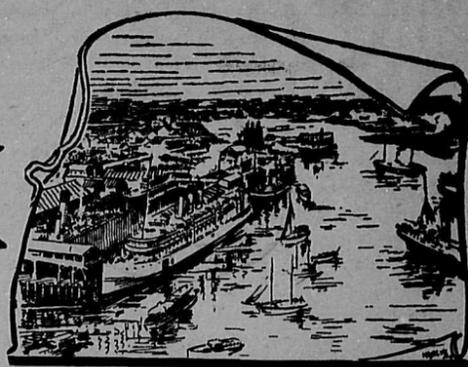


# The Week

A British Columbia Newspaper and Review



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## Russia

NOT the least of Britain's blunders during the great world-war was her tactless refusal of passports to those desiring to attend the now famous Stockholm Conference. The full extent of that disaster cannot yet be fully estimated. It is indeed doubtful if it will ever be known. But if it can be even approximately gauged by the quantity of wreckage then is it safe to argue a disaster of the first magnitude. The first result of that refusal was the withdrawal from the Ministry of Arthur Henderson, the trusted representative of Labour. The second result, flowing naturally from the first, was the alienation of the sympathies of the great toiling masses in the Old Country. And the third result has been the detachment of Russia from the cause of the Allies. Many persons, chiefly those of the old-fashioned Tory school, view with perfect equanimity the departure of Henderson from the war-cabinet. They argue, and with perfect truthfulness, that he lacks the education, the training and the ability for the efficient discharge of the onerous duties of high office. But a somewhat similar charge could with equal truthfulness be levelled against Lords Milner and Curzon—two of his colleagues. These indeed may not lack education but they do lack ability and their training is such as to unfit them for high office in a democratic country. Milner is a Prussian by training and instinct, and Curzon is the pampered child of an aristocratic school. At the back of Henderson stand the millions of the industrial army upon whose activities the success of the war depends. At the back of Milner and Curzon stands the handful of privileged plutocrats whose activities during the past twenty years made the great world war possible. Lloyd George did not choose any of these men for their outstanding merit. He chose Henderson because of the confidence it would inspire amongst the masses, and he chose Milner and Curzon for reasons which have never yet been made public. Henderson's reputation for carefulness and stability have never been higher than at this moment, whilst neither Curzon nor Milner have had a reputation to lose since their records in India and South Africa respectively. When therefore Lloyd George lost the service of Arthur Henderson he lost the confidence and support of the great masses of Britain. Since that date his ministry has existed by will of his foes. Newspaper editors are openly boasting that they have the power to dismiss him at will. If they lack the will it is only because they are not yet reconciled to the only possible alternative—a democratic ministry, containing an even stronger labor element. But the most disastrous result of Britain's refusal to allow delegates to attend the Stockholm Conference is the paralysing effect it has produced in Russia. Russia is now a democracy. Kerensky, the Dictator, is but an instrument of the masses. He is there to register the popular will. He exists by consent of the Social Democrats and the Social Democrats constitute the vast majority of the people. These are the men who willed the Stockholm Conference. They boldly and rightly proposed to stop the insane massacre of innocents by agreement amongst the warring peoples. Like President Wilson they recognised a distinct difference between the Prussian rulers and the German people. They refused to believe that this war is willed by the great toiling masses of any of the great countries now engaged in bloody strife. Therefore they wanted representatives of the peoples to have a frank heart to heart talk. They believed they could succeed where secret diplomacy had failed. They at least wanted to assure themselves that the ghastly toll of human life was unavoidable. A more statesmanlike Premier in Britain would have instantly assented. Why not? Is there any fear that international Socialism will assent to the perpetuation of Prussian autoeracy? Not in the least. Socialism and autoeracy are the bitterest of foes. Consent to the conference would have assured the revolutionary forces of Russia that Britain is fighting only for the vindication of human rights. Agreement between the two great democracies would have sounded the death knell of junkerdom. But alas! The British missed their golden opportunity. Prompt consent to the conference would have wedded Russia to the Allies in the bonds of an indissoluble union; whereas Britain's refusal shattered once and for all the bright hopes of a Russian offensive in 1917. Did not Britain's action confirm the clever suggestions of Prussia's paid agents at Petrograd? Had not Prussia spent money freely to convince the Russian Socialists that Britain had turned her back on democracy? Were not the Russian statesmen already doubtful of the war aims of the Allies? From the moment that Britain declined to allow the workers' representatives to attend the Stockholm Conference, all chance of active Russian co-operation disappeared. That colossal blunder cost the Allies thousands of lives on the Western front. It enabled Germany to withdraw hundreds of thousands of men from the East and hurl them against our own boys in the West. It destroyed the last chance of bringing the war to a successful conclusion during 1917 and made a long and terrible Winter campaign inevitable. All these disasters could have been avoided by allowing British Socialists to exercise their undoubted rights to confer freely with the Socialists of other countries.

## The Canadian Northern Steal

IN 1914 the Canadian Northern Railway was practically insolvent. It applied to the Federal Parliament for assistance—and obtained it. The huge sum of \$45,000,000 was advanced. It was then represented that that sum would enable the company to settle all their claims, meet all their liabilities, complete the enterprise and make it a going and prosperous concern. The Government took every mortgage possible upon the assets of the company. The stock was increased from \$77,000,000 to \$110,000,000 by a stroke of the legislative pen. Of this the government took \$40,000,000 and a mortgage on the balance. In addition the company bound itself to

grant fixed, specific and floating mortgages upon the undertaking of the company and its properties, assets, rents and revenues and its rights, powers and franchises present and future. It was stipulated and agreed by the company that in the event of default the mortgage would be foreclosed and everything would be lost to the company, including their equity of redemption. The policy of the present government in 1914 was to take over the line absolutely and without further payment in the event of the company defaulting in its payments, but no provision was made for nationalising the concern if it became a financial success. The opposition insisted that a clause should be added reducing the capital stock of the concern to \$30,000,000 and giving the Government the right to expropriate the company at that figure even if it proved a big financial success. That point is important in view of recent happenings. The arrangement then advocated contemplated that if the venture failed the government should nationalise it without further outlay and that if it succeeded the Government should have the right to take it over for a further sum not exceeding \$30,000,000. That was in 1914. What is the situation which confronts the Canadian people today? The Canadian Northern has hopelessly failed. It has been unable to meet its liabilities to either the public or its private creditors. The Canadian

I HAD rather believe all the fables in the Legend, and the Talmud, and the Alcoran than that this universal frame is without a mind. And therefore God never wrought miracle to convince Atheism, because His ordinary works inclineth man's mind to Atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion; for while the mind of man looketh upon second causes scattered, it may sometimes rest in them and go no farther; but when it beholdeth the chain of them confederate and linked together, it must needs fly to Providence and Deity. Nay, even that school which is most accused of Atheism doth most demonstrate religion—that is, the school of Leucippus, and Democritus, and Epicurus. For it is a thousand times more credible that four mutable elements, and one immutable fifth essence duly and eternally placed, need no God, than that an army of infinite small portions, or seeds unplaced, should have produced this order and beauty without a divine marshal.

FRANCIS BACON

nation has the right to foreclose the concern and complete it in the public interest, without further payments to Mackenzie and Mann. Yet the Borden Government has actually forced through the House by the use of the *closure* a bill to give millions more compensation to the C. N. R. freebooters. The vital interests of the nation—at a time when we are engaged in a great world war—are to be sacrificed for the sake of unscrupulous Toronto magnates. These magnates met in 1911 and formed a compact for the advancement of their private interests. Following the election they forced one of their number on Premier Borden as Finance Minister. That man, representing private vested interests, still holds the position. Today he is the servant of those who secured him the appointment. Of the remainder of the noble eighteen, it is important to notice that Z. A. Lash, E. R. Wood, and W. K. George are Canadian Northern directors; W. J. Christie is a C. N. R. shareholder; Sir Edmund Walker, Z. A. Lash and E. R. Wood are directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The Bank of Commerce is, of course, the pledgee of the Canadian Northern holdings. Another concern intimately related is the National Trust Company. Some of the above mentioned gentlemen (?) are directors of this concern as are also Sir Joseph Flavelle and Sir John Aird. The two latter may always be relied upon to be active whenever an opportunity for robbing their fellows presents itself. Thus we see that a government which has dallied for months on the simple question of doing bare justice to soldiers and their dependents has rushed through the House with indecent haste a bill to protect their financial friends. The cheque from Borden to the private syndicate at Toronto amounts to \$645,000,000, whilst the cheque to the man who risks his all for his country overseas amounts to but \$1.10 per day. Oh, that some of the Win-the-War orators would cease orating and face some of the hard facts to which Sir Wilfrid Laurier is inviting the attention of his fellow countrymen.

## The National Anthem

SOME day, perhaps, a real poet-musician will receive an inspiration which will enable him to produce a national anthem that will be a national anthem, not a mere jumble of words set to music entirely undignified. Till then we must be content to make the best of what we have, and try to make up in patriotic fervor

what is lacking in poetic language. Canada is singularly behind in this respect. *The Maple Leaf*, while it may have endeared itself to many (especially to the boys who have gone to the Front), is decidedly lacking in anything that can give it claim to the title of "anthem." It is a school children's song, pure and simple; and the painful accent invariably thrown on the second syllable of the word "maple" in the last line of the chorus makes it sound like "The may pall leaf for ever," and effectively bars it from ever becoming a classic. *Oh! Canada* has far more merit, both in the matter of words and music, and will in all probability ultimately take the place of *The Maple Leaf*. In our British national anthem we have a better combination, but here again we are a long way from perfection. "God-save-our-gracious King" with a long "gra" and a short "cious," when the words call for the reverse, and "Long-live-our-noble King" with the same defect, is not a nice arrangement of words and music. Compared with the dignity and beauty of the Russian or Austrian national anthem it makes a very poor showing. With all its imperfections, however, we love it. There is no doubt about that. Every Britisher feels his heart stirred at the first few bars of "God save the King"; but why—oh! why—do we still include that awful second verse, at all events when used in church? The whole thing is a prayer, and can only be used as such, but the words "Con-found-their-po-litics, Frus-trate-their-kna-vish-tricks" sung on the high notes and with the vehemence the sentiment naturally calls for, are so far removed from anything like a prayerful spirit, and show such an utter abandonment of the virtues of forgiveness and humiliation that their use amounts almost to blasphemy. Of course the meaning of each word may be taken separately and the whole verse analyzed so as to show that it is quite right and proper. In prose this sort of analysis may be all right but in poetry we must take the sentiment as a whole and no amount of dislocation or explanation will hide the fact that no one can sing those words in a truly prayerful spirit. *THE WEEK* suggests, for the sake of the many who never sing that verse, and who feel its utter inappropriateness during a crisis that calls for deep national humiliation, that it be omitted at all church services. The noble sentiment and dignified wording of the last verse would not then be lost in counteracting the revulsion of feeling caused by being obliged to listen to the other, and the hymn would in reality be the better for its omission. Soon, we hope, some world renowned musician will bestir himself and give us something that will combine all the good points of the various national anthems with none of their bitterness—something that will be a grand international anthem of peace. In the meantime let us keep just as far away as we possibly can from the spirit of the "Hymn of Hate."

## The Forthcoming Mission

IF the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much, great good should result from the forthcoming mission. The preacher may be as lacking in tact as Vancouver friends allege; he may be just as uncharitable as they claim in his judgments of those who differ from him; and his theology may be as narrow as the strictest Calvinists; yet if his appeal to the hearts and consciences of men is reinforced by the earnest prayers of righteous people, much solid work for moral and spiritual uplift is sure to result. The soil has been prepared by home training; the seed has been sown by devoted parents and teachers; the crop has been well watered by effectual prayer. Would it not be strange indeed if the harvest were entirely barren? All thoughtful men will wish the mission much success.

(The above was unavoidably held over from last week.—Ed.)

## The Position of Austro-Hungary

COUNT TZERNIN, the Austrian Foreign Minister, has just admitted that the millions of soldiers engaged in this war have a right to know why peace is delayed. They desire peace and the world desires peace. Why does it tarry? If the Premier's plain statement of his country's war-aims is as sincere as it appears to be, there is much that should receive recognition from the Allies. He desires neither to oppress or be oppressed. He desires a general acceptance of the principle of negotiation and peace by agreement. He believes in an all-round repudiation of territorial ambitions and the evacuation by all parties of alien soil. These aims are certainly not at variance with the declared war-aims of the Allies. The Allies should certainly be prepared to concede his point that Austria has convinced the world that she is not a dying state subject to dismemberment. There can be no harm in allowing that concession to Austrian national pride. Even his reservation of the right to revise his country's war-aims, if present terms are refused, need not create discord. Intimations of future demands for compensation if present terms are rejected may be regarded as a soporific to appease Austrian jingoes and junkers. Surely the Allies, with their present undoubted ascendancy, can afford to assess such words at their true value. He was not threatening the Allies. He was making his position sure at home. The opprobrium which he has had to bear for his plain speaking is a sure indication of a willingness to climb down. He has displayed courage and is seeking the support of the rank and file against the militarist party. Surely the Allies should do everything possible to make his task as easy as possible. Why not allow him to do so with at least a semblance of dignity? Humanity demands that nothing be done to discourage this spirit if it genuinely exists, nor anything left undone that will tend to encourage and stimulate its development. The Count's foreshadowing of the world ruin which will result if unrestricted armaments are persisted in should give pause to all belligerents and his vision of the beatific condition

of the world when the curse of armaments shall have been removed is an auspicious sign. Future generations will have reason to thank Count Tzernin for his present attitude if he carries his point that both big armies and big navies have outlived their usefulness.

Dominion-Wide Prohibition

THE movement to secure Dominion-wide Prohibition of the liquor traffic is gaining strength daily. Present indications are that within two years John Barleycorn will be finally banished from British-American soil. The obstacles to be encountered and overcome are certainly not greater than those already surmounted in the Provincial field. All the Western Provinces have declared unmistakably in favor of the suppression of the traffic. The movement in the East is gaining strength day by day. Only yesterday the City of Quebec went dry by popular vote. The politicians from Victoria to Halifax are only too anxious to make peace with the party of Reform. A few years back none were so poor as to do it reverence; today none are too rich to bow the knee. The politician in Canada who would announce himself as opposed to prohibition would be inviting certain defeat. Temperance reform has reached the popular stage. The flowing tide is with us. The friends of the movement should see to it that they sweep the whole Dominion while the tide is flowing strong. Many of the weaknesses of the Provincial legislation can only be remedied by entering the Federal field. Only the Ottawa House can suppress the manufacture of the poison. Prohibition cannot effectively prohibit until liquors can neither be manufactured in or imported into our fair country.

to join the cadets—now they order them to do so.

If the women of the world do not learn from this war to end war forever then they are more shortsighted than they appear to be.

It is said that Jesus used a word which had wonderful power and that if that word could be recovered it would change the world in no time. I once heard a lovely American lady say that it was revealed to her while in deep and prayerful meditation, that that word was "Peace."

J. WOODWARD.

The Junk Heap

To the Editor. Sir.—What would be the judgment passed by a community of average minded people upon a business man or manufacturer who finding himself confronted with an undertaking of the greatest magnitude and being equipped with only worn out machinery, incompetent help and obsolete methods, decided to tinker up his machines and retain his inefficient help and worse methods because his management advised that changes should not be made at such a critical time?

Yet this is precisely the advice that is being tendered to the Canadian nation today in all seriousness by certain party politicians and some sections of the press. Can we expect that a policy that spells certain and deserved failure to an individual would have any other result if followed by a nation?

A gigantic war comes upon us. Our management appoints political colonels to wave the flag and recruit adventurous spirits. It will be settled in six months! Business as usual! War continues to rage—our management decides to help make munitions, and votes loan upon loan to pay enormous dividends to profiteers.

Meanwhile the cost of living nearly doubles from avoidable causes for the most part. The resulting economic pressure brings in recruits for a time. This effect ceases after a time almost entirely and no effort is made to obtain more recruits because the pittance paid is insufficient for the necessary support and the provisions for widows and orphans is quite inadequate.

Our management appoints one of its admirers as food controller. He reports that nothing can be done without involving hardship to an eminent and respectable class of middlemen, and

that as their name is legion any interference with present systems would amount to a disaster and is therefore inadvisable. He advocates an abstinance from what we can no longer afford to buy, and suggests a voluntary economy in things we have long been compelled to forego. He concludes with the impotent whimper of an inefficient and blames the perverse nature of the people who being barred from producing on the land come into the cities to help to consume.

We have been getting somewhat restive and now venture to suggest various means to solve our national problems. We mention an adequate pay to soldiers and a reasonable and proper support for dependants to stimulate recruiting and provide needed reinforcements, but we are assured that conscription is the only logical method consistent with the traditions of a free people. We think it is time we were consulted but our management decides to enact conscription and consult us after. They also deem it best for patriotic reasons to extend the franchise to the widows of dead heroes and withhold from some who have living husbands.

The election approaches, and the first government candidate to throw his hat in the ring in Vancouver, has sounded his election cry. If correctly reported by our local morning paper of September 22nd last, his cry is that present methods should continue, that present management remain in control and the present staff disturbed as little as may be until the big job is triumphantly completed. A little further tinkering up of the present machinery is claimed as the true part of wisdom till the big strain is over.

The possession of Imperial confidences by his leader, he says, should command for said leader and followers the loyal support of all true patriots against even the greatest inefficiency to be found elsewhere.

What an appeal to a long suffering nation! What a measure to take of the intelligence of free electors who have had three years of such imposition. Is it really too late to use our own common sense and scrap the old machinery? Is it too late to call in efficient help and install proper systems admirers as food controller. He reports that nothing can be done without involving hardship to an eminent and respectable class of middlemen, and

The Imperial Government has neither power or wish to influence our votes in any degree. We are standing

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in this war as champions for the free expression of democracy. Is the expression of it to be merely a pose, and in reality directed by a group of political inefficients who have failed to measure up to their trust? Is our suffrage to be claimed on the strength of arguments that menace our free judgment? Is there no political junk heap among our free institutions where such anaerionisms may be dumped?

Can we find no public spirited economists to come forward and fearlessly put our house in order? Or truly patriotic business organisers to direct the nation's affairs?

Let such leaders stand forth at this time of crisis in our history, and they need fear no lack of following or support.

H. H. HOLLINS.



PUBLIC WORKS OF CANADA BRITISH COLUMBIA DREDGING FLEET. REPAIRS TO DREDGE NO. 303 ("FRUHLING")

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned until 4 p.m. on Wednesday 10th October, for repairs and general overhaul of the Departmental Dredge No. 303 ("Frühling").

Each tender must be sent in a sealed envelope endorsed "Tender for Repairs to Dredge No. 303 ("Frühling"). Specifications can be seen at the office of A. F. Mitchell, Esq., Acting District Engineer, Victoria, B.C., and at the office of C. C. Worsfold, Esq., District Engineer, New Westminster, B.C., and at the office of the undersigned, 614-13 Birks Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a Chartered Bank, payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of \$300.00 (Eight Hundred Dollars), which will be forfeited if the person tendering declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the contract. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned. The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order, C. C. WORSFOLD, Acting Superintendent of Dredges, Department of Public Works, Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 24th. (Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.)



DEPARTMENT OF NAVAL SERVICE NOTICE OF SALE

Sealed tenders addressed to the Naval Store Officer, H. M. C. Dockyard, Esquimalt and marked "TENDER FOR OLD STORES" will be received up to 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday, October 2nd, 1917, for the purchase of any or all of the following:—

Table listing various items for sale such as Iron and Steel Scrap, Old Files and Tools, Zinc, Lead, Rope, Steel Wire, India Rubber, Cordage, Canvas, Bunting, Rags, Leather, Cord, Cable, Electric, Cables, Terminals, Hawser, Steel Wire, Baths, cast iron, Tanks, Blocks, Carpets, Dresses, Boats, Cutter, Steam Boat, Spare gear, Skiff, Dinghy, Motor Dinghys, Cells, Electric, firing, Coats, Jackets and Tunics, Coats, Watch, Trousers, Serge and Cloth, Suits, Serge and Cloth, Vests, Serge, Caps, various, Oilskin Jackets, Oilskin Trousers, Oilskin Suits, Flannel Vests, Blankets, Bags, Kit, Beds, Silk Handkerchiefs, Silk Hat Ribbons, Helmets, Sun, Boxes, tin for Caps, Tobacco, Chewing, Cooking Utensils, assorted, Cutlery and Silverware, Crockery and Enamelled Ware, assorted, Linen, Table Cloths, Linen, Table Napkins, Flour, Pickles.

Terms: F. O. B. Dockyard, 25% cash on acceptance of tender, balance on delivery. Stores to be removed within fourteen days of acceptance of tender. The right is reserved to reject any or all tenders.

G. PHILLIPS, Naval Store Officer, Esquimalt Dockyard, 24th September, 1917.

BOOT REPAIRING

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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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

National Anthem

To the Editor of The Week.

Sir.—It has been intensely gratifying to me as a loyal subject of His Majesty King George V, and as one who is firmly convinced, in view of the present European situation, that England is destined to play the controlling part in the future affairs of the world, to observe an increased interest and respectful altitude on the part of the public whenever the National Anthem is rendered. Yet there have been times when this could not be truthfully said. I happened to be in the Home Products Fair one day while the orchestra was playing the National Anthem and was not a little disgusted to note the absolute disregard displayed by the majority of those present.

Now, sir, this is a matter to which I attach grave importance. We hear a great deal nowadays of the big changes which will take place after the war. Some would have everything turned upside down and all our time-honored institutions destroyed. Herein lies a very great danger. If we allow Socialists and other vulgar persons of revolutionary leanings to influence the mass of the people, then goodbye to the Empire and its glorious traditions.

Away with this idle talk about "democracy" so-called. Are we to entrust the government of the country to an ignorant rabble? Surely not! There are certain institutions which we must preserve, at whatever cost. Chief among these I would place our hereditary governing class. We must teach our people and especially our children to respect their betters and to impress them with the supreme importance of discipline and obedience. They must learn that some are born to rule; others to obey.

The supreme head of the governing body being the ruling monarch, it is incumbent upon every loyal and law-abiding citizen to show all due respect while the National Anthem is being played and to encourage a like spirit in others.

In my own family circle we observe a custom which I venture to think worthy of emulation in every home. At the conclusion of each meal, we all rise in our places at the table, preserve silence for a short space, and at a given signal—a tap on the table with a knife or spoon—from myself, we solemnly repeat the words "God save the King." Even my youngest child, a boy of two years, lisps a hearty "Dod thave the Ting."

Let us ever remember that we must perpetuate the traditions of our glorious Empire and banish from our minds false notions of democratic rule which must be abhorrent to all true Englishmen everywhere. "God save the King." Yours, etc., "RULE BRITANNIA."

Militarism

Sept. 3, 1917.

To the Editor.

Sir:—Alice M. Christie's article strikes a chord in my heart.

If women do rule the world they pay dearly for it. I am reminded of the words of Jesus, "Would ye be baptized with the baptism wherewith I am baptized?"

Only mothers can appreciate the terrible, the exquisite mental agony of mothers.

Now that "we are so deep in blood" perhaps we may have to allow the war to go on until the Allies obtain victory, but cannot we trust our intuition and cry to those concerned, "At least spare our younger sons from all suggestion of militarism?"

Is it advisable to teach boys of ten how to use a gun, and the horrible bayonet, as is being done in our public schools? And we can see the effect of militarism on the masters themselves. At first they asked the boys

BOOK AND BOOK-MAKERS JAPAN:

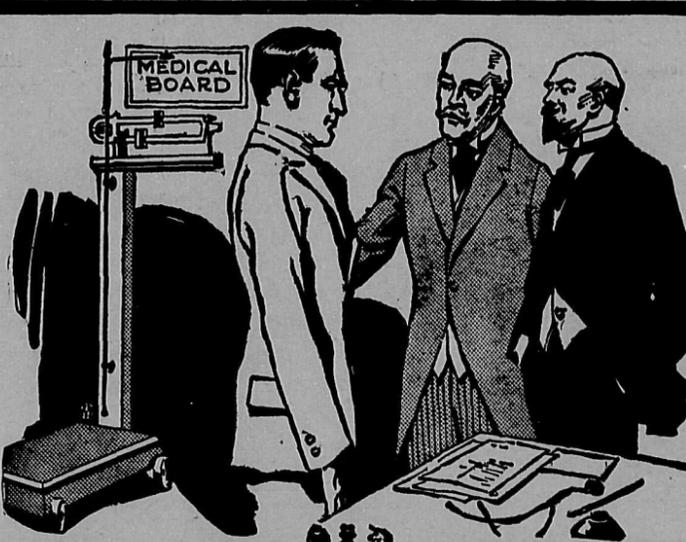
An Attempt at Interpretation by Lafcadio Hearn

Probably more books have been written about Japan than any country, but among these—to quote Hearn himself—the really previous volumes will be found to number scarcely a score. Hearn's own book ranks high among this score, is, perhaps, the best single book, not a work of reference, on Japan. Here the author gives us the result of his many years of reading of Japanese life and books. It has been called the best interpretation of an alien people in any tongue. Hearn stands for the spirit of old Japan, and loves and understands it even better than the Japanese themselves.

More specifically, "Japan, an attempt at interpretation," is an attempt to interpret the Shinto and Buddhist faiths in the light of Spencer's evolutionary philosophy, and to show that the history and character of the Japanese can be understood in this way and in this way only. The original Shinto or ancestor-worship of the Japanese is studied as the religion, first of the clan, then of the larger family or class, then of the whole nation regarded as the family of the Emperor. From these three aspects of the faith, Hearn proceeds to explain the social habits, the temperament, and the government of the Japanese. Two chapters are devoted to the Buddhist faith, which passing from India through China, was engrafted in strange fashion upon the original ancestor-worship. Outwardly, the author tells us, the Japanese are Buddhists, inwardly, and to the core of their being they are ancestor-worshippers, and this is the key to their character. They are ruled by the dead, individuality is not known to them. Their religion is a religion of loyalty. Occidental civilization is only a cloak. Ethics and custom are one. Japan is still in the pre-Homeric stage of evolution. Hearn fears for her in the onslaught of modern economic forces, and thinks her safety lies in conservatism. He says, however, that the statesmanship which has already guided Japan through so many storms, should prove able to cope with this gathering peril.

To fully appreciate Hearn's style his other works on Japan should be read in connection with this. He is generally more subjective. Here his method is scientific, and he subdued for it a good part of what he felt to be himself. His aim is not to catch the reader by a striking phrase but to give just and artistic expression to the phase of life or aspect of nature he is studying. Someone has said of him, "He is a dramatist who paints his own scenery and composes his own music, and he will not have a tone or tint that does not harmonize with the action. But with him the colors are aptly chosen words, the music the rhythmic phrase." Like all good stylists, Hearn had a reverence for words but with him this feeling amounted to an ecstasy. Of his style generally it may be said that it is delicate, sensuous, haunting, ghost-like. "At his best he equals Lotie in his evocation of the mysteries that encompass us, a mystery that has been sounded in music, seldom in language."

Hearn's letters to his friends will probably be ranked with the best of his work, will stand high among letters generally, "the most entertaining, self-revealing literary correspondence published since the death of Stevenson."



These Men Will Help You Decide

Are you liable to be selected for service under the Military Service Act?

The answer to this question is being made readily available for you. Remember that the first class to be called includes only men between the ages of 20 and 34, both inclusive, who are unmarried or widowers without children, those married after July 6, 1917, being deemed single for the purposes of the Act.

Medical Boards are now being established throughout Canada. These Boards will examine, free of charge and obligation, all men who wish to be examined as to their physical fitness for military service. They will tell you in a very short time whether your physical condition absolves you from the call or makes you liable for selection.

It is important that you obtain this information as soon as possible. A certificate of unfitness from a Medical Board will secure for you freedom from responsibility under the Military Service Act from any Exemption Tribunal. A certificate of fitness will not preclude an appeal for exemption on any ground.

In order that you may be able to plan your future with certainty, visit a Medical Board as soon as possible and find out if you are liable to be selected. Your family and your employer are interested as well as yourself.

Issued by The Military Service Council.



At The Street Corner

BY THE LOUNGER

Yes, I may as well own up that I did not go to the Home Products Fair. It sounds bad, I know, but there you are. A fellow can't take in everything. As a matter of fact I knew the thing would be a success without me. The editor also knew it and took pains to tell me so. And, of course, the editor himself was there. That in itself was enough—too much—for me. I am not a cub reporter, anyway, although I can write up anything. I once wrote up King Edward, the King of Belgium, the King of Greece, the King of Portugal, the Kaiser, Kitchener, Lord Roberts and about twenty-five other great men in a better paper than The Week. I was told I had boiled them down very well. I am sorry I didn't boil down one man a little more. No matter. It is written that he will stew in his own juice yet. Stewing may not be boiling, but it is slower.

The Fair of course was not perfect. I have questioned everybody very particularly about this. Even the editor admits that it was not perfect. In answer to repeated inquiries he said that to his certain knowledge—and he thought he knew an infant when he saw it—there was no section for home-grown babies at the Fair. I am loth to believe this, but I suppose it must be true. I shall not finally believe it until I obtain corroboration from somebody who sings in Dr. E. French Oliver's choir, somebody I can trust. While I have little use for children until they are able to behave and control themselves, I am prepared to back the infants of Victoria against the whole civilized and uncivilized world. Finer specimens of lusty young infantry do not exist. I am at a loss to understand why they were not given a look in at the Home Product Fair. Let us assume that it was a mere oversight and that the matter will be rectified next year. I have no private interests to serve in this matter, for I shall not be an exhibitor.

It was demijohn night in the bus, and a pretty sight it was. Everybody was taking home gasoline, coal oil, turpentine, ammonia, wood alcohol, varnish and vinegar. And everybody carried demijohns. I was glad not to have missed this most interesting and beautiful survival of more primitive times. It was just like the old days back on the farm, when everybody journeyed to town for the winter's supplies on the first of October each year. I could not but admire the perspicacity and foresight of the good people in the bus in thus preparing for the cold and rigor of winter. There is nothing degenerate about a people who can take time by the forelock in this manner. I have always admired the demijohn. To me it is the apotheosis of plenty and warmth and good cheer. It is a fine comfortable looking vessel. It is symbolic of all that is truest and best in British hospitality. Moreover it is easy to handle and will stand a lot of knocking about. It is a marvel to me that none of the great poets, such as Keats or Burns, ever immortalised the demijohn in sonnet or ode. Surely a demijohn is as full of inspiration as a Grecian urn! Thinking of the display of demijohns in the bus, these lines of Wordsworth came into my mind:

"A poet could not but be gay, In such jocund company."

Certainly, had there been a poet in the bus, one to whom the simple and homely things of life do appeal, he must have been well-nigh overcome by the excess of inspiration spread before him there. I felt out of it without a demijohn of my own, but it comforted me to think that there were so many careful, thrifty people in the world. I shared their joy, even if I might never share their demijohns. I cannot remember a night when I left the bus with so much regret.

Periodically he comes to town, just as he says, to look you up, to have a chat with you about his book (published twenty years ago), and incidentally to extract from you the inevitable dollar. Some three years had flown since his last visit, and I had begun to think that David would come no more. I often wondered whether the trails or the booze had got him or whether he had struck it straight at last. But it takes a lot to kill a hobo, even if he is gentle-born as David was. And so David turned up again today, looking a little older, perhaps, with a

bluer nose, a hollower cheek, a slacker gait, with the same old story (still unvarnished), the same old lies, and the same old humility that is akin to brazenness. Author, journalist, man of parts, it was thought at one time that David had a future before him. Now he has a future behind him. . . . He lives on the past, trading on a reputation he made and lost long ago. A born fatalist, he refuses to discuss what might have been. I would like to get Dr. E. French Oliver after him, but God knows where he is by now. Try to get him on to practical things, suggest a job, and he is off into the clouds, and only the jingle of coins or the rustle of dollar bills will bring him back. When he has achieved the object of his visit, and thanked you thickly, with returning lustre in his washed-out faded eyes, you have not the heart to follow him round the corner to his favorite bar, where he will promptly forget you in glasses of foaming near-beer. You don't like to encourage the drinking even of an old or faraway beer, but David is an near friend (if a bad one) and there is no cure now, save death. And so, some day David will be found lying cold and stiff by the roadside, or in some low-class lodging, with his poor soiled book clasped in his hands and a wad of greasy testimonials in his pocket—killed, not by lack of help or appreciation, but because he was a shiftless man.

The absence of much verse in these and other local columns would seem to indicate a decay of poetic talent in Victoria. Whether this be the case or no, only the editor, poor fellow, could say, and I am not going to ask him. Time was when no local newspaper was considered complete without its weekly complement of love lyrics and what not. Now only at very rare intervals does anything of the kind appear. It looks as if the love-lorn poet had fallen on evil days. His great fault was that he laid it on too thick. Nobody wanted to know how he got on when he went for a walk on Beacon Hill with his arm around the waist of some unexampled vision of female loveliness. If he hadn't dragged the scenery in and insulted the very flowers it wouldn't have been half so bad. It was hard lines on poor Nature that she should be penalised to help him out with his rhymes. When he began to rhyme "socks, love" with "foxglove," others besides botanists felt that they had a real grievance. Either this type of poet is quite dead, or the editor, knowing his public, will stand for it no longer. And it is well. Many true poets have never written a line, simply out of consideration for other people's feelings. It may be that the local poet now confines himself to prose. Or, again, it may be that, feeling the rebuffs of the editorial world, he now takes his poems with him on his evening walks, to recite them at the proper moment into the ears of his radiant Angelina. In this way there is certainly less publicity, but there is also no chance of criticism, and Angela, the fount and inspiration of it, can have it all to herself.

Lounger.

WAR ROADS AND ROAD MAKERS

By F. W. WARD

The problem of transport has been, and still is, the great problem of the armies in the field, no matter where the front may be. Without roads, the difficulty of getting food, ammunition and other stores up to the fighting line is almost unsurmountable. So the making of roads and of various routes has to be carried on on the heels of armies in the field, no matter where the difficulties or dangers may be. As a matter of fact, it is almost as easy to be killed with a pick or a shovel in your hands as if you were carrying a rifle. The only difference is that it isn't quite so exciting.

When we landed our force on Gallipoli, of roads there were none. Gullies, yes, but in many cases the cliffs ran sheer down to the sea, or at such an angle that to get any kind of wheeled transport along was absolutely impossible. For the roads had to

be made, and the only way was to blast and quarry them out of the face of the rock. The surface was roughly graded, inequalities were made up as well as might be by means of the smaller fragments of the stone thrown out by blasts or picks and drills, and it answered the purpose. It wasn't an easy road to travel over, and there weren't any pneumatic tires on the wheels of the limbers, but the mules could drag their loads along. That was all that was necessary.

In the desert, on either Egyptian front and away in the Sinai Peninsula, roads had also to be made by the British forces as they pressed out and on, day by day. On a picture postcard I am well aware that the desert looks quite a delightful place; the Bedouins camped round the wells, the palm tree drooping overhead, all this is very nice in a photograph. The real thing is very different.

To begin with, the desert is not flat. It is full of little hills and little valleys, to get a level stretch is rather a novelty. That is why roads have to be cut and made whenever there is any necessity to get stores up to any base from a distance. A wheeled vehicle simply sinks into the sand up to the axles, and there are sharp rises and sudden drops that will smash the strongest poles.

Once, I recollect, I was transport officer to my company. Everything was packed in toolcarts and a G. S. wagon. These were drawn by teams of six mules apiece. All went well for about ten miles. Then we found all kinds of trouble, and finally the wagon, trying to get over the top of a ridge, snapped the pole by which the mules were harnessed in their places. There was only one thing to be done. A guard had to be left with the wagon and a double team had to be sent out, as soon as day had dawned on the following morning to bring it in. That is why roads have to be cut and leveled in the desert as everywhere else, if things are to be got up to the front.

Where there were no roads or caravan routes in the earlier days, well east of the Suez Canal, practically everything had to be sent out from the bases by means of camels. These animals carried everything, from blankets to entrenching material. Now, the camel is an animal that will go almost anywhere in the desert. But in scores of instances I have seen them jib at some of the slopes they were set to face, for the sand would slither away from under their feet and their legs are not calculated to assist them in sliding down something like the roof of a house. A mule or a horse would tuck his hind legs under him, and take a chance, but a camel—very decidedly no. So, right on the heels of the advance forces, roads had to be made. In this respect a good word should be said for the Egyptian Labor Corps under their white officers. They made excellent roads which stood the heat, the flies and the sand.

Back in France, and there was still the difficulty of road routes to be faced. The French roads were possessed of magnificent surfaces in times of peace, but no road ever made would stand for long the amount of wear and tear of war time. Think for a moment what would happen upon the Canadians roads were hundreds of heavily loaded motor lorries, carts, and mounted troops passing up and down them day after day, week after week and month after month as has been the case in France.

Naturally the existing roads wore into holes, and quite as naturally these roads, as they are shewn on the pre-war maps, proved to be quite wholly inadequate to take the amount of traffic that was put upon them. So new ones had to be made, and that is why such routes as Northumberland Avenue (made by the Northumberland Fusiliers) Pioneer Road (made by the Pioneers) Russell Road (suggested by Sapper Russell, R.E.), Rotten Row (laid out by an erstwhile dandy from the West-End) are to be found today in France, but as yet unmarked upon any map.

Keeping a route in a proper state of repair is harder than to make a fresh one. There is a constant stream of traffic every moment of the day, material is not always easy to get, and the German has a habit of searching for roads in preference to the open fields.

The drivers of the A.S.C. have done great work, by the way, in bringing up road metal, pit props, in fact anything and everything that has to be used in making or repairing a road. Steam rollers from old England, bearing the names of District and County Councils, are to be found today all over France and the men making these routes have been drawn from all over the world. Engineers have come home from Burmah, the Argentine, South Africa, Egypt and other far-away spots to do the job. Engineers who had drifted into other paths of life ten years ago, came back at the call, and many a man who could command a big income, in a pre-war and softer job, is today carrying on with a second-lieutenant's pay. These are the men who have

made it possible for Tommy to get his shells, rifle ammunition, water and food at all times.

And these men are never beaten, either. They have spent years wrestling things from nature, and if they are short of material—well, they go and find it. They have used the material of shell-smashed houses, and they have lived on their jobs until they have finished them. They have got their men under a friendly bank when the shells have been falling all round them, and they have come out to get on with their jobs again when the shelling has ceased. They have been beaten to the world, with a smile on their face, and they have stuck it to the end. If there were no roads there would have been no victories. They have kept the former going, that the latter should be possible.

CONSERVATION OF LIFE

By Dr. M. Raynor

BABY CLINICS

A long felt want has at last been provided by the City Health Department in the nature of a "Well Baby" clinic. It is sincerely to be hoped that mothers will avail themselves of thus having their children under six years periodically examined. The old saying "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is especially applicable in the case of sickness and disease. A great deal of needless suffering could be prevented and thousands of lives made efficient if all children were periodically examined from birth. Minor defects easily corrected if taken early are permitted to become chronic and often incurable or if curable only at great expense and inconvenience to the individual later in life. Childhood is the best time to correct defects.

The well baby clinic is a decided advance in preventive medicine. It has given and is giving splendid results in other cities where it has been established. In some cities infant mortality has been greatly reduced and in all better babies and healthier children are to be found.

Dr. Price, the City Health Officer, is splendidly qualified to examine children. He is deeply interested in child welfare and possesses the patience and tact essential in the handling of children.

It is the duty of every parent to see that the child has a healthy body to start the journey of life. The community is beginning to recognize the economic value of healthy citizens, and is seeking to do its part.

The well baby clinics and other kindred organizations are not philanthropy, nor charity, but an honest endeavor on the part of the city to discharge a duty to the citizens in developing healthier men and women.

Lloyd George proved himself a wise guy when he promised to give Ireland any form of government that the Irish will agree to.

John Wanamaker, the millionaire merchant of Philadelphia, has started people by using his advertising space in the daily press for advertising single tax methods of taxation.

To thwart Prussian military domination of the world is our immediate aim.—The Public (New York).

Germany can lick any army that stops to talk socialism.

GRAY HAIR

Dr. Tremain's Natural Hair Restorative, used as directed, is guaranteed to restore gray hair to its natural color or money refunded. Positively not a dye and non-injurious. Price \$1.00, post-paid. Write Tremain Supply Co., Toronto, Ont.

On sale in Victoria at Deas & Kiscook's Drug Store, 1004 Yates and Broad Sts.



SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

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 stated 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.

New Wellington Coal

We Have a Large Supply of Our Celebrated

WASHED NUT COAL, per ton, delivered.....\$7.50

LUMP COAL and SACK LUMP COAL, per ton, del'd, \$8.50

J. KINGHAM & CO., Limited

PEMBERTON BLOCK, 1004 BROAD ST.

PHONE 647

Our Method: 20 sacks to ton and 100 lbs. of coal in each sack

White Lunch Rooms

642 Yates Street, 1009 Government Street 556 Johnson Street

Best of Food and Service

Economical, Absolutely Sanitary

Collegiate School

PHONE 62

1157 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, B. C.

Private Day and Boarding School For Boys

SMALL CLASSES—INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

Christmas Term Commences Wednesday, September 5th

PRINCIPAL

A. D. MUSKETT, ESQ.

For Prospectus, giving full particulars, apply to the Principal

THE PLEASURE OF TRAVEL

is fully realized in travelling on the lines of the Canadian Pacific Railway. By its lines can be reached all points in Canada and the United States.

It operates its own Sleeping and Dining Cars, and has its own Hotels and Steamships. Its magnificent Mountain Scenery and the excellence of the Dining Car Service have made the favorite route for tourists across the American Continent.

For Sleeping Car and Steamship reservations and any further information write or call on

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

1102 Government Street

Victoria B. C.

B. C. FUNERAL CO.

(Hayward's, Ltd.)

734 Broughton Street

Victoria, B. C.

Established 1867

When necessity requires you to have the services of an embalmer or funeral conductor

Phone 2235, 2236, 2237 or 2238

and experienced assistants will respond to your call at any hour. Our modern Chapel and Private Parlours are at your disposal.

CHAS. HAYWARD, President

REGINALD HAYWARD, Secretary

FREDERICK CASELTON, Manager

LAND REGISTRY ACT (Section 24)

IN THE MATTER of Lots 4 and 5, of Section 10, Esquimalt District, Map 1248.

Proof having been filed of the loss of Certificate of Indefeasible Title No. 24257 I. issued to Walter H. G. Daverne on the 18th day of October, 1915, I hereby give notice of my intention, at the expiration of one calendar month from the first publication hereof, to issue to the said Walter H. G. Daverne a fresh Certificate of Indefeasible Title in lieu thereof.

DATED at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C., this 18th day of August, 1917.

J. C. GWYNN, Registrar-General of Titles, aug 25—Sept 22.

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that Popham Bros., Limited, intends, at the expiration of one month from the first publication of this notice, to apply to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to approve its change of name from Popham Bros., Limited, to "Ormond's, Limited."

Dated at Victoria, B.C., this 6th day of September, 1917.

GEO. A. MORPHY, Solicitor for Popham Bros., Limited, Sept. 8-Nov. 13.

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.

NEW METHOD LAUNDRY LIMITED

LIMITED

"QUALITY LAUNDRESS"

1015-1017 North Park Street Phone 2300.

MADRONA NEW-LAID EGGS

are famous for their flavour and their freshness

PUBLIC MARKET

STALL 9

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 homestead and sale. Timber and Agricultural Lands. Containing some of the best land left in United States. Now in 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.



SOTTO VOCE BY THE HORNET

That it's a long time between drinks— That this may be beneficial to many of the readers of The Week. That it may incidentally also help to keep their loose change in their pockets. That this, in turn, may enable them to pay up their subscription. That the Hornet hopes it will have this effect. That some of Victoria's prominent citizens have laid in a big stock of the "unnecessity." That one of them is reported to have put \$24,000 worth in his cellars. That it took four of a certain wood dealer's trucks to deliver it. That that amount of booze ought to last a long time for "entertaining." That it probably won't. That the same sum of money would wipe off nearly all the church debts in the city. That the use of it for that purpose would have done more to popularize the giver than all the "entertaining" he will do in a lifetime. That many other well known citizens took home large quantities last Saturday. That what was not carried internally was for use as medicine. That they evidently expected to be pretty sick—pretty often—and for long periods. That one of them had enough, according to his own estimate, to last at least fifty years, allowing one stomach ache for each member of the family every twenty-four hours. That certain ladies ordered their "medicine" to be sent home after dark. That others wanted their bottles packed up in "square" parcels. That one had a very large parcel made up to look like books. That she left it at the house of a friend who rang her up later in the evening to tell her to send for her books at once—they were leaking. That the Citizens' Educational League meets next Tuesday evening at the Victoria Club, Campbell Building. That they will discuss plans for the Winter's work. That their object is to make "good citizens." That the Hornet approves of it. That as soon as they have made one he would like to hear of it. That he has frequently stated that there is room for two in Victoria. That the League would do well to get into touch with Mr. Walter F-str. That he could tell them quite a lot of things. That Fletcher Bros. is making a very fine showing of October leaves—and October records. That one of the records in the window should be "censored." That it MIGHT be interpreted as being intended to interfere with the enforcement of the Prohibition Act. That the Summer styles in dresses have worried the Hornet. That the top line was getting so low and the bottom line so high, he was afraid they would soon meet. That he didn't know what would happen then.

That he decided the only thing he could do was to buy a pair of dark glasses. That the advent of colder weather has saved him that expense.

That the cartoon in the last issue of The Week was the subject of much favorable comment.

That the cartoonist is working on a number of others which will be published shortly.

That in a certain large real estate office less than a mile from the Times Building, there are two interesting documents on view.

That one is a Roll of Honor.

That it has many names on it.

That the other is a Roll of Disgrace.

That it has no names on it.

That the owner of the office would act wisely if he refrained from giving publicity to a document that he evidently is NOT prepared to sign.

That the Hornet will ask the Editor to have something to say about this next week.

That the Returned Soldiers made efficient policemen at the Home Products Fair.

That their handling of the crowds was characterised by alertness and courtesy.

That the Red Cross netted \$18.40 from the sale of Mr. Peirce's poem.

That the Food Controller's salary could be better spent.

That it might be used to increase the allowances of war-widows and orphans.

That a certain local parson is preparing a sermon to prove that Jesus would don the khaki.

That the said parson would be better employed sticking to his job.

That war and religion don't mix.

That the Government is running the last liquor joint in town.

That several thirsty ones have already been refused.

That one soldier lad called for a bottle of whisky.

That he was asked for his prescription.

That his face looked gloomy.

That it brightened like a flash with the coming of an inspiration.

That he asked the vendor confidentially: "Can you recommend a GOOD doctor?"

That the vendor promptly obliged with "Try Dr. Hall, Campbell Building."

That the soldier has not been back with the prescription.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN NO LONGER A PACIFIST

Peace can come only through the overthrow of Germany, says William Jennings Bryan, who has just been in Chicago to deliver a Chautauqua address. "The more prominent a man is, the more important that he should avoid anything that can be construed as a violation of a citizen's duty to his country," he continued. "My idea is that any dissension among us as to the prosecution of the war will have a tendency to prolong it and make it more costly in money and men. The more any one favors peace, the more loyally he should support the Government as the only means of hastening peace. "There can be but one end to the war—that is the overthrow of Germany. I find the desire to support the Government practically universal. If a different impression prevails anywhere, it is based on the fact that newspapers report the exceptional thing rather than the ordinary thing. If one man of a thousand utters some disloyal sentiment the disloyalty of the one man is announced, while the loyalty of the 999 is not emphasized. "We shall, of course, win the war, whether Russia is able to hold her position or not. Any end except in our favor is inconceivable. If Russia is overwhelmed, we shall merely have a new situation to cope with. But I have great faith in the ability of Kerensky, though I am not informed as to the difficulties he is facing. "Failure of Russia to hold her own would probably encourage the German

war party and discourage the democratic movement in that country. This would affect the duration of the war since our immediate success depends on the discouragement of the military party and the encouragement of the democratic movement."

Regarding the Pope's peace proposal, Mr. Bryan said: "It is not likely that any of the belligerents will accept the terms proposed, but they will undoubtedly be considered seriously and with great respect and the various replies may indicate acceptable terms in such a way as to provoke discussion. Discussion may lead to a definite exchange of views."

"SOME" DIPLOMAT

Down in Connecticut a man was driving a guest to his country home. Suddenly he pulled up his car to the side of the road and stopped. "John, I'm going to show you one of the most wonderful things in the world. Watch now."

Down the street came a poorly dressed man and was beckoned to join the pair.

"Sam," said the host, "here are two coins." From his pocket he took a dime and a nickel and laid them in his own palm. "Now, Sam, you can have either the big coin or the little coin, but you can't have both. Which one will you take?"

Sam looked at them both and then pointed to the nickel, which was given him.

As Sam shuffled away the host said to his friend, "John, that's the most wonderful thing of which I know. That man isn't crazy, he can read, write and tell time, but just because a nickel is larger than a dime he'll take it every time. I've tried him time after time and so have a lot of other people and he always takes the nickel."

The next day the guest was out walking along and ran into Sam. He tried the same stunt and Sam, after some hesitation, took the nickel.

"Sam," said the visitor, "don't you know that a nickel is only worth five cents and a dime is worth ten cents—twice as much?"

Sam paused and then replied, "Well, sir, as you are not coming here again, I'll tell you that I, do know that. But tell me this—if I ever took the dime how many more chances would I ever get to take another one?"

How Many Were in the Party?

Mr. O'Flaherty undertook to tell how many were in the party. "The two Cragons was one, mesel was two, Mike Finn was three, and—Who was four? . . . Let me see." Then counting on his finger: "The two Cragons was one, Mike Finn was two, mesel was three, and bedad! There was four of us, but I couldn't tell the name of the other. Now it's mesel that has it! Mike Finn was one, the two Cragons was two, mesel was three—and—by my soul, I think there was but three of us after all. Yet these blessed eyes of mine saw four as sure as St. Patrick banished snakes from old Oireland!"

Motion pictures are being used to teach improved methods of agriculture to natives of India.

To help in picking fruit, a Californian has patented a thimble with a knife blade at the end.

THE TWO Y'S.

By R. G. Howell As we daily scan the bulletin boards of our local newspaper offices, for the latest word from the Front, and from time to time read of "British drives," of new ground taken and consolidated, with hints of the cost to Empire in precious life which the progress entails, we are apt to feel depressed in spirit, picturing the operations as being wholly devoid of humane features to redeem them. The dictum that war is hell we all concede to be true. The Hun has forever settled that question. Yet we may still encourage our hearts by the fact that wherever the powers of evil are most deeply entrenched and active on the battle line, there also may be found the agencies for good, ever pressing forward, regardless of danger that they may render acceptable service in sustaining and saving life under conditions which suggest its utter impracticability. Daily are we brought into contact with men who took part in the famous Vimy Ridge battle, and from unimpeachable sources we learn of the glorious work which our Canadian heroes did there, work which will forever bind their country's name with that of the supposedly impregnable hillerest, to capture which so many thousands of British lives had been previously laid down, but which was wrenched from possession by the Hun when Canada's sons charged over its shell-torn crest. It was here that the Y. M. C. A. again

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

Three New Styles in Boy's Overcoats

Destined to be Very Popular this Winter

The Trench Model The Raglan The Mackinaw

Although there are other styles in Boys' Overcoats being shown, yet we believe that these three styles will take the lead. They are new models—different to those shown in previous seasons, and their smartness will at once appeal to both boys and parents alike.

They are splendid value coats, too, well tailored and very neatly finished, from good serviceable materials, both warm and durable. Other details follow:

THE TRENCH MODEL OVERCOAT

Is tailored in a smart double-breasted effect, with belt at waist line; big convertible collar and patch pockets. Also semi-pinch back. A very warm, comfortable model, selling at a popular price:

Sizes 3 to 8 years, special at \$6.95
Sizes 9 to 16 years, special at \$8.95

THE NEW RAGLAN OVERCOAT

A smart new model we had made up to suit boys 2 to 17 years. The sleeve of this Coat is made in the new Raglan style, and finished with gauntlet cuffs, slash pockets, convertible collar. This model can be had in two different weights—the lighter weight for Early Fall and the heavier weight for cold, stormy Winter wear. Beautiful grades of woolen coatings, fancy tweed mixtures, in greys and browns, also gaberdines.

Prices according to weight and size, \$6.95, \$7.95 and \$15.00.

NEW NOVELTIES FOR MACKINAWS

This is the style of coat always popular with boys, because of its short length, big pockets and great comfort. A Coat boys can wear when cycling, skating, walking or at play. It is not too heavy or cumbersome. These Coats are most beautifully made and finished; piped seams inside and all buttons are reinforced inside of coat with a small button. The pockets are in novelty shape, having one large enough for carrying skates in. Your choice from five different patterns. Better come and see these Coats, boys. Sizes 3 to 16. Priced \$5.75 to \$8.95

Boys' Clothing, Main Floor.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY TRANSCONTINENTAL



THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PASSENGER FARES

TO EASTERN DESTINATIONS

Modern Equipment—Courteous Attendance Travel Comfort

Consult Our Nearest Agent or Write

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