxuries as perfume, sweets and cakes. Perfumes do you no good, and sweets and cakes may cause you indigestion."

On the other hand, the average boy feels that normally he eats too much, whilst the girl sees no need for reform in this connection. Say the boys:

Instead of eating because you like eating, you should eat just as much as is good for you.

Don't give things to the cat, but save them for yourself.

This represents the girls' views:

Have a good meal when you are about it, and then you can wait a long time.

Girls can help by encouraging their parents not to take intoxicating beverages.

Don't give bones to the dog, but stew them; they make lovely gravy.

The care of clothes obviously calls for more restraint with boys than with girls. Thus we have these little items of personal revelation from the boys:

Do not kick stones about, because it wears your boots out much more than not kicking stones about.

We must not buy new clothes because our old garments might get the moth in them.

"With the girls," said Dr. Kimmins, "it is different. Economy in clothes, though it may be a serious matter, does not mean such an interference with the joy of life as in the case of the boy." Here are typical quotations:

If you buy a pair of new boots, the man who makes them has to keep a soldier waiting for his, so that you are a traitor to your country.

Girls can save in clothing by changing into old things on going home from school.

If children fidget it wears out their clothes.

A point noted by Dr. Kimmins was that whereas girls continually refer to the amount they have saved, the boys make no reference to it. Both seem to consider picture palaces and sweets their chief extravagances. A point insisted upon by the girls is the value of obedience, not only in making the affairs of life work without friction, but also in producing that happiness and feeling of satisfaction which only obedience can bring. Thus:

Girls must behave when teacher is not looking.

But the boy is different. "He regards obedience," Dr. Kimmins pointed out, "as a necessity and adopts it as a war measure, but he never refers to any resulting peace of mind as a consequence. Boys, like the one who says: "Boys should fish for bloaters and reduce household expenses," are keen on raising money. But the whole question of war work is summed up in this reflection:

We children will have to put this country right after the war, so we must work hard and become well educated.

NEW USES FOR YEAST.

Because it is so essential in the making of bread and beer, most of us think that yeast is useful for nothing else, says "Popular Science Monthly." But the Berlin Institute of Fermentative Industries calls attention to the fact that valuable flavoring extracts and tonics can be obtained from it, and a relatively large percentage of muscle building matter. Its remaining constituent, a mass of cellulose, can be used to make a very hard mass, known as ernolith, an excellent non-inflammable substitute for celluloid.

HOME COOKING

DOLLAR'S WORTH OF FOOD

Miss Helen Louise Johnson, who lectures on home economics for the Institute of Arts and Sciences of Columbia University is firmly convinced that the supposedly shrunken dollar is really as almighty as ever, and that it can buy quite as much food as it could before the present rise in prices. All that is necessary is a little more intelligence in buying, a little more knowledge of the foods, their values, and the possibilities of substitution. "I am continually being told," said Miss Johnson, "that children need this and that, that they must have an endless and varied succession of dishes. Now this is very nice, I admit, and I think every one should eat as many different kinds of food as possible, as long as they are nutritious. But not for one moment would I admit that such a diet was necessary to sustain a child or an adult in healthy efficiency. Unimaginative moderns who have always had everything they wanted to eat forgot that civilization has elaborated the diet as it has everything else, and that their forefathers who founded the nation, and laid the first stone walls became the pioneers that they were on a bread and molasses youth. I could show you to-day in the flesh a well known merchant who is 80 years old and a mountain climber, whose childhood diet was porridge and milk, porridge and gravy and porridge and treacle—three meals a day until he grew up. And similarly bread and molasses, corn meal and milk is a wholesome diet for the growing child. Either contains all the food elements necessary for the growing child. And with certain other simple foods added—food that will give an adult more of the proteins and the starches he needs—such a simplified menu would sustain a grown person as well.

"But, cry all the housewives of the country, they do not like it and the husband will not eat it. Perhaps the one necessary thing if we are to apply the intelligence to the diet is that will power must accompany the intellect in its efforts to eat rationally. It is not what you want to eat, but what you can and should eat, that directs the housewife, who really wishes to cope in some fashion with the rising prices of commodities. And she will have gone forward several steps if she will think of that power of resistance, which made it possible for her ancestors to survive a plain diet and a still plainer, primitive civilization as in some way an achievement of that diet."

"The more housewives have to worry about their diminishing dollar, and the greater amount of brain that they are forced to put into feeding their family, the less unfavorably will the American housewife compare in the future with the European. There are, of course, two ways of buying for a household. You can walk into a grocery and stock your house in bulk for a week or a month to come, or you can do as the French housekeeper does—fill your basket at the market with the exact amount of food that you need for that day's menu. And you will have each person's ration so nicely adjusted that waste will be impossible. But the housewife, who has always 'just bought' or telephoned her orders to a solicitous grocer, has far to go to obtain that degree of skill.

"For the managing housewife in a great many cases has still to apply to her purchases and her menus the four fundamental tests for foods. First, the chemical test—does it contain the chemical elements necessary to a properly balanced diet? Second, how many calories are you feeding your family—do you give your daughter too many and your son too few? For some housewives, even those who start gayly enough on the assumption that 3,000 is the proper number of calories necessary to propel a person through one day's excitements, forget that calories supply energy. They forget that the person who does not lead the violent life of a fireman or who does not work at hard labor in the open air for eight hours a day does not need as much nourishment. Girls, who indulge in more ladylike and less strenuous games, require about one-half of the calories that a growing boy can make away with. It has been stated that a small boy in a boarding school has to be given 5,000 calories a day if he is to be kept happy, and although I do not know how wise such repletion may be, I do know that is as much as required to sustain a lumberjack in the North Woods, and the lumberjack leads the most strenuous and exhausting of all outdoor occupations. I have my doubts about the small boys. Of course they will eat 5,000 calories of food; they would eat ten if you set it before them, but do they need it? My advice in feeding small boys is to feed them foods that have bulk. Beans and potatoes and bread and butter. And all the cereal they can stand—even though they may say they do not like it.

"The next question that the housewife must ask herself about the food she gives her family is: How much of these dishes which I am preparing is absorbed into the system and how much of it is wasted? For a varying quantity of every food eaten goes into the system in the form of protein, starch or what not, and so much is left over unabsorbed. Why buy or take the trouble to prepare foods which yield a comparatively small nutritive return? A little knowledge is necessary on this point. And a little knowledge would settle the endless discussion that goes on as to whether you should purchase white or whole wheat bread. Do not fool yourself that you get any more for your money by buying whole wheat bread, for there is quite as much if not more nourishment adjusted to the needs of man in the white bread. But in the coarser food you do get some of the much discussed and supposedly necessary vitamines—the elements that are needed by the system if it is not to suffer from the continually softening modern diet.

"Food values differ for each individual, so that it depends on your husband, your skill as a cook and the conditions of your life whether you can feed your husband beans three times a day and still keep him happy. For that is what a great many women ask me. But that would not take much ingenuity, and the husband might not reasonably be expected to stand it. But the fourth fundamental test of a wise diet is the economic one. Are you paying for value in your food? For price is no index of the nutritive value of a vegetable. Witness the cabbage, which, like the human head, is 75 percent water."

Miss Johnson believes that the children would become more efficient in the science back of the kitchen range if they were more familiar with its symbols—if they were educated, for instance, on a more imaginative arithmetic that allowed them to add and multiply calories of food instead of treating them as if they were all destined to spend their lives papering walls or selling groceries over the counter. And she believes likewise in a certain amount of co-operation in buying the necessities of life—although she can understand why co-operative kitchens and dining rooms and cooking have failed.—New York "Sun."

MENU TO BE TRIED ON A MEATLESS DAY.

Meatless dinner menus are a question of some moment to the housewife at this juncture. Here is a suggested menu for four people:—Green pea soup, rissotto, apricot mould.

And this is the way in which the dishes should be prepared:—

Green Pea Soup.—2 oz. Marrowfat peas, 1-2 tablespoonful flour, 1-4 pt. milk, 1-2 onion. Seasoning 1 1-4 pt. vegetable stock or water (from peas.) Soak the peas. Then boil with the onion in the stock until tender. Pour off the liquid; then beat the peas with a wooden spoon until quite soft. Add gradually the liquid, milk, and flour which has been blended with cold water. Season carefully, bring to a boil, stirring all the time. Serve hot with small cubes of toast.

Rissotto.—3 oz. rice, 1 small onion, 1-2 pint tinned tomatoes, 1 pt. vegetable stock (or water.) 2 oz. cheese, 1 oz. butter, small piece carrot. Seasoning. Throw rice into boiling water, add salt, and boil five minutes. Strain off water, then add butter and sliced onion. Cook until onion browns slightly; then add tomato, thinly sliced carrot, and half the stock. Cover and simmer until rice is tender, adding remaining stock during the cooking. Stir in the grated cheese, make quite hot, and serve it piled on a dish, and garnished with parsley.

Dried Apricot Mould.—1-2 lb. dried apricots, 3-4 pint water, 4 oz. sugar, 1-4 oz. gelatine. Rind and juice of 1 small lemon, 1-2 oz. roughly chopped nuts. Soak apricots overnight in the water, add sugar and lemon rind. Cover and simmer until tender. Strain off syrup and dissolve the gelatine in it, add juice, and nuts, apricots, and a few drops of cochineal to improve the color. Stir occasionally until mixture shows signs of setting, then turn into a wet mould. When firm, turn out and serve with custard.

Eggless Mayonnaise.—One large ripe banana, 2 teaspoonfuls lemon juice, 3 teaspoonfuls olive oil or a cotton-seed salad oil, 1-4 scant teaspoon loose mustard, 1-4 teaspoon sugar, dash of paprika, salt to taste. Crush the banana with a fork, add all the other ingredients except the oil, beat, then add the oil gradually. With a patent mayonnaise beater it takes only five minutes to make. Now that eggs are so high, this is a delicious substitute for an egg dressing. Serve very cold.

English Monkey requires 1 cup of stale breadcrumbs, 1 cup of milk, 1 tablespoon of butter, 1 cup of soft cheese grated, 1 egg, half teaspoon of salt. Soak crumbs in milk for fifteen minutes, melt butter, add to crumbs and cheese, add egg slightly beaten, season; cook from three to five minutes over hot water and pour over saltines.

Oatmeal Pudding.—For oatmeal pudding take 4 or 5 onions, 3 ounces of butter or margarine, 1-2 lb. oatmeal, and a seasoning of salt and pepper. Mince the onions and let them drain in a colander; melt the butter in a bowl placed on the range, and stir the onions into it. Put the bowl on the table, and stir in the meal, mixing it thoroughly with the butter and onions. Add the seasoning, pour out on to a scalded and floured cloth, and tie up loosely, so as to leave sufficient space for the meal to expand. Put it into a saucepan of fast boiling water, and cook for 2 1-2 hours. Turn out and serve with gravy, stock, or soup. If a small plat is put into the saucepan before adding the pudding, the latter will not stick.

Oatmeal Balls for Soups or Stews.—Make a mixture of 1-4 lb. oatmeal and 2 oz. breadcrumbs, add 1 oz. melted fat, seasoning, and bind together with a little milk. Make into small balls and cook in a stewpan for one or two hours. This mixture takes the place of potatoes in Irish stew, or can be served instead of the ordinary savoury balls in Exeter stew. The balls can also be served with soup or Scotch broth.

Kedgeree of Fish.—Any cooked fish can be used, but this dish is particularly good if made of finnan haddock, herring, or tinned salmon. Wash and boil 1-4 lb. rice and dry well. Break the fish into small pieces, removing all skin and bone. Melt 2 oz. margarine in a stewpan, add the rice and fish, and if preferred the roughly chopped white of a hard-boiled egg. When thoroughly hot season with pepper, salt, cayenne, and nutmeg. Pile on a hot dish and decorate with the yolk of the egg finely chopped.

Potato Cakes.—This is an old-fashioned and substantial dish, which can be served for breakfast instead of bacon. Children generally like the cakes very much. Take any cold potatoes there may be left from the previous day's dinner and mash them, adding a tablespoonful of milk for every cupful of potato. When well blended, add two tablespoonfuls of flour for every cupful of potato and sufficient salt to flavor. Mix well into rather a dry paste, adding more milk if necessary. Lay the mixture on a floured board and roll out until the paste is about a quarter of an inch in thickness. Cut into rounds the exact shape of the frying-pan (a small one is best) and fry until nicely browned on one side, then turn and brown the other side. The cakes may be baked on a girdle or even in a quick oven. Butter lightly and pile one on top of the other, and send to table very hot.

Scalloped Dried Green Peas.—Soak a packet of peas overnight, and after rinsing well boil till tender in as little water as possible. Fry two large onions in dripping till brown and tender, then stir in a tablespoonful of flour, a cupful of water or stock, and seasonings to taste. Boil till thick. Put the strained peas in a pie-dish, pour the sauce over, cover with breadcrumbs, and bake in a good oven for fifteen minutes.

Bean Pudding.—One of the nicest and most nourishing of dinner dishes is made as follows, and no meat is required. Steep a big cupful of beans for 24 hours, then boil till soft. Strain and slip off the skins. Make a paste with 3-4 lb. flour, 4 oz. dripping or suet, a pinch of salt, and enough water, and roll it out to fit a pudding basin. Line with paste, put in the beans, add a chopped onion and tomato, seasonings to taste, some of the bean water, and a bit of dripping rolled in flour. Cover with paste, and steam for two hours.

Beans and Tapioca.—Did you ever think of combining beans and tapioca? Soak over-night in separate basins, 1-2 lb. beans and 2 oz. tapioca. Boil the beans till tender, then put a layer in a pie-dish. On top put one of tapioca, follow that with sliced onions and seasonings, repeating till the dish is full. Break up 2 oz. margarine, scatter this over the top, then cover with a lid of paste.

CORRESPONDENTS' DEPARTMENT.

Questions and Answers in Practical Housekeeping.

Dear Madam.—I wonder if any of your other readers use barley as we do for a lunch or supper dish. I wash a teacup of pot-barley in plenty of cold water, then boil it in fresh water very slowly. As soon as it is steadily boiling I turn it into a double boiler and steam for seven or eight hours. I often leave it on the back of the stove over night. When quite cooked we eat it with butter, pepper and salt, or serve it with tomatoes or stewed onions. Would you please give me a recipe for stuffed beef heart.

A READER.

Beef Heart, Stuffed.—One beef heart, 1 cup bread, 4 teaspoonfuls fat, 1 teaspoonful grated onion, ¼ teaspoonful of pepper, carrots and onions. Wash the heart and wipe it dry. Put it in the pot with 1 quart of cold water, and place in the oven, covered. Let simmer about 3 hours, continually using hot water to keep it from drying. When done, put in some vegetables, ½ cup carrots and ½ cup onions, cut very thin, and let them cook. Use 1 teaspoonful flour and 2 of cold water to thicken the gravy. Add 1 slice lemon or a teaspoonful of vinegar after it is cooked, to improve the taste.

Dear Madam.—Will you kindly tell me if rye bread is considered healthy. Could bread be made of all rye. All the recipes call for a mixture of wheat flour with it. I remember in my student days in the United States having rye bread served to me, and hearing some one say it was rank poison to him.

AN INTERESTED READER.

The mixture of wheat flour is a necessary precaution; the following note by an English authority emphasizes the danger: "The new German bread, with its 90 percent of rye may be nourishing," he writes, "but it can only be eaten with great risk. The eating of rye bread may at all times be followed by ergotism, but when nine-tents of the bread consists as to-day of rye, this danger becomes a very real one. German history is crowded with records of the ravages wrought by the disease. Their doctors at first deemed it a kind of epilepsy, which if it did not kill was found to be annually recurrent. But rye bread, with, however, a less percentage of rye than is now ordered, has remained a staple food of the German until the present time."

Dear Madam.—The following is a good furniture polish, and will suit the reader who was inquiring for one some weeks ago. Yours,

Miss M. S.

Mix together 1 coffeecupful of boiled linseed oil, and the same quantity each of turpentine and vinegar. Add three tablespoonfuls of methylated spirit, and pour all into a bottle. Cork well, and shake for several minutes. To use it, pour a small quantity into a saucer, dip a thick piece of flannel into it, and rub the furniture until nearly dry, then finish with a pad of linen.

Coffee Icing

Cook two Cups of Lantic Sugar with half a cup of strong coffee until the syrup forms a soft ball when dropped in cold water. Add a teaspoonful of vanilla extract and beat until cold enough to spread.

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WORLD'S WELFARE

GOD'S BATTLE-LINE

(By Mrs. Grace P. Pout, Brighton, England, in the "Missionary Review of the World.")

No nobler record exists than the wonderful work which all Bible societies have done amongst the enemy prisoners of war of all countries and interned aliens in our midst. Besides this, copies of the Word of God have been sent to the prisoners of war interned in warring countries, of whatever nation and class and creed, and in some camps a real revival of the work of God has taken place. At one large camp over a hundred men have decided for Christ.

While actually penning this article the writer received this postcard from an Irish lad, a prisoner of war, sorely wounded when captured two years ago, and ever since interned in a German prison camp: "I am more than thankful to you for your kindness toward me, also very thankful for the books which you sent. I wish you could send some more, as we could pass away our time more easily!"

Besides the societies distributing the Word of God among prisoners of war in all countries, there are other societies who have answered nobly to the claims made by the war, and enabled us to respond to letters such as these. To the fighting men on land and sea, to prisoners of war, to the wounded and the suffering, to the soldiers of all countries engaged in war the Religious Tract Society has sent Gospel books, tracts and text-cards to the number of many millions. In addition to the 286 languages in which the Society has already issued Christian literature, special publications in seventeen languages have been prepared for soldiers and others affected by the war. A great work in this connection has also been done by the Sterling Tract Enterprise of Scotland. In addition to their usual work on manifold lines this society has disposed of about two and a half millions of gospel publications among soldiers, the wounded and prisoners of war. Standing true to the clear Gospel of sin, substitution and salvation, this society has done a valuable work in many countries, and at least one of their allied agencies is practically unique, the ministry of comfort to the sorrowing, some eighteen thousand booklets containing messages of hope and solace to the bereaved having been posted to homes of all ranks stricken by death.

SOCIAL WELFARE WORK.

Much more might be written concerning the work done by these and kindred organizations, for all have been trying to do their bit; but attention must now be given to those agencies which have had for their object the personal welfare and comfort of the soldier. First and foremost in this, the magnificent work accomplished by the Young Men's Christian Association stands out prominently. Wherever Britain's fighting forces have gone, there has gone also the sign of the Red Triangle—the Young Men's Christian Association. In a thousand training camps at home, in more than a hundred centres in France, in various parts of the Mediterranean and the East, there the sign of the Red Triangle marks a place of rest and recreation and refreshment—a welcome and safety and shelter for the soldier and a centre for spiritual work as well. Within ten days after the outbreak of war the Y. M. C. A. had erected 200 marquees for the men, continually increasing the number as time went on, and replacing the canvas tents by substantial wooden huts as winter drew near. Where other buildings were available they were promptly "commandeered." The editorial secretary tells the story of strange contrasts in some of the places utilized as Y. M. C. A. centres: from an old disused pig-sty and a converted brewery to a "Court" in the Crystal Palace, His Majesty the King's own riding-school at Buckingham Palace, and a Sultan's place in Egypt, while huts have been given by royal donors, by school children, by towns and cities. Their Majesties, the King and Queen, Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein are among those who have taken the keenest interest in the work of the Y. M. C. A., and visited the huts in person. Officers and men, soldiers and sailors and munition workers; men in training and men in the trenches; men of every nationality and color; men who need a shelter and men who need a meal; men who want a book to read or a sheet of paper to write a letter—all wants are met at the Sign of the Red Triangle, while the spiritual needs of the men have not been forgotten. Special services have been held, many have signed the war roll, pledging themselves to the service of Jesus Christ, while thousands of Testaments and Gospels have been given to those who wished to have them.

What the Y. M. C. A. has done on a scale of immensity hitherto undreamed of for the men, the Young Women's Christian Association has done in a much smaller way, quietly, but nevertheless effectively, for the vast arousing of Britain's girlhood and womanhood, who, by setting free a man for war service, are "doing their bit" for King and country in various ways.

While not forgetting the social needs of the soldiers, the work of the Soldiers' Christian Association has specially met the spiritual needs of the vast armies which the war has called into being. Besides the S. C. A. huts, which have been built in camps all over this country, there are eight at least in France, and at each and all of them a great work for eternity is going on.

The Army Scripture Readers' Society is an older organization, which, formed in 1852, has done a wonderful work, having the seal of royal approval. Men of mature age who have seen long years of actual service in the army, and proved their Christian character by years of faithful witnessing for Him in the ranks, should surely be useful workers among soldiers, and some sixty are employed as army Scripture readers, spending and being spent in the service of their fellows.

The Church Army and the Salvation Army have both, in addition to their manifold organizations, done much, very much, for the welfare of the soldier—building huts and canteens, arranging for special services, for meals, for reading and writing-rooms, lastly, but by no means least, doing a grand work in alleviating the awful sufferings of British prisoners of war, hundreds of parcels of food and clothing being despatched every week to those unfortunate men in German camps.

Out of the strange new circumstances that are daily bringing the changes in the quiet order of our lives, every opportunity is an opportunity to witness for God.

A city missionary whose work lies among the men of a great British fire brigade tells a wonderful story. One dark night of desperate danger and death a Christian fireman had been called out five times to extinguish fires caused by bombs dropped from a Zeppelin upon "somebody's home" "somewhere." The danger was over at last, and the crowd, to relieve the tension of pent-up feeling, was ready for a laugh and a joke. The fireman, exchanging his heavy helmet for a cloth cap, dropped a paper out of the lining and a rough-looking man shouted out in fun: "'Ere, look, 'e's dropped a love-letter!"

Standing six feet high, the giant fireman stooped and picked up the paper, saying:

"Aye, aye, mates, it is a love-letter. You can have it, here you are!" Greatly surprised, the laughter of the crowd was hushed, and the fireman went on:

"I'll read what it says!" And slowly and clearly he reads from the paper, the printed invitation to a Gospel service, and underneath the old familiar verse, John iii. 16. "Let me tell you what it means!" went on the fireman, addressing the crowd, who had just escaped from dreadful danger and possible death. "This is God's love-letter, and it is for you, for me and everybody else. That love has done everything for me! When the bombs began falling tonight I was ready for the work. I answered the call and have done my bit. I've been as tough a customer as any of you, but when I came across God's love-letter it pulled me up and changed me, and here I am, to face bombs and fire, because I believe in that love-letter. Now, let me ask you, weren't you in a fright when the bombs began bursting? You need have no real fear if you believe in God's love-letter! I've done, and must get away; you take that letter home and think about it!"

The fireman climbed on his engine, the crowd dispersed. The Gospel message had been given in the darkness of midnight from the lips of a workingman—a message out of the recent horrors of a Zeppelin raid. Has it not been written for all time that God maketh even the wrath of man to praise Him?

Until the clock was actually on the very stroke of that fateful summer midnight, two years and a half ago, when the nations suddenly sprang to arms, the cry went up to God from a myriad hearts for peace—if peace were possible! Instead, God permitted war—war which has drenched half the world in blood and tears. Why were our prayers for peace unheard? Was it because God—who sees the end of all things from the beginning—was giving to us the answer to another long-uttered prayer? For years we had cried to Him to show us how to reach the young manhood of the nation—the manhood that would not listen to a Gospel message, or open the Word of God; the young manhood and young womanhood who cared only for pleasure and were lost to the things of God, sunk in the deadly sleep of utter indifference? God heard that cry and gave us the answer—not in our way, but His!

Those who were the hardest to reach—the young manhood of the nations—are just the ones in whose hands millions of copies of God's own Word have been placed, just the ones who, in the midst of danger and death, have come face to face with the reality of eternal things. Out of the midnight darkness has gone forth the cry: "The time is short. . . . Be ye also ready. . . . Prepare to meet thy God." Those who have spent two crowded years of busy service for the warring nations have one story alike to tell—many, very many, are yielding themselves to Christ and crowning Him King! To Him be all the praise for all the work of witnessing the glory and the victory in God's own Far-Flung Battle-Line!

AN INTERLUDE IN NATIVE WORK

(By Mrs. C. H. Stevens, Fengsiang, Shensi, in "China's Millions.")

I am right away in the "Peh-ling" mountains. We are rained up in a very dark and lonely thatched hut into which torrents of rain drove us for shelter some five days ago. This inn is really like a tiny Noah's Ark. You would hardly think it possible that so many kinds of living creatures, biped and quadruped, could be packed into such small compass. One great comfort is that none of our mixed party smoke opium.

The persona grata is Mr. Peh, my Christian Chinese teacher, who so willingly adapts himself to circumstances, and gladly takes any discomfort as part of the lot of a native missionary. He is a big stout man, and only with great difficulty manages to arrange himself on the edge of a very dirty brick "kang," where rough chairbearers and muleteers have also to find a bed. A broad board from a set of coffin planks lying near widens out a little the ledge where this man spreads his thin wadded mattress and saddle bag. At home he is very neat and clean both in person and room, and these men around him must be a trial.

Divided from this party by a thicket of reeds I have my corner. The roof is leaking badly, and at very frequent intervals great lumps of mud, plaster, and webs of smoke come down upon me and my belongings. I am thankful indeed of a small camp bed which can be moved to and fro to avoid the downpour as the storm beats in This is the first time I have had such a luxury when itinerating. Otherwise I should have been compelled to lie on wet earth. This makes one realize what our poor soldiers are suffering for us, and to make me count my blessings.

Happily the weather is cold so that we find it easier to endure Noah's Ark with both doors shut. The heavy rain has made these swell, and the wind and rain drive in so uncomfortably that the landlord does not care to open them more than necessary, and when he has given away to Mr. Peh and myself getting a little fresh air, his wife objects.

Our landlord is such a funny, doughty little man, though sadly deformed with very crooked legs and feet turned almost behind before. He has a very funny little wife, and servant too, who is crosseyed and stammers badly. Sometimes the latter forgets his duties, or being very deaf does not hear that the donkey in a cave behind has got loose and is eating up the maize, whereupon the doughty man in great fury shambles hurriedly after the servant, and both look so funny and amusing facing each other, the stupid servant rubbing his turbaned head and making hopeless grimaces as he tries to stammer out the excuse that won't come.

Divided by a low wall is another dark section of this dwelling where huddle the innkeeper and his family. To keep their apartment from intruders a small counter and shelves are fixed, where they store native wine, oil, salt, matches, and a few other necessities for travellers. Just now everything seems "out of stock," only a few very ugly cracked and chipped jars, etc., are to be found on the shelves.

Outside the counter is the rough table and mud cooking stove from which we are served twice daily. One time we get very thick dough strings, and the second, what I like better, boiled potatoes in maize porridge. The people here use fried fern roots and leaves for vegetables. I grudge these very much, and would rather take them home for a corner of our garden and go without my vegetable! Mr. Peh waded out yesterday with a long knife to get some roots for taking home, but was unable to climb the steep rocks where they grow, so after turning a somersault in deep mud he returned without any, looking and feeling very sorry for himself, as we were for him.

Even to a casual observer the flora of these mountains is very lovely and varied. A few days ago on a high peak we gathered the edelweiss. Some time ago two young noblemen from Britain came to our Mission station. They were such interesting guests, for not only could they tell us intelligently of the fauna of these same mountains, but had a number of skins of big game they had shot, packed while with us, which now may be seen, and are regarded as valuable additions, in the British Museum. Perhaps some of you dear "Pagoda" members will come out here as missionaries and from these mountains be able to gather rare specimens.

At times the smoke is almost unbearable, two brick beds are heated, clothing dried, and food cooked by wood fires. Then we have a mule and a donkey who favor us with duets, being accompanied by a donkey next door. Two pigs are fed close to my bed, and are not very generous, leaving very little for the rats who follow. I do not mind this, and can watch the pigs by day, but they seem to have a decided liking for my "holdall," and I fear they may tear it to pieces some night. I tried putting it under my pillow last night for safety, but they were grumbling around my head so often that I had to take it away.

I have just taken a peep outside before finishing my letter, hoping to find a dry corner out of doors. I quite envy the shepherd boys in a cave opposite, who while watching their sheep and buffalo have made a big fire. It is impossible to get across to them, for what was only a clear mountain stream a few days ago is now a roaring river, across which not even the brave postmen dare attempt to wade.

Within two days travelling we have visited twenty places in these mountains, some hardly big enough to be called villages, others like small towns. Everywhere the natives have received us kindly and listened willingly to the old, old story. Not once have we offered portions of Scripture for sale and been refused. The ample stock we brought with us was exhausted before our journey was half done.

The words of a native Christian man whom we met in the mountains a few days ago are passing through my mind. As we were having prayer together before separating he said, "Lord the door of Thy love and grace has been opened. Right through these mountains Thy Word has been preached—Lord, keep the door open wide."

Sunday School Lesson

April 8, 1917.

JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD.

(Easter Lesson.) John 11: 17-44.

Golden Text.—Jesus said unto her, I am the Resurrection and the Life. John 11: 25.

Jesus had left Jerusalem because the Jews wanted to kill Him and His time to die had not come. He had crossed the Jordan with His disciples and gone to the place where He had been baptized. Andrew and John and Peter and Philip, who had become acquainted with Him there, would no doubt remind each other of their first conversations with Him, and about Him.

One day a messenger came to tell Jesus that His friend Lazarus of Bethany was very ill. The sisters of Lazarus had sent the message in full confidence, no doubt, that Jesus would come to them at once, because they were sure that He loved Lazarus, and could cure him.

"Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus." And because He loved them He did not go to them, but stayed two days longer where He was. He knew that His failure to go at once would be a sore trial to the faith of the sisters, but He knew also that they needed just that trial. Faith cannot grow without being tested and an accession of faith is worth all that it costs, however severe the test may be through which it is won.

"Our friend Lazarus sleepeth." Death is spoken of as sleep in several places in the New Testament. (See 1 Cor. 15: 6, 18, 51; 1 Thess. 4: 13, 15; 2 Peter 3: 4.) When Jesus went into the room where the daughter of Jairus lay dead, He said, "Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed Him to scorn, knowing that she was dead." (Luke 8: 52, 53.) She was dead, but as He was about to restore her life, her death was practically the same as a sleep. She was not lost to her parents: her life was not ended.

All death is a sleep; for it does not end life. There will be an awakening, "for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." (2 Cor. 5: 10.) John says, "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God, and the books were opened. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it. And death and Hades delivered up the dead which were in them. And they were judged every one according to their works." (Rev. 20: 12, 13.)

"Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." Both the sisters of Lazarus greeted Jesus with this expression of faith, which seems to convey a gentle reproach, as if He had failed to show the love they expected from Him by not coming when they sent for Him. Both the sisters loved and believed in Jesus, but evidently neither of them really believed that He could give them back their brother after he had been dead four days. Surely they must have heard that Jesus had raised the daughter of Jairus and the son of the widow of Nain, but to give back life to one who was absolutely dead was so astounding a miracle that the report of these acts may have made little impression on their minds beyond astonishment. Perhaps they wondered if these two persons could really have been dead. In any case neither of them had been dead for four days.

It need not surprise us that these two close friends of Jesus did not believe that He could raise Lazarus, for we ourselves are very apt to find our faith failing us in every new difficulty or perplexity or anxiety. The more so because our faith is often tested, as the faith of these sisters was tested, by what seem to us unaccountable delays, or even denials. We seek some blessing, and perhaps have faith that it will be granted, but it does not come and the days, perhaps weeks, months, or years, go by, and the feeling of need grows more intense, but the answer to prayer does not come; at least, not the answer that we desire; and faith grows weaker and weaker, if it does not die out altogether.

We need to take to heart the explanation which Jesus gave to His disciples. "I am glad for your sake that I was not there; to the intent ye may believe." Martha and Mary had had to suffer a great disappointment not only for the strengthening of their own faith, but also for the sake of the apostles, and others in that time and in all times since—that we may learn to trust God in the dark; that we may learn to believe that God is thinking for us and planning to do us good just when He seems to be neglecting us completely.

"Even now I know that whatsoever Thou shalt ask of God, God will give Thee." Martha had just the same sort of faith that most of us have. Theoretically she believed in the power of Jesus to do anything He wanted to do, but when it came to a practical test of that belief, it failed. When Jesus told them to take away the stone from the door of the sepulchre she exclaimed: "Lord, by this time he stinketh, for he hath been dead four days." She would not have said that if she had really expected to see her brother alive again.

"Jesus wept." "He groaned in the spirit, and was troubled." He was a man like ourselves, but a much nobler man, more sympathetic, more interested in the welfare of others. He was subject to all the natural feelings, impulses and needs of human nature. He groaned and wept in sympathy with the sorrow of those about Him, although He knew that He would soon dispel that sorrow. He could have prevented it, but if He had done so His dearly loved friends would have lost much more than they would have gained; for their four days of sorrow was richly compensated by the joy of receiving back their lost brother, and still more richly compensated by the new knowledge concerning Jesus which they gained through it.

And we may well believe that the deep grief which Jesus felt at the grave of Lazarus was intensified by the thought of all the suffering that His followers would have to endure not only in that age, but in all coming ages.

"Take ye away the stone." That stone would have rolled itself away at a word of command, but God never does for us what we can do for ourselves. The friends of Lazarus could not call him back to life, but they could remove the stone which would have kept him in prison even when alive, and that much they must do. It was also necessary that they should learn to obey even when the command seemed to them unreasonable. (See verse 39.)

Not many days after this incident the women who loved Jesus were going to His tomb to embalm His body, and they said one to another, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? But in that case they did not need to give any help. It was necessary that Christ should rise from the tomb without human aid of any kind in order that there might be no room for question in regard to the nature of the miracle.

"Take ye away the stone." The command comes to us with regard to persons who are spiritually dead, to whom Christ desires to give spiritual life. There are stumbling-blocks in their way, and these must be removed. Each of us can do something to make it easier for some soul to come out of the sepulchre which it has built for itself by removing some cause of doubt or disbelief, or of alienation of heart from God. Possibly we may ourselves be unconsciously acting the part of the stone to hold them in their tomb because of some habit or of some attitude on our part, or because of carelessness in our manner of speaking or acting.

Unkindness, irritability, selfishness, vanity, frivolity, coldness, indifference, and lack of faith—any of these faults in a person who professes to be a follower of Christ will help some one to convince himself that religion is a mere superstition, or at all events, that it cannot change the heart. And the person who thus helps any one to shut himself up in his sepulchre is acting the part of the stone, instead of removing the stone.

"Father, I thank Thee that Thou heardest Me." Evidently Jesus had prayed for power to raise Lazarus, and He wanted the people about Him to understand that He did not claim to have power, except in dependence upon God. At another time He said, "The Son can do nothing of Himself." (John 5: 19.) He was God, as well as man, but for the purpose of His mission to earth, He had voluntarily emptied Himself of the attributes and powers of divinity and become dependent upon God in the same way that we are dependent upon God. (See Phil. 2: 7, 8.)

A Meditation of Grief

(By W. H. Hamilton, M.A., preached in Westbourne United Free Church, Barrhead, Renfrewshire.)

"Woe is me for my hurt! My wound is grievous: but I said, Truly this is a grief, and I must bear it."

—Jeremiah x., 19.

Our Lord has often been styled "The Man of Sorrows": but though there was no sorrow like His and though He was truly acquainted with grief, there has always been an instinct in robust Christianity against such a title. For it does an injustice to Jesus if we picture Him a tearful personage simply because He was often unspeakably tender. His was the most serenely joyous and virile personality the world has ever known. Some in His own day made this error: "Whom say men that I am?" He asked; and they told Him, "Some say, Jeremias"—the prophet of melting pity come to life again. But it was a wrong answer for all its touch of truth, an unjust and inadequate estimate, and we must be careful not to repeat that old mistake or to allow others to think it an accurate description of the Master.

If there is in Scripture a man of sorrows and tears especially, it is this prophet Jeremiah. And it is possibly of Him the latter Isaiah is thinking when he utters this name. He is a broken-hearted preacher and patriot—not indeed hopelessly, but nearly so; for then, as now, the seer in a minority had a desperately hard lot. His sense of the nation's sin and impending calamity united with the maltreatment he endured to wound his sensitive spirit, and while he possessed the courage and endurance of a man and acted accordingly, there was a softness of heart in Him that gave His words and ways all a woman's tenderness and seeming weakness. There are no more beautiful and no more pathetic verses in the Old Testament than some of His, yet tuey are despairing and do not always brace our souls.

But in this verse we behold the man in Him breaking forth. Here we have a picture of a man of God in the hour of His adversity. Here we have an example and resolve of one who had not neglected beforehand to prepare Himself for the cloudy and dark day so that when the staggering blow fell He should be able to pull Himself together and say, "Truly this is a grief and I must bear it."

I.—BARBEN GRIEF.

Sooner or later, in some way or other, grief comes to all. It is not far from any one of us to-day. And there are many ways of meeting it, divers lands into which it may lead us—in which it may leave us. Grief always has its sadness, but it is never so sad as when it comes to us and by-and-by passes again and is found to have wrought no change and made no difference. This is the barren land,* and there are some who so mistake the purpose and will of the Angel of Grief that they come to this. The grief comes, the dread visitor arrives, the sore experience befalls them; and whether from an assumed insensibility, or from some plunge in sinful excitement, or from an effort of forced detachment to hide the truth and reality of the event from themselves, these people let its effects pass over them as it were without letting these touch them. "Truly this is a grief," they say, "and I must escape it." And so nothing fair and fine grows out of that grief in their life, in their soul—for it is the barren land to which they have come and nothing can grow there.

And when you think how poignant a thing true grief is, and how there is that in it that can purify and impassion our whole nature, is it not the saddest of all sad results when such grief comes and passes and leaves us just as it found us, no better than we were before, no tenderer, no more sensitive, no kinder, no more earnest and quiet, no nearer to God? Is not that to have missed a precious and costly and dear-bought gift, and to have deprived our souls of a searching, searing, but sweetening experience that was surely sent to give them heavenly human grace?

O whatever our griefs, let us pray that they may not come to us and pass without being borne, without being felt to the fullest degree possible, without changing us and teaching us things tongue cannot tell. Let them not bring us to the barren land, the land of no fruit, of no growth in grace. Let us bear our grief, not escape it in any way; and God will thereby teach us to go softlier all our days and to know better the ways of His vast mysterious love.

II.—THE GRIEF THAT BREAKS DOWN.

But there is another extreme almost as fatal to the benefits of holy grief. The barren land was not one into which Jeremiah's emotional temperament would naturally lead him, but he might easily have been tempted to break down hopelessly, to dissolve his will and his strength and his manhood in tears, idle tears. Indeed he does cry in a passion of sorrow, "O that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! O that I had in the wilderness a lodging-place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people and go from them! for they be all perverse, an assembly of treacherous men." But no, says his better self, truly this is a grief and I must bear it.

Yet how many to whom grief comes shun the barren land only to collapse in the broken land. "This is a grief," they say, "and I must sink under it." They give way to grief, they exhibit weakness—and though it is selfish to do as they do (as if there had never been a grief like theirs before!) you and I will have no heart to blame them. "Even the great Elijah was once for an hour as they are. He did not think. He did not speak. He did not murmur. He only asked for God's juniper bush under which he might lie down and die." It is true, as Percy Ainsworth says, that the "first impulse of a stricken heart is to accept the dominion of sorrow to the exclusion of all other claims—to draw down the blinds of the many-roomed house of life, shutting out all sunshine and sound. We cannot help obeying this impulse for a few hours, but we wrong ourselves and our brethren if we continue to keep the blinds down and the door locked." No; this no more than the way of barren passivity is the way to get good from grief as God means we should. The time comes perhaps when we wish that we were dead since life never can be the same again; but that is selfish. And it is not natural: "A man cannot die naturally when he will, and we have stronger stuff in us than those who take away their own lives." It's not natural, and it cannot and does not last; in this broken land we may go weeping for our own poor hurt, but this land lies very near the barren land, and soon the broken heart that thought only of its own pain is hardened again and whole and indifferent. We are back in the barren land—if indeed we have not crossed the frontier of a third land lying near that is worse than either of these.

III.—THE GRIEF THAT EMBITTERS.

For grief is often so perverted by our reception of it that it brings us to the bitter land. "This is a grief, and I resent it!" It seems in this dark country that only "the great wheel of fate rolls on like a Juggernaut and crushes us all in turn, some soon, some late—it does not matter when; in the end it crushes us all. We do not prostrate ourselves before it like the poor Indians; we fly hither and thither—we cry for mercy; but it is of no use; the black fate thunders on, and in its season reduces us to powder." And it is not only evil men as a rule to whom the coming of grief shows only this awful outlook. I have met men, read of them, and been told of them whose whole lives were given to the arts and works and feelings of mercy—physicians, some of them, who more than all men know of the vaguely-comprehended sorrows that fall on lives little able to bear them, who see the effect of a child's suffering on the heart of his mother and understand first of all the coming of griefs not yet anticipated. Yet because of some sore grief that had stunned their own sense, or because of some insensitive presentation of a mere doctrine in an hour when true sympathy would have expressed itself in silence, the slightest remark relative to the consolations of religion was enough to bring a hard light instantly to their eye and sometimes a bitter—or sometimes a quietly amused—laugh to their lips.

And many—less obsessed by the physical and material aspects of life than our noble physicians have often to be—drift with less excuse into a sneering spirit of bitterness when their experience has forced the problem of grief before them and they have had no faith to interpret the grief and to find a blessing in it. It takes a faith bigger than the world to do that—no shallow faith can do it; and I often fear that it is because of shallow professors of religion and their glib speech on tremendous things they neither have experienced nor understood that many of our fellow-men are bitter free-thinkers to-day. O brethren, let us tread softly when we are with those whose hearts are bleeding and raw. How many a scoffer has been created by a pious heartless remark about God's will or God's hidden purpose in the hour of his agony with grief. Sometimes it is better not to speak at all. God will speak for Himself by-and-by; our sole business is to feel with the infirmity. Job's three friends were more humane: "They sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him, for they saw that his grief was too great." There is nothing so simple nor so deadly difficult as wise sympathy. Only Jesus can teach it, but even He never could by rules. Sometimes—we ministers know—words make it hateful. It is the life hid in God that speaks best—and it is silent; it is felt.

No shallow faith, no wordy creed, no insincere sentiment, can help the embittered. But, on the other hand, when grief comes to a man "without the philosophy and inspiration of faith, he is sure to misunderstand his grief, resent it, question its rights, refuse to believe it can possibly serve a good and lofty end." Sorrow is an intruder, a catastrophe. He grows narrower and colder and harder. He becomes a cynic, or a pessimist. He is worse instead of better for the grief. . . . The pity of it!

IV.—THE LAND OF HEART'S DESIRE

So much for the barren land where men try to escape the gift of grief; the broken land where they sink under it; the bitter land where they resent it. But is there not a better land—where they bear it; a land of heart's desire, a sweet and blessed country, to be found as surely as these others on this earth? A land where our grief shall belong to us and not we to it, where it shall be our priceless possession and blessing and not our scourge?

Ah, no one should unfeelingly babble of that land of pure delight. Grief is a painful reality, and easy commiserations and consolations only mock it. We have heard of a golden "Jerusalem" and believe, but some are crossing to it by the narrow and dark sea of stormy grief, and, while they in all their despair are nearer it than we, perhaps our facile talk of it will only nauseate and unsteady them. Nevertheless, hundreds of brave souls that we perhaps have known demand that we bear this testimony about the better land to which grief leads men when they bear it. Indeed, is it not true that almost all the lives that have greatly and nobly taught the world have been lives that knew grief and mastered it—the Psalmists, this Jeremiah, and, far above all, Jesus Christ; or, in later days, Shakespeare, Beethoven? Without grief, their lives, or any lives, would have been like savourless salt almost, the world being what it is; and had they not borne their griefs they would have presented the world with a spectacle of wreckage instead of sacred and inspiring examples, traditions, ideals, visions. And they witness to us of a grief so pure and deep, so severe and so cleansing, so beyond help and yet so beneficial, that we see from them how true grief needs no cure. "This is a grief and I must bear it"—not because there is no Saviour touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but because, for us as for Him, grief rightly prepared for and rightly accepted comes to understand and interpret itself. It is something needed by us, an element of vitality, and—if we would only see—it should be received as a blessing. It is something that even God cannot cure by any sleight-of-hand as it were, and something that no human words, however well-intended, can reach or soothe. No, no, no; in the real griefs of life the heart must just silently bleed and bleed and bleed—bravely and without breaking or embittering. That is the only cure for sorrow known even to God—just to let the stricken heart bleed and bear, as His has bled and borne; and when it has bled all its need there comes a sweet recovery, and that heart is open and soft and clean, and something of God fills it, and all is hushed with the beauty of holiness within it, whether the problem be solved or no. Again I quote Percy Ainsworth: "When the heart bleeds too sorely to keep its faith, cling to that faith still with brain and memory; some day even the heart will suddenly have room for it again, and the old creed will bring its healing comfort" to the man who quietly and unknown to the world claims his burden and hides it. "This is a grief and I must bear it."

And sometimes the only thing to keep us out of the bitter and barren and broken lands, and to lead us to the better land through our severe cross, is the sight or sense of others in a like plight or in a worse one. The instance of John Bright is familiar. Bereaved of his young wife, he received a visit of condolence from Cobden. What sentences of sympathy Cobden may have murmured I cannot tell, but after a time he looked up and said: "Bright, there are thousands and thousands of homes in England at this moment where wives and mothers and children are dying of hunger. Now, when the first paroxysm of your grief is passed, I would advise you to come with me, and we will never rest until the Corn Laws are repealed." And so it came about; he thought of others and bore his own grief. Was there not a refining and consoling from that compared with which the barren and broken and bitter receptions of grief are seen to be both selfish and wrong-headed? And yet do you think Bright did not feel his grief more than they all?

Yes, it is not the blood of tears, nor the sneer, nor yet the clenched hand and compressed lips and the grim, tense silence that speak of a grief bravely borne and triumphed over. "It is when from a secretly aching heart there is sent the impulse to stretch out a heartening hand to a brother," and when the music of consolation flows from lips that might have been written with their own grief—it is then that the victory Christ gives the faithful grief-bearer is seen.

Hearts growing a-weary with heavier woe
Now droop 'mid the darkness—go, comfort them, go!
Go, bury thy sorrow; let others be blest;
Go, give them the sunshine—tell Jesus the rest.

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*The names of these four "lands" I had from some other preacher years ago.—H.

We do not appreciate how necessary it is for a man to believe in those about him just as far as he can and co-operate with them just as fully as he can. * * * No matter how high the ideals for which we stand, we cannot expect others to follow us unless we have confidence in them. We cannot expect devotion if we return it with distrust. We cannot expect co-operation unless we are prepared to give freely of our confidence.—Arthur T. Hadley.

God has a particular kind of inspiration for every man, just according to what he is and what uses He will make of him. He will dignify every right calling by being joined to us in it; for there is nothing given us to do, which He will not help us to do rightly and wisely, filling us with a lofty and fortified consciousness of His presence with us in it.—Horace Bushnell.

THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' PAGE

THE MACKINAC MAIL

Jont Lyons sat on the counter in the grocery store, knocking his heels together. The men in tilted chairs around the stove looked at him and at each other, and then at Furshaw, who stared persistently at the square of smoky isingless through which the fire gleamed red.

Over at the frosted window the young schoolmaster stood and gazed out exactly as if there was something to see. That was because it was his first winter on Mackinac Island. He had been there more than once in the summer when the air was balmy and the water was a smooth blue expanse, dotted with white sails and pleasure yachts; when the one business street of the village was thronged from morning until night with fashionable pleasure-seekers. But, now that he had taken the village school and had settled down to spend the winter there, he found that the fascinating summer resort had turned to a prison with icy walls, and that often the only doorway leading out was danger.

The bleak street was empty now from end to end. One drug store, one dry-goods, two grocery stores were open to feeble trade, but nearly all the buildings were securely boarded up until next summer.

It was 8 o'clock of a bitter cold evening and there had been no mail for five long days, which in itself was reason enough why everyone should look at Furshaw, sitting calmly by the stove.

Furshaw, wrinkled and old, was the carrier employed by the government to bring the daily mail from the mainland, nine miles away, and a good position he found it when the ice between the island and Mackinaw City was smooth and firm so that he could skim across and back with horses and sled in two hours' time, and stow away in his pocket two dollars and a half for each trip; but when the ice became so treacherous that he was forced to take dogs instead of horses the mail-carriers' lot was not so jolly.

Not that anybody really wanted Furshaw to risk his life. It wasn't that, but every man on the island felt that if he were a nicknamed old bachelor like that, with no one to miss him, he'd find some way to get the mail. So the postmaster fumed, and the villagers cast slurs, while Furshaw, in an imperturbable way he had, remained deaf and blind to everything except the icy flood that raged between himself and Mackinaw City.

"Gettin' crazy, Jont?" asked the lanky boy behind the counter. "What's the use? Like as not you wouldn't get your letter if the mail was here."

"I tell you, Jonty," the little blue-eyed grocer added, as he turned down the smoking lamp, "I don't much think now he's ever going to write. That's the way with rich folks that come to the island in summer. It was all very handy to have you run his errands, and he really thought, then, he'd do something for you, but now he's got back to the city he just forgets. That's how they do. I know."

"What was it he promised you, Jont?" the schoolmaster asked, turning from the window. Until now he had been so absorbed in thoughts of the letter he was waiting for himself that he failed to share the village interests in Jont Lyons' troubles.

"Oh, he knew I was bound not to stay here another of these dead winters, an' when he saw the work I was doin' up at the hotel there he told me he was puttin' up a flat building in Chicago an' that he was goin' to send for me when it was done, and make me janitor of it. An' he said there'd be something better for me after that if I did well. But it was all talk. He won't do anything. It's been three months now, an' not a word."

The schoolmaster smiled rather grimly. "I'm afraid Mr. Bagley's right," he said. "They get back to the city and —they forget."

Jont felt the personal note in the last two words. Something told him that the schoolmaster had been forgotten, too, and he slid from the counter and walked over to the window. If he had dreamed for one instant that the older man's anxiety was being wasted on a possible letter from a slip of a brown-eyed girl, Jont's lip would have curled in boyish scorn, but no such suspicion entered his mind, so he shouldered up by his comrade in trouble with a sense of unexpected sympathy.

"Did you know the man before last summer?" the schoolmaster asked him, after a minute.

"My father did—that's the mischief. He won't let me do a thing but wait for Mr. Vance to send. I could catch on to something in Detroit all right if it wasn't for that. You see this man was here the summer I was born an' when he heard the fellows on the dock talkin' up an' says, 'Name him for me, Lyons. You own't be sorry.' That's how I got my name—John T. Vance Lyons. You won't be sorry.' That's an' then 'Jonty.' Well, sir, he's never been here since until this time last summer but my father's always been sure he'd do something handsome by me yet. He started out so grand, you know, with the baby carriage he sent me. That was a beauty, too all white an' gold an' blue silk—there's never been another like it in Mackinac." Jont stopped suddenly with a foolish grin at the mere idea of himself in a baby-carriage, for he was a broad-shouldered lad of seventeen now. He could unload coal vessels with the strongest man on the island.

Turning abruptly he spoke to the circle around the stove.

"I'm goin' to Mackinaw City to-morrow," he announced, and all the chairs came down to four legs with a bump. "The sea ain't so bad between here and Round Island, and if I once get across to there with a boat. I'll find some ice to travel on to Mackinaw City, or my name won't be Jont Lyons."

Old Furshaw cleared his throat. "I'm goin' to do that myself, Jont," he said, solemnly. "You can go along with me."

Everybody smiled, for what Furshaw meant—and they knew it—was that if Jont was really going he would be glad of the chance to follow. Everybody smiled but Jont. He looked at Furshaw's stooping figure in the faded brown clothes and, after a minute's thought said quietly, "That's all right, Furshaw, only—I'm not comin' back."

"Not coming back?" Furshaw looked blank.

"No," Jont answered, buttoning his coat. "I'm sayin' good-bye to Mackinac Island to-morrow mornin' at six o'clock."

Then he shut the door of the grocery store behind him and started up the street on a run. Jont had never worn an overcoat in his life. When it was cold he ran.

Presently he burst, like a gust of wind, into the warm kitchen where his father and mother and little Ev'leen were gathered.

"I'm waitin', Jont!" cried the little girl as he entered. "You said you'd teach me to whistle to-night."

She had climbed into his arms and Jont was hugging her and kissing her pink cheeks. Three children who had come between Jont and Ev'leen had died when diphtheria raged on the island and he and the little sister had been close since then.

"Dad," he said, with an effort, after Ev'leen, tired of trying to pucker her lips like his, had dropped her sleepy head against his shoulder, "you know that driver, McGuire, said last summer that he could get me a job in the stables in Detroit any time I'd come."

The haggard-looking man, chained by rheumatism to the cot in the corner, gave a twitch. He was unused to suffering and it made him impatient of everything. "I don't care if he did," he answered after a pause.

"Mr. Vance won't ever send for me. I wish you'd give that up. An' it seems as if I couldn't stand it not to be earnin' something this winter."

"Haven't you got another cord of wood to saw for the doctor?"

"Yes, but what's that—an' what's after that? Nothin'!"

"Saw your wood an' stop your talking. If Mr. Vance sends for you, you can go to Chicago. If he don't you'll stay here. That ends it." And the sick man closed his eyes and failed to see the way Jont set his lips and squared his chin.

"Jonty," his mother put in, "it's your good we're thinkin' of. Mr. Vance would have an int'rest in you. It wouldn't be like lettin' you go to Detroit among strangers."

But Jont said nothing.

Ev'leen was still sleeping next morning when, after his early breakfast, Jont slipped into his room for a small bag he had packed and hurried out, pausing just long enough to give his mother a hearty kiss on the cheek as she stood at the washtub in the kitchen.

"Why, Jont!" she cried, following him to the door in surprise, but he had turned the corner and disappeared in the direction of Dr. Miller's house.

Mrs. Lyons sighed and went back to her washing. As soon as Ev'leen had finished breakfast her mother tied on her little red hood and wrapped her in a shawl.

"Run over to Dr. Miller's and see Jonty, dear," she said. "He's sawin' the wood."

But before Ev'leen came back in disappointment, a neighbor had dropped in to tell Mrs. Lyons what a terrible time Jont and Furshaw had had rowing across to Round Island.

"It's risky business," she concluded. "They took two dogs in the boat with them, an' the mail sled's been over on Round Island ever since last trip. An' you mean to say you didn't know Jont was goin' at all?" she added, after detailing what some one had heard him say in the store the evening before. "Well, well! Then he's run away, hasn't he? So! Do you mind the day Eddie Mackin ran away, ten years ago Christmas, an' never heard from since? But there, probably Jont will write. Well, now!"

Mrs. Lyons put her apron to her eyes and rocked to and fro, while Jont's father groaned and tried to get up, and groaned again because he could not. Jont was their pride and joy. He had cut them to the heart. Little Ev'leen, still and frightened, took up her post at the window and, strained her brown eyes, looking across the raging channel toward Mackinaw City.

The day dragged on. Willie Hogan came to say that he had promised Jont that he would carry the wood and do the heavy work for Mrs. Lyons, but Jont's mother could only cry and sob, in answer.

Just before dark the sea went down and some of the island boys launched a boat and rowed over to Round Island, in the hope of meeting old Furshaw on his lonely return trip. All night long the waves thundered and roared, and dashed against the shore, and a little after dawn the boys came back alone.

They said there was a strip of ice stretching north from Round Island; how far it went they could not tell. In the direction of Mackinaw City there was no ice at all as far as they could see, though perhaps that northern strip curved around in that direction after a mile or so. They had dug driftwood out of the snow and had kept a big fire blazing all night on Round Island, thinking it might guide Furshaw if he were out on the ice in the dark. But when morning brought no sign of him, they had come back to telegraph to Mackinaw City and find out whether the mail-carrier had ever reached there.

The answer was that Furshaw had come to the post office at noon and had started off with the mail at three in the afternoon. So Jont must have left him and gone his way.

It was a sober crew that rowed out from Mackinaw Island then. The schoolmaster was determined to go with them, though he was so inexperienced that he could be of little use. The truth was, that long-delayed answer from the slip of a girl had got on the schoolmaster's nerves, and it seemed to him that unless he could be actively doing something he would soon be following Jont's example and running away. The boys were going, this time to find Furshaw, alive or dead, but each one felt if he had already seen him lying frozen out there on the ice.

All the morning the island people waited, dreading their return. Just before noon little Ev'leen, standing by the window, exclaimed, "Everybody's runnin' down the dock. I want to go, too."

Mrs. Lyons, with red eyes and a sad face, was working over her husband, who had been worse all day. "Run along, then," she said listlessly, and Ev'leen managed to tie on her own hood and wrap herself in the red shawl which she crossed in front, giving the ends to her mother to tie behind. Then with little bare hands thrust into the folds of the shawl, she started.

"Ev'leen! Ev'leen Lyons!" called Willie Hogan, as he saw her running out on the dock. She did not stop and he ran after her. "Ev'leen, here! Take this to your mother. It's a telegram for Jont from Mr. Vance—do you hear? Just what he was wantin'. Run home with it fast, now, will you?"

He caught her shoulders and turned her toward home, but as soon as she had clutched the message she wriggled away.

"Do you see Jont?" Ev'leen cried, sharply tugging at the coat of the grocer who stood in the front ranks, with the schoolmaster's glass levelled at the boat that was struggling through the black water, on its way from Round Island.

He shook his head.

"Lift me up on this pile," she demanded with another jerk at his coat, and, to be rid of her, he lowered the glass and obeyed.

The little figure in red shawl and hood with wisps of light hair blowing across her face, stood still on the pedestal outlined against the winter sky for several minutes. Then she began to clap her hands wildly, and would have danced off into the water except the grocer caught her just in time.

"Jont! Jont! Jont!" Her shrill little voice darted over the tumbling white-capped waves. "Jont! Jont!"

"There Ev'leen!" A woman with a shawl over her head spoke through chattering teeth. "Jonty ain't there, dear. He's gone."

"Jont! Jont!"

"Take this glass, somebody, and look!" cried the grocer, holding to Ev'leen with both hands. "Is Jont there?"

Willie Hogan looked and shook his head. The boat came steadily nearer.

"Jont! Jont! Jont!"

Suddenly one of the rowers pulled off his cap and waved it in the air.

"It is—it's Jont!" cried Willie Hogan with a yell like a wild Indian, and from then until the landing everyone on shore was shouting crazily.

"Oh, Jont," piped Ev'leen, as the boat came up, "you're sent for! Mr. Vance! It's a telegraph letter—see!"

How Jont managed to make that jump from the boat to the land no one knew. He was scrambling up the bank and rushing toward Ev'leen, who ran along the dock, straight into his arms.

"Is it so, Ev'leen?" he whispered as he caught her close and, for answer, her little red hands held the telegram before his eyes. The people gathered round, and the boat came grating up on the beach as Jont read out:

"Jont T. Vance Lyons:

"Unavoidable delays. Come as soon as possible. Wire what day.

"John T. Vance."

Jont's voice broke with the last word, and he dropped his head behind Ev'leen's shoulder for a minute. Then, catching her hand, he started up the street toward home as fast as her little feet could be made to trot.

"Hi, there! Furshaw saved my life!" had been his greeting to the crowd. "The only thing that kept me going last night was having to pound him so he wouldn't lie down and freeze to death."

Not a word about the terror and suffering of the night when, in order to live, they had been forced to keep moving, though every step meant danger. All Jont would say was that the ice had been frozen in such a direction that they had to go miles around in order to cross on it. He did explain, briefly, too, that, after starting off to take the train for Detroit, something that he could not resist had moved him to turn back and see the old mail-carrier safe home again. After that he made them pay all attentions to Furshaw.

But, four days later, when Jont Lyons started off to begin his work in Chicago he was a hero in spite of himself. Old Furshaw, never before known to utter a word in praise of anyone, had been bragging all over the island about Jont's courage and bravery during that awful night, and the result was that the whole enthusiastic community stood on the snow-piled beach, waving handkerchiefs and shouting good things. Foremost in the ranks stood the tall schoolmaster, with a tremendous shining in his face. Besides this shining, he was smiling, too, with the thought of Jont's understanding good-bye to himself, just spoken.

"You were waitin' for a letter, too, sir," Jont had said a low tone, with a grasp of the schoolmaster's hand. "Did I bring it you in one of the bags?"

"You did, Jont," he had answered. "And 'twas the right answer, boy. I'm in luck, just like you."

"Hooray!"—from Jont, under his breath—"Then I'll be seein' you in Chicago, yourself, maybe?"

"When my work is done. I can't run away, Jont. You didn't. But I'm coming as soon as I can," the schoolmaster had answered with a ring in his voice which Jont would have understood if he had been a few years older. As it was, however, he had gone away with his respect for the schoolmaster intact, never once suspecting that the older man's joy had all been caused by one little word from a slip of a brown-eyed girl.

By now the strait had frozen solidly enough to bear a horse and cutter, and old Furshaw, who had been determined to be the one to drive Jont over to Mackinaw City, flapped the reins and clucked to his horse with satisfaction as he heard the good-byes and hurrahs that followed them over the ice, while little Ev'leen, wrapped in her mother's best shawl, cuddled close in her big brother's arms in the cutter, and laughed aloud in proud delight. She was going over to see Jont start on the train from Mackinaw City and then come back with Furshaw.

"Hear 'em cheer, Jont!" she whispered. "You're a great man, I guess, Jont. Oh, it's better'n runnin' away, isn't it?"

He answered her with a great hug.

"I was goin' to do it, too, if you hadn't come back. As soon as I could slip off I was comin' to Detroit."

Jont shivered—not with cold. 'Ev'leen," he said, solemnly, "it's wicked to run away from your mother and father. I found that out up there on the ice when I thought maybe I'd never get home alive. Don't you do it, ever, Ev'leen—no matter how much you want to. Promise."

"Why, of course!" she answered, simply. "Course I won't do it now, Jont, 'cause you didn't."—The "Advance."

WOLVES OF THE SEA.

The killer whale usually travels and hunts in "schools" or packs of from three to a dozen or more individuals. Unlike most whales, the members of these schools do not travel in a straggling party, but swim side by side, their movements as regularly timed as those of soldier. A regularly spaced row of advancing long black fins swiftly cutting the undhlating surface of the sea produces a singularly sinister effect. The evil impression is well justified, since killers are the most savage and remorseless of whales. The jaws are armed with rows of effective teeth, with which the animals attack and devour seals and porpoises, and even destroy some of the larger whales.

Killers are like giant wolves of the sea, and their ferocity strikes terror to other warm-blooded inhabitants of the deep. The Eskimos of the Alaskan coast of Behring Sea consider killers as actual wolves in sea form. They believe that in the early days, when the world was young and men and animals could change their form at will, land wolves often went to the edge of the shore ice and changed to killer whales, and the killers returned to the edge of the ice and came out as wolves, to go ravening over the land. Some of the natives assure us that even to-day certain wolves and killers are still endowed with this power, and, on account of their maligant character, are much feared by hunters.

Killers are known to swallow small seals and porpoises entire and attack large whales by tearing away their fleshy lips and tonges. When attacking large prey they work in packs, with all the unity and fierceness of so many wolves.—"National Geographic Magazine."

SAILED ON THE WEBSTERIAN

The Boston bank cashier, disguised, was boarding the steamer with his loot when he noticed a man standing by the rail who looked like a detective.

"Do you think that when he sees me on the seas he will seize me?" he asked of his accomplice.

"I apprehend you need not apprehend that he will apprehend you," responded the other comfortingly.—Boston "Transcript."

Children's Corner

JIMMY COOPER'S WOODCHUCK

Jimmy Cooper's father owns the flour mill on the stone road, and Jimmy Allen lives in that tiny brown house near the hill. He and Jimmy Cooper are great friends.

One day Jimmy Cooper invited Jimmy Allen to help him catch a woodchuck.

"It's as easy as anything if you know how," explained Jimmy Cooper, tossing a clump of grass into the mill pond. "The millman told me. He says most woodchucks have a front and a back door."

"O, I know that much," interrupted Jimmy Allen, and he, too threw a clump of grass into the mill pond. His clump of grass went farther than Jimmy Cooper's and made bigger circles in the water.

"Well, let's hear you tell what you know," Jimmy Cooper suggested, snatching his hat from the grass as he spoke, and making a dive after a butterfly escaped.

"You stop up one end of the burrow so the woodchuck won't get out," continued Jimmy Allen, "and pour in water at the other end until the woodchuck is drowned." Then he made a dive at the butterfly with his old straw hat, and caught it.

"That's the way to capture a woodchuck if you want it for a pet!" exclaimed Jimmy Cooper, watching the quickly released butterfly float through the June sunshine.

"Catch a woodchuck with your hat!" inquired Jimmy Allen.

"No, I mean catch him alive. My father's mill man says that two boys can do it if one boy holds a basket tight over the front door of the burrow. Then the other boy goes to the back door of the burrow and builds a fire in it. Pretty soon the smoke gets so bad, Mr. Woodchuck thinks his kitchen stove must be smoking.

But, if he goes back through the long hall and through his bed room to see what is the matter, he thinks his house is on fire, and straight he goes to the front door, ker-bang into the basket! It is just as easy! All you have to do is, shut down the basket tight, and there is your pet woodchuck!"

"That is easy," agreed Jimmy Allen; "let's try it. I want to catch him in the basket."

"S'pose you dare!" questioned immy Cooper. "Sometimes woodchucks bite."

"Dare! Who's afraid?" replied Jimmy Allen. "Let's go to work, because we ought to build a pen to keep him in."

"And make him a warm little winter house of stones and sod," added Jimmy Cooper. "My father's man says the reason woodchucks get so fat in the summer is because they go to sleep in the autumn and don't wake up until spring. I want my pet woodchuck to be as comfortable as he would be at home.' '

While the boys built the pen, with help and advice from the miller's hired man, they talked of Jimmy's woodchuck.

"It will be such fun to watch him comb his face!" exclaimed Jimmy Cooper.

"Comb his face!" repeated Jimmy Allen, in tones of astonishment.

"Yes, sir, that is what 'Johnson's Natural History' says. He will sit on his hind legs like a squirrel and lick and smooth his fur like a cat. He will clean and comb his face with his claws, too! It seems as if I can't wait!"

When all was ready, the miller's man left his work to watch the boys catch the woodchuck.

When Jimmy Cooper at one end of the burrow was about to light his match, he called to Jimmy Allen at the other end, 'Basket—bas-ket—watch out!"

Scr-scratch went the match on a brick, and crackle—crackle the fire began to burn.

Jimmy Allen wasn't afraid as he clung to the basket against the hillside, but he kept wriggling his bare toes and sending loose stones, bumpty-bang, bumpety-bang, into the river below.

"Watch out! watch out!" warned Jimmy Cooper at last. "He thinks his house is on fire by this time; pretty smoky in there!"

The next minute something went bang—bump against the basket, and Jimmy Allen was rolling down hill. It his blouse hadn't caught on some bushes he might have rolled into the water.

"Where is the woodchuck?" he called, as he scrambled to his feet and tried to pretend he didn't care if he had skinned his knee.

"Where is he?" repeated Jimmy Cooper. "I'm sure I don't know. I laughed so hard I didn't see what became of the woodchuck!"

"There he is!" called the miller's man, pointing to a higher spot on the river bank. "Look, boys, look, he's winkin' at you, I do believe!"

Sure enough, there sat the woodchuck on his hind legs, gazing down upon the little boys. Possibly he took them for the fire department. Anyway, he made a few cheerful remarks, cleaned his coat, and combed his face!

Soon, when the boys were gone, home to his burrow ran Jimmy Cooper's woodchuck, straightened his house, and there he lived happy ever after.—Frances Margaret Fox, in the "Churchman."

OUR MAIL BAG.

Dear Editor,—I have never had courage enough to write before. I live in Vancouver. We have taken the "Witness" for years. Our great-grandfather took it, our grandfather and our grandmother. After my grandmother died we still took it. It gives us pleasure to take it. I have one sister and her name is Rose. I go to school and am in the Intermediate A 2 term. I have eight blocks to go. I will close now.

Yours truly,
RUTH BORTHWICK (Age 10).

Dear Editor,—This is the first time I have written to the "Witness." I like the Children's Corner very much. I am in the second book at school. I hope soon to be in the third. If I see this letter in print I will try to write a more interesting one some other time. I will close now for this time.

I remain, yours truly,
JESSIE MAY SWAYZE (Age 9).

Dear Editor.—This is the first time for me to write to your club. I live on a farm a half mile from the Ross Consolidated School. I am 13 years of age, and in grade six at school. We organized a boys' and girls' club at school last year and re-elected officers for 1917 this year. We have been taking the "Witness" for nearly two years now, and I like reading the Boys' and Girls' Page very much. I have one brother training in Winnipeg for overseas. He is in the 190th Battaion, C.E.F. Will you please send me a pin.

I remain, yours truly,
EVELYN RUSSELL.

Dear Editor,—I have not written to the Children's Corner before. I go to school and I am in the senior third reader. I have a sewing teacher. I have two brothers and four sisters. I sent a competition and got honorable mention for it. My parents have been taking the "Witness" for four years and think it is a very nice paper. I must not write a long letter, because it will be so long you will have to leave some of the others out.

Yours sincerely,
MARY BULIVER (Age 11).

Dear Editor,—I have never wrntten to the "Witness," so I thought I would try. We have been taking the "Witness" before on the 15c offer, and we liked it so well that we subscribed for it for one year. We get it every Thursday, and I always turn to the Children's Corner first. I like reading so well. I want to join your club. I go to school and am in the eighth grade, and I intend to go to examination next year. I like to do the competitions in the paper. I sent a few, but I did not win. I expect to send more after this. I must close, wishing the "Witness" every success.

JOHN A. GILLIS.

Dear Editor,—The idea has just now flashed into my mind that I would write to the Children's Corner. I have been very interested in reading it. I have been going to school. It has been very cold. I am in the senior second. One night I came home from school with both sides of my face frozen, so it must have been very cold.

Yours truly,
M. E. CULHAM (Age 10).

Dear Editor,—Your Children's Corner and Correspondence Page have always been very interesting to me. I have been wanting to write to you for some time to tell you what a pretty place Portneuf is. The village is nestled in a valley between lovely wooded hills and the grand old St. Lawrence River. Though not a very large place it is quite a busy one, there being six paper mills, a shoe factory, several flour mills and an electric light plant on the Portneuf river. We have three railways, three churches and several large schools. The English one has two teachers. There are not many English people here, only about twenty families, but they are very loyal. Twelve of our young men answered their country's call (more would have gone if it had been possible), and five have given their lives. We also have two young nurses doing good work in France. I could write lots more, but fear my letter is already too long.

I remain, your interested reader,
MARGARET FORD.

Dear Editor,—This is my first letter to your club, although I read it every week. I always look forward for Friday, as that is the day we get it. I have two soldier brothers, one is with the 202nd Batt. one with the 137th. I go to school. It is three and a half miles from home. Well, I must close, wishing the "Witness" every success.

I remain, yours truly,
ETTA HUTCHISON.

Dear Editor,—This is my first letter to your jolly club. We take the "Witness," and I take much pleasure in reading the Children's Corner. I go to school in summer, but it does not open in the winter. I am in grade three. I am half a mile from school. I have two cousins who were killed in the war. I hope it will soon be over. I got two puzzles made but could not send them.

Yours truly,
DOROTHY McCLURE (Age 9).

Dear Editor,—I am 11 years old and am in grade five. I have entered two of your competitions but don't know whether I have got a prize yet. I like reading the Boys' and Girls' Page and reading the letters. I live on the farm and we have 21 head of cattle. I go to school in town and get on pretty well. I saw in the paper that you gave pins away. I hope you have the best of success, and that my letter will be good enough for a pin.

Yours truly,
FRANK PALMER.

Dear Editor—I am 11 years old and go half a mile to school. I am in the senior third class. I live on a fifty acre farm in the Beaver valley, which gets its name from the Beaver River that flows through it. The river empties into the Georgian Bay. Not far from its source the river falls about one hundred feet into the valley.

I remain, yours truly,
RAYMOND STAFFORD.

Dear Editor,—I am sending the scissors puzzle. I thought I would try to get a prize. I did not think it would matter, so I posted it on cardboard. I could not leave room on it for my full address, so I will put it on the bottom of this page. I am lame, but I go to school; it is about five minutes' walk. The snow was pretty deep in Manitoba this year and the drifts were high. I read the Children's Corner and like it very well.

I remain, yours truly,
CHARLOTTE ELLEN MEAKIN.

OUR COMPETITION

MAKE ME AN EASTER EGG.

Not a real egg, boiled and colored, for that is too difficult to send by mail, but an Easter card cut in the shape of an egg. Make it of stiff white or colored paper or cardboard, and decorate it prettily, and put an Easter message or text on it. Then turn it over and write on the back your full name, age, if over 12, and your full address. Make the egg shaped or oval card (did you know oval meant egg-shaped?) Just the size to go comfortably in an ordinary envelope, and it will be easier to send. Mail it just as soon as you can to the Children's Corner Editor, "Weekly Witness," Montreal.

Prizes! Why, of course there will be prizes for the best one sent by a Senior over 12, by a Junior, under 12, and by a Tiny Tot, under 7 years of age.

MAKING EASTER GIFTS.

(By Gertrude Winham Fielder, in "Child's Hour.")

"Mamma, what can we make for Easter?" cried Alice and Charles.

"I know!" answered mother.

"Do you think you could make a chicken?" asked Ann, eagerly.

"Yes, indeed," laughed mother, "shall we begin now?"

"Yes, yes," cried the three children, who dearly loved to make things.

"Now," said mother, after she had cut out two cardboard circles, one larger than the other, and taken some yellow worsted from her basket, "we are ready to make a chicken. Using double thread, we will sew through the hole in the circle, over the outside and back again until the hole is filled. Now, we will cut the worsted around outside of the circle and tie close in centre. Remove the cardboard and clip the worsted even, and we have two perfect balls, the larger ball being the body, and the smaller the head of the chicken. Next, we will fasten these two black beads to the head for eyes, and then fasten the head to the body. There, how do you like your chicken, Ann!"

Ann clapped her hands, "I love it," she cried, "it's so soft."

"We will color eggs next," said mother, after several downy chicks had been made. "Around the eggs we will bind these bits of colored ribbon and bright calico pieces, and then we will put them on to boil."

"And will the eggs come out all pretty colors?" asked Charles.

"You will see in just a few minutes," laughed mother. And when the eggs were taken from their wrappings, oh! such a pretty sight.

Pink eggs and blue eggs, crimson eggs and green eggs and speckled eggs lay side by side on the kitchen table.

"There," said mother, "you have enough for yourselves and your little playmates, and now wouldn't you like to make something for the aunties.

"Oh, yes, mamma," returned the children.

Then mother produced some little cards,—some square, some in the form of a cross. "Easter," said mother, "comes at the time of year when all Nature is awakening, and suggests many beautiful ideas for our drawing, for I am sure you can all draw a little spray, a twig, or a flower, a chicken or a butterfly, and when each card bears the greeting, 'Happy Easter,' I am sure the aunties will be pleased."

"I'm going to color the background light green and leave 'Peter Rabbit' white," said Charles, gazing at the very fat bunny he had drawn.

"My bunny is going home with his Easter bonnet in a badbox on his arm," laughed Alice.

"I've drawn a chicken peeping from his shell," said Ann.

HOWBIRDS SLEEP.

The sleep of most wild creatures, whether birds or animals, is light; there is too much danger round to make sound sleep safe. The authors of "A Game Keeper's Note-Book," who made some interesting observations on sleeping birds, found out that the perch-roosting birds always sleep head to the wind.

If a rook alights in the home tree in a high wind, he swings his head into the wind before alighting. So when wood-pigeons come home before the wind, they pass over their roosting-trees and then beat up into the wind.

At rest the bird doubles its knees, as it were, which causes the toes to contract, the weight of the body resting chiefly on the breast and out-spread wings—not on the eggs if in a nest. The legs and feet have sinews which work an automatic locking action of the claws, so that, roosting with knees doubled up, the feet grip the branch unfailingly.

Some birds seem always half-awake. Wild-fowlers will scratch a match at night to test the presence or absence of wild duck in a distant creek; if present, an instant quacking will betray them. Pheasants are always vigilant; on the darkest night it is difficult to stalk them, however quietly you move. If you come within a hundred yards of guinea-fowl at night, they will raise an alarm. They excel at talking in their sleep.

But some birds, such as wrens, when cuddling in a hole in the thatch, seem to sleep soundly. And while wild pigeons will fly out at once if a match be struck under their tree, a pigeon-lover in London says that his city birds, roosting on window-ledges, lose their wariness by night, and will hold their own in the face of a candle while a hand is stretched out to touch their necks.

Partridges seek a sheltered, dry-lying hollow in the fields, and a covey of twenty will huddle on a spot a yard in diameter. The colder the weather the closer the roost; the birds on the edge have their breasts outward. Sometimes, by the way, it is unfortunate for partridges and pheasants that the positions of their nests prevent them flying to and fro. Having to force their way through tangled undergrowth, a trail is left for the fox to follow home. The barn-yard fowl may walk from her nest when in captivity, but when she has stolen her nest abroad, she resumes the habit of flying.

HAD TO GO.

Somewhere in Flanders a young soldier had been on the sick list for some time, and now, after a few days, looked very fit for service.

However, he was once more on the sick list the day his battalion was to leave for the trenches.

"Can you write, my lad?" asked the medical officer.

Suddenly the bright prospect of a nice office job, in safety, seemed to open before him, so he answered emphatically, "Yes, sir, I can. I was a clerk in civil life."

"Very well. Now, you just write a nice letter to your best girl and tell her you are going to the trenches to-night." "Tit-Bits."

LITTLE BIRD BLUE.

Little Bird Blue, come sing your song;
The cold winter weather has lasted too long.
We're tired of skates, and we're tired of sleds,
We're tired of snow banks as high as our heads;
Now we're watching for you,
Little Bird Blue.

Soon as you sing, then the springtime will come,
The robins will call and the honey-bees hum,
And the dear little pussies, so cunning and gray,
Who sit in the willow trees over the way;
So hurry, please do,
Little Bird Blue!

We're longing to hunt in the woods, for we know
Just where the spring-beauties and liverwort grow;
We're sure they will peep when they hear your first song,
But why are you keeping us waiting so long.
All waiting for you,
Little Bird Blue?
—"Youth's Companion."

AWARDS

JAPANESE CUT OUT PUZZLE.

The saucy little girl in her Japanese dress with her comical little pets was a great favorite. Seniors even older than thirteen love cut-out puzzles as well as the Juniors and Tinys.

The Senior prize, a paint box, was won by George D. Young.

The Junior prize is to be doubled this time, for Annie S. Patterson and Edna M. Patterson sent in pictures so well done and so exactly alike that the Judge gave up in despair and awarded a paint box to Annie and a set of beauty pins to Edna.

The Tiny Tot prize was won by Marshall John Joseph Black, who has chosen a construction game.

Honorable Mention—Bessie Bennett, Guy S. Bennett, William James Biggs, Mildred Bock, Phyllis M. Bridgette, Bertie Clark Rosa Cooper, Frances E. Colby, Winona Compton, Earl Dingman Dorothy Drever, Chesley Elford, Helen Fitzpatrick, Lottie Gamble, Hasel Heather, Kenneth Henry, Laura Jennings, Wilfred Locheed, Calvin A. McColm, Donalda McRae, Charlotte E. Meakins, Kathleen M. Moore, Katie M. Morrison, Evelyn G. Pearson, Jean M. Pender, Laura S. Ford, Donald Putnam, Ada T. C. Rankin Mark G. Rowsell, Beatrice Roy, Sara Sibley, Lillie A. Sharpe, Lizzie Teague and Arnold Wood.

SMILES

SURE THING.

Tommy (to captured Hun): "Nah, then; get along with the others. Wot yer 'anging about 'ere for?"

Hun: "I vos vait for mine brudder. He vos surrender in der next batch!"—Bystander.

MORE LIKE IT.

A motor car manufacturer was fond of naming his cars after flowers.

"I think of calling that new car," he told a friend, "The Crimson Rambler."

The friend, who had been out on the new car, suggested pawkily—"Why not call it the 'Virginia Creeper'?"

HER OWN WAY.

There was a man whose girl said:
"Oh, no, George, I don't see how I could possibly marry you. You know I always want my own way in everything."

"I could keep on wanting it," said George, "after we were married."

A boastful Yankee, discussing with a Scot Britain's share in the war, exclaimed:—

"You British are far too slow; you cannot see your opportunities, far less seize them. Now, had you been at war with America we would have sent over one or two of our fast cruisers and towed the whole British Fleet into New York Harbor before you knew you were at war."

"Aye, man," replied the Scot, "ye wad, wad ye? Weel, if ye did, it wad tak' a faur cleverer man than Columbus tae discover America the day after."

"I don't see you on the messenger force now, Billy," said the lad with the envelope in his hand.

"No; I've got a good job with a dog-fancier," replied Billy.

"With a dog-fancier! What, do you feed the dogs?"

"No. When a lady comes in and buys a pet dog, I teach her how to whistle."

NO USE.

Kableigh—"Your wife is always outspoken, isn't she?"

Henpeck—"Yes, but I try to be that way, too, sometimes."

Kableigh—"Really?"

Henpeck—"Yes, but whenever I venture to be outspoken it ends in my being merely outtalked."

"Oh, Mr. Brown, I implore you to rescue darling Fido—the ice might give way at any moment!"—"London Opinion."

THE MINOR POETS.

Minor poets are apt to be vain and jealous and nasty. Two minor poets at a dinner were overheard as follows:

"I saw your villanelle in 'The Blank Magazine,'" said the first, as they were discussing the soup.

"Did you?" said the other, with assumed indifference.

"Yes, and I heard a neat compliment paid to it, too, by a young lady."

"What did she say?"

The first minor poet laughed, and there was a note of triumph in his voice.

"Why," he answered, "she wanted to know if I had written it."

DUTY.

Sentry—"Halt! Who goes there?"

Pat—"Nobody! I'm not going. I'm coming back!"

TOO ANXIOUS TO PLEASE.

A man opened up a fish shop, and he ordered a new sign painted, of which he was very proud. It read: "Fresh Fish Sold Here."

"What did you put the word 'fresh' in for?" said his first customer. "You wouldn't sell them of they weren't fresh, would you?"

He painted out the word, leaving just, "Fish Sold Here."

"Why do you say 'here'?" asked his second customer. "You're not selling them anywhere else, are you?"

So he rubbed out the word "here."

"Why use 'Sold'?" asked the next cussomer. "You're not giving them away, are you?"

So he rubbed out everything but the word "Fish," remarking:

"Well, nobody can find fault with that sign now, anyway."

A moment later another customer came in.

"I don't see the use of that sign 'Fish' up there," said he, "when you can smell them a mile away."—"Tit-Bits."

"Why does he speak so bitterly against the girl he was recently engaged to?"

"Because when she sent back the ring she labelled the box 'Glass — With Care.'"

A teacher the other day on examining his class asked what was meant by divers diseases.

No reply was offered for some time, but on repeating the question he was rather surprised when one of the boys answered:

"Water on the brain!"

LEADEN YEARS.

Henry's wife is musical. Occasionally she drags Henry with her to a concert. The other night it was to hear a famous Russian quartette. When the program was about half finished she whispered:

"Henry, you must admit it is wonderful. Why, those men have been playing together for eight years."

A look of incredulity relieved the carved-in-stone expression on Henry's face.

"Eight years!" he repeated. "Surely we've been here longer than that!"

FATHER IN IN THE SECRET.

A girl in Philadelphia, who had recently figured in a romantic runaway match, was, after her return home, telling her dearest friend all about it.

The latter interrupted with this question: "When you eloped with Louis did you leave a note telling your folks where you had gone?"

"Why, of course," said the wife. "If I hadn't, how on earth would papa have known where to send us any money?"

NOT ON THE MENU.

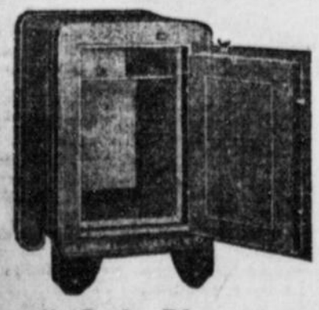
"Excuse me, sir," the waiter reminded him. "The amount put down in the bill does not include the waiter."

"Why should it?" growled the diner. "I didn't eat a waiter."

WELL DESCRIBED.

Putting on one's overcoat is sometimes so much of an effort that one is disposed to agree with the old negro who said:

"Fust yo' puts in one ahm, den you puts in de uddah ahm, an' den yo' gibs a gen'ral conwulsion."



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PRUSSIA'S PUPIL THE TURK

An Eminent Authority on Oriental Affairs Controverts the Allegation That He Is a Clean Fighter

During the present war we have heard a good deal of the good nature of the Turks, yet they have pursued the most devilish policy that even this war has seen. The Armenians have been massacred, assassinated, marched to death, starved and exposed to ravages of disease until perhaps 700,000 men, women children have met with untimely ends. In the Lebanon an artificial famine has swept away more than half the population, who died within sight of plenty, the Moslem Arabs of Syria have been robbed of their noblest families, bullied, crimped, and taxed to the last penny; the Jewish colonists have been impoverished, conscripted and subjected to vile indignities. The British prisoners of war have perished by the roadside of hunger and thirst. Some of those who survived are known to have been left to die of cold in unhealthy prisons, where they are denied garments, medicine and the ordinary necessaries of life.

Nevertheless, the sportsmanship and chivalry of the Turks are a favorite theme of some writers. How is the paradox to be explained?

The plain fact is that the Turk as a ruler is a merciless oppressor; as a negotiator a cunning Byzantine; as a soldier a tough fighter; as a victor a remorseless bully—but when he feels he has met his match he is chivalrous; when he is defeated he is a pathetic and distressed gentleman. And so he contrives that the Turk has never been in the wrong, no one has ever convicted a Turk of a mean or cruel act.

THE YOUNG TURK AND THE OLD.

The Turk has strewn the earth with ruins and has made the prettiest nursery rhymes; he has shattered civilization, both Moslem and Christian; he has coined the most witty and delightful proverbs. He is a thoughtful and solicitous host, andeasy-going master and a mild landlord, but he is a merciless misgovernor, a feckless squanderer and as revengeful as a camel.

Hulagu devastated Irak and Syria and laid Bahdad in ruins; he destroyed some eight millions of peaceful people, but he wept when he heard of his brother Mangu's death. Hulagu was a very typical Turk, with a warm heart and great feeling.

Timur raged over Asia Minor and put civilization back three centuries, but he was exceedingly kind to the people who survived the passage of his armies Timur was a true Turkish gentleman, and it is an historical libel to say that he imprisoned Bayezid in a cage; he treated Bayezid as well as Enver has treated General Townshend, and he exterminated the population of Asia Minor almost as thoroughly as the Turks have exterminated the Armenians.

The good old Turks, with a rosary, a melting eye, a long white beard, a compliment on his lips, a large turban on his reverend head, a small child nestling in the folds of his ample gown, is a picture which has bewitched many a heart. A philanthropic and gentle philosopher, you will find him contemplating vacuum in many a mosque and shrine in Asia Minor, and no one can deny that he is a good old Turk, charitable, benevolent and kind; I have no doubt he would save Armenians from pursuit if they came his way, though he would not go a yard to find them; he would surreptitiously convey food to English prisoners, just as he would share his last crust with a mangy street dog, for the pious must be kind even to unclean things; but his benevolence is individual and isolated; he is a sort of hermit crab dwelling in a rosy shell of personal philanthropy; he counts for nothing, nor would five million of him count for anything.

THE YOUNG TURK'S REARING.

Take again the Young Turk with a German uniform, a German parade voice and German technical education. He has been reared in a Stambul harem: when he was four years old his mamma helped him first at table and taught his elder sister to kiss his hand; his papa taught him that by blood alone could Christian subjects be governed, and that by diplomacy alone could the Christian powers be set by the ears; his German professors taught him all there was to be known about mass-suggestion, Weltpolitik, and high explosives.

Breeding, environment and education combine to produce a very complete foil to the passive philanthropist of the shrine. This young man is the embodiment of ruthless action and inflexible tyranny. His mother taught him that whatever he wanted was his; his father taught him to hold whatever he got: and his German schoolmaster taught him what he believes to be the universal method of getting what he wants. Moreover, the German professor reinoculated him with some of the destructive virus of his plundering Turanian ancestors. Yeni-Turan is the latest creed.

Its doctrine is simple. The Turks in ancient times devastated and conquered with complete success. Attila, Ghengiz, Hulagu, Mangu and Timur were never beaten; but for the last two hundred years the Turks have constantly been beaten. Why is this? The primitive Turks were pure barbarians, but unfortunately the Turks of to-day have imbibed some of the vices of the peoples they have conquered—philosophy from Persia; poetry, literature and religion from the Arabs; some tincture of the arts from the Greeks. There are blots and blemishes on the rude purity and simplicity of the Turanian race, who only know destruction as their motto. True, the degenerate Turks of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries did not produce much, but at least, in moments of forgetfulness, they allowed others to produce; Christians built their mosques and palaces, Persians made it possible for Turks to express, if not understand, abstract ideas; Arabs influenced Turks with the thought of a Creator who was something more than a tribal mumo-jumbo.

THE CREED OF YENI-TURAN.

The German professor has taught our Young Turk to purge this perilous stuff from his heart and brain and tongue. The creed of Yeni-Turan is back to the forest, back to the tent, back to the palæolithic state of mind; it is the grand reaction, and so strong is the taint of the Turanian stock which runs through that maze of crossbred Celts, Sumerians, Hellenes, Iranians, Semites and Caucasians which we call the Turkish people that Yeni-Turan is a living thing which finds a responsive echo in the Turkey of to-day.

The old Turk with a turban is the negative; the young Turk with a Mauser pistol is the positive; and, contrary to all rules of philosophy, it is the evil principle which is positive, and the good, for what it is worth, which is negative.

The violent Young Turk reactionary is the controlling power, the old Turk quietist has about as much influence on actual events as a decaying monument of a forgotten age. The young Turk who snubbed his mother, pulled his sister's hair, kicked the Armenian porter, cringed before his father, gobbled up the dogmas of the German professor, mastered the formulæ of the Prussian military instructor and resuscitated the dormant lusts of his savage ancestors in his heart, is the man who counts. The lumpish peasant conscripts of Anatolia are his tools. His dream is to reassert once more the pristine authority of the Turanian races, and to exterminate or Turanize everything within reach.

The Arabs are to be robbed of tongue and leading; the Armenians are to be exterminated; Christianity is to be abolished in Turkey; Islam is to be overthrown and Shamanism and Fetichism revived; the British are to be kicked out of India and Egypt, and Russia is to be paralyzed by a Turanian revival in Central Asia. Between the dream and its realization nothing is to stand.

HOW SOLIDARITY IS MAINTAINED.

Turkish national solidarity is maintained within by a terrorist secret society, the knife, the bullet, the bribe, and the massacre; on the battle front the Turkish peasantry is sacrificed without stint or hesitation; in Afghanistan, Persia, India and Egypt the Young Turk has endeavored to cast his spells by fomenting sedition, espionage, assassination and fanaticism; in Europe, where he has survived by intrigue and correuption through two long centuries he does not yet despair of the efficacy of these weapons. In England the Young Turk still hopes to maintain a certain sentimental hold on public opinion, which interested politicians and romantic travellers have secured for him in the past. His spurious reputation as a clean fighter he is glad enough to keep as a war asset. In defeat he knows the noble pose, just as in massacre he knows how to shuffle responsibility; when it is worth while he can assume the airs of a good fellow. He will give a truce to bury the dead just as readily as he will set fire to an Armenian prison, and spare a bandage for a wounded English prisoner left behind in a retreat just as deliberately as he will stick a knife into a pregnant Christian woman. Any little act of kindness which costs nothing, will mitigate his difficulties and further his war aims, he will perform with the same sub-conscious purpose as he will commit the vilest atrocities.

His success we must acknowledge; he has massacred, pillaged, outraged; for two years and a half he has broken every convention, maltreated our prisoners, killed our wounded, held our women hostages, but he remains the "clean fighting Turk."

THE JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

(Gertrude Atherton, in New York "Times.")

A very small part of the "fear" of Japan is sincere. A certain portion (at present) is the result of German propaganda upon ignorant people who take everything they see in their daily paper as truth; but most of it is and always has been an excuse for political agitation, which, itself, is the result of racial jealousy.

It is a purely industrial agitation which forced Congress practically to exclude the Chinese in 1881, and deprived California of the most industrious, reliable, and devoted servants and laborers the State will ever have. The Japanese, when their day in California arrived, were by no means devoted, and none too reliable, but, making allowances for a far more independent and mentally gifted race, they were an acquisition for which the State, plagued with lazy, extortionate servants, tyrannized over by labor unions, should have been profoundly grateful. The fear of inter-marriage was nonsense. The Japanese no more want us in marriage than we want them. Exceptions are not to be considered. If ever there was an alien race that minded its own business in another man's territory it was the Japanese in California.

But here was the trouble. When I was campaigning for the President in California in 1911 I heard these facts dilated upon constantly by would-be Congressmen, dilated upon as a grievance, with not a passing idea of the ridiculous position in which it placed the white man.

Originally the great fertile valleys of California were ranches. By degrees they dwindled from ranches to farms, from possessions of several hundred thousand acres to several thousand, thence to several hundred. Many of these were set out as orchards and did as thriving a business as the Southern Pacific Railway would permit. But the young men liked the cities. The prosperous farmers' sons were the first to go and invest their money in business; those who must always have a job sought it in a more exciting environment than endless miles of fruit trees. Moreover, as prices mounted and sources of pleasure multiplied, the sums they made in the fruit-picking season did not carry them over the rest of the year.

There came a day when, with trees laden with ripe fruit that would rot if left to drop, the farmers sent in despair to a Japanese employment agency in San Francisco and asked for as many laborers as could be spared. The Japanese responded in droves, and picked as nimbly as if they had rehearsed the part. The farmers were delighted and invited them to return the following year. They came, and when they arrived on the ground with the richly colored fruit lolling above their heads, they demanded higher wages. The farmers refused. The Japanese shurgged their shoulders and gathered up their frugal belongings. The farmers surrendered.

The next year the same performance was repeated. The calm demand. The bluster. The passive Oriental smile. The surrender. The farmer was helpless. The next year the tragi-comedy was repeated. The farmer had appealed in vain to the young men of his own race. Many of them were idling in the cities, haunting saloons, held firmly in small jobs by their union membership. They could have made more now in the orchards, and in time saved enough money to buy farms of their own, but they preferred the city at any price, although they lived in miserable shacks "south of Market," and, if married, saw their children die like flies in the frequent epidemics that swept the city. As for the politicians, they were far too shortsighted to advise them to watch the Japanese and lend a hand to the farmer.

There came another day, when the demands of the Japanese rose to a figure where the farmer threw up his hands and said it no longer paid him to employ them: he could not make expenses. Then the Japanese (and this occurred alomst simultaneously in those great valleys of the State which embrace hundreds of thousands of acres) merely produced their pocketbooks and offered to buy the big farms, which should be divided forthwith into hundreds of little farms. It was the farmer's one chance to live, and he grasped it, although it meant seeing the last of an old home, which, in nine cases out of ten, he had inherited. The Japanese settled down on their little farms and prospered until they roused once more the furious jealousy of the white man against the Oriental.

The Japanese is excessively frugal; he exists and conserves his strength on surprisingly little food. He is economical, and saves instead of spending at the corner saloon; he marries, when he does marry in this country, a woman of his own race, who helps him save instead of taking his hard-earned wages to deck herself in cheap finery or buy porterhouse steaks to take home and fry. In San Francisco a Japanese boy will make a hundred dollars a month working for four or five servantless families a day; washing the stoops and sidewalks in the morning, cooking a dinner in one house, a luncheon in another, washing dishes, sweeping, hiring out as an extra waiter. He is tired at night and sleeps instead of loafing at saloons. What recreation he has is in study.

Personally, I find him infinitely more admirable than the politicians who, for their own selfish purposes, agitate against him, or that other class so keen on their own rights that they have very little sense of the rights of others.

SOUTH AFRICAN FARMER MUST WATCH FOR LIONS.

A correspondent of one of the papers of Cape Town, South Africa, gives a few sidelights on farming in the veldt of that portion of the world that are not uninteresting. He writes:

"Of drawbacks, other than diseases, in newly settled parts, every precaution has to be taken against his thieving majesty, the lion, which means, of course, kraaling in lion-tight 'bomas.' Any beast left out overnight has a small chance indeed of being found alive next day. It also means that the herd when grazing has to be carefully 'chungaed' by a watchful herd. Nandi herds are the best, being fearless and armed with a murderous spear. In spite of all care, however, lions get a beast now and then. Stock thieving is indulged in by our friend the native, but a check is put on him by using black Askaris. We have so many tribes, and they being the natural enemy of each other, when the theft occurs the police send in pursuit a boy of a different tribe to the suspected thief with marvellous success. Most settlers put the herd boy's hut right into the 'bomo,' so he ought to be on hand when the thief, be he lion or nigger, comes prowling around.

"Kraaling stock in the rains, unless the kraal is roofed over, means putting them nightly into a quagmire, and clean up as you may one night, and the slush and puddles are as bad as ever. It is not a bad plan to include one of the numerous anthills in the kraal, and provide an 'island' for the poor things to lie high and dry. After all, our drawbacks are not formidable; but can be overcome by practical farming. The enterprise of settlers will all in time put this British East Africa in the van of grazing countries. You simply cannot feed down the feed."

THE TRUE NEED.

I do not wish to see my sins more plain,
But this: to know Thy life, without a stain.

I would not see the vileness of my heart,
But this would know: how pure and true Thou art.

I would forget my paltry life, so small,
And know Thy greatness, Thou, my All in All.

O teach me not how deep my spirit's night,
But flood me with Thy beams, Thou perfect Light!

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

The old reliable remedy for rheumatism, neuralgia, sore throat and sprains.

Best Liniment Made

MR. A. E. LAUNDRY, EDMONTON, writes:—"I fell from a building and received what the doctor called a very bad sprained ankle, and told me I must not walk on it for three weeks. I got MINARD'S LINIMENT and in six days I was out to work again. I think it the best Liniment made."

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Modern, Adjoining Central Hall and Roscoe Gardens, and near Stations. Mount Pleasant Cars from Landing-stage Stop at the door. Cab fare 1-6. References: Rev. Dr. Briggs and Rev. Dr. Crews of Toronto.

The "Witness" Pattern Service

To obtain these patterns fill in coupon at foot of this department, send it to us with eleven cents in stamps for each pattern wanted, and they will be sent to your address. Allow one week margin beyond time necessary for return of mail, as orders are handled in rotation.

The home dressmaker should keep a catalogue scrap book of the daily pattern cuts. These will be found very useful to refer to from time to time.

A POPULAR STYLE.

1955—Ladies' Overall Apron, with Sleeve Portion in Either of Two Lengths.

Percale, seersucker, gingham, chambray, lawn, alpaca or brilliantine could be used for this design. The back and

sleeve portions are cut in one, and joined to the front in a deep armseye, and underarm seams. The fulness is held at the waistline under the belt. The Pattern is cut in 4 sizes: 34, 38, 42 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires 6½ yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 11 cents in stamps.

A SIMPLE, ONE-PIECE MODEL.

1997—Child's Dress, with Sleeve in Either of Two Lengths.

Lawn, nainsook, batiste, flannelette, albatross, cashmere and silk are good for this style. The back is plain, but the front has plaited fulness. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length. The Pattern is cut in 5 sizes: 6 months, 1, 2, 3 and 4 years. It requires 2½ yards of 36-inch material for a 2-year size.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 11 cents in stamps.

A CHARMING FROCK FOR AFTERNOON WEAR OR CALLING.

Waist—1994. Skirt—1981.

Black satin and Irish lace are here combined. The style is also good for serge, gabardine, taffeta, nun's veiling, duvetyn, for linen, linene, chambray and lawn. The waist is made with vest portions, over which the side fronts are shaped. The skirt front and back forms a panel, and the sides are gathered under belt portions. This model comprises Ladies' Waist Pattern 1994, and Ladies' Skirt Pattern 1981. The Waist is cut in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 44 inches bust measure, and the Skirt in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires 8 3-4 yards of double width material for a 366-inch size, for the entire dress. The skirt measures about 2 7-8 yards at the foot.

This illustration calls for TWO separate patterns, which will be mailed to any address on receipt of 11 cents FOR EACH pattern, in stamps.

A VERY SMART AFTERNOON DRESS.

Waist—1965. Skirt—1816.

Comprising Waist Pattern 1965, and Skirt Pattern 1816. Chiffon cloth was used in this instance, with a touch of fine embroidery by way of embellishment. The style is nice for checked suiting, for serge or gabardine and also for taffeta and satin. The Waist Pattern is cut in 6 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. The Skirt is cut in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires 6 3-4 yards of 44-inch material for the entire dress for a medium size.

This illustration calls for TWO separate patterns, which will be mailed to any address on receipt of 11 cents FOR EACH pattern, in stamps.

AN EVER-POPULAR AND CONVENIENT STYLE.

1956—Girl's Bath Robe.

Eiderdown, flannel, flannelette, blanketings, toweling and fleecedown are all nice for this model. The neck edge is finished with a broad collar. The sleeve is comfortable and is finished with a neat cuff. The Pattern is cut in 6 sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires 5 yards of 44-inch material for a 12-year size.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 11 cents in stamps.

"WEEKLY WITNESS" PATTERN COUPON.

Please send me

Pattern No.	
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....

for which I enclose ..... cents

Name .....

Street and No .....

P.O .....

Prov. .....

For blouses, etc., give bust measure in inches.
For skirts, etc., give waist measure in inches.
For Misses and Children give age only in years.

N.B.—Be sure to cut out the illustration and send with the coupon, carefully filled out. Price 11 cents, in postal note or stamps for each pattern, unless otherwise specified. Costumes usually consist of two separate patterns, and hence call for twenty-one cents.

Address: Pattern Department "Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead."

TWENTY FOOLS' DAYS IN A YEAR

The Dangerous Contest Between the British Food Controller and the Drink Trade

The new edition of that passionate and able pamphlet, "Defeat or Victory?" by Arthur Mee and Dr. J. Stuart Holden, of the Strength of Britain Movement, (of which a second hundred thousand is just being printed), contains some very startling facts about the liquor business in the United Kingdom:

THREE MONTHS' FOOD.

"The drink trade has destroyed during the war food to last the entire nation three months, and to have sustained the whole British army from the beginning of the war till now.

At the beginning of the war this trade destroyed to nation's food	48 days a year
At present (February 1917), this trade is destroying our food..	30 days a year
After All Fools' Day its destruction of food is to be	20 days a year

"That is to say, we have cut down our Fools' Days from four a month to not quite two; we are to have 20 Fools' Days in a year instead of 49. But why should we be fools at all?

FOOD IN A YEAR'S BEER.

"A scientific investigation of this destruction of food has been made for this book. It deals with a year's output of beer, the beverage concerning which anonymous advertisers are spending thousands of pounds to delude the nation into believing that it is a food. No man dare put his name to those advertisements: they are lies, as every scientist knows.

"A year's beer in peace time is 36,000,000 barrels, and uses up 1,550,000 tons of grain and sugar, containing 5,500,000,000,000 calories. This is about 23 percent of the 24 billion calories now included in the rations allowed the United Kingdom by the Food Controller."

TWENTY-SIX DAYS' FOOD?

"We lose enormously by growing barley when we might grow wheat. The brewers say that 40 percent of the barley cannot be used as human food, and that if barley is used for pigs its efficiency is only 15 percent. That is true. But if we grow or import wheat for human food instead of barley for beer, only 20 percent need be used for pigs instead of 40 percent, and the human food value in flour, milk, meat, and sugar will be 4,500,000,000,000 calories instead of 1,500,000,000,000. We therefore lose 3,000,000,000,000 calories on our barley-for-beer account, or food for the whole of the United Kingdom for 26 days.

TWELVE DAYS' FOOD FOR THE ARMY?

"Over 30,000 acres of the best soil in England are at this moment in peril of being devoted to hops, a narcotic drug, instead of bread. Mr. Prothero, the Minister of Agriculture, who describes England as a beleaguered city, encourages the farmers to grow hops, as the hop-fields could grow only 'one and a half day's bread for the people.'

"Then are we to throw away one and a half day's bread for the whole United Kingdom? It is 12 days' bread for the army, and to grow it instead of importing it would save millions of cubic feet of shipping, thousands of tons of coal, and the man-power of carrying wheat thousands of miles."

WASTING FOOD MARGIN.

"The folliwing is an extract from the report of the Scientific Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to inquire into the strength of Britain. The chairman (Professor Waller) and the two other physiologists on this committee have all signed the Strength of Britain Memorial.

"Up to the present the supply of food has provided a general margin of about 5 percent aove the minimum necessary for proper nutrition, and rather more as regards the supply of energy, so that a reduction to this extent could be borne without serious injury to the community, but only on the condition that steps were taken to ensure the equitable distribution of the available food throughout the population. . . . It is important to remember that a slight reduction of food below the necessary amount causes a large diminution in the working efficiency of the individual."

FOOD AND BODILY ENERGY.

"We have come to the greatest crisis ever known in the food supply of Britain These are the stern facts about it.

"The value of food in producing bodily energy is measured in calories, a calorie being the unit of heat. We need for the United Kingdom about 1,000,000 calories per head per year—46,000,000,000,000 (46 billion sterling-; in these days let us say we can sustain our strength on 42,000,000,000,000.

"The calorie value of the food destroyed by the drink trade during the war (August, 1914, to January, 1917, inclusive), making the maximum possible allowances for values returned, and discounting alcohol used for munitions, is equal to at least 11,000,000,000,000 calories

"Taking only the ration scale fixed by the Food Controller in February, 1917, this is equal to the provision of such rations for 165 days, or it is equal to the destruction of the normal food supply of the whole nation for 88 days.

MAN-POWER USED BY DRINK.

"According to the Census of Production in 1907, the drink trade takes £20,000,000 worth of material and fuel and turns it into £45,000,000 worth of beer, and £1,096,000 worth of forage for cattle. It uses 85,000 people for turning £20,000,000 worth of good food for man and beast into £1,000,000 of poor food for cattle plus—beer.

"According to the last census of the population, about 465,000 persons are employed by the licensed trade in the United Kingdom, of whom in England and Wales at least 191,000 were men under 45, and 68,000 were women under 35.

"The day will come when itshall be known to all men in this land that prohition of the drink trade during the war would have

Saved, in Drink expenditure and its results, £1,000,000,000;

Added a hundred days to our war work;

Saved over 200,000,000 cubic feet of shipping;

Set free for war work 100,000 trains of 200 tons;

Saved the waste of 1,000,000 acres of land;

Released man-power enough to lift 60 000,000 tons;

Enormously relieved the strain on on the Red Cross:

Released thousands of doctors and nurses;

Saved food to feed the nation three months; or

Saved enough food to feed the army and navy all the time."

SOLEMN WORDS.

"Mr. Justice Rowlatt, in the case of a wounded soldier charged with burglary at Derby Assizes, the defence being that he was drunk, said:

"We must look forward almost with terror to the time when hundreds of thousands of brave men would be returning from the front, and would be exposed to the temptations to which this prisoner was exposed. It might be that a clean sweep would have to be made of the liquor trade if this country was not to be deluged with charges such as this. The law must make it clear that those who had served abroad must also serve at home with respect for the laws of society. If not, society must dissolve."

MR. DILLON THREATENED MR. BONAR LAW THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PUNISHED ON IRISH QUESTION

If Anti-Irish Feeling Raised in London Embarrassing Situation Would Be Created

Protesting in the Imperial House of Commons last Tuesday against the Government's refusal to publish the proceedings of the court-martial of the members of the Sinn Fein in Dublin, thus violating former Premier Asquith's pledge, Mr. John Dillon, one of the Nationalist leaders, who also referred to the recent statement of Mr. Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, regarding a settlemnt of the Irish question and a general election, said the Nationalists would not injure the Government in the prosecution of the war.

But there were other ways, Mr. Dillon said, of punishing the Government, which had let itself loose in Ireland. The Nationalists would welcome a general election, and would oppose the bill for a prolongation of the present Parliament, in order to force an election. If Mr. Bonar Law raised anti-Irish feeling in London he would find the Irish could fight as well, and many things would come out of the situation that the honorable gentleman and his friends would not like.

Irishmen, continued Mr. Dillon, would ask what were the relations between the Ulster leaders and Baron Kuhlmann, who was in Ulster before the war, and what about the despatch sent by Kuhlmann to Berlin, on the receipt of which the Emperor determined to go on with the war. An anti-Irish election in England, Mr. Dillon concluded, would cause a disturbance which would spread throughout the Empire and to America.

Henry Edward Duke, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in defending the Government, denied that there was any specific pledge to publish the report of the court-martial, and said that in view of the grave situation in Ireland, the Government had decided that publication of it would be prejudicial to the welfare of the country and might lead to disorder and bloodshed in Ireland.

Mr. Joseph Devlin, Nationalist, supporting Mr. Dillon, declared the Chief Secretary for Ireland was being terrorized by the reactionaries of Dublin Castle. If the Government precipitated elections, Mr. Devlin added, he wished them joy in the result. The Government could not assail Irishmen at home without assailing the gallant men fighting its battles at the front, Mr. Devlin concluded.

DEFENCE OF KITCHENER.

An energetic defence of the late Lord Kitchener was made in the House by former Premier Asquith, who replied to the criticisms levelled at his Government in the recently published report of the Dardanelles commission. "Lord Kitchener was a masterful man, endowed with formidable personality and disposed by nature to keep his own counsel," said Mr. Asquith.

"But it is a mistake to suggest that he lived in isolation and did not consult military opinion as to the conduct of the war. That is untrue, but it is true that during the early months of the war he acted as his own chief of staff.

"When war broke out the general staff were sent to the front. Their places were taken by officers who had been in retirement. The best and highest authority at that time was Lord Kitchener himself. Upon no man in history had a heavier burden been cast, and nothing fills me with greater indignation than the attacks made on Lord Kitchener, whose memory is in no danger, and will live."

Mr. Asquith said the Dardanelles expedition was primarily a naval one because Lord Kitchener proved to the satisfaction of the war council that troops to make it a joint military and naval undertaking were not available. The war council spent three weeks in examining the country's available resources in men and in obtaining opinions of experts. British and French naval expert opinion favored the enterprise. The adverse view of Lord Fisher, then First Sea Lord, was not founded on technical naval objections, but upon his preference for a defence objective in a totally different sphere of operations.

The delay in sending troops, Mr. Asquith continued, was due to the Russian position which was then bad, and pressure was brought to bear by both the British and French commanders-in-chief to keep their troops in France.

Mr. Asquith asserted the Dardanelles operations had saved the situation in the Caucasus, prevented for months the defection of Bulgaria to the Central Powers, kept 300,000 Turks mobilized, destroyed some of the finest troops in the Turkish army and contributed to the favorable events witnessed in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia.

The suggestion that no good purpose would be served by the Dardanelles commission in continuing its labors was received by the House with loud cheers. The suggestion was made by Sir Mark Sykes, who vigirously defended the Dardanelles operations.

MR. CHURCHILL'S OPINIONS.

Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill, former First Lord of the Admiralty, severely criticized the manner in which the Dardanelles commission's report had been prepared. "They built up the narrative by clippings and snippings from documents and by single sentences from the evidence of witnesses," said Mr. Churchill. He added that this method was in direct conflict with accepted principles and detrimental to public and personal interests.

Mr. Churchill admitted, however, that the commissioners had swept away, directly or by implication, many serious and reckless charges, and that the burden or responsibility which he had borne alone for the last two years was now shared with the most eminent men the country had produced in generations. He therefore welcomed the report as an instalment of fair play.

The decision with regard to the Dardanelles, said Mr. Churchill, was not based on the opinions of experts, but on the plans of experts and the readiness of experts to execute those plans. Nobody had a right to say naval opinion was not marshalled behind the Admiralty's action.

The speaker deprecated what he characterized as attempts to ascertain whether the experts were enthusiastic toward the enterprise long after it had failed and at the time the search was being made for a culprit. Such methods were pernicious to the last degree to efficiency and the resolute conduct of the war.

Warmly denying that he urged Lord Fisher, then First Sea Lord, to give his silent and reluctant consent to the enterprise, Mr. Churchill said:

"Lord Fisher did not declare definitely that he consented to undertake the operation. After balancing all the possibilities he exerted himself to the utmost and even offered to go on himself and take charge of it. It was not until the new situation had arisen and the Admiral on the spot was unwilling to go forward that Lord Fisher said he would not press him."

Then Mr. Churchill added, the differences between Lord Fisher and himself began for the first time.

6,115 ONTARIO MEN RETURNED FROM WAR

The sessions of the special Parliamentary committee on returned soldiers opened last week in the city hall, Toronto. The following members were present: Sir Herbert Ames, chairman; Mr. F. F. Pardee, Senator Beaubien, Brigadier General the Hon. Jas. Mason, W. S. Middlebro, the Hon. Chas. Murphy, D. C. Ross, Donald Sutherland, F. B. McCurdy and the Hon. Chas. Marcil.

Major-General W. A. Logie, who was the first witness, stated that 93,490 men had been enlisted in the district, of these 56,920 had been sent overseas, 11,813 were now ready to go overseas, 16,637 had been discharged for various causes, and 1,620 had been lost track of at Valcartier. He stated that in his opinion the change by which control of the returned soldiers goes into the hands of the A. M. C. was satisfactory. He advocated a central bureau in Toronto, where all departments would be under one roof. He had asked Ottawa that the medical men commanding the military hospital should be empowered to inflict punishment when necessary.

The Hon. W. D. McPherson, chairman of the soldiers' aid committee, stated that 6,115 men had returned to date in the province and of these 1,487 had been located in jobs in civil life. W. Macpherson submitted a statement showing that of the returned men, 5,400 had been at the front, 632 discharged before seeing active service and 83 were discharged from the Imperial forces. There were 1,503 out patients and the number discharged from convalescent homes was 4,612.

Mr. W. K. George, of the military hospitals commission, stated that in his opinion Whitby and Guelph were eminently suitable for returned soldiers.

Major R. S. Wilson, commanding officer of the military hospitals commission, said that there was trouble with some of the returned men for insubordination and drunkenness. In the latter case he complained that the Toronto police authorities did not give proper assistance to prevent this.

ENLISTMENT DECLINES.

2,674 Men Donned Khaki in First Two Weeks in March.

Enlistments for the first two weeks of March show a decline of 870 as compared with the preceding fortnight. The total is 2,674. By military divisions: London, 300; Toronto, 525; Kingston-Ottawa, 373; Montreal, 234; Quebec, 73; Maritime, 323; Manitoba, 297; British Columbia, 271; Saskatchewan, 181; Alberta, 91. Total since war began, 402,913.

MACKENZIE & MANN SUBJECT OF ATTACK

Sir Adam Beck Makes Charges Which He Says He Will Face in the Courts

Sir Adam Beck was in a militant mood in the Ontario Legislature on Tuesday afternoon. It is not often that the chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission visits Queen's Park and takes part in the debates in the Legislature, but when he made his re-appearance he fairly made the sparks fly. In the course of the discussion of a motion in the name of Mr. Marshall, of Lincoln, asking for certain information regarding the hydro-radial line from Toronto to Niagara Falls, through Hamilton, Sir Adam made an impassioned attack on the Mackenzie and Mann and other interests. He declared: "There is a blight upon the public men and public life of this country which we must remove. Sir William Mackenzie and his associates are responsible. I say it absolutely. I have been threatened with libel. I seek no protection from this House. I am prepared to face these men in the courts and on the platform, to discredit the men who should be discredited even at the sacrifice of my public life."

The chairman of the Hydro Commission said Sir Donald Mann had stated that the Canadian Northern would remove their offices to Montreal if they were not dealt with fairly. "I do not know how many people would be sorry if Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann removed their offices to Mexico. We have paid dearly for the exploits of these men in Canada. The province and the broad Dominion of Canada have been bled white. They have placed a debt on every man, woman and child in Canada of $26 per head. We do not care whether they go, if they only come not hither after they have gone."

Sir Adam charged that the Electrical Development Company, of which Sir William Mackenzie is president, was entitled by the agreement to generate 125,000 horse-power, but, during the last few months, had been taking sufficient water power to bring the amount generated up to 149,750 horse-power. He read the agreement, which specifically refers in three different parts, to the right of the Electrical Development Company to generate 125,000 horse-power. He declared that the Electrical Development Company had installed additional equipment in the event of breakdown to ensure that they would always have 125,000 horse-power, and, without notifying anybody or asking permission from anybody, they had used the reserve equipment for the purpose of increasing the amount of power generated. Investigation by a Government official had shown that the Electrical Development Company had broken the agreement every month since June, 1916. In June and July, 1916, the amount generated by the Electrical Development Company was 132,000 horse-power; in August, 134,000; September, 143,000; October, 145,000; November, 147,000; December, 147,000; January, 1917, 148,000; and on March 6th, 1917, 149,750 horse-power.

Those were the figures on March 6th, the day on which the company had written to Ottawa in connection with a license to export power, stating that the power they were developing was surplus power made by a steam plant for the purpose of supplying customers in the city of Buffalo. That surplus power had not been developed in a steam plant at all, but had been generated from water-power taken by the Electrical Development Company.

MILLION MARK PASSED

Presbyterian Finance Board's Statement Shows Receipts of $1,009,095

"We have passed the million dollar mark," said the Rev. Robert Laird, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Finance, in giving out at Toronto the financial statement for the past year. The total receipts for the missionary, educational and benevolent work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada for the year 1916 were $1,009,095. This is an increase of $163,105 over the contributions of 1915. This is a most gratifying advance, and is a fine tribute to the loyalty and liberality of the Church. Of the total amount, $111,208 came in response to the special appeal made at Thanksgiving. The totals given to all these objects are larger than those of any single year in the history of the Church.

"It is most encouraging," said Mr. Laird, "that such a response should be made under exacting war conditions. The total expenditures on the work of the Church were $889,247. The strictest economy has been exercised, and these expenditures are $8,441 less than those of the previous year. The departments of the Church look forward with great expectation, to the activities of this year, and there is a determination on every side to push the work with renewed vigor."

The work entailed in collecting and handling so large a sum of money, most of which came in comparatively small amounts, has kept the Rev. Dr. Somerville and his small staff working at top speed since the beginning of the year. The Rev. Robert Laird has himself had a large share in securing such a gratifying result by his personal canvass of the churches throughout the Dominion, and by thorough organization.

PRESS OPINIONS.

GERMANY CRACKING.

(New York "Evening Sun.")

Herr Hoffmann has uttered open defiance of the present German Government and its war policy in the midst of the Prussian Diet. His almost unexampled boldness and bitterness is another of the gathering omens that the Hohenzollern machine has been strained nearly to the breaking point. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg had just made declarations calculated to be conciliatory, since they engaged the Government to carry out liberal reforms after the war. Instead of mollifying the radical leaders, the promises of concession aggravated their rage against the authors and prolongers of the war, as the Hoffmann incident reveals.

Politically, the Kaiser and the whole system on which his power rests are in danger. The human force of Germany, which he has used as a concrete foundation to bear the enormous weight of his enterprises against the world, is showing signs of reaction against the cruel strain of the past three years. As concessions were deemed necessary the risks of the situation for Kaiserdom and Junkerdom were already unmistakable before Hollweg spoke. The uproar which has followed, for Hoffmann was not alone, reveals the peril as greater than had been supposed.

A trifle may precipitate what is ready to happen. The news of the revolution in Russia cannot be kept from the German people, and it is no trifle. To millions of Germans it will mean the deferring of the long-cherished hope of a separate peace with Russia. It will deepen the discontent and stir the apprehension of hungry and desperate Germans.

But by example especially it threatens the internal order of Germany. Revolutionists are catching. It will be difficult to keep the German troops from realizing that the Russian throne was overturned by a few regiments of Russian infantry. From realization to imitation is no great way.

CARDINAL MERCIER'S PASTORAL

(New York "World.")

We have listened to the mighty voices of wives and mothers: through their tears they have prayed God to sustain their courage and fidelity to the honor of their husbands and sons carried off by force to the enemy's factories. We have seen some of (these men) on their return, pale, haggard, human wrecks; as our tearful eyes sought their dim eyes we bowed reverently before them, for all unconsciously they were revealing to us a new and unexpected aspect of national heroism.—Cardinal Mercier's Lenten pastoral.

This great figure of the war whom the Germans, with the eyes of millions of German, Austrian and Hungarian Catholics upon them, dare not kill and cannot silence, never spoke with greater eloquence than now, when, with new hopes springing in his heart, he reminds the world not only of what the deported Belgian workingmen suffered but the menace their going meant to their wives and daughters.

"PROOF" TO SUIT GERMAN PALATE.

(New York "Evening Post.")

Chancellor Bethmann Hollweg, in charging the United States with partiality for England, did not get so far as did a member of the Reichstag, Dr. Wildgrube. In a recent speech he said: "Next to England the United States is our worst enemy. During the whole war she has been a tacit but also a loud accomplice of the Entente, for which certainly a treaty document should some day be found."

That's it, a secret treaty, made beforehand, like the alleged agreements between England and Belgium, to attack Germany. It will be easy enough for the Germans to find evidence of its existence. When they capture London they may find a letter written by John Smith, of Hohokus, to William Brown, of Little Peddlington, saying darkly: "After all, you know, blood is thicker than water." That would be proof positive of an Anglo-American treaty. At least, it would be as good proof as the stuff which the Germans have exploited from the Belgian archives.

RIGHT STATESMANSHIP.

(New York "Times.")

The little boy who abdicated as Emperor of China in 1912 is to complete his education in this country. There never is likely to be another Emperor of China, but the head of the Manchus who have reigned since 1644 never can be an ordinary boy in any constitutional government of China. Always there will attach to him the prestige of his birth, and, it may be hoped, the intellectual leadership which his training here will fit him to assume. The republic is none too firmly seated, and it may fall to his lot to frame a government according to the ideas which, formed in boyhood, make the man who may make the nation.

There is a precedent for remarkable reaction of our culture upon the Chinese mind. In the official service of China now are young men who were sent here while boys to be educated at the cost of funds which we repaid to China from the surplus of the Boxer indemnity over the damages chargeable to it. Also high in leadership of private enterprise are still other young Chinamen taught here in the same manner.

China and the United States are both eating their cake and having it. China is getting back the worth of the money which it received with surprise due to such a breach of all precedent unto this day. And we are receiving returns with interest from the unique place which our country holds in the esteem of the leaders of Chinese thought. It is unbecoming to put money value on such a thing. Money could not buy it, and the sympathy between the republics was established when one of them was an empire, without thought of the need of money or instruction in the ways of republics. Now, after many years, the bread cast upon the waters by both nations is returning to them both with increase. If the ex-emperor is a lad of the right sort, history may be made by him and the manner of his education.

WOODEN MERCHANT FLEETS AGAIN.

(Philadelphia "Public Ledger.")

All along the New England coast, where the schooners, barques and full rigged ships used to be launched, there were visible in later years empty yards, many falling into decay. Now the shortage of tonnage produced by the war is bringing the wind-jammer into her own again. Old vessels, battered oy all the Seven Seas, are in commission once more. New vessels are being rushed to completion. All up and down the Maine coast the too long idle ports are busy. Now a plan is broached for wooden ships driven by motors. A thousand vessels of a thousand tons each, we are told, could be built in a year for $100,000,000. They would run a much better chance of escaping unwelcome submarine attention than the bulky tramps or the liners with their conspicuous top hamper.

WILL AUSTRIA-HUNGARY BE NEXT?

(New York "Sun.")

To what land will the contagion of revolution spread first from Russia? Be sure the fire of liberty is not going to be confined to the territory in which its flames are now burning up the dead wood of an exhausted and corrupt aristocracy. "Ca Ira." It will spread. The spirit of revolution will extend the faster because the people of Europe have for more than thirty months endured all the sufferings to which nations can be heirs. The people have poured out their treasure, their blood and their lives in a quarrel foisted upon them by kaisers and emperors and czars. Nothing more evil can befall them fighting against autocracy than they have been and now are suffering in its defence.

The speculative mind lights first on Greece. There for nearly two years a pro-German King, wedded to the sister of the Kaiser, has held back the nation from its desired alliance with the Entente. Revolution indeed is already in progress. Venizelos, idol of the populace, long time Premier, is in the field with armed forces hostile to the King. Constantine still controls the army. But the Allies, by diplomacy backed with force on the spot, control both King and Premier. No revolution will come in Greece until the diplomacy of Great Britain and France decrees it. They have tolerated long a condition apparently hostile to their interests. Their expedition for the relief of Serbia was tied to Salonica for fear lest Constantine might start a fire in its rear. With power enough to crush him they have left him seemingly free, though shorn of most of his royal prerogatives. Their motives are not to be disentangled from the mesh of diplomacy which conceals them. Certain it is, however, that for the present neither could revolution succeed nor the throne be firmly reestablished without at least the countenance of the Allies, who control Greece.

Bordering on Russia is Austria-Hungary. To-day it is a German dependency in all but name. Its troops are commanded by German officers. Its revenues are mortgaged to the German treasury. Its foreign relations are dominated by the imperious German will. It is in the war because German ambition so commanded. It would be out of the war in inglorious defeat save for the aid of the German arms. Notoriously Berlin, when victory seemed certain, planned to make of Austria-Hungary a mere province in the Pan-German state of Mittel Europa—perhaps with the Hapsburg dynasty ousted and one of the Kaiser's sons installed as the monarch.

Political dissension within the Dual Empire was bitter before the war. The combination of Teutons and Magyars by which the throne has been supported has been founded on force and fraud. Resentment due to this fact has been intensified by the high hand taken by the Germans during the war. The old Emperor, Francis Joseph, whose personality and length of days constituted a unifying force, is dead. Glory has not accrued to the Austrian arms to intensify the national spirit. The most cruel vicissitudes of the war have fallen upon the very sections of the country in which antagonism to the Dual Empire has always been most virulent. Galicia, Transylvania, Poland have been held in line somewhat by their fear of Russia. But that fear was of autocratic Russia, the Russia of the pogroms and the wholesale expulsion of the Jews. Democratized Russia is a different proposition. There are hundreds of thousands of citizens of Austria-Hungary to whom the statement of principles put forth Friday by the Russian provisional Government will appeal as though it had been written by their own statesmen for their own government.

Revolution in Germany is a possibility not to be ignored. The Kaiser recognized it when he set his Chancellor to preaching democracy and promising a new liberalism in the Reichstag. But the forces of autocracy are better organized and more securely founded on force in Germany than in the Dual Empire. The personal popularity of the Kaiser is a tower of strength. For it no equivalent exists in Austria-Hungary since Emperor Francis Joseph passed away. Moreover, Germany is at least governed by the Germans. In Austria-Hungary a majority of the people are governed by alien forces in which they have no pride and toward which they hold but little loyalty.

The world is most likely to see, as the next step toward the abolition of autocracy, the flag of the revolution raised in Austria-Hungary.

ALIAS POMME DE TERRE.

(From the "Christian Science Monitor.")

Most popular things in the process of time acquire popular names, and it is a great tribute to the potato that it has acquired so many. Officially, of course, not to say correctly, it is always a "potato"; but colloquially, it is often, on occasion, designated a pratie, a tatie, a spud, a murphy, and so on. It is, moreover, in the matter of pronunciation free from the difficulties experienced by the tomato. No one, so far as can be ascertained, has ever yet had the hardihood to ask for a "po-tah-to."

READ THE SIGN RIGHTLY.

(New York "World.")

Said Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg to the Reichstag the other day: "Woe to the statesman who does not read the signs of the times." The Chancellor, knowing at the time of the Russian revolution, seems to have read the sign correctly.

GERMAN THREAT OF MURDER.

(New York "Evening Sun.")

The Germans' threat to murder the members of gun crews on American trading ships, as they did Captain Fryatt, is a new proof of moral madness There would be no doubt as to the standing of the gunners, even were they members of the regular crews of the ships. Every merchant ship has a right to means of defence under international law, no matter what Germany may say. But in the case of the American ships the men are to be regular men of the navy assigned to the duty of protecting the ships by the President. This wipes out the last speck of argument that Germany could advance against their status.

If Germany should capture any of these men and put them to death, the act will be sheer murder and the people of the United States will never rest until it is punished as murder in the most impressive manner, even though such punishment necessitate the hanging of some men of very exalted station. This country will not allow its humane instincts to be abused by a barbarous foe. No greater mistake could be made than to figure on our passive endurance of such wrong.

THE FULL GARBAGE PAIL.

(Philadelphia "Public Ledger.")

We cook by wasteful processes; we serve with a lavish abundance; we throw away what is left on the theory that there is plenty more within easy reach, and we take no thought of possible lean years to come. If the destitute of war ravaged lands could have what our repletion might easily spare there would be no bread line in Belgium, no famine in Poland. The contrast between our inordinate, pampered tables and the foreign destitution is appalling to those who know the conditions on both sides of the ocean. It is preposterous of Americans.

WHERE FIGHTING COUNTS.

(New York "World.")

In the latest Zeppelin raid over England "we successfully dropped bombs on London and the southeastern counties." But at the actual fighting fronts "we" put no period to the German retreat or to the rout of the Turks. It is on the solid ground that the history of the war is being accelerated.

A BUILDING TRIUMPH!

An English reporter, writing of the recent great explosion in the east of London, says: "The triumph of ferro-concrete construction is the most striking feature of the catastrophe. Not only have such structures within the explosion area withstood the effect of the air wave, but they came through the ordeal of fire successfully. The metallic rods and laths within the concrete enabled the buildings to give slightly to the airwave when it struck the buildings; the windows caved in. The reverberating air entered, and, expanding, passed through the opposite windows, thereby helping to straighten up the main structure again, although fire was left behind. Brick structures collapsed ignominiously, being pulled inward by the floor and roof joists and girders."

RELIGION OF BRITISH CABINET.

(From "United Presbyterian.")

"Mr. Lloyd George is a Campbellite Baptist. Mr. Bonar Law, a son of the Presbyterian manse, is a Wee Free Presbyterian. He gets his name 'Bonar' from his father's admiration for the Rev. Andrew Bonar, a well-known Scotch clergyman. Mr. Arthur Henderson is a Wesleyan Methodist lay-preacher and a leader of the Brotherhood movement. Sir F. E. Smith was brought up in Wesleyan Methodism. Austen Chamberlain has family links with Unitarianism. The Minister of Munitions, Dr. Addison, is a Presbyterian. George Barnes, the Pension Minister, and one of the products of the labor movement is a Congregationalist. The Postmaster-General, Albert Holden Illingworth, is a Baptist. John Hodge, the Minister of Labor, is a Wesleyan Methodist. Gordon Hewart, the Solicitor-General, had early associations with Congregationalism."

TO THE HONOR OF A BLACK SOLDIER.

Here is a moving incident which the Germans could not understand, because it showed how the French were able to win the affection of the races they conquer. The story is told by M. Paul Hyacinthe Loyson in his book, "The God's in the Battle."

"Blanchette, a humble Senegalese, black as his name, was dying of pneumonia, a prisoner in hospital at Hanover. When he felt his last hour at hand, he asked the German authorities to send to his bedsire two French officers of highest rank, also prisoners, a major and a captain.

"They came. Blanchette sat up, saluted, and asked them to transmit the salute to all the other interned officers. Then, to the amazement of the Germans present, the major and the captain embraced Blanchette.

"Ntxt Blanchette summoned the two non-commissioned officers of highest rank, an adjutant and a sergeant, went through the same ceremony, entrusted them with the same commission for all the French non-commissioned officers and received their embraces.

"Then Blanchette lay down and died. The amazement of the Germans forms the revenge of France," adds M. Loyson.

"I FEEL LIKE A NEW BEING"

"FRUIT-A-TIVES" Brought The Joy Of Health After Two Years' Suffering"

MADAM LAPLANTE.

35 St. Rose St., Montreal, April 4th.

"For over two years I was sick and miserable. I suffered from *constant Headaches, and had Palpitation of the Heart* so badly that I feared I would die. There seemed to be a lump in my stomach, and the Constipation was dreadful. I suffered from *Pain in the Back and Kidney Disease.*

I was treated by a physician for a year and a half and he did me no good at all. I tried "Fruit-a-tives" as a last resort. After using three boxes, I was *greatly improved* and twelve boxes made me well. Now I can work all day and there are no Headaches, no Palpitation, no Heart Trouble, no Constipation, no Pain or Kidney Trouble and *I feel like a new being*—and it was "Fruit-a-tives" that gave me back my health."

MADAM ARTHUR LAPLANTE.

50c. a box, 6 for $2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

RAW FURS

Ship your fur, hides and seneca root to us and obtain highest market prices

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All kinds of RAW FURS. Highest Prices Paid.

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Three No. 1 Skunk.

MUSKRATS

I will pay 55 cents each for average Spring Rats. Few Fur Houses give a flat rate like this. Ship to me NOW. Be sure of your returns.

J. N. NICHOLS

Box 338, Ingersoll, Ont.

LETTERS FROM READERS

THIS AFFECTS YOUR POCKET-BOOK

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I have no sympathy with this continual cry about the "high cost of living." If we took a few moments to consider and change our ways, we would soon have the vexed question solved. We throw away or feed to the pigs much valuable food that should be used on the family table, as, for instance, milk, shorts, bran and potato peelings. Science plainly proves the following: That one quart of milk contains as much human nourishment as two pounds of chicken or two pounds of beefsteak; (prevailing prices here—milk, 10c per quart; chicken, 28c per pound, and beefsteak, 30c per pound.)

Again, take the skim milk that is considered almost worthless. We are taught by science that it contains the bone and muscle forming elements, yet how few use a jug of milk on the meal table instead of the nerve wrecking tea. The milk is thrown to the pigs, and the tea given to the children, whereas it should be vice versa.

The bran and shorts—the muscle and bone forming elements, are separated from the wheat and the starchy part ground into flour. The former is fed to the cattle, the latter to the family; whereas the whole wheat should be ground and used for bread and porridge, etc.

Every farmer could as easily as not have his five or ten hives of bees, and have from 500 to 1,000 pounds of honey laid by in the pantry to be used in a great variety of ways, instead of laying out the same amount of hard cash for sugar. Honey can take the place of sugar in making ice cream, and is superior. It is excellent in making wedding cakes, etc., keeping them moist and free from mould and mustiness. And here is a hint to those sending cookery to the boys in France. If you substitute honey for sugar and use half the eggs and milk your recipe calls for, you may rest satisfied that it will neither mould nor dry out in transit. We have had very satisfactory reports of honey cookery sent to friends in the trenches. We prefer soda and cream of tartar to baking powder in honey cookery. If you use a baking powder recipe add a pinch of soda.

Forty years ago honey sold at 40c per pound and butter at 10c per pound, but now honey sells at 15c per pound and butter at 50c per pound, so it does not require much argument to conclude which is the cheaper.

Once a year we are taught by government experts that the better part of the potato lies next to the skin; so that those who take off a thick peeling throw to the pigs or on the garbage heap the better part of the potato.

Is it any wonder the human family has poor bones, poor teeth, poor health and a poor pocket-book?

Carlyle well said that "only one person in five thousand thinks."

JAMES M. MUNRO.

Slate River Valley, Ont.

HOLDING THE FORT.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—Is it not remarkable that notwithstanding the warning given by scientific and commercial men in Great Britain of the ruinous influence exercised by the drink traffic upon the successful issue of the great war being waged in Europe, and although the Premier, Mr. Lloyd George, has affirmed that the drink traffic is a more dangerous enemy to encounter than the German nation, yet little has been done so far to check its influence. The Church cannot be satisfied with being on the defensive; she must rise in her might as a body, "terrible as an army with banners," and give herself to the conquest of this foe.

On one occasion, at one of Mr. D. L. Moody's evangelistic meetings, some one gave out the hymn, "Hold the Fort, for I am Coming." Mr. Moody said, "No, we won't sing that hymn, for the Church has learnt to do that thing only too well. What we want to do, is not to hold the fort, but to go out and storm the fort of the enemy," and he was, as usual, right. Too long the Church has been been content to hold what she has, and to make her fort as comfortable and unwarlike as possible, while the drink enemy has been strengthening his position until it is well nigh unassailable.

The conviction is uppermost in the minds of many that this is God's time for the liberation of our land, and that he is waiting upon the willingness of His Church to close up the ranks and to advance to the attack.

France and Russia have set us a good example in curbing the drink traffic in their countries, and have already reaped the benefit by increased wealth and comfort of the individual population, and increased success in the battlefield, which is but a foretaste of the glorious victories still in store for them.

It is a surprise to us to find that the drink bill in Great Britain for the last year is the colossal sum of £200,000,000, and that since the war broke out $450,000,000 has been spent on liquor.

Let the fiery cross be sent through the length and breadth of the land bearing the one word "Prohibition," and by the blessing of God victory will attend the efforts of the Allies and the downfall of Prussian militarism will be the result.

JAMES STENHOUSE.

South Indian, Ontario.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I think that now is a most unsuitable time to be discussing such comparative trivialities as the abolition of capital punishment. At a time when the best men of the nation are facing death daily, and many of them dying daily, it seems incongruous, to say the least, that anyone with a sense of proportion should be pushing a scheme to save the worst men from the consequences of their misdeeds, and thus by losing our best men, and saving our worst, to raise the percentage of undesirables in the community. Statistics show that capital punishment has a deterrent effect that is not approached by imprisonment, however prolonged. The number of murders per million of the population in Great Britain and Canada, where the law is sternly applied, is less than one-third of the number in the United States where the murderer, especially one with money, has a very good chance to escape the electric chair. The abolition of capital punishment would mean the encouragement of lynch law, for there will always be occasional crimes of a revolting character where the sense of justice of mankind will demand the destruction of the criminal.

The idea that punishment should be eliminated from prison life in general is another instance of sentimentalism gone rapid, and if carried out would defeat its object. That jails and penetentiaries should be sanitary and their administration humane everyone will agree, but to turn them into hotels for the accommodation and delectation of the underworld is to invite an early return of the departed guests, with their friends as new customers. Reform should commence outside the jail by giving the released criminal a chance to "come back," under state supervision if necessary, but there should be no softness in the treatment meted out to him while undergoing his sentence.

Regina, Sask.

J. WAGGONER.

SCRIPTURE AND WAR.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—Allow me, a reader of the "Witness" for over fifty years—(my father, the late Rev. E. W. Dobbs, was a subscriber for it when I was a boy)—and a subscriber for many years, a few lines in your much-esteemed paper. My letter would be too long were I to mention everything that I value in it, but I wish especially to refer to the editorials, which are really fine, as they take such a grip of things that if one had no other source of information a very fair idea of what is going on in the world could be got from them. After reading the editorials I usually turn to "Letters from Readers," which I hope you will always give us,—even the long ones,—although my choice would be for short and to the point. I find them most interesting and often instructive, but there is one in your issue of Feb. 27th, from Mr. Forsyth with which I cannot agree, in which he tries to prove from Scripture that there should be no war. The letter is all very nice as far as it goes, and the writer no doubt thinks that he has proved his point, but he stops short in his quotations, leaving out the special text which bears particularly upon the question under discussion, where the Apostle says in Romans 12. 18, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Now, if ever a thing was impossible, it was to live peaceably with the Huns, for as all the world, even the Kaiser if he would own to it, knows England tried her utmost to preserve the peace of the world, but the Kaiser was prepared for war, and he was going to have it in spite of everything and everybody, so that England had no option but figuratively, "to sell her clothes and buy a sword." There is nobody to whom the beatitude, "Blessed are the peacemakers," could be more fitly applied, than to those in England who worked so hard and so untiringly for that peace which through no fault of theirs was not preserved. Like the women to whom the Saviour so lovingly referred, "they did what they could."—Yours in the hope of a lasting peace.

(Rev.) C. E. DOBBS.

INCURABLE SAINTS.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—Some years ago there appeared a book entitled, "A Circuit Rider's Wife," in which we find the following passage:

"One trouble with all the churches is that they have too many incurable saints in them, men and women who pray too much and do too little, who cannot forget their own selfish salvation enough to look after that of other people without feeling their spiritual pulse all the time that they are doing it. Of late I have sometimes suspected that it is as nearly as debilitating to stay in the church all the time as it would be to stay in a hospital."

This passage I fully endorse. The cause of religion is not so much in danger from the scoffer and sceptic as from the incurable saints. Who are the incurable saints? They are certain people who have made up their mind long ago on religion, that they know all that can be known, and anything they do not know is from the devil. Now these people are quite in earnest, and honest in their attitude, and let us add deeply religious people, but the trouble is that their outlook is so narrow that they can see nothing good in any one's faith but their own. Without examining the claims of Higher Criticism, they consign it to the devil, a very handy person, by the by, with all such saints. Well, if that be so, the religious world is much obliged to His Satanic Majesty, as the Higher Criticism has caused many people both to read and take an interest in the Bible who would never have done so otherwise.

But I would ask those dear saints where we would have been had there been no Higher Criticism. On whose authority were we supposed to accept the Bible? The Roman Catholics say on the authority of the Church, the Anglicans and Presbyterians say (perhaps not dogmatically) on the authority of the Thirty-nine Articles and Westminster Confession, the Methodists say on the authority of John Wesley's sermons, and so on ad infinitum. Now the question arises, on the authority of which of them all am I to accept the interpretation of the Bible? Would I not be wiser to use my own judgment, and seek the aid of God's Spirit, which the Lord tells me will guide me into all truth.

Now Jesus himself was a higher critic. "Ye have heard what was said by them of old time, etc. But I say unto you, etc." Now we know that the dear orthodox saints of His time were shocked and accused Him of being in league with the prince of devils. And were He to come back to earth now, He would adapt His teaching to the requirements of modern men's minds, and would be accused of being in league with the devil. He would not be crucified, that is a thing of the past, but He would be dubbed a heretic, and be consigned to eternal perdition. This may seem blasphemous, but people would not recognize Him as the Lord, and they would just treat Him as they treat all such.

Now the sad thing about these people is that while the larger vision looms before them, they turn away their eyes from it. They are therefore more to be pitied than blamed. But even God himself cannot make a man see what he refuses to see. The greatest problem seems to be that they claim an infallibility for their own creed, while they allow no liberty to others. I would affectionately remind all such that the great Apostle Paul said: "If I have all faith so that I could remove mountains and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing."

P. U. SINCLAIR.

The Manse, Eldorado, Ont.

AN APPRECIATIVE READER.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I am sorry that I have so long delayed sending in the renewal of my subscription to your excellent publication, the "Weekly Witness." As a boy I read its pages with great interest, in the old Ontario home, but when I moved out west in 1883, I am sorry to say that I dropped out as a subscriber, as I am certain that the loss has been mine. I think it is quite a reflection on the Canadian people that the "Witness" is not more widely circulated, but there has lately come a change over the majority of the people regarding their political views—more independence being apparent here in the west, at any rate, than was ever manifest before. This is due largely to the educational work of the Grain Growers' Association, in part also to the great temperance campaign carried on by the Social Service Council, which produced such splendid results on the 13th of March, 1916, when the public bars were voted out by such an overwhelming majority. All parties were united in this great moral fight. Loyalty to party received a knockout blow when the utter rottenness and corruption of the late Conservative administration was exposed to the properly indignant electors of this province.

I like the "Witness" for its firm stand on all moral questions, and for the rights of the common people in the great fight for democracy. I feel that you are helping us, the Grain Growers' Association, in our struggle against the special privileged class, the manufacturers, the railway magnates and the bankers. I like your fine editorials on the war situation, the best we get in any of the many papers we read. I like also the page of letters—the people's forum—which contains so many interesting letters, very ably written on live questions of the day.

D. S. CRAM.

Lauder, Man.

SHALL WE REFUSE TO FIGHT?

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I think I see some very peculiar nonsense written to-day in the name of Christianity. One of your correspondents says, "The ideal man, being absolutely devoid of fear, would overawe any brute. His very presence would be sufficient protection for a loved one." Well, there was such a man living long ago, and neither His presence nor His good works proved sufficient to overawe His enemies. He took a scourge of small cords and drove the traffickers out from the sacred place by force; and when they went back He did the same thing later on. By these two wholesome lessons and many other mighty works His enemies were not overawed; but accused him of being treasonable and revolutionary, and insisted on His crucifixion when Pilate would have let Him go. Nor did they seem to care if the sword passed through the soul of His mother at the same time. It was their hour, and the temporary triumph of the powers of darkness, which evidently caused many to think that they were right and He was wrong, being a deceiver. Perhaps people should know better to-day than to be deceived by false appearances, and yet the Kaiser seems to think it possible for God to be on his side; and if he and his "brutes" were to be triumphant, they are not likely to be overawed by any ideal man. Is there anything more cruel than blind religious bigotry? The heroic spirit of the martyrs didn't overawe their persecutors.

Of course Christ's enemies had no power to take his life, but they thought they had. Both He and the Father had an object in permitting the deed to be done. "It became Him by whom are all things to make the Captain of our salvation perfect through suffering. In all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethren that He might be a faithful and merciful high priest . . . . to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. Though He were a Son yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered." If the ideal man had so to be perfected, what about the men and nations of the present time? Will He who overcame His enemies with a scourge of small cords, and slew nobody, do the same again in the day of His power? No! We are told that "the slain of the Lord shall be many." Prophecy plainly indicates that He will do this by supernatural agency as surely as He did by the flood, or by the destruction of Sodom, or by destroying the enemies of King Jehoshaphat, as we see in II. Chron., 20th chap.

Or if we dare hope that the burden of prophecy can be partly averted, that modern Ninevehs or Babylons can repent of sin and so escape destruction, then that repentance and forsaking of national sins would have to be very comprehensive and widespread. Considerable restrictions have been put on some evil things till this war is over. When it is over, can the nations go back to the traffic in strong drink, opium, cigarettes and tobaccos, and other needless and injurious drugs as before, along with prize fighting, horse racing, betting, gambling, Sabbath breaking—with costly style and luxury and political corruption, and graft and greed of gain, and the social evil; and at the same time organize to successfully veto and prevent war in the future? No, never! That veto would be no match for the great accuser, who, can easily stir up strife if so permitted by the powers above. If wickedness continues, more war comes; and in the end the slain of the Lord will be many.

In the meantime I cannot see how any available man can be justified in refusing to fight in defence of civil and religious liberty, if called upon; nor how Britain could do much better than she has done, except in the matter of strong drink. The man who fell among thieves would be a sinner; and perhaps Belgium fell among thieves because of her sins; but Britain has surely acted the good Samaritan in rushing to her help. To stand aloof would neither have been wise nor honorable. What does the pacifist think of these verses?

"If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it? and He that keepeth thy soul, doth not He know it? and shall not He render to every man according to his works?" (Prov. 24: 11, 12.) Have these words no national application? Can the great nation allow the small one to be both slain and enslaved, and lend no help? Of course Britain fights in self-defence too, but not for that only. There was a time when the Jews would not fight on Sabbath day; but the enemy took that advantage, and slew so many of them in their hiding places, that they felt obliged to resist in self-defence. Shall we say that they should have made no resistance? Then here is another case. The Armenian once said to the Turk, Just kill us all then, we won't resist! O, no, said the Turk, we'll make good Moslems of you! And so we heard of many sword-made Moslems.

Without any prediction let us suppose that a powerful anti-Christ is going to invade North America and make us take the mark of the beast. If we invite his armies to come in and kill us all, they are not going to do it. They will only make us take the mark and compel us to assemble for image worship; and perhaps make slaves of us anyway. You see, if men, women and children were all to be killed outright, there might be some sense in surrendering; but what if the enemy will only kill the man, degrade the woman, and make slaves of the children, or bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the evil one? I see nothing for it but contend with shot and shell for civil and religious liberty. If the Anglo-Saxons are to be in much danger of losing the same, it will be because they have not been making a very good use of it. It is surely better to spend time and money making munitions of war, and building swift cruisers for self-defence, than to waste the same on luxury and vanity, dissipation and wickedness.

JAMES C. WHYTE.

33 Eversfield Road, Toronto.

HIGHER CRITICISM.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—As a reader of the "Witness" of forty-five years standing, I can speak from some knowledge of the character of your paper, and I may say with a good conscience that in all these years you have upheld the highest standards in everything that has made for the general welfare of Canada in every sphere of activity. It is needless to say that your views have not always commended themselves to even a majority of your readers, but so long as there are many men of many minds, such disagreement will be inevitable. Your motives in whatever you have advocated, few I think could ever question. Your paper, like all living organisms, has grown in form as in favor as time has passed. To-day there is no department in the "Witness" but is well conducted, and neither is one, if deleted, but would be missed by many of your readers. I think the last page in your paper, which might be called the "People's Forum," a most important feature. The views of thinking men and women on the vital questions of the day are there recorded and discussed in your editorials and by other writers.

The double column articles recently appearing on your editorial pages were searching and to the point, and must have given pause to many. What interests one or otherwise is no measure of the interests of the rest of your readers. Church Union is surely a matter of great concern to nine-tenths of your constituency. And settled views have as yet by no means been reached. Although the deadness of the church through the apathy of her members in the matter of vital Christianity is deplored by all good men, yet it augurs well that so many of your correspondents deal with theological, or, rather, religious matters. Religion is far from dead, for in spite of himself, man cannot live by bread alone. It is not the writer's purpose in this letter to discuss at any length any current topic; his object is to commend the continuance of the correspondence columns, and the more pointed and brief the letters the better.

A letter in your issue of March 13th, headed, "Zeal Without Knowledge," and signed "Christian," contains some assertions that would lead some, even slimly informed in regard to the matter in question, to think that the title of the letter should by rights have been transferred to the place of the signature. In this letter the following words occur: "As for the Higher Criticism, it is of Satan. Without any reason whatsoever an attack has been made upon God's word, and that attack is of satan." It is almost impossible to characterize such an intemperate, uncharitable, ignorant and sweeping statement with sufficient severity. Here is the definition of the late Dr. Orr, a most competent scholar, and one with strong leanings to the conservative and traditional views of the Bible: "Higher Criticism, rightly understood, is simply the careful scrutiny on the principles which it is customary to apply to all literature of the phenomena of the Bible, with a view to deduce from these such conclusions as may be warranted regarding the age, authorship, mode of composition, sources, etc., of the different books," and he adds: "Everyone who engages in such inquiries, with whatever aim, is a Higher Critic, and cannot help himself." Now, no one can in any sense call himself a student of the Bible, a reverent seeker after the truth in God's word, who is not a Higher Critic. In few matters is finality reached, but time and scholarship, aided by the Holy Spirit, will, as time goes on, reach more and more assured results. "Prove all things," is a scriptural injunction, and why any one calling himself "Christian" dare say that the agency invoked in such research is the devil passes knowledge. Surely such writers know not what spirit they are of.

TRUTH SEEKER.

WHY THIS GREAT WAR?

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I have been for many years a reader of the "Witness," and I value highly your opinions on all questions. You have done much to promote temperance and religion. I value your comments on the war, as well as the comments of many of your correspondents. I think we are all agreed as to the immediate cause, but there is one feature I have not seen touched upon, which I consider a strong determining factor. God has established two governments on the earth, and has promised a third. Let us examine what those two governments were and what became of them.

The first government was in the Garden of Eden. We see that God made every provision for the comfort, happiness and welfare of man. He placed him over the work of His hand and gave him employment. We also understand that man had very close communion with God. Now what of the government? I answer that God gave man instruction (laws) as to what he must do and as to what he must not do. Man's part was to carry out those instructions, or to obey. What became of this government? Man rejected it—rejected God and His form of government. Man was driven from the Garden and given a chance to govern himself. Later, God called Abram (changing his name to Abraham), that He might establish His name upon the earth. When the descendents of Abraham became sufficiently numerous to require a form of government, God did not leave them to form their own government and make their own laws. No, God gave them their laws and their form of government. He assisted them in the selection of judges to administer those laws. During the time of Samuel the people demanded that they should have no more judges, but that they should have a king, that they might be like the nations surrounding them. God told Samuel to warn the people what they were choosing. (See 8th chap. of 1st Samuel.) Samuel felt very sorrowful, thinking the people had rejected him. God said, "They have not rejected you, they have rejected Me." They rejected God and His form of government. Now both of these governments were theocracies. The question may be asked, why the difference between them. I answer, the one was given to suit man before the fall, and the other after the fall. History records what became of the Jews. We have only to look at the present condition of the nations or governments of the earth, saying nothing of blotted pages of the world's history of six thousand years, to answer the question, Is man capable of self-government? Let me here ask another question. If man rejects God's plan and sets up a plan of his own, can it possibly be a success?

God has promised another government for man, and that government is to be a theocracy. What lesson must we learn from this? I answer, God intended this form of government for man, as that which was and is for his greatest good and promotive of his greatest happiness.

There has been no time in the history of the world when man has been or would have been willing to accept Christ as king to rule over us; neither has there been a time when the governments of the earth would have been willing to give place to the government of Christ. But it will be beyond the power of man or of the governments of the earth to reject Him when He comes. What then must take place? I answer, the earth must be fitted to receive Him. Is the earth at present undergoing that fitting process? God never placed man in a false position.

JAMES SMITH.

Yellow Grass, Sask., March 6, 1917.

THE WAR LONG PREPARED FOR.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—I enclose a clipping from an old "Daily Mirror," which claims that an Anglo-German syndicate had acquired the Poutiloff Ordnance Works in Russia and put out the French firm there. Does that look as if Britain expected war in a few months? Now in 1913 or 1914 Germany voted an enormous sum for the Army amid great cheers of their parliament. They were ready at last for the victory for which they had so long prepared. The Austrian and Hungarian Army had been trained by German officers, the Krupp gun factory practically run by the Kaiser, education, surgery, hygiene, science, chemistry, viz., the hateful gas, food substitutes, etc., Zeppelins, submarines, all inventions fostered and encouraged for war. The vile spy, too, in all countries. The people feeding on horse flesh and black bread, while food was stored ready, and condensed rations for the army were experimented on. The mad king of Bavaria was dethroned. No doubt the present Prince of Bavaria is a good help. The good king of Greece was assassinated by a reputed madman. We know how the present king has acted. It has been proved beyond doubt that the unrest and uprisings in India, Egypt and Ireland were instigated by Germany, so why not in Serbia? The heir to the Austrian throne, an upright man with his people's interest at heart, is assassinated by misguided Serbians and a pretext given for war to drag Russia in. It is said the Kaiser broke with Bismarck to keep the peace. One reason was he wanted all the glory himself of the perfect machine the German Army and Navy is to-day, but it was Bismarck, the hateful man of blood and iron, who said a conquered people should be left only their eyes to weep with; it was he who planned the work and system, and no doubt trained some of the present generals and plans of quick campaign of to-day, which is "no new thing"; also the site of the Kiel Canal was stolen from Denmark with two of her provinces forty or fifty years ago. It was Frederick the Great who planned even then a safe place for his navy.

If Germany has been slow, she has ned and worked for one object so long, things would be different. It is not freedom of the sea, but India and the East, and Europe and America, the Kaiser coveted and willed to conquer. It is useless to call him Ananias, Herod, old Nob, Nero and so on, and even wish him dead. He is not much. He thinks he knows it all, but he just copies his grandfather and tries to copy Napoleon. The only trait he has of Napoleon is his fear of the influence of women.

As to the Turk, what did Gladstone say? If he had had his way they would have been kicked out of Europe then. Think of the long years the Armenians have been so cruelly murdered by them. We should think more of the privation and hardships of our prisoners of war and the people of the countries so cruelly and brutally devastated by the enemy, their deaths by starvation and cruelty, and we should pray day and night for help and comfort for them. Men should not leave it all to the women, but should pray definitely and fervently on their behalf, also for the neutrals; it is hard for them and we should remember Holland especially, whose women fed and cared for so many Belgians, and Norway and Sweden, too, are losing so much shipping, which is their living mainly. Remember them at the throne.

Canadians are not only fighting Britain's battles, but their own; if anything should happen to the British navy Germany can come right over and act in the United States and Canada just as in Belgium and Poland. The Germans have built lots of ships right along, and made their prisoners do all their work for little or no pay; robbed the conquered people of food, cattle and hogs, and the coal and iron mines of France and Poland, and are forging ahead in all ways to the good. We should consider all this and not think the war already won and rest on our oars.

The church was not wrong to urge us to recruit. See the way the Pope leaves poor Belgium to suffer, which shows the side he is on. Of course France by casting off the Church of Rome entirely, and Italy by having him a prisoner in his own palace, cannot expect sympathy from him, but helpless Belgium might. We are told half of Germany is Roman Catholic, all of Austria and most of Hungary. Russia is Greek Church, abhorred by the Pope, so his influence, which is great yet, is with Germany. Consider what that means.

We seldom tear up a "Witness," but pass it on as too valuable to waste. From Scotland they write: "It is a very fine paper, and the war news is far clearer and better than any they get."

DAVID J. SMITH.

March 6, 1917.

Following is the paragraph from the London "Daily Mirror" of Jan. 29, 1914:

Paris, Jan. 28.— A very unpleasant impression has been caused in France by the news that Krupp and Vickers Maxim have acquired the Poutiloff ordnance works at Sts-Peteraburg.

Hitherto this work has been under French direction, and the construction of the Russian field artillery has been carried out with the active co-operation of the well-known French firm of Creusot.

All the new artillery with which Russia has been provided since the Russo-Japanese War has been constructed after French design.

I understand that during the past five months negotiations have been proceeding between London, Berlin and St. Petersburg, and that a practical agreement has been reached by the Anglo-German syndicate.

The "Temps" states that the Deutsch Bank is behind Krupp's, and hints that if Russia does not cancel the proposed contract with Krupp's and Vickers Maxim the new Russian loan to be floated in France should be postponed.

THE CALL OF THE AFTERNOON.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—Let us for the present understand as the afternoon that period in a woman's life between the ages of fifty and seventy. As the afternoon of the twenty-four hours is the time when we women, even the busiest, have usually a little leisure, so the pressure of work and care usually grows a little lighter after the age of fifty is reached. Some of the children, if not all, are grown up—married, perhaps, and the home circle has grown small, so small, perhaps, that it can scarcely be called a circle, as the original pair sit side by side alone.

Now for the woman who is at this period of life blest with good health, there are great opportunities for usefulness. The husband, whatever his occupation, still pursues the even tenor of his way, while the wife and mother whose powers of toil and thought have been taxed to their utmost for years, finds herself, so to speak, thrown out of employment to a great extent. What is she to do? She, whose years have been spent in loving, self-forgetting labor for others till they no longer need her to labor or plan for them, sits in her silent home with folded hands.

But is her work done? By no means. What she has learned by years of experience can never be learned from books, and the mother-love once awakened in the heart of a true, tender woman, keeps that heart warm for all humanity. While she loves her own none the less she loves others all the more. She looks upon the most reckless, wayward boy and foolish, frivolous girl with a loving pity that is painful in its intensity. And what is so powerful as love in winning the wayward.

But why is it that women of this stamp are shutting themselves up in a shell as it were, feeling the sympathy they never show? No doubt it is because they married young, and circumstances have kept their efforts strictly within the home circle, and now when wider opportunities come they are handicapped by timidity. But if they could just be made to see it is their duty simply to do their best when any opportunity comes, to teach a Sunday-school class; conduct a mother's meeting for young mothers; to take a personal interest in some wayward boy or girl; to do anything and everything that their tender loving hearts may prompt them to do for any one at any time, how they would brighten the life of others, and lighten and gladden their own hearts through the years that perhaps now seem so lonely.

C. M. L.

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