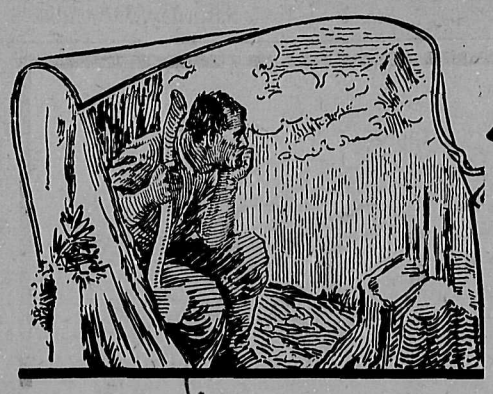
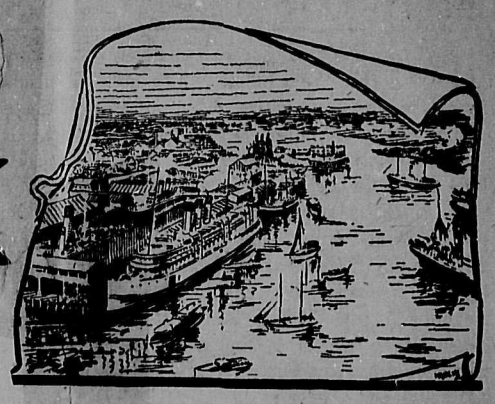
Provincial Library, Parliament Buildings



The Week



A British Columbia Newspaper and Review

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Religion of Chaplains and Soldiers

REPORTS from chaplains and other religious workers about the religion of the soldier at the front are common stock among the religious papers, but there is a suspicion that in many cases the ordinary padre does not get the soldier's viewpoint, although he prides himself that he does. As a consequence the padre is liable to stumble into saying things that may go down all right with certain piously inclined people at home but which must sound both illogical and foolish to the ordinary common sense Tommy at the front. A recent letter from the trenches shows the soldiers' side of the question and throws some light on what he sometimes thinks of the chaplain's religion: "We get more and more repelled by the 'Christian service' offered to us. It is severely national and partakes in large measure those prejudices belonging to the military caste. Prayers are offered to the God of our side for all sorts of blessings, and it never occurs to them apparently that the men on the other side are His children, too, whose utter destruction is necessary for the answer to their prayers. Some appeals to us predicate a fierce hatred in our hearts towards the enemy, a mental state I rarely find. Pity and kindness towards German prisoners I have seen frequently. Men see that they are emeshed by the same strange fate as themselves. Doubtless their rulers and some officers and men amongst them are a bad lot, but it seems that the killing and maiming of thousands of innocent men daily is a poor method by which to punish or even try to punish those who are really guilty. It seems that those of cardinal guilt are beyond the reach of our guns and bayonets. Yet the preacher says this is God's law, the innocent suffering for the guilty! 'The incentive to heroism,' I heard one padre say, 'was the realisation of the love of God. Let a soldier armed with bomb and bayonet, waiting trembling to climb over the parapet, realise the warmth and intimacy of the love of God to himself, then he can go over with firm steps and inexorable courage.' I imagine that such a soldier would imagine that God loved also the man he was sent to destroy. Really such an idea would be fatal to military prowess. All such stuff as this we feel to be the very negation of the Christian religion. Compromise has ended in denial. Like many other men and things, the Churches and their representatives out here, many of whom notwithstanding have done excellent service, have been caught in the vicious circle. We need a courageous push to break it and save our souls to the faith once delivered to the saints." Turning to the political situation, he says: "Some of us are not so sure as we were in 1914 that our task is pure, unselfish and nobly benevolent. We feel that much has grown around the issues which to us then amounted to a fine moral idealism. Uneasy desires for fuller information have been awakened, only to be met by blank denial. Those in high places have been 'deceitful brooks.' We are made aware, too, of a sinister handling of policies at home. The peace all of us yearn for is not a patched-up peace, nor a German nor an an English peace, but one based on genuine goodwill abroad, on sound reason and mutual respect mediated by the chosen representatives of all the peoples. For such a peace the noblest men and women on both sides have sacrificed and died, and nothing short of it will register our obligations to them."

The Failure of the Church

WE publish in another part of this issue an article from a contributor under the above title to which we would draw the attention of our readers as offering serious food for thought. Three years of the most tragic opportunity for leadership have passed without finding a man who as an official representative of the Church founded by the Prince of Peace, is able and willing to step out with any definite plan to lead the world back to the precepts they profess to believe, and away from the total destruction it is heading for. Three years during which the call of the Christ has been more insistent and persistent than ever before. Three years in which His professed followers might have risen to heights of sacrifice and devotion never before dreamed of; sacrifices that would long ago have ended this mad holocaust, and proved to the world that love and forgiveness were greater far than force and hate. A few valiant souls have here and there boldly stood for their convictions, but the Church of Christ as an organization has allowed national claims to take the place of Divine ones, and under the name of patriotism has trampled the cross of Christ in the dust. The time of her testing has come and the Church has failed—failed completely. For three years a world at war has looked to her for a saviour, and looked in vain. For three years humanity has stretched forth empty bleeding hands for help, and the Church has not responded. For three years civilization has been struggling in its death agony, and the only response the Church could make was to point to Mars as the only saviour of the human race. It is tragic, but it is true. *The Church has failed, and failed completely!* And she has failed, not because her ideals were wrong, but because she has not lived up to them. Before the bar of eternal justice she stands condemned recreant to her duty and traitor to her Lord and King. Not all the pious prayers that can be uttered between now and doomsday can make atonement for her neglect; not all the tears of millions of repentant souls will wash away her stain of infamy. It may, through the infinite goodness of God, some day be forgiven, but never so long as the world stands can it be forgotten. The greatest opportunity for service that has even been offered since the morning stars sang together has been hers, and she has refused it. Never again will the Kingly Visitor come as a suppliant to her doors. The Prince of Peace has been refused admission, and once more as of old has been compelled to make His appeal through the common people. His message from now on will be heard through the voice of labor, and peace, when it comes, will come through His influence working in the masses of humanity, outside the realm of organized Christianity. The Church may still help—but she can no longer lead.

Advance—Russia

IF some of Canada's writers on the war, and more especially those of our local press, wish to retain any semblance of authoritativeness, they will do well to cease making forecasts anent the future of Russia until they can grasp with at least some measure of intelligence what are the causes that have led up to the present condition of things. From the time of the first outbreak of the revolution the press has held to the idea that the change would only be a modification of the old order (somewhat severe, perhaps, but nevertheless only a modification), and they have persistently upheld whichever section seemed least likely to upset the old commercial system. Kerensky, as a revolutionist, was a dangerous man; but Kerensky, as Premier, acting as a buffer between the old and new regimé, was some one to be upheld. Korniloff, as a counter revolutionist, was heralded as the saviour of Russia. A little later, Korniloff and Kerensky together were to do the saving, and Lennine, the man who above all others represented the *real* Russia, the man who stood out boldly and plainly for the total abolition of the old system and the establishment of the new, was spoken of as the man to be put down at all costs, and the man whose influence could not last more than a few days at the most. Time is rapidly showing that our wise men of the press have been totally wrong in their diagnosis of Russian affairs. To understand what has taken place in that much misunderstood country it is necessary to look below the surface and gather information first hand from men who have seen what is going on there. At the outbreak of the revolution, Kerensky, a comparatively young man, was placed in power. Had he been an older man it is more than likely that he would have had sufficient stability to retain control; but even as it was, if Russia had been left to work out her own destiny without interference from outside, there is little doubt that he would have continued in power and ultimately have led his country safely through the stormy crisis. But this was not to be. Uncle Sam decided to interfere and sent Elihu Root over to mix things up worse than they were. His message to Russia of "No fight, no money," and his eloquence no doubt convinced Kerensky that some sort of compromise between the old order and the new was necessary. From that moment Kerensky's power as a leader was gone. As a Russian Lloyd George he was magnificent up to a certain point, but, like his English prototype, not magnificent enough to see the full opportunity before him. Kerensky looked back—and looking back, became a pillar of salt. But there was another delegation that Uncle Sam sent to Russia, one that cost the Government nothing to send but one that did more than Elihu Root could ever dream of doing. It was a voluntary delegation of Russian workers who had spent years in Uncle Sam's territory *and took with them terrible evidences of the crimes that had been committed in the name of Democracy.* They were men who had come through some of the fearful experiences in the mining camps of the West when Pinkerton thugs and country sherriffs hounded the miners from place to place till life was like a hideous nightmare. These Russian peasants, hewers of wood and drawers of water, who had come West to find freedom, found conditions that made them live the life of wild beasts. Men who in their endeavor to secure what they conceived justice, found all legal, civil and military authority lined up against them, while press and pulpit stood silently by and watched them being outraged. These were the men who went through scenes that were responsible for the formation of the I. W. W. A writer in *The North American Review* gives the answer of one of their leaders as to why they were not patriotic. He says: "You ask me why the I. W. W. is not patriotic to the United States. If you were a bum without a blanket; if you had left your wife and kids when you went West for a job, and had never located them since; if your job never kept you long enough in a place to qualify you to vote; if you slept in a lousy, sour bunk-house, and ate food just as rotten as they could give it to you and get by with it; if the deputy sheriffs shot your cooking cans full of holes, and spilled your grub on the ground; if your wages were lowered on you when the bosses thought they had you down; if there was one law for Ford, Luhr and Mooney, and another for Harry Thaw; if every person who represented law and order and the nation beat you up, railroaded you to jail, and the good Christian people cheered and told them to go to it; how in hell do you expect a man to be patriotic? This war is a business man's war and we don't see why we should go out and get shot in order to save the lovely state of affairs that we now enjoy." These men went back to Russia by the hundred marked with scars and wounds and bullet holes and were listened to all over the country, giving damning evidence of the way Democracy worked *under Capitalism.* Elihu Root's appeals to the peasants to fight for Democracy might be ever so eloquent but they would be silenced by a few words from a rough man of their own class who could step on the platform and lifting his cap exhibit a scar, clear across his skull, as an exhibition of what Uncle Sam's Democracy had done for him. This is why Russia is leaving Uncle Sam to take her place in the fight, and the sacrifice of millions of men will be the price Uncle Sam will pay for the injustices inflicted on these men in years gone by. *Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall be also reap.* This inexorable law holds just as good *with a nation* as an individual. Uncle Sam must take the consequences of careless and selfish sowing, and the price he will have to pay will be terrible. Russia will stand for a Democracy that will be real and lasting, one that will lead all other nations into the way of universal peace. *Advance: Russia!*

Do You Realize

THAT the total CASUALTIES in the war up to date would form a chain of men clasping hands that would extend nearly three times round the world?

THAT it would take two whole years for them to pass a given spot at the rate of one a second, traveling day and night?

THAT the DEATH ROLL exceeds the total population of of Canada?

THAT a funeral procession of this vast army passing at the rate of one every six seconds would take two years to go by, travelling day and night?

THAT the British casualty list now shows a total of about 30,000 a week?

THAT if Canada sends another 100,000 men they will only make up the wastage of a little over three weeks?

THAT the $150,000,000 Victory Loan will not cover the British war expenses for three days?

THAT the casualty list is increasing—not diminishing?

THAT the British army of 5,000,000 will be wiped out in three years at the present rate?

THAT sending more men will not save those already there —men will be sacrificed by the million just as long as there are plenty to take their place?

THAT ten years of this sort of thing will wipe out every available fighting man on the globe, EXCEPT THOSE RESPONSIBLE?

THAT some day, out of sheer exhaustion, we shall be obliged to settle things by an appeal to reason?

THAT we could get everything we claim to be fighting for now—AT ONCE—by simply being big enough to make a move in that direction?

THAT a vote for the Union Government is a vote for National suicide?

Canadian Northern Death Traps

THE Canadian Northern level crossing on North Quadra Street is a veritable death-trap. At this point Canadian Northern trains are allowed to cross the road without warning to the public other than the ringing of a bell. In the case of auto traffic this warning is totally inadequate. The throb of the average auto is quite sufficient to effectually drown the noise made by the railway engine. Last week a heavily laden auto descended the hill at this point just as a C. N. R. train rushed by. The driver of the auto had to choose between a collision with the train or a collision with a post at the roadside. He chose the latter. The car was wrecked, and the occupants of the car only saved their lives by the grace of providence. Had the car been in charge of a less expert driver, or had another rig been passing at the same time, it is safe to assume that another terrible fatality would have occurred. There is not the slightest reason for running such grave risks. An automatic signal could be installed which would warn the public of an approaching train. And in any case the C. N. R. should bring their trains to a standstill before attempting to cross the road. It seems that in this as in other matters the Mackenzie & Mann *Interests* have been allowed to override the public welfare. A suitable epitaph for the gravestones of the knighted freebooters would be "Dollars First."

Hysteria and War-Phobia

THE public mind at present appears to have reverted to a condition of chaos. Passion, prejudice and wild unreason are uppermost so that few people seem able to see things in their right relation. The most outstanding instances of this chaotic condition is the excitement caused by the Lansdowne letter, followed later by President Wilson's speech on American war aims. To the general public the Lansdowne letter was denounced as a "national calamity" and many people accepted that verdict. A few days later President Wilson delivered his message to Congress and the public was at once told that it was a "magnificent deliverance." It was warmly welcomed in London and Paris, and again many people accepted the verdict. No clearer case of the loss of mental balance on the part of the war-mad manufacturers of public opinion could be named than this. Let anyone put the Lansdowne letter alongside of President Wilson's address and he will be surprised to find that they are not so widely different from each other as the people have been led to believe. Here are the main points of the Lansdowne letter: "Lord Lansdowne contends that an immense stimulus would probably be given to the peace party in Germany if it were understood: (1) That the annihilation of Germany as a great power was not desired. (2) That we do not seek to impose upon the German people a form of government against their choice. (3) That, except as a legitimate war measure, we do not desire to deny to Germany her place among the great commercial countries. (4) That we are prepared after the war, in concert with the other Powers, to examine the international problems connected with the freedom of the seas. (5) That we are prepared to enter into an international pact under which ample opportunity would be afforded for the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means." Compare this with some of the main points in President Wilson's address: "We owe it to our-

selves to say that we do not wish in any way to impair or to rearrange the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It is no affair of ours what they do with their own life, either industrially or politically. We do not purpose or desire to dictate to them in any way. . . . We intend no wrong against the German Empire, no interference with her internal affairs. We should deem either the one or the other absolutely unjustifiable, absolutely contrary to the principles we have professed to live by and to hold most sacred through our life as a nation. . . . The people of Germany are being told by the men whom they now permit to deceive them and to act as their masters that they are fighting for the very life and existence of their empire, a war of desperate self-defence against deliberate aggression. Nothing could be more grossly or wantonly false and we must seek by the utmost openness and candor as to our real aims to convince them of its falseness." Further on President Wilson said that under certain conditions the Germans would not be denied "free economic intercourse with other nations." And still further on he said: "The nations of the world were entitled not only to free pathways upon the sea, but also to assured and unmolested access to those pathways." Every fair-minded reader will see that any difference between the two statements is merely a difference of words. But the average newspaper editor and the man in the street are both alike suffering from a condition of war phobia bordening on insanity.

VOTE FOR STUART HENDERSON

The People's Candidate

Think Before You Vote

Attend Meetings Before You Finally Make Up Your Mind

DON'T WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION TO THINK

What do you think of the Borden Govern't?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Week invites letters from its readers on all subjects of public interest. Letters need not be signed by the writer but a nom de plume may be used for publication, and they must be accompanied in every case by the name and address of the writer as a guarantee of good faith. This will be treated by the Editor entirely in confidence. The Editor also reserves the right to withhold publication of any letter without having to give a reason for so doing.

Lord Lansdowne

The following letter was refused publication in The Colonist.—Ed.

Sir.—Mr. B. J. Perry of the Empress Hotel, in a more than usually didactic tone, assumes that the "existence of the British Empire" is a stake in which he holds a greater interest than Lord Lansdowne. This must be a mistaken idea. Lord Lansdowne, whose utterances we are informed, are the outcome of senility, has stood high in the councils of his country merely through "hereditary influence." He has been acclaimed as a great statesman, viceroy, foreign minister and last but not least a man of unsullied and irreproachable conduct in both private and public life, not forsooth by Mr. B. J. Perry but by most people of any understanding throughout the world.

Lord Lansdowne, it is true, does not need the cheap defence of newspaper correspondents, but on the other hand it is well to remind his assailants that he is not a political gambler, who speculating in war is naturally inclined at the sight of the blood and tears of others to glorify it by a string of meaningless and impotent words.

We must now at the instigation of Mr. B. J. Perry, set aside the feelings which may be supposed to have inspired a Castlereagh, Chatham or Pitt. Such ideas are antiquated to such apparently keen students of men and history. A brief examination of Lord Lansdowne's services compared with those of the sad and sorry crew of professional politicians and "press gangs" who work the ship of state at the present time might be instructive.

Those essential characteristics which went to form the greatness of England and which still exist in men of the type of Lord Lansdowne, are widely removed from the political qualities of the present day. Today the vigilance is as keen, interference as incessant, language bolder and far more insolent than it was in better times but the impulse is gone which gave it force. A policy which invites the contempt of all honorable statesmen seldom fails to earn a more substantial punishment. We all know that peace without honor is not only a disgrace, but, except as a temporary respite, it is a chimera, but a policy of sane moderation and justice is one to which no Christian man could raise an objection, especially when looking forward with wise and statesmanlike vision he sees the blessings of peace held out to a white race grown too weak to benefit by it. A policy of sanitay and moderation, and a policy of cowardice, thought often confounded in the angry strife of words are in reality easily distinguished by those who do not wish to confound them.

ELEANOR SIMONDS.

An Open Confession

To the Editor of The Week.

Sir:—We trust you will publish this letter as we wish to emphasize the article appearing in 'Through the Women's Window,'' by Alice Christie, in the issue of Dec. 1st of The Week. We wish to endorse it, if for no more than her "open confession," as we think it ought to be read by all thinking women—women who are pondering the many things in their hearts, fearing what they do not understand, longing for some one strong and brave enough to lead them forth in co-operative effort; waiting for one touch and who shall say what cannot be achieved.

So those of us who have the courage, energy and honesty, with a clear perception of the right, let us join hands with those who are not afraid to stand firm in the face of law and command, declaring we are conscientious objectors to war and everything pertaining thereto.

"It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own. But the greatest amongst us is he who in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude."

Many religious people in our midst today are being forced to cry "Can there indeed be a God to allow all this?" Others are discovering that the world can do very well without the orthodox religion. It is a phase we have outgrown, just as we must outgrow war and its horrors. And the time is fast approaching when they will no more say lo here or lo there, because it will be known by the equality, brotherhood and universal goodwill of man that he is of the Gods. That he is of the spirit of universal good, part of all we today know and speak of in terms of God. And so it lies within each of us to get into line out of error and wrong to a more fearless, rational, human religion that is to redeem mankind.

H. C.

Justice, Slander, Freedom

Editor, The Week.

Sir—I would esteem it a great favor if you would publish the following:

A lady acquaintance whose husband left Victoria with the 88th Regiment, February 15th, 1915, has been left entirely without support. She laid her complaint before the Paymaster, Belmont Building, but received no information as to how her support was forthcoming, outside of being told that a private had to make the necessary arrangements for the support of his wife before going on the boat, whereas an officer could do as he pleased. We want to know why the distinction? We want to know how this poor woman is going to live? She is well past 40 years and not so able to work for a living as some of the younger soldiers' wives. She has two sons, one in the trenches, the other—her last and only support—has been refused an exemption.

Shortly after hearing her complaint I read a letter in The Colonist headed, "Why I believe I should be a Unionist," by Rev. Frederick Letts. I will quote a part which will be sufficient. He says: "Because I believe it to be truly democratic; I believe party politics are obsolete; I believe that the condition of the nation and empire demands it; I believe it stands for 'truth and liberty,' and the annihilation of oppression and cruelty, selfishness and cowardice; I am a true Canadian and truer Britisher, but a 'quitter' never!"

Here we have an authentic example of how the church, state and press work hand in hand to deceive the people. There is one consolation: HE ONLY BELIEVED ALL THESE THINGS! It may be that the reverent gentleman obtained his special knowledge and discernment through an angelic visitation.

In the same issue the editor of The Colonist accuses some of us with slander. Those who read the reverend gentleman's letter and analyzed its contents in the light of the conditions of the people, would have no doubt left in their minds as to who is the slanderers. For my part his letter is the personification of slander. He says he is a "quitter never!" A little humor from "The Freethinker" of June 24 would be rather appropriate. Here it is:

" 'If we had sat still and dared nothing, the women and children of Britain would have been treated as those in Belgium,' says the Bishop of London. Yet that is precisely what the clergy have done, for they are entirely exempted from military service."

" 'The war seems to have made everyone braver,' says Dr. Wynn Westcott. Always excepting the dear clergy who prefer to console the girls the soldiers have left behind."

The Colonist says: "Some folks try to get up in the world by throwing stones at men who have reached the top." This is the philosophy of an educated fool. We prefer to stand by the Christ, than the infallible agent of Bordenism. The Nazarene said: "Woe unto ye Scribes and Pharisees, and those who live in high places." Few men reach the top but through the blood of the people by slander, deception and murder. We have substantial evidence of this in the world war: men on the top have fattened *from the blood of the people.* The men on the top have no right to control industries which are the sources of all wealth whether they be hereditary or otherwise. All we ask is freedom, justice, equal rights for all and freedom of speech.

There are thousands born in poverty, and misery and the press in no small way does its utmost to keep them there.

Another gentleman in Sunday's issue informs us "he is not a Socialist." We would like to know what he is. He strongly objects to the Socialists and Social Democrats using organized labor just when it suits them to gain ends that would be impossible by following out their own extreme methods. What is he going to call this new party of his? Surely we have enough parties in the field already with counterfeit names. Does Mr. Day want as many political parties as there are religious parties? He accuses us of being extremists. In this he spoke truer words than he knew. There are only two parties, namely, the Conservative Party and the Socialist Party. We recognize no counterfeit parties. Therefore the margin between the Conservative Party and the Socialist Party is wide in the extreme.

Brother Day brings his letter to a close by saying: "The people are not ready to make 11 o'clock 12 o'clock. There needs a lot of clearing up between those hours, deep spade work. Organized labor can do it. It may take a little longer, and the world will be all the better for it."

We are quite aware of the fact that 11 o'clock cannot be made 12 o'clock, but Socialism needs a lift up behind. Brother Day thinks eventually we will get Socialism, but there is lots of time, say a few thousand years from now when the people begin to wake up.

The thorough housewife, when her *spring cleaning has to be done, knows* the quicker the whole house is gone through the better. She doesn't put off until tomorrow what she can do today. What is the use of half of anything when you can take the whole? What is organized labor but tradesunionism? Tradesunionism has long since been a back number. Why? Because the labor market in normal times is always overstocked, more men than there are jobs for. Mr. Day would do well to give the I. W. W. movement a consideration if he approves of tradseunionism, but, believe me, he would have to move faster than he does now.

This war has done more to forward Socialism than anything else. Lord Lansdown, to anyone who can read between the lines, sends out the alarm to the world's capitalists.

Take care, the peoples of the waring nations are beginning to realize that this war is no different to any other, that it is a commercial war, and if it lasts very much longer class distinction here—as in Russia now—will be a back number.

R. L.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 4.

The workers can get along without the capitalists, but the capitalists can't get along without the workers. Some day the producers will learn this simple fact.

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Coal mining rights of the Dominion in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the *Province of British Columbia*, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewable for a further term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the District in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

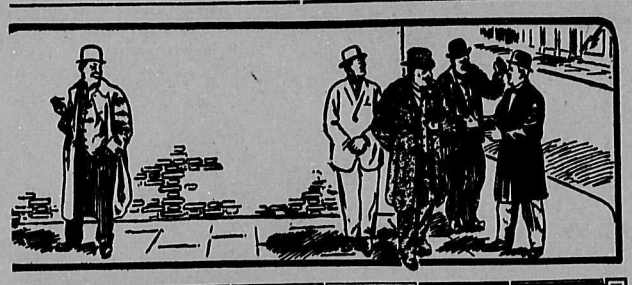
The lease will include the coal mining rights only.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

April 2nd.



At The Street Corner

BY THE LOUNGER

I haven't an idea in my head. Have you? Well, then, let's talk about the weather. I can probably tell you something about it. I have in an unimpeachable authority that it is going to be a hard winter. My informant is a tough toothless old crone whose knowledge of the weather and its vagaries is only surpassed by her knowledge of husbands and theirs. I do not know in what manner she successively disposed of her first three husbands. I only know that she cracked her fourth over the head with a full beer bottle because he persisted in saying that it was going to be a fine day when she had already warned him that it was not. Remembering the sad history of this poor man (I understand he is now in a lunatic asylum) I was in no mood to contradict her. In fact, I edged away from her as quickly as I could, compatible with good manners. Her witch-like grin and cackle and that terrible upraised warning forefinger of hers were too much for me as they were undoubtedly too much for her martyr husbands. They will effectually prevent me, at least, from being her fifth husband. "Yes," said she finally, smacking her lips; "there'll be four feet of snow in January, believe me. Meanwhile, my man, there'll be wind, lots of wind! Mind your hat!"

As far as the wind part goes, her prophecy is correct. And I have lost my hat. All day it has been lustily blowing. Nature's own drastic winter cleaning and purification has begun. Long ere Christmas (ye gods, and I haven't thought of presents!) the last lingering truck and litter of the bedraggled fall will have been swept away and the clean face of the earth made ready for the old lady's four-odd feet of snow. Very high and loud and thorough is the wind today. Hark to the music of it in the telephone wires and in the bare branches of the trees! Aeolian music of the gods, for which there is nothing to pay! Yea, verily, I love the wind . . . but I have lost my hat.

Windy days are always provocative of merriment in the streets. You never know the moment when you may suddenly have to start in pursuit of a vagrant elusive hat. If you are human you will share in the general laughter that accompanies your zigzag course among the traffic as you dodge hither and thither after your scurrying "lid." The spectacle of a stout and usually dignified banker sprinting along Government Street this morning made me stop and hold my sides. It was the first time I had seen him unbend, and I have studied his pumpous lordship for years. He tock it badly. He is so accustomed to a high-stepping, thoroughbred, aristocratic walk and action that his compulsory departure therefrom today annoyed him dreadfully. I'm afraid he will say hard things to me the next time I have to interview him in the bank. If so, I shall remind him that he has no sense of humor, and further, that in sprinting along the street he not only recovered his hat but gave a large amount of pleasure to the onlookers, whereas, when my hat was suddenly removed from my head, I was neither permitted to recover it nor to give pleasure to anybody, for it met a watery grace in the inner harbor, late at night, and there was nobody on the Causeway to see.

—o—

The idea of a State Medical Service, shortly to be promulgated in the British Isles, is not new. I got half-a-crown for it quite a few years ago. Probably it was not new even then. Anyhow, there was a competition in an English journal for new ideas, and I came in third with an elaborate scheme for a State Medical Service pretty much on the lines of that announced by Dr. Addison. It is not at all unlikely that Dr. Addison has that early paper of mine somewhere among his stacks of memoranda. If so, he is welcome to it. It isn't mine now, anyway. I forfeited all rights to it when I gave it up for half-a-crown.

There is much to be said for a State Medical Service. Locally one of its strongest advocates is Dr. Ernest Hall, a man for whom I have the profoundest respect. I trust that he will not slacken in his efforts for the amelioration and social betterment of mankind. In line with him is another medico who stands "four-square" to the world, Dr. McIntosh of Vancouver, M.P.P., a man of great character, intelligence, vision, and breadth of mind, of whom I prediet great things in the coming years.

—o—

I am not sorry that a certain man is dead. His has been a living death for years. He was a walking corpse, a bag of bones, an ashen-grey spectre hugging itself. It was as if Death itself stalked in our midst. Always he was alone, a shadowy brooding, melancholy figure. I never met him but I had a stab at the heart. He made others besides me shiver. I saw him crumple up and fall once in front of the Empress Hotel. I was one of those who helped him to his feet. There was not a particle of flesh on his bones, which seemed to rattle as he walked. I do not know what held them together, unless it were his clothes. sometimes he would produce a small phial from his pocket and drink from it. . . . Now he is gone.

This is the kind of thing that a State Medical Service would have removed from our streets. It was not a good sight for anybody to see. He was, it is true, entirely harmless; nor did the boys tease or molest him, as boys are so often tempted to tease and molest anything in the shape of a "character": they were, I think afraid of him. It was a healthy fear, and he was blandly indifferent to them as he was to everybody. . . . . I am against any unwarrantable interference with the liberty of the individual. Personal freedom is a sacred and inviolable thing. But there are times when such interference by some supreme authority such as the State is necessary and justifiable. The State should have the power to say whether a living dead man should be allowed to walk the streets or not. If it has the power it does not exercise it.

—o—

To Anne.—You have come back, have you? I thought my last rebuff was final. No, Anne, I do not wear a pork-pie hat, like Stuart Henderson. You have never seen me going into the White Lunch at 9 a.m. I have no moustache, and if my nose is red it is not due to liquid causes. I do not live up Hillside. I am not excessively thin. I am not a woman hater. I never insulted you. I never gambled in real estate and had a "poky" office on Government Street. I was never bought by any corporation, Anne, for I am simply priceless. I take no profits from The Week—there aren't any. I never was a member of the Beaver Club. I don't know Harry Price. I never hatched anything in the way of plots in my life. I do not have an interest in the return of Dr. Tolmie. I am not one of his committee. I am not a politician. I have never frequented the lounge at the Empress Hotel during afternoon tea. The Arts and Crafts Club is unaware of my existence, so is The Colonist. . . you will have to try another tack, Anne. I admire your pertinacity. This, however, is not a correspondence column. I cannot answer any more of your letters through this medium, nor can I undertake to answer them privately. If you have anything more to say, kindly see the Editor: you will never want to see him again. If it's a personal interview with me you want, I must emphatically decline. I could not be sure of myself, nor could you. We might turn out to be old friends. No, Anne, you will not pierce the veil of my anonymity. I am not who you think I am at all. You are quite off the scent. But go on reading The Week: it won't do you any harm.

Lounger.

Bulgaria has decided to open negotiations with Russia, in accordance with her allies, and has sent a reply to this effect to the Russian Government, a Sofia dispatch says. This announcement was made in the Bulgarian Parliament by Premier Radoslavoff.

Men and women have an innate, unreasoning tendency to optimism which leads them to put the best face upon things. They are always readier to believe a glossed-over, untrue account of conditions than a raw revelation of the terrible truth.

THE FAILURE OF THE CHURCH

(CONTRIBUTED)

When coming generations shall regard the present world war from the dispassionate viewpoint of a remoter perspective, will not one of their chief causes of wonder undoubtedly be the illogical attitude now occupied by the Christian churches throughout the world?

With the notable exception of the Pope's peace note, organized Christianity, which asserts its universal claim to be the greatest civilizing force that has ever existed on this planet, has so far made no attempt to reconcile the warring nations.

An institution whose central teaching is the Divine fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man, has yet so little corporate faith in its own doctrines that it has made no organized attempt on behalf of our common humanity to stay such wholesale sacrifice of the race, and the projection of millions of souls into perdition.

One hears much of the folly of a premature peace, and most seriously minded people believe that a treaty of peace that left the spirit of militarism rampant might be productive of worse horrors in the near future.

Before peace can be consummated either in the near or remote days, the desire must first be manifest, but the world has so far looked in vain for any attempt on the part of the Church universal to either create or foster such desire.

Secular organizations with international affiliations of a merely mundane character, have made determined efforts to find some common human ground whereon to promote conferences in the direction of world peace.

Such organizations far from laying claim to anything in the nature of Divine revelation as to human brotherhood, are popularly branded as having a strong infidel leaning. And yet we must admit that judged from the standpoint of practical endeavor to restore the world's sanity they form a strong contrast to the Christian Church. For the Christian Church whose missionary spirit is so unbounded in the piping times of peace, and whose zeal is then told in tales of noble self sacrifice for humanity and formidable financial reports, has during the agony and distress of war even failed to express encouragement or approval of any such efforts towards peace.

An attitude of prayerful aloofness might almost have been expected as a result of sheer impotence in the face of a war so overwhelming in its suddenness and so appalling in its proportions. It might well have been that an institution concerned only with proclaiming a gospel of peace, love and brotherhood, should become paralyzed by the fierceness with which those nations, whom she thought wedded to herself, threw aside her claims and her teachings.

Organized Christianity might have been reduced to the position of a helpless looker on, engaging in prayers of intercession from its cloistered seclusion, and still have retained sympathy and respect for its doctrines and teachings.

But today the position of the Christian Churches is difficult to reconcile with their teaching.

In all the so-called Christian countries engaged in this war the priests of the churches preach recruiting sermons at the bidding of their several governments. In our own country the prayers of our Christian ministers and clergy are for a speedy termination of the war by the crushing of a barbarous and inhuman foe. There is no place in the scheme of their gospel or prayers for a staying of the slaughter of all men made in the likeness of God.

The pulpits of each nation at war exhibit their own people to the enemy in a jealous and revengeful light, thus fanning the flame of hate and strengthening the hands of the war caste.

In our own churches the sermons and prayers are ofttimes almost grotesquely at variance with hymns telling of the power and claims of a conquering love and frequently sung to German tunes.

Religious bodies representing the Christian faith in Germany and Austria are doubtless open to the same judgment to even a greater degree. And yet an appeal emanating from a congress of the Protestant churches of the British Empire to the representative Churchian churches of the enemy countries, could hardly have been disregarded. Such an appeal, even though open to suspicion and misrepresentation, would have been consistent with its tenets and teachings at any rate. The British Government would not have felt called upon to repress such an appeal as open to an interpretation of weak kneed pacifism. Had it failed in the attempt on behalf of humanity to bring about a peaceful settlement, its attitude would at least have been consistent, and it would have stood vindicated after the war in the eyes of the world. The ministry and self-sacrifice of its chaplains on the field of battle would have been the more noble.

But could such an appeal by the organized Christian churches of a belligerent nation have failed?

Would it not have gathered such cumulative force from the support of Christian institutions in all countries whether at war or neutral, that its gospel of peace must ere this have proved more irresistable than all man's engines of war on land, sea or sky.

Will some such judgment not be merited by the Church at the bar of history?

SUB ROSA

The Prussian theory of government, which has led to the present catastrophe in Europe, is, in effect, that permanent officials are more efficient in the art of government than representative institutions can possibly be. They may be more efficient for some purposes, but they are not more efficient than popular institutions in the preservation of liberty. Quite the contrary. It is not prowess in arms that has made Britain great, but the fact that it has been an example to all the world in the preservation of personal liberty.

The number of officials who have been created during the war is something appaling, and we know that, if experience counts for anything, a great many of these will try to prove that they are necessary in peace. We confess to some fear of the statesmen who have tasted almost absolute power. The real rulers of Britain at the moment are Lord Curzon and Lord Milner and we know their record and their views.

We are all prepared to make sacrifices during the war; but let there be no mistake—we have made these sacrifices, not to get rid of our liberties, but to preserve them. We do not complain of material sacrifices. These may be necessary long after the war is over, even long after demobilization is completed. But the sacrifices of our liberty we will not tolerate a minute longer than is necessary for the sake of bringing the war to a conclusion.

Let those who propose or who would like to keep us in leading strings remember that all the great convulsions of the world have been caused by the desire for liberty, which men value a great deal more than they value material things.

The world will be a very different place when the war is over, and it will be different, not in the direction which some of our junkers hope, but in quite the opposite way. The Russian revolution will yet affect or infect all Europe, not excluding Germany. Governments and their jacks in office must not be allowed to get into the way of thinking, that the restrictions the people are now bearing can last a minute longer than is necessary.

Mr. Lloyd George has in his time made many fights for freedom. Let him make it clear that, so far as he is concerned, he will use all his strength to restore the freedom to the people which they have lost during the war. Whether he knows it or not, this matter is giving the greatest concern to those very sections of the population which, hating war, yet went into this war because they thought it was necessary to preserve the liberties of the world, and are determined not to lose their own liberties in fighting for those of other people. Among such are

U AND I.

Say you saw it in The Week.

Mass Meeting

OF

Labor Candidates

DEC. 8—VICTORIA WEST
DEC. 10—SAANICH
DEC. 15—PRINCESS THEATRE

Speakers:

A. S. WELLS, Federation Nominee

J. TAYLOR, Federation Nominee
Nanaimo

W. E. PEIRCE,
President Canadian Freedom League

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MONA CAFE, BROAD ST.

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Drug Store ——— Yates and Broad Sts.
On sale in Victoria at Dean & Hiscocks

LAND REGISTRY ACT
(Section 24)

IN THE MATTER of part of Lot 13 and all of Lots 2, 3 and 12, of Block 10, Nanaimo City, Map 584.

Proof having been filed of the loss of Certificates of Title Nos. 8050A and 8051A, issued to William Henry Redmond on the 20th day of June 1887 and the 28th day of June 1887, respectively, I hereby give notice of my intention at the expiration of one calendar month from the first publication hereof to issue fresh Certificates of Title in lieu thereof.

DATED at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., this 27th day of November, 1917.

J. C. GWYNN,
Registrar-General of Titles.

Dec1-Dec29

OREGON & CALIFORNIA RAILROAD CO. GRANT LANDS

Title to same revested in United States by Act of Congress dated June 9, 1916. Two million three hundred thousand acres to be opened for homesteads and sale. Timber and Agricultural Lands. Containing some of best land left in United States. Now is the opportune time. Large map showing lands by sections and description of soil, climate, rainfall, elevations, etc., postpaid, One Dollar. Grant Lands Locating Co., Box 610, Portland, Oregon.

Say you saw it in The Week.

INCREASED PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

OWNERS of vacant land in the city who are willing to lend same for cultivation during the year 1918 are requested to notify the

SECRETARY,
Increased Production Committee,
City Hall.

INCREASED PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

INDIVIDUALS wishing to cultivate vacant lots in the City during the year 1918, are requested to notify the undersigned, and if possible give definite information as to the particular lots required; if the lots desired are not listed, efforts will be made to secure the owner's permission to use same.

SECRETARY,
Increased Production Committee,
City Hall.

SOTTO VOCE

BY THE HORNET

That Dr. Tolmie is greatly indebted to his brother for faithful services rendered.

That without his brother's invaluable manipulation he would not have secured the Conservative nomination in this city.

That a certain well known Liberal barrister has the promise of a judgeship—if Tolmie wins.

That this accounts for his present devotion to the Tory cause.

That the Liberal barrister in question has in days past used strong words re political time-servers.

That he once referred to a former editor of The Colonist as a man who "stifled the dictates of his conscience to satisfy the cravings of his stomach."

That these words are now coming home to roost.

That a certain newspaper editor on Fort Street is an enthusiastic conscriptionist—of the other fellow.

That he is a single man and a slacker.

That he is fat and strong.

That he has all kinds of pluck—at a safe distance.

That he can shoot straight—with mud.

That he firmly believes that the pen is mightier than the sword.

That he recently announced he believed in conscription of "brawn" not "brains."

That R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, is sueing the editor of "Fair Play."

That R. B. is a hot member anyway.

That any man who can talk at the rate of 300 words a minute is liable to say more than he really thinks.

That even the Hornet couldn't think that fast.

That the City Council have turned down the Proportional Representation scheme.

That Alderman Christie said "it was not the kind of a thing for a city council to get tangled up with."

That any man who would get tangled in a thing so simple may be a good authority on shoe laces but has no business being in the City Council.

That there are others at present holding office in the City Hall who are equally qualified to be elected to stay at home next January.

That John Day has been "coming out" in The Colonist.

That the Hornet used to read his letters with much interest.

That his latest epistles have lost their "punch."

That it is very difficult to follow his line of argument.

That his contention seems to be that Wells does not represent labor—because of his anti-conscription stand.

That according to John's letter "The British, American and Canadian Trades Unions stand firm AGAINST conscription.

That it is hard to see how he makes these two statements agree.

That he also complains that the officers of the B. C. Federation are nearly all Socialists.

That he must acknowledge that they are all elected by the various labor parties.

That this fact alone is sufficient evidence that they DO represent labor.

That any candidate nominated by the B. C. Federation must therefore of necessity be a labor representative.

That any one who can't see that must be dense.

That B. J. Perry is also coming out strong as a literary man.

That he is getting after Lord Lansdowne.

That he suggests "A court martial and firing squad for the pacifists."

That Sir Charles Tupper is quoted as saying "that the question is put up to the slacker, the conscientious objector, the traitor and the cattle of all kinds.

That if these two gentlemen are wise they will be a little more guarded in their statements.

That it might be well for them to re-read the history of the French Revolution.

That they will find that remarks of this kind didn't pan out the way they expected.

That the men who made them got a severe dose of their own medicine.

That some of them lost that part of their anatomy which had led them to made those remarks.

That as a result they kept perfectly quiet afterwards.

That history has a persistent way of repeating itself.

That the Hornet extends his sympathy to Mr. Kingham.

That he hopes he will soon be all right again.

That he would not dare to suggest that the accident was a dispensation of Providence, still it MIGHT be a gentle hint to keep out of MIXED company.

That a visitor at the City Library could not find the current issue of The Week on file.

That he asked for it of the Librarian.

That he was told they had discontinued keeping it.

That the reason given was that it was "pro-German."

That the Hornet at once enquired of a member of the Library Board whether this was official.

That he was told emphatically "No."

That if the lady who made that statement will put it down in writing The Week will start action for libel right away.

That some one else has stated that within a few weeks The Week will be the only Government paper in Victoria.

That the Hornet does not view things in quite so rosy a light.

That he had a bad dream the other night.

That in his dream he was hauled before a magistrate.

That he was charged with writing "Hornet" stuff.

That he got "two weeks" for writing in one Week.

That he woke up in time to avoid imprisonment.

That since then he has gone to bed supperless.

That the Old Lady on Broad Street has made more bad guesses on the Russian situation in the last six days than she will be able to explain away *in the next six months.*

That she has also published articles on "Pacifism" and "pro-Germanism" which are so vindictive that it will take the average man on the street a long time to forget.

That the Hornet would not call any lady—especially an old lady—a liar..

That nevertheless he does not hesitate to say that the aforesaid old lady is showing a most rigid wartime economy of truth.

That she showed a righteous indignation at the murder of General Dukhoun by enraged Russian soldiers.

That she was quite right in doing so, *but*—

That she had very little to say about the men in the States who dragged a cripple from his bed and hung him to the beam of a railway culvert, and—

That she had nothing to say in condemnation of a party of well to do ruffians who seized a minister of the gospel and after taking him to a secluded spot, twenty miles out of town, stripped him and horse whipped him, leaving his nude and half dead.

That omissions like these are liable to make people very dubious about the genuineness of the Old Lady's wrath.

That chickens have a habit of "coming home to roost."

That one of these days the Old Lady's hen house will be full of them.

That the Hornet's friend "Ernest" was on the Unionist platform the other night.

That he read a "creed" which he described as noble, grand and patriotic.

That the said creed might as easily have been written by a pagan as a Christian minister.

That the Doctor's convictions seem to have changed considerably lately.

That he is now lined up with men he would have scorned a few months ago.

That no doubt he still stands firm on his conviction, but—

That these convictions are very *wobbley.*

A BIG INTERESTS CABINET

Where Does Labor Come In?

The twenty-three men who have taken it upon themselves to tell the people who shall represent them in Parliament include in their numbers no less than fifteen corporation lawyers, most of whom have represented "Big Business" throughout their career. Of the others, Mr. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, is head of a paint combine; Sir Edward Kemp, Overseas Minister of Militia, is head of a tinware combine; Hon. Frank Cochrane is a hardware merchant and mining speculator; Hon. J. D. Reid, head of the Railway Department, is a medical doctor who has never practised much; Senator Robertson is a telegraph operator by profession, and Mr. Burrell is an apple-grower. The great industry of agriculture is represented only by Hon. T. A. Crerar. Labor has no portfolio at all. The returned soldier has no representative in the government. In fact it is a Cabinet of Big Interest men whose object it is to perpetuate Special Privilege.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER

The terrible disaster at Halifax has stirred the nation to deepest sorrow and sympathy. As we go to press a full and correct estimate of the loss of life and injury is awaited and it is earnestly hoped that the first reports are exaggerated. In any event the calamity is appalling.

British Liberals Support Lansdowne

The Manchester Guardian says it understands that a meeting of the opposition Liberal leaders, at which former Premier Asquith was present, was entirely favorable to the recent Lansdowne letter, although some of the leaders went further than others in their approval.

Industrial Democracy will make the world safe for humanity.

Say you saw it in The Week.

Cured His Rupture

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of cure was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely cured me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned, although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to sell, but will give full information about how you may find a complete cure without operation, if you write to me, Eugene M. Pullen, Carpenter, 811D Marcellus Avenue, Manasquan, N.J. Better cut out this notice and show it to any others who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation. nov24-mar30

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EVERY SUIT AND OVERCOAT MUST GO

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¶ It's the biggest and best sale of its kind ever attempted in Victoria, for the stocks are absolutely new and well bought.

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Formerly priced to $10.75, now..... $ 5.00
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Formerly priced to $22.50, now..... 15.00
Formerly priced to $35.00, now..... 20.00

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Formerly priced to $35.00, now..... 22.50

See Windows for Samples

—Men's Clothing, Main Floor.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

The man who really loses his vote is the man who votes against his own interest. The man who loses a vote cast in his own interest, really saves it.

If a man is trying in his business to serve the good of others, the money will come, it is bound to come; he cannot fail.

DEAF PEOPLE

DEAFNESS AND NOISES IN THE HEAD can now be most certainly cured by the newly discovered "French Orlene." This new remedy goes right to the actual seat of the trouble, and effects a complete and lasting cure in a few days.

One box is ample to cure any ordinary case, and has given almost immediate relief in hundreds of cases which had been considered "hopeless."

Mr. D. Borthwick, of Dalbeattie, N.B., *writes:* "Your new remedy, which I received from you some time ago, HAS COMPLETELY CURED MY HEARING, AFTER MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS' DEAFNESS. I will be pleased to recommend it to all my friends."

Scores of other equally good reports.

Try one box today, which can be forwarded securely packed and postpaid to any address upon the receipt of postal order for $1. There is nothing better at any price. Address:

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KENT. ENGLAND.

Please mention this paper

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A Home Cure Given by One Who had It

In the spring of 1893 I was attacked by *Muscular and Inflammatory Rheumatism.* I suffered as only those who have it know, for over three years. I tried remedy after remedy, and doctor after doctor, but such relief as I received was only temporary. Finally, I found a remedy that cured me completely, and it has never returned. I have given it to a number who were terribly afflicted and even bedridden with Rheumatism, and it effected a cure in every case.

I want every sufferer from any form of rheumatic trouble to try this marvelous healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be that long-looked-for means of curing your Rheumatism, you may send the price of it, one dollar, but, understand I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer when positive relief is thus offered you *free? Don't* delay Write today.

Mark H. Jackson, No. 568D Gurney Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true—Pub.

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