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The Western Call

Published in the Interests of Mount Pleasant and Vicinity

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MOUNT PLEASANT

The secretaries of all Clubs and Associations (whether social, religious or political) as well as private individuals, are invited to send in any items of general interest each week for publication in these columns. Copy may be sent by mail or phoned in, and should reach this office not later than Thursday noon to ensure publication.

A reception was tendered by the people of St. Paul's Presbyterian church to their new pastor, Rev. R. G. McBeth and Mrs. McBeth Thursday evening of this week. A very large number were present and an enjoyable time was spent.

The regular meeting of the Ward V. branch of the Woman's Forum was held on Wednesday afternoon. There was a very good attendance to hear Dr. Belle Wilson's address on "Child Life in the public schools." Next month it is expected Mrs. Irene Moody, school trustee, will address the meeting.

The annual spring concert of the choir of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian church will be held on the evening of March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) in the church, under the direction of L. R. Bridgman, conductor. A choice musical program will be rendered by the choir, assisted by Miss Gladys Cochrane, L.T.C.M. (contralto), Mr. Harold Nelson Shaw, B. A., reader, and the male quartette of the 72nd Highlanders' Overseas Battalion. A good time is promised to all who attend.

Mr. Andrew Johnstone, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Johnstone, 2735 Sophia street, leaves tomorrow (Saturday) for Kingston, Ontario, where he has enlisted with the Queen's College Heavy Artillery division for overseas service. Mr. Johnstone has been connected with the Union Steamship Co. for a long time, having risen from midshipman to captain in the employ of that company. His brother, D. M. Johnstone, is serving in the 16th battalion Canadian Scottish, having gone over with the First Contingent.

In honor of Miss Lillian Stuart, who is to enter Royal Columbian hospital for training in a few weeks, a number of her young friends gathered at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Stuart, 901 8th avenue west, on Friday evening for a party. The occasion also marked Miss Stuart's birthday. Music, games and dancing helped to pass a merry evening. The prizes for the evening were won by Mrs. Elmer and Mr. Herbert Fee. Late in the evening supper was served from a table decorated with carnations and daffodils. The guests included Mr. and Mrs. Elmer, Misses Beulah Stuart, Rena Wade, Mary Fairey, Winnie Crumb, Lou Elmer, Minnie Stuart, Cassie Nadeau and Messrs. Russell Hawk, Jack Esselmont, George Kent, Hitley Verge, Laurier Schennett and Herbert Fee.

Messrs. Wood & Son are making extensive alterations to the interior of their shoe store on Main street with a view to increasing the display space for their spring stocks.

The Babies' Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary held their annual meeting at St. Michael's church yesterday afternoon, and in the evening a missionary play was given by the junior branch.

Wrs. William Brown, a former resident of Prince Edward Island, passed away at her home, 223 13th avenue east on Tuesday of this week. Interment was made in Mountain View cemetery.

On Wednesday evening last the friends of Mr. and Mrs. C. Stewart met at the Mt. Pleasant Methodist church at a farewell tea and reception in their honor. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have gone to reside in Toronto.

On Tuesday morning at the juncture of Kingsway and 11th avenue an automobile collided with a wagon belonging to the Star Laundry, causing the death of a valuable horse and considerable damage to the wagon. The driver of the wagon, however, escaped unhurt.

Beginning Sunday next, March 12, in the Mount Pleasant Hall, corner 8th avenue and Ontario street, evangelistic services will be conducted each evening except Friday and Saturday. Sunday nights at 7.30; week nights at 8 o'clock. Mr. D. Burden and Mr. W. W. Reid will address the meetings. "Popular Perversions of the Scriptures" is the subject to be dealt with at the Bible Class on Sunday afternoon at 2.30.

A bright little whist drive and dance under the auspices of the Alexandra Review No. 7 of the Women's Benefit Association of the Maccabees was held on Wednesday evening in the K. P. Hall. The committee in charge of arrangements consisted of lady commander, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Colville, Mrs. Tubman, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Leslie, Mrs. Negrean, Mrs. Delzell, Mrs. Shick, Mrs. Foot and Mrs. Talling. A delightful musical program was provided by Miss Winnifred Layley, Mr. Hough, Mr. J. W. McLeod, Mr. Edward Crane and the Misses Crane. The ladies' first prize went to Mrs. Ellison, while Mr. Cameron captured the gentleman's first. Miss Brown won the consolation prize. An unusually large crowd was in attendance.

Under the auspices of the Women's Guild of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian church, a daffodil tea was held at the home of Mrs. W. H. Mason, 106 8th ave. east yesterday afternoon. Mrs. J. J. G. Thompson and Mrs. Mason were hostesses, and Mrs. Reid, Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Milton poured tea, the table being decorated with daffodils in a large silver bowl. Mrs. W. H. Steeves was in charge of the dining room and Mrs. Robertson was treasurer. Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Neill and Mrs. Munro assisted. A musical program was rendered by the following: Miss McKnight, Miss Ethel Riches, Miss Ruth Mitchell, Miss Duthie, Mrs. Cunningham, Miss Margaret Ross, Miss Craigen, Miss Maye and Miss Burnett.

Miss Olive Beaton, the popular organist, has returned to her home on Ontario street after a lengthy stay at Quesnel in the Cariboo.

The Connaught Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire meet this afternoon at the home of Mrs. Gartshore, 126 12th avenue west.

The results of the tests for February have been announced at the Mount Pleasant school. The coveted place of class leader has been won by the following pupils in the senior classes: John Mitchell, Mr. McKee's class; Jean Bowser, Miss Dewis' class; Mabel Stewart, Miss Frederickson's class. The highest percentage of attendance was made in Div. V., 94.12 per cent.

The regular monthly consecration meeting of the senior Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian C. E. was held on Monday evening. Mr. G. C. Richmond and Miss M. Walton were in charge of the meeting.

Under the direction of Prof. Ainsley, a concert will be held on March 28 at the South Hill Baptist church, South Vancouver, in aid of the church fund.

Rev. R. G. McBeth took up his duties on Sunday as pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, preaching both moring and evening. In the morning he spoke on the necessity of a definite purpose in life, and in the evening on the subject of unity of thought and purpose for the maintenance of God's house.

B. C. CONSUMERS' LEAGUE HOLDS ANNUAL RALLY

In Wesley church last night the work of the B. C. Consumers' League since its inception, a year and a half ago, came up for a thorough review and criticism at the annual rally.

The membership is now over 8,500, all of these members being pledged to give preference when purchasing goods (price and quality being equal) first, to the products of British Columbia; second, to those of Canada; third, to those of the British Empire.

On the platform with Mrs. J. C. Kemp, the president of the league, were Mrs. Ralph Smith and Mayor McBeath. Mr. J. A. Cunningham, president of the Manufacturers' Association, also spoke at some length on the lack of support given to the League. "If we are to fill up our vacant houses we must take advantage of the manufacturing possibilities of the province and also support our industries," he said in conclusion.

The report of Mrs. Kemp was a lengthy one and filled with interest. It recommended that the government stamp the origin of all imported goods on the packages, and also called attention to the enviable opportunity British Columbia has to take advantage of its future, just as other countries, states and provinces have done.

The evening closed with a short musical program, after which refreshments were served, composed entirely of British Columbia products.

The Pythian Sisters held their regular social and dance on Tuesday evening in the K. P. Hall.

Special Lenten services were held at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening at St. Michael's church. Throughout Lent there will be a service for the children each Friday evening at 7.15.

The young ladies of the Florence Nightingale Surgical Club held an "at home" last night at the residence of Mrs. C. Ternan, 335 13th ave. west. An excellent musical program was provided.

At the services in the Mt. Pleasant Methodist church last Sunday the 72nd Highlanders male quartette sang several selections. Over 40 new names were added to the church membership, among them being six of the boys at the front. On March 19th the third memorial tablet will be unveiled, the service partaking of a patriotic nature.

The 23rd regular session of the Ancient Order of United Workmen opened in the K. of P. hall, Mt. Pleasant, on Thursday, the 9th inst. The following officers were present: Mayor Alex. Stewart, Fred Davey, J. T. McIlwaine, C. T. Wrigleworth, Wm. Scowcroft, Capt. J. D. Warren, Thos. Cashmore, of Victoria; Dr. H. H. King and W. H. Wilson, of Ladner; Dr. D. E. Wolfsmith, Geo. Adams and H. Hoy, of New Westminster; Dr. W. H. B. Anderson, H. T. DeVine, F. W. Welsh, F. L. Budlong, J.P. Nightingale and R. H. Macauley, of Vancouver, and a large number of delegates from every part of the province. Mayor McBeath is personally extending a hearty welcome on behalf of the city of Vancouver to the officers and delegates of the Grand Lodge.

Burnaby

A memorial service will be held in the Jubilee Methodist church next Sunday evening as an expression of regret at the passing away of Mrs. John Murray, of McKay, West Burnaby, wife of ex-Councillor Murray.

New members will be welcomed to the Edmonds Sewing Circle which works in connection with the Voluntary Aid of the St. John's Ambulance Association, meeting every Thursday afternoon between 2.30 and 4.30 in the Moreton Hall. During the six months from the end of June, when the circle was formed, the sum of $118.45 was collected in fees and donations and handed to headquarters in return for which materials were supplied. The following list of articles have been made: 157 hospital garments, shirts and pyjamas, 16 towels, 260 bandages.

SOUTH VANCOUVER

A social was held last night at the home of Mrs. Dorr, 231 65th avenue east, under the auspices of the Fraser River branch of the Red Cross.

Rev. J. Richmond Craig, of the Westminster Presbyterian church, who is at present on a short holiday on Vancouver Island for the benefit of his health will return next week.

The brewery license granted by the last year's board, and which caused so much discussion during the year, was cancelled yesterday by the license commissioners on the advice of the municipal solicitor.

A delightful house party was given at Mr. C. Wilson's, Bodwell road, on Friday evening last, at which a number of young people from Mt. Pleasant and vicinity were present. The evening was spent in old-fashioned games and dances.

Early on Friday morning last the vacant dwelling owned by Allan McLean, at 570 20th ave. east, was partially destroyed by a fire which was evidently caused by the owner having overheated the kitchen stove in an attempt to dry the house out.

Mr. Albert Gittings, 4721 Gladstone street, organist and choirmaster of St. Thomas church has been successful in gaining L. (Associate of Trinity College the professional diploma A.T.C. of Music) London, England, at the recent examination held at the college. Mr. Gittings is believed to be the first in Vancouvou to gain this distinction.

The big blow on Sunday evening gave the fire department a busy time, four fires occurring within two hours. They were not of a very serious nature, however, the damage in each instance being slight. The first alarm came from the Beath block, a large structure at the corner of 24th and Main. Three others followed in quick succession from No. 90, Fortieth avenue, 28th and Windsor, and 39th and Victoria Drive, all dwelling houses.

Mr. G. H. W. Hubbard, son of Building Superintendent Hubbard of South Vancouver, and for some time employed by the municipal council as instrument man on sewer work, has joined the Kingston University Heavy Artillery and will leave Vancouver on Saturday. Building Superintendent Hubbard has four brothers now serving at the front and one brother was killed while fighting with the 16th battalion last year!

The claim of Mrs. Emma Gold, mother of ex-Reeve Gold of So. Vancouver, for damages alleged to have been done to her property on Main street by regrading, has been considered by the finance committee and referred to the municipal solicitor. Councillor Russell, chairman of the board of works, declared that the claim was outlawed by lapse of time, as the work was completed over a year ago, except for a little refilling, which, he said, was done last year at the special request of Reeve Gold.

Many requests for new sidewalks were received by the board of works on Saturday, but in every case they were refused on account of scarcity of funds.

The heavy rains this week have caused much flooding in some districts of this municipality. On Manitoba street and Sixty-fifth avenue a wash-out occurred which broke a water main, causing a flood on the River road. Several men have been out both day and night trying to keep the culverts open and the water moving.

Further reductions of the municipal staff are proposed by Reeve Winram which, if agreed to by the council, will let out Engineer Bennett, Building Superintendent Hubbard, Mr. T. H. Jacques, ledger clerk, and three police constables, two of whom have already left. With previous reductions and cuts in salaries it is estimated that the reeve's proposals will effect a saving of $12,000 a year.

Grandview

A whist drive in aid of the Victorian Order of Nurses has been arranged for St. Patrick's night, March 17, at the home of Mrs. Fred L. Macpherson, Salsbury drive.

The Rainbow Circle of King's Daughters will meet this Friday afternoon at 2.30 at the home of Mrs. D. H. Robinson, 2237 Victoria Drive. The regular business meeting will be followed by an address by Mrs. Hector McPherson.

A fire occurred at 3327 Parker street on Saturday evening last completely destroying a frame bungalow owned and occupied by Mr. John Anderson. The fire started from an overheated range. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

The following new names have been added to the active service honor roll of the Britannia high school: Leslie Taylor, Donald MacDonald, Alex. Black, Lyman MacDonald, Alfred Somerton, Norton Hopkins. In last Saturday's game, Britannia vs. King George, the former won by a score of 23-14. The game was a good one and in the first half Britannia obtained the lead, but at half-time the score was 9-9. The second half B. H. S. did much better in spite of their inferiority in weight, and still hold their place at the top of the league.

In the monthly exams, held in the Seymour schol, James Waters ranked first and Elen Ward second in Div. I; Gladys McQuillan ranked first and Ruth Prentice second in Div. II. The girls have organized a baseball club with Marjorie Mills as captain and Gertrude Williamson as vice-captain. As soon as the grounds are fixed they will begin practicing. As they nearly succeeded in winning the cup last year they intend to go after it with renewed vigor this season. James Waters is captain of the boys' team.

A Philosopher's View of the War

All great wars are truly fated. It is of little importance what immediate set of causes occasioned them. Had Germany's conscious intentions been never so kind and her official morals never so exemplary, the mere fact of her gaslike expansion within a world packed with aggressive traditions, whose equilibrium depended on opposition instead of collaboration, would sooner or later have caused conflict which in turn would inevitably have expanded into a world war, because in this age of universal interdependence any serious shock to one larger part of the whole must needs upset the whole. Germany's ambitions were no more the primum movens of this catastrophe than were Bonaparte's dreams of world power the first cause of that of a century ago.

Second Act in Drama

History will probably consider this conflagration as the second chief act of that great drama of which the French Revolution was the first. The latter inaugurated the emancipation of all nations, notwithstanding the fact that at first it brought oppresion and even slavery to many of them; this war, horrible though it be, means the prelude to a still more wide-reaching emancipation. And the latter's process has already begun; even now the ideals we fight for are shaping the world. Whoever may be eventually the master between the Vistula and the Bug, free shall Poland become; Austria, once the stronghold of reaction, is developing, for fear of losing her Slav subjects, a capacity for ruling on liberal lines, which may become an example to all States inhabited by diverse races. Russia has started full speed on a process of entire renewal, the ultimate result of which none can as yet foretell.

No Reason for Pessimism

There is no reason, therefore, for pessimism, in spite of the hideousness of the present situation. War cannot be other than hideous, if conducted on such a gigantic scale and with such intensity of passion as now happens; if the best intellects seem blinded and the best hearts crippled by hate, the condition of the majority must be appalling. But, as I explained before, these facts, however distressing they be, mean very little, since men are not themselves during fever; and most of the horrors will be entirely forgotten afterward, just as most healthy persons, after having safely got over a dangerous disease, think little of the sufferings they have gone through. Let us never forget that this war means a constitutional crisis, and judge it accordingly. Only then shall we be able to understand its phases.

Buy Vancouver Real Estate at these Prices

=NEVER AGAIN= SUCH SACRIFICES

LOTS

Fourth Avenue Carline—33 feet near Trutch St., formerly held at $4,500, for $1,600, on terms.

Kitsilano—Two 33 ft. lots, cleared, on 11th Avenue, formerly held at $1,200 each, for $350 each.

Strathcona Heights—50 ft. lot, magnificent view, on 25th Avenue, held at $2,200, for $750, on terms.

Burnaby—Fine high lot, near 17th Avenue and Laurel St., assessed at $300, for $90.00.

Point Grey—33 ft. lot on the hill near 22nd and Dunbar St., a great buy at $350.

Fairview—50 ft. lot on 11th Ave., near Pine Street. Cost owner $3,300. Sell for $900.

Point Grey—33 ft. on 18th Ave. near Highbury Street, on top of the hill, for $300.

Point Grey—70 by 122 ft. on 21st Ave., near Crown St., for $300.

South Vancouver—A few Lots on 66th and 67th Avenue for $70.00 each.

Burnaby—122 by 122 ft., near corner River Ave. and Gilley Avenue on the hill, fine view, southern exposure, for $225.00.

ACREAGE

Burnaby—2.35 acres on Rumble Road, on the sunny southern slope. Dirt cheap at $1,150. On terms.

Lulu Island—4 acres at Garden City, cleared, richest of soil. Cost owner $320 per acre 8 years ago. Sell the 4 acres for $700.00.

Langley—5 Acres near Milner Station, has all been under cultivation. Cost $300 per acre. The whole for $650.

Gibson's Landing—10 Acres on the Government Road, 3 miles from the Landing. Good land. Creek running through, all for $350.00.

Burnaby—4.24 Acres, with long frontage on the B. C. E. R. near Jubilee Station. A grand property with a great future, improved. $35,000 was one time refused for this same property. Can be bought today for $6,500.

Coquitlam—20 Acres of the very best soil, 2 1-2 miles north of Coquitlam City, half mile from school, light clearing. Owner paid over $500 per acre as a subdivision proposition. Sell to-day for $100 per acre on terms.

Burnaby—1 3-4 acres at Central Park, very cheap at $1,500.

HOUSES

Point Grey—On Wilson Road carline, neat little 3-room cottage, on lot 33.7 by 298.9 feet deep, all improved, chicken house and runs. Formerly held at $3.300. To-day for $1,350.

Fairview—Quebec St., 5 room modern cottage, fireplace, built in buffet, pannelled walls, etc., for $1,500 on terms.

Kitsilano—6-room modern house on lot 66 by 132 feet, with fireplace, hardwood floors, furnace, bath and toilet separate, former value was $6,000. Sell for $3,150.

Fairview—8 rooms, hardwood floors, hot water heat, all fully modern, lot 50 ft. by 120, on 12th Avenue, near Granville St. Owner paid $9,000. Sell for $6,000.

Fairview—7 rooms, hot water heat, hardwood floors, fireplace, full 50 ft. lot, on 10th Ave., the best part, a $9,000 home for $5,500, including a $3,400 7 1-2 per cent. mortgage.

Fairview—8 rooms and one on the 3rd floor, hot water heat, garage, nice grounds, on 11th Ave., near Yukon Street. Formerly held at $10,000. Sell now for $6,000 on terms.

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Real Estate, Insurance and Mining

"WINTER IN VANCOUVER"

The results obtained from the issue of the pamphlet "Winter in Vancouver," which was largely circulated throughout the prairies earlier in the year by the city publicity department, are stated to be very satisfactory so far. Many inquiries for further information as to business, living and other conditions have been received at the office, and a number of people who formerly went east for their annual vacation have this year come to Vancouver, while in many cases the visitors have taken advantage of their stay here to seek additional information at the city office. In one instance a gentleman from Saskatchewan brought in a gypsum proposition and was put in touch with the mineralogical department. He was on the lookout for wood pulp from British Columbia to work with his mineral deposit, the combination being used for the manufacture of a description of structural building boards.

Tilefish catches continue to increase. During January 398,000 pounds of the fish were landed at New York, an increase of 135 per cent. over December.

Eight vessels have been chartered for a new steamship service between Puget Sound ports on the Pacific Coast of the United States and Vladivostok. It is expected that the new service will help relieve the congestion of freight at Puget Sound.

Bergen, one of the most important seaports in Norway, was visited by the most destructive fire in its history on Jan. 15. Estimates of the damage run all the way from $11,000,000 to $27,000,000. Practically the whole of the retail business fell a prey to the flames. In all 369 buildings were destroyed and 3,000 persons made homeless.

A new method of using coal in competition with oil fuel has been tried in Vancouver. Those conducting the experiments say that crushed coal can be supplied to steam producing furnaces by the same method in use for oil. The new process is particularly interesting to British Columbia, as it is proposed to apply it for smelting in the big mining plants there. It is said that seven tons of copper ore can be smelted with one ton of coal by the new process, whereas formerly the ratio was one ton of coal to one ton of ore.

China has opened a new commercial port, Pukow, to foreign trade. It is on the shores of the Yangtze River in the Province of Kiangsu, directly opposite the city of Nanking, and 205 miles from Shanghai. It is expected that Pukow will attract a considerable volume of trade from fertile districts of the interior. Unfortunately the place is not adapted for residence in its present condition, as it is swampy. Representatives of foreign firms doing business through the new port will probably reside in Nanking until Pukow is rendered more habitable by the filling in of the swampy tracts.

Those Dear Girls

Alice—I take half an hour's beauty sleep every afternoon.

Marie—You should make it much longer, dear.

PROVINCE OF B. C. IN SOUND CONDITION

Both of the House members who spoke at Victoria on Friday in the presentation of the address in reply to the speech from the throne gave glowing descriptions of the resources of this province, and produced figures to show that, notwithstanding the times, the prospects of British Columbia are better than might be expected.

Mr. Fraser, Cariboo, seconded the motion to present the address, and dealt principally with the development and prospects of the interior.

"Not since 1895 has Cariboo had the honor of having a representative take part in the moving of the address in reply to the King's speech," commented Mr. Fraser, in rising to second Mr. Thomson's motion. Mr. Fraser dealt at some length with the condition of the timber busines in the province, showing that the value of the timber production in 1915 was an increase over 1914. The new policy of the government not to lease or sell outright timber lands but merely to license individuals or firms to cut timber on certain areas, was proving a wise piece of legislation, he said. The timber department had fulfilled its duties and was showing good results from a far sighted policy.

Contains One-Third of Land

The land policy of the government, though greatly criticized, did not deserve that criticism, he contended. Cariboo, for example containing as it does about 32 per cent. of the land of the province, attracted a good deal of attention from prospective land holders when the Grand Trunk Pacific was built. Why should men who invested money in British Columbia lands be considered as persons who by foul means had acquired something which they had no business to own, he asked. Thousands of people in Vancouver and Victoria had bought lands in the Cariboo and when the P. G. E. provided a means of transportation for Cariboo grain, vegetables and hay, land there could be made use of. "The government's surveying policy had been the means of eliminatng many complaints," contended Mr. Fraser, "as it meant that no longer would buyers and sellers as well as pre-emptors have to deal with unsurveyed lands. In 1905 the government spent a little over $7,000 on surveying. In 1915-16 it spent $100,000.

"Agriculture will be the most important industry of this province," went on the speaker, "and as Cariboo had a vast amount of fertile land it will take a very prominent place among the producing sections." He gave figures to show that the value of the 1915 production was above that of 1914 whereas the value of the imported agricultural produce was a good deal less in 1915 than in 1914.

The Latest Occupation

"Where were you born?"

"Cairo, Illinois."

"What is your occupation?"

"I'm a Russian dancer."

Quite Willing

Her Father—"The fact is I cannot give my daughter a dowry just at present." Suitor—"That's all right, sir. I can love her for herself alone in the meantime."

Splendid Bargain

Will exchange 500 yards of first-line British trenches, strictly fresh, just captured, for 2 quarts of milk and 5 pounds of butter. Address W. Hohenzollern's Military Agency, Ypres, Belgium.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Britain Holds the Front Door.

Rosy visions rise before the eyes of German editors as they contemplated that vast tract of territory from Bagdad to the North Sea which has come under continuous Teutonic control by the recent victories over Serbia. Now we are assured Germany can get from Turkey all the food she wants.

The Fremdenblatt says:

"But there is more than this. The possibility of the transit of the products of our highly developed war-industry will enable Turkey in an increased degree to strike a blow at the heart of England's world supremacy—against Egypt. Thus the exchange of goods between the members of the new quadruple alliance—will acquire decisive importance for the result of the world-war."

While this may be made to sound well in theory, says the Essen organ of the Krupps, it is doubtful whether it is easy in practise. The hard-headed Rheinische Westphalische Zeitung then proceeds to remark:

"Whoever knows that the sea freight to Buenos Aires from Ruhrort on the Rhine is less than the railroad freight rate from Ruhort to Berlin will shake his head when he hears that masses of goods are to be thrown to and fro by rail from Asia Minor to Hamburg. The idea that the Balkan and Bagdad railroads can in any way support the burden of our economic life is a fantasy. The German Empire is not situated on the Dardanelles or on the Persian Gulf, but on the North Sea, and it will only be free if the North Sea is free.

"It is not intrinsically and extrinsically possible for us to answer today the question of how far British sea domination can be broken. That can only appear in the course of the war, but we are firmly convinced that our leading men will recognize what is attainable and what is not.

"But the German people must not be deceived by European and Asiatic fantasies into overlooking the fact that our door to the world turns on hinges which are also attached to Great Britain."

A Warning to American Journalists

"American journals may be roughly arranged in three classes with regard to their attitude toward the war; those which are frankly, not to say virulently, hostile to the Allies; those which try to be neutral, with an eye to the racial character of their local environment; and those which are moderately and rationally sympathetic with the allies cause," says the Toronto Globe. "Many of those in the latter class seem to have fallen into the not very surprising habit of making superficial comments on the progress of the war, as if its course and outcome could be determined without taking account of many features of the situation that do not lie on the surface. The inexcusableness of such criticism is apparent, because at the outbreak of the conflict the most competent authority on the point, Lord Kitchener, publicly stated that the real beginning of the war was then more than half a year away, and the end of it at least three years. It has now been a year and a half in progress, and to all appearances it will be over within the three-year limit specified by Lord Kitchener.

"Some of the journals referred to speak as if the Central Powers were winning important and progress-making victories. The truth is quite otherwise. In the real sense of the term "battle" there has been only one great battle in this war; the one in which the French army, with the aid of a few thousand British, drove the German army back from Paris at the Marne in a continuous fight of six days, without the protection of entrenchments. Countries have been overrun by the Germans, and some of them are still occupied by the foe, but their final status has yet to be determined, and the chances, even when viewed superficially, are strongly in favor of their restoration to their own people as the result of a final victory by the allies. Critics of the war should never forget that, while Germany had several millions of troops ready to march through Belgium into France, Great Britain had less than a quarter of a million, whereas she has now three millions ready for the front, and a fourth million in training. Russia would never have been forced back from Galicia but for a scarcity of munitions, and her latest intimation to the world is that an ample supply of these is now absolutely provided for. A few weeks may, and a few months must, make a great change in the land situation, to say nothing of the sea blackade."

Heard in the Audience

She—Who wrote that Schubert serenade?

He—I don't know.

(Passed by the Board of Censors)

The Horrors of Gas

A place of horror which one would think Dante had imagined. The air is heavy—stifling; two or three little night lamps, which look as if they were afraid of giving too much light, hardly pierce the hot, smoky, darkness which smells of fever and sweat. Busy people are whispering anxiously. But you hear, more than all, agonized gaspings. These gaspings escape from a number of little beds drawn up close together on which are distinguished human forms, above all, chests, chests that are heaving too strongly, too rapidly, and that raise the sheets as if the hour of the death rattle had already come.

It is one of our hospitals on the battle line, improvised as well as was possible on the morrow of one of the most infernal of German abominations; all these children of France, who look as if they are at the last gasp, were so terribly injured that it was impossible to carry them further away. This great hall, with its crumbling walls, was yesterday a storehouse of hogsheads of champagne, these little beds —some fifty in number — were put together in feverish haste, made of branches that still keep their bark, and look like rustic garden furniture.

But why this heat, which the stoves send forth and which makes breathing almost impossible? The reason is that it cannot be too hot for asphyxiated lungs. And this darkness, why this darkness which gives an air of the inferno to this place of martyrdom, and which must so hinder the gentle, white-clad nurses? It is because the barbarians are there in their burrows, quite close to this village, whose houses and church tower they have more than once amused themselves by pounding with their shells, and if, with their ever-watchful field glasses, they saw in this sad, November twilight the lights appearing in the windows of a long hall, they would instantly scent a field hospital and shells would rain on the humble sick beds; we have learned how they love to sprinkle grape-shot on hospitals, Red Cross convoys, churches!

So that one can hardly see here through a sort of mist, spread by water boiling in heaters. Every moment nurses bring huge, black, air balloons, and those who are struggling in agony stretch out their poor hands to beg for them; it is oxygen which makes them breathe better and suffer less. Many of them have these black air balloons resting on their panting chests, and in their mouths they greedily hold the tubes through which the saving gas escapes; you would say that they were great children with milk bottles; this throws a sort of grotesque buffoonery over these scenes of horror.

Asphyxiation has different effects on different constitutions which require different forms of treatment. Some of the men, almost naked on their beds, are covered with blisters or smeared all over with tincture of iodine. There are others—these, alas, are the most seriously injured—who are all swollen, chests, arms and faces, and who look like India rubber dolls blown up. India rubber dolls, children with nursing bottles! Although these are the only true images it seems almost sacrilegious to employ them when anguish weighs upon your heart and you long to weep, to weep for pity and to weep for wrath! Yet let these comparisons, brutal as they are, engrave themselves deep in our memories by their very strangeness, so that they may the longer nourish indignant hatred and the thirst of holy retribution!

For there is a man who spent years in preparing all this for us, and this man continues to live. He lives, and as remorse is without doubt unknown to his vulture soul he does not even suffer, unless it be from fury at having failed in his attempt. Before unchaining death upon the world he had coldly made his combinations, foreseeing everything. "If, however," he said to himself, "my rhinoceros-like rushes and my huge apparatus of murder should in the impossible case hurl themselves against a too magnificent resistance, then, perhaps, I should dare, relying on the poltroonery of the neutrals; I should dare, perhaps to affront all the laws of civilization and to employ other means. In any case, let us prepare."

The great rush, in fact, did fail, and timidity at the beginning, fearful, in spite of all, of the whole world's disgust, he tried asphyxiation, after having justified himself, of course, by his habitual lies, accusing France of having made the beginning. As he cynically hoped, there was, unfortunately, no general revolt of the human conscience. No more than over the earlier crimes—organized looting, destruction of cathedrals, violations, massacres of children and of women—did the neutrals intervene. It veritably seems as if the destructive, fierce, and death-like glance of his Gorgon, or Medusa, head had frozen them where they stood, and at the hour at which I write the last one Gorgonized by this monstrous glance is the poor King of Greece inconsistent and maladroit, who is trembling on the verge of the precipice of the gravest crimes. That there may be neutrals from terror one can understand; but that nations with high qualities should remain Germanophile, by what tricks have they been blinded, by what slanders or by what bribes?

Our dear soldiers with burned lungs, gasping on their little rustic beds, are very grateful when, following the doctor, you come close to them, and they raise their gentle eyes to you when you take them by the hand. Here is one swelled like a balloon, unrecognizable, doubtless, for those who had only seen him before this frightful swelling began, and, if you touch even as lightly as possible his poor, distended cheeks, you feel under your fingers the vibration of the gases which have filtered in between skin and flesh.

"Good; he is better since this morning," says the doctor, and he continues in a low voice, for the nurse: "I begin to think, Madame, we shall save this one also; but you must not leave him for a moment." Oh, needless advice, for she has not the slightest intention of leaving him, this white-clad nurse, under whose eyes there are already dark shadows, caused by eight-and-forty hours of truceless watching. Not one of them will be left, no; to be certain of that one has only to look at all these young doctors, all these orderlies, a little worn out, it is true, but so attentive and courageous that they do not lost sight of one of them.

And, thank God, they will save almost all of them! (Of 600 asphyxiated that night more than 500 are out of danger). As soon as they can be moved they will be taken away from this hell of the battle front, where the Kaiser's shrapnels fall so willingly, even on the dying; they will be laid more comfortably in quiet hospitals where they will still suffer much, indeed, for a week, a fortnight, a month, but which they will presently leave, more cautious, more prudent, and eager to return to the fight.

It may be said that the trick of asphyxiatiation has failed like that of the great, savage rushes; it has not brought the result which the Gorgon's head expected. And yet with what skillful calculations it has been tried on each occasion, always at the most favorable moments! We know that the Germans, masters of spying and ceaselessly informed of everything, never fail to choose for their attacks of whatever kind the days of relieving guard, the hours when newcomers, facing them, are still in the disorder of their arrival.

So the evening when this last crime was committed six hundred of our men had just taken their advance positions after a long and tiring march; all at once, in the midst of a salvo of shrapnel which aroused them from their first sleep, they made out here and there little sounds of whistling, as if from treacherous steam sirens, and the death gas was pouring around them, spreading its thick, gloomy, gray clouds. At the same time, in the midst of this fog, their lights waned to dim, small points. Bewildered, then, already suffocating, they thought, too late, of the masks which had been given them and which, besides, they did not greatly believe in; they put them on too awkwardly, some of them even, by an irresistible instinct of self preservation, when they felt the burning of their lungs, yielded to the desire to run, and these were the most terribly injured because of the excess of chlorine inhaled in the deep breaths of running.

But the next time they will not be caught, neither these men, nor any of our soldiers; with masks hermetically sealed they will stand immovable around heaps of fagots prepared beforehand, the sudden flames of which neutralize the poisons in the air, and there will be no result beyond an hour of discomfort, painful to pass through but almost always without fatal consequences.

It is true that in the accursed caverns which are their laboratories the intellectuals of Germany, convinced now that the neutrals will accept everything, are working hard to find new and worse poisons for us; but until they have found them the Gorgon's head will have lost this trick as, beyond contest, it has lost so many others. We, alas! have not been able to find means to repay them with sufficient cruelty; to defend ourselves we have, therefore, only the protective mask, which is being improved, it is true, day by day; and, after all, in the eyes of the neutrals—if they still have eyes to see—it is, perhaps, nobler to employ no other means.

At the same time, how different would our position be if we did asphyxiate them, these plunderers and assassins who have attacked and invaded us, and who, despairing of piercing our lines, try to sufficate us in our own homes, in our dear land of France, as one might suffocate rabbits in their burrows or rats in their holes. The tongues of men have not forecast these transcendent ignominies, which would rend the hearts of the basest cannibals; therefore, we have no words to name them. Our poor, asphyxiated soldiers, gasping on their narrow cots, how willingly I would have shown them to all, to their fathers, to their sons, to their brothers, to raise to paroxysm their holy indignation and thirst for vengeance; yes, I would show them everywhere, and let their death rattle be heard, even to the impassive neutrals, to convince of their folly or their crime so many obstinate pacifists, to spread broadcast the alarm against the great barbarism which has broken forth over Europe!—Translated from the French of Pierre Loti.

Cylindrical barrels for packing Spanish grapes were tested during the last season and were favorably reported on both in England and the United States. They were invented by a resident of the Spanish port of Almeria, from which huge exports of grapes are made every year.

Regular steamship service is to be established between Japan and the islands of the Caroline group, which formerly belonged to the Germans, and were seized by the Japanese early in the war. A monthly service will be maintained from Yokohama to Truk Island, from which point two subsidiary lines will be operated.

WHY DISTILLERIES ARE TAKEN OVER

Britain's government has commandeered or is about to commandeer old country and Canadian distilleries. The liquid contents of these distilleries, especially in the Highlands of Scotland and the north of Ireland, were idealized in poetry and song. Millions of gallons of grain alcohol are to be drained from the vats of poetry and romance and alienated from the manufacture of jags to the manufacture of cordite.

Cordite is the great British propellant. The chief ingredient of cordite is acetone. Alcohol distilled from wood produces acetate of lime. And acetate of lime is the immediate basis of acetone. Time and seasons reduce the supply of wood available for distillation. Wood must be seasoned before it can be profitably distilled. It is only when the frost is in the swamps that wood can be hauled cheaply, in fact, hauled at all.

Britain's supply of cordite is limited by delay required in the process of seasoning and hauling wood. The first alternative to an insufficient supply of wood alcohol was a supply of alcohol distilled from molasses. A decision to commandeer the distilleries represents Britain's final method of ensuring an adequate output of cordite. "Willie brewed a peck a' maut" for convivial purposes. John Bull has commandeered the "maut" for war purposes. Britain must have sufficient cordite to propel shells at the enemy, if liberty is to be saved. Britain will have a propellant for every shell if the distilleries of the British Empire have to pour every gallon of grain alcohol into the production of cordite.—Toronto Telegram

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"There's some good stuff in that young brother of yours, Ethel."

"I should say there is! He's just finished eating that two-pound box of chocolates you bought me."

WHY ENDURE THE CRUEL TORTURE OF TOOTHACHE--WHY GO ALONG FROM DAY TO DAY WITH UNSIGHTLY, DECAYING TEETH WHICH ARE A MENACE TO YOUR OWN HEALTH--AN OFFENCE TO YOUR FRIENDS?

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Be the operation simple or complex, it makes absolutely no difference to me.

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And in comparison to the high prices charged by others in my profession MY prices are, in keeping with the HIGH quality of my work and the materials which I use, exceedingly low.

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Evan W. Sexsmith, Editor

H. H. STEVENS' RESOLUTION

What is undoubtedly the largest issue which the Canadian public will have to decide for many years to come is the Prohibition measure, the debate on which opened in the House of Commons during this week by H. H. Stevens, member for Vancouver. In reviewing Mr. Stevens' argument on behalf of Dominion wide prohibition, we are forced to admit that the local member handled a delicate situation creditably. He did not deal with the moral side of the measure, but based his entire address on the economic and social aspect of it. Not until Mr. Stevens laid before the house indisputable figures showing the rapid strides prohibition has made in Canada during the past few years, did we realize the extent of territory now under a "dry" law throughout the Dominion.

Working independently, but always with the same object in view, the municipalities in the various provinces of Canada have for several years past been gradually making inroads into the trenches of the liquor interests until today, even before a Dominion-wide prohibition measure was even mooted, Canada and Canadians were on the high road to success over the drinking evil. Mr. Stevens, in his forceful address, showed that from the Atlantic to the Pacific prohibition has made and is making rapid progress, gathering in momentum of public favor, as each hour slips by. Even Quebec, which previously had contributed a majority that caused the defeat of the Dominion plebiscite taken several years ago, was today one-third "dry." Only 20 per cent. of the province of New Brunswick is under a "wet" law, while Ontario is easily two-thirds "dry." Alberta is all dry, while in Saskatchewan there is a government dispensary system, and Manitoba is voting on prohibition this coming week. British Columbia will also vote on the question at the time of the provincial general elections.

Mr. Stevens has been criticized by members on both sides of the house for bringing down his prohibition resolution. That can quite well be imagined. The liquor interests are not friendless in the House of Commons. It was not a party question which the member for Vancouver endeavored to bring before the House, but one which he conscientiously thought to be for the welfare of the whole Dominion, particularly during these troubled times. Mr. Stevens has the courage of his convictions, and while his critics will soon be forgotten, the fearlessness which the Vancouver member showed on Monday last will live in the minds of his constituents for a long time.

TRENCH WARFARE

A Boston journalist recently remarked that trench warfare is "the epoch of coward armies," because "as a mass organization they were never so cowardly as they are today." In confirmation of this statement he denounces as contemptible the fact that millions of men are at present facing each other and apparently making no advance.

These remarks are not intended to cast umbrage on the courage of the individual soldier. To question individual valor would be practically establishing an untruth. In all history there have not been more feats of heroism than are being recorded today. We, as Canadians, are proud of our brave men who are winning for our Dominion an honorable place among the nations of the world. We are proud of our British ancestry and of our share in the greatest and most glorious empire that has ever existed.

Nor do the remarks implicate the allies. They had nothing to do with deciding the methods of warfare being employed. They have had to cope with the ingenuities of an enemy who do not know the meaning of courage and honor in its highest sense. Mechanical preponderance is not a new idea with the Germans, however. Napoleon depended on the preponderance of artillery. And what he practised in an honorable manner has been carried to such extremes that gigantic armies are locked in a campaign which carries warfare underground.

While all war is barbarous, this war is more barbarous by reason of the fact that it has been forced on the allies by a military bully who serves his own end with instruments which might have been forged by the devil, so fool they are. And the allies have to meet the Prussians with their own weapons, so far as it can be done honorably. Preponderance of material is the method in vogue today, and years of secret and careful preparation along these lines have revolutionized warfare. The Allies are engaged in contending with conditions with a view to a minimum loss of their men, and their spirit is that of courage, not cowardice.

Speaking of the difference between trench war and field operations, General von Kluck recently declared:

"This is a sort of siege war on a more extended front and of unlimited duration, and this is always much more wearing than operations on the march, for in the latter there are skirmishes and battles on particular days. In between are long intervals when, though the troops must be on the march, yet they enjoy certain rest and recovery; but in the trenches constant activity is demanded. There are the grades—the first on the front, the second for support, and the third in the rear. The first line must be constantly on guard, even though the enemy appear inactive, for one never knows what he may do next. The least inattention may bring death to a soldier and his comrades. Even though the official report says 'quiet prevails on the front' it must not be supposed that now the troops are really having a rest. By no means. In former wars, moreover, winter campaigns were unknown. But our troops have gone through all the hardships of one winter in the trenches, and now stand before a second. As to the continuous strain on the men, the present war makes for greater demands than former wars, and as the troops have held out in the most wonderful manner it is proof that, physically, mankind is more capable of exposure, and so there can be no talk of a relaxing civilization."

This war, which involves greater hardships and dangers and stolid endurance on the part of the allies cannot be said to be "an epoch of coward armies." Great courage is necessary to face such conditions as naturally arise from a new and terrifying method of warfare.

FICTITIOUS CUSTOMS ENTRIES

For several months past there have been import shipments of goods coming to Vancouver on which, it is said, the customs department has been collecting duty only on the prices marked on the certified invoices. In many instances these goods have been bought outside Canada at a sacrifice price less than one-half the regular market value.

We know very well that, even if we could buy an automobile for $100 in the States, we could not get it past the Canadian customs without paying duty on its regular catalog price. We admit this to be a fair proceeding. Why is it fair, then, to admit a bill of dry goods, boots and shoes, or other commodities that are worth $1,000 at the regular market value, by a payment of duty on one-half that sum or less, merely because some shrewd Vancouver buyer has happened to strike a bargain or two in his particular line.

Such a proceeding is manifestly unfair to the country at large, in that it robs us of thousands of dollars of additional revenue yearly; it also discriminates unjustly against any competitors who may prefer to buy their goods in Canada.

We believe the law gives the customs department the right not only to appraise all goods passing entry at their honest market value, but also to levy duty on previous shipments discovered to have been passed at a fictitious value. We hope, therefore, that the department will use the greatest care in preventing such an unjust discrimination against the honest merchants of our city.

A BUSINESS CLUB FOR MOUNT PLEASANT

The suggestion has been made that the merchants and business people generally of Mount Pleasant community meet once a week at lunch at a local cafe and talk over matters of mutual interest, with, perhaps, a fifteen minute talk on some topic of general interest each week by some one acquainted with the needs of the community. We presume it might be called the Mount Pleasant Business Club, although there need be no fee attached to membership in it, each member merely paying his individual expense.

We have no hesitation in endorsing this idea as we feel it would do much towards a more general acquaintance and mutual helpfulness among the members of what is generally conceded to be the most prosperous community in Greater Vancouver. In the meantime we will welcome any suggestions as to the best method of organizing and conducting such a club.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Dominion parliament has been considering a proposal to establish a department of Public Health. It is a good suggestion, and it must be acted upon in time.

There are difficulties in the way of establishing such a Department because of the numerous and varied ideas about the treatment of the sick in the safeguarding of the well that are held in this country, as in most others. This is an age of general reading and little thinking; and as a result nearly everybody has an individual conviction on every subject lending itself to differences of opinion, from religion down. It will be a task to establish a department of Health that will not be regarded by a surprisingly large number of people as an intolerable menace to their bodies and souls.

The extent to which opinion differs on the question of vaccination is simply astonishing in face of the available evidence confirming beyond debate the efficacy of this means of preventing the spread of contagious diseases. But similar differences of opinion are held in regard to nearly every operation within the scope of medical science. The situation leads to great evils and enriches the quacks and fakirs, but it obtains. People insist on the same liberty in dealing with their bodies and the bodies of their children that they possess in dealing with their souls.

Medical inspection of the schools is a modern necessity in the interests of suffering, neglected childhood. The establishment of a Department of Public Health by the state is also needed. Few countries in the past have been so neglected as Canada in this respect.—Montreal Daily Mail.

Bryan has made a lot of noise, but when a decisive vote is taken in the United States he seems to get it in the neck.

* * *

France has adopted a general tax on war profits. No man should object to share with his country the profits which come to him through his country's wars.

* * *

Men may plead religious convictions in order to avoid military service against Germany. But surely not those of the Christian religion.

* * *

Last year Canada lost about half a million a week, or over $24,000,000 in all, by fires. An educational campaign is urgently needed.

* * *

The fire department of Vancouver has arranged to contribute $289.50 per month to the Canadian Patriotic Fund—an excellent example, by the way, to our other public bodies.

* * *

If the city prosecutor and the license inspector have their way, another menace to public morals will soon be a thing of the past. Magistrate Shaw inflicted a fine of $25 recently for allowing a slot machine to be operated in a city store. The machine had been tampered with so that the person playing would not know what he would receive on the next nickel. It is the intention of the authorities to put a stop to the operation of these machines throughout the city, and this action cannot be too strongly commended, especially at such a time as this, when retrenchment is the watchword of every loyal citizen.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT IN UNITED STATES

The concensus of public opinion in the eastern States in regard to the attitude of that country on Germany's submarine threat, as announced by President Wilson, may be inferred from the following comments of the most influential press in that section of the country:

From the Wall Street Journal

For the state department to back down now on the question of merchantmen armed for defense and the right of American citizens to travel upon them would be a surrender so humiliating as to earn the just contempt of the world. It would admit by implication the right of Germany to sink future Lusitanias without warning, subject only to a valueless admission of "an unavoidable mistake," or something equally puerile, like the attempt to "arm" the Lusitania, after its sinking, by subornation of perjury.

From the New York Telegram

German influence, German craft, German statesmanship, German diplomacy, German propaganda, German money—what you will—has at last taken the ship of state by the keel and the Teutonic element in the House of Representatives defies President Wilson in his determination to demand of Germany protection for American lives at sea. President Wilson resents Germany's order that Americans cease travelling on the allies' passenger ships, which she may be pleased to consider "armed" and so liable to be sunk on sight.

From the New York American

But can any administration hope to retain the support of Congress and people if its opinions are as changeable as the chameleon's and are reversed in a Presidential year by a single speech, in a Republican State convention, by such a man as Elihu Root, who said that President Wilson's foreign policy was rash in words when it should be prudent, and timid in action when it should be brave?

From the New York Times

No nobler deliverance by tongue or pen has come from the President, none more faithfully expressing the thought and will of the people of the United States than his letter to Senator Stone It is an utterance of encouragement and reassurance. It makes us certain that the honor of the country is to be resolutely upheld; it gives reason for confidence that peace will be maintained. We shall remain at peace our relations of friendship with all foreign countries will continue, if President Wilson can compass this end. But honor is uppermost in heart and thought of every true American. We do not covet peace at the cost of honor, of right, and of our place in the respect of nations.

From the Journal of Commerce

Whatever mistake or miscalculation the administration at Washington may have made in its diplomatic dealing with Germany in the last year, President Wilson is absolutely right in the stand he is now taking on the question of promiscuous submarine attacks upon merchant vessels, the right of such vessels to carry the means of self-defence and the right of Americans to take passage on them and be safe from slaughter. The people of the country should rally to his support in that position, regardless of differences in domestic politics.

From The New York Herald

President von Bernstorff? How does it sound? There is not much poetic fancy to it, but there is a world of truth. The issue at Washington is whether the President of the United States shall be deposed at the behest of the pro-German element on the ground that it is better to cringe than stand up for American rights.

The report of weather conditions in Greater Vancouver for the week ending March 7, according to Mr. Shearman, is as follows:

Rain: 2.33 inches.

Snow: 4.40 inches.

Sunshine: 23 hours, 12 minutes.

Highest temperature, 45 degrees on March 3.

Lowest temperature, 29 degrees on March 5.

BOTANICAL OFFICE TO BE TAKEN OVER

The provincial botanical office at Vancouver is to be taken over by the British Columbia University. Its future permanent home will likely be at Point Grey as soon as the university buildings are nearer completion. The university will assume full control of the bureau.

The effect of this announcement is Vancouver will not lose the botanical office after all. A number of Vancouver business men have protested against the elimination of the bureau, which, however, is merely being transferred to a sphere where its usefulness will be augmented in the opinion of the government.

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Rents are **MUCH CHEAPER** here in Mt. Pleasant.

For that reason, in practically every one of the stores here, and in all lines of business, you can get a **QUALITY OF GOODS** and a **PRICE** that the downtown stores **CANNOT COMPETE WITH.**

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H. H. STEVENS MOVES PROHIBITION RESOLUTION

Mr. H. H. Stevens moved in the House of Commons on Monday his resolution proposing that owing to the need of the conservation of the national wealth and resources at this critical time, there should be prohibition throughout Canada. The resolution was seconded by Hon. Charles Marcil.

Mr. Stevens admitted that there were two aspects to the question—the moral and economic—but he would deal with only the economic side. He said he felt he was not voicing the opinion of a few fanatics, but rather the views of thousands of sane thinkers throughout the Dominion. He quoted statistics to show the development of the temperance sentiment in Canada.

The resolution came up for discussion, but the debate was not concluded at the time of adjournment.

Referring to what had been done in the various provinces, Mr. Stevens said two-thirds of Ontario was dry. In Quebec ninety-eight municipalities were dry and 237 were wet. In New Brunswick 80 per cent. of the population were under prohibition; in Nova Scotia eighteen counties were dry and only one was wet, that in which Halifax is situated, but a measure had been passed in the legislature to bring it under the same law. Prince Edward Island was dry, and Manitoba, which has eighty-seven dry municipalities and seventy-one wet, will vote on provincial prohibition next week. Saskatchewan was practically under prohibition, Alberta had gone dry, and in British Columbia a measure for provincial prohibition would be introduced this session. Thus from the Atlantic to the Pacific, Mr. Stevens said, every province had taken some steps toward provincial prohibition.

In closing, Mr. Stevens strongly urged the government to grapple with the problem, the difficulties of which he did not think were insuperable.

IRISH WIT AND HUMOR

The Irish Association of British Columbia have arranged with Mr. F. J. Bursill to address it on "Irish Wit and Humor" at their bi-monthly meeting to be held on Thursday next at the Eagles' Hall. The public are invited at attend at 9 o'clock.

It Is Encouraging

The dove of international peace ought to be encouraged over the fact that China's new minister to the United States is named Koo—Cleveland Plaindealer.

PRINCESS WOULD END CONFLICT

A princess, in whose veins runs royal blood has attempted to end the greatest conflict the world has ever seen. She negotiated in person with chancellor, foreign minister, supreme war lord, himself of the country with whom her own emperor is at war, then with sublime proposals and letters through the empire against whom her machinations are directed, travelling under her own name in semi-regal state.

She commenced then her intrigues in her own capital, and when her palace was raided and her documents seized by chiefs of the war party, she exerted such influence at court that she remained immune from arrest.

Is Not Beautiful

The ingredients are here of a good plot for the movies, or for a thriller by one of those sensational novelists who throw the glamor of romance over the sordid bargainings of diplomacy. There is one fact unfortunate from the point of view of film producer or story writer—the princess is neither young nor surpassingly beautiful. And that must be recorded for the story is true.

There is only one great country in the world where such things could happen, only one where, having happened, the censors could keep the facts from the outside world. That country is Russia. At the moment when these lines are read, it is probable that members of the duma will be trying with all their strength to drag out of the government the facts about the Princess Wassilchikoff scandal.

But it is extremely unlikely that the whole truth will come out even in the duma, and it is almost certain that the cables will not carry out of Russia any details whatever.

Here is Letter

The following letter carried through Great Britain by the Princess Wassilchikoff, addressed by one of the most exalted persons in Germany to one of the most exalted persons in Russia, is now in the hands of the Czar:

"Germany does not want to weaken Russia. On the contrary, she needs a strong, powerful Russia. Nor is it the intention of Germany to prevent Russian influence over the Slavonic nations. It is certain that Austria-Hungary would like to destroy this influence, but the Dual Monarchy can at the present moment do practically nothing without Germany. Great Britain is not Russia's friend, and it is possible your country will have to regret very much this entente in the near future. The British already say that if the Dardanelles are forced they will create in the Sea of Marmora a second Gibraltar. At least it is sure that immediately after the end of the war Great Britain will seek an alliance with Germany against Russia."

Basis for Treaty

Of even greater significance is the following "basis" for a peace treaty, brought to Petrograd from Berlin by the princess and found among her papers:

"Germany has no wish to deny the right of Russia to a warm-water port. In view of the failure of the Allies at the Dardanelles, however, it is evident that Constantinople is unattainable. Compensation for Russia could be found in an outlet on the Persian Gulf."

Before telling as much of the story of the princess as has been definitely verified, I will comment briefly on the above documents. Their genuineness is indisputable. How they got out I do not know, but diplomatists in every entente capital have seen them, and it may be surmised that the war party in Petrograd desired to give select publicity to the intrigue. The strength of the pro-German or court party could not be shown more clearly than by the omission of the name of the dignitary to whom the latter is addressed.

Would Be Traitor

A man who would receive such a letter in England or France would be regarded as a traitor, but the recipient in Russia is too powerful to be needlessly affronted. His name and the name of the German statesman said to have signed the letter have been told me, but it is advisable in dealing with such a matter as this to avoid gossip and confine oneself to provable facts. I will merely say that the names both of the alleged recipient and the reported author will appear below in other connections.

The second document, the memorandum, is much the more important. In a few lines, it sets forth an insidious porposal which, if accepted by Russia, would not only destroy the entente against Germany, but would at once set Russia and Britain by the ears. A port on the Persian Gulf, giving an outlet to the Indian Ocean to Russia, involvinfi of course, the gobbling up of Persia and a Russian railroad from the Black Sea to the ocean, would put India at the mercy of the Russian millions, and it was to avoid any such possibility that Britain before the war marked off for herself in Persia a "sphere of influence" covering the regions from which India could be attacked. Considered in the light of this memorandum, the present military operations in southern Persia by Russian troops and in Mesopotamia by the British might be regarded as of greater significance than appears on the surface, though I have no warrant for even hinting that the slightest suspicions exists between the Bear and the Lion as to possible ulterior motives in this theatre of war.

Of Great Family

The Princess Wassilchikoff, formerly lady-in-waiting to the czarina, belongs to one of the dozen greatest families in Russia. Since an ancestor of that name was ennobled in 1353, the house of Wassilchikoff has been closely allied with the court. Students of Russian history will realize that this meant, for centuries during which the Russian language was ostracized by the upper classes and the great state offices given to German, a constant succession of marriages with Teutonic princesses. Ivan the Terrible married Anna Grigirievna Wassilchikoff, and many Wassilchikoffs have held the highest positions in the empire. Three weeks ago, some time after the seizure of the documents given above a brother of the Princess Wassilchikoff held office as a minister of the czar, and in all probability he still retains his job.

Goes to Vienna

How she got to Vienna would probably make a good story in itself, for early in the war her salon in Petrograd was a well-known resort for influential malcontents. From Vienna the princess went to Berlin. Here she first discussed the situation with the foreign minister, Von Jagow, then, after audiences with the imperial chancellor, Herr Bethman-Hollweg, was admitted to the presence of the Kaiser. The whole object of these conferences seems to have been a separate peace between Germany and Russia. Whether the intrigue was attempted by the princess upon her own initiative, whether it was suggested by high personages at the court of the Czar or whether the Germans or Austrians approached her as a person who could bring the proper influence to bear in Petrograd, the facts at present attainable do not explain.

Princess Wassilchikoff next appeared at the Russian embassy at The Hague. Her great name procured her a reception befitting her position, and when she announced that she had received permission from the enemy to return to her beloved Russia the necessary passports for herself and her servants were at once prepared, and a few days later she reached Tilbury by the boat from Flushing.

Enters British Society

The princes cut quite a dash in the highest British society for three days, and at her visits in the West End to friends she had formerly known in the continental capitals and on the Riveria she described to spellbound audiences the despair of the highest circles in the enemy capitals, and prophesied speedy victory for the Entente. She was unable to accept the many invitations sent her, for, as she explained, she could not delay her trip home, and she left England as soon as her arrangements could be completed, departing from Hull and traveling through Norway, Sweden and Finland to Petrograd.

When she reached Petrograd, the princess lost no time in setting to work. Attention was drawn to her activities in a short time, and, after various efforts to get the authorities to take action had failed, a deputation of liberal members of the duma called upon M. Khvostoff, the minister of the interior, and demanded her arrest. Khvostoff, known in Russia as "the strong man of the reaction," is attempting the difficult feat of trimming between the reactionary party and the progressive bloc in the duma. He could not ignore such a visit without apparently allying himself with the peace party, and to the surprise and consternation of the court plotters, the establishment of the princess was raided and all her papers seized. She was ordered to withdraw to her estates in central Russia, where she remains at present. She has not been arrested.

Shooting 'Em High

Sergeant—There you go again, shooting too high. What's the matter with you?

Raw Marksman—Merely an oversight on my part, sergeant.

Speaking of Neutrality

Among much else, Secretary Lansing's note on submarine warfare provoked these typical newspaper comments from Abroad:

By the Tablicke Rundschaw of Berlin: "It could just as well have been signed by Sir Edward Grey."

By the Daily Telegraph of London. "One might think the note had been prepared by Count von Bernstorff."

Taken together, these two knocks are a panegyric—not that the present Secretary of State needs anything of the sort.—Collier's Weekly.

They Had Mittens

A young American artist who has just returned from a six months' job of driving a British ambulance on the war front in Belgium brings this back, straight from the trenches:

"One cold morning a sign was pushed up above the German trench facing ours, only about fifty yards away, which bore in large letters the words: "Got mit Uns!" One of our cockney lads, more of a patriot than a linguist, looked at this for a moment and then lampblacked a big sign of his own, which he raised on a stick. It read: "We Got Mittuns, Too!"

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HOME TABLE RECIPES

It will be the aim of the Editor of this department to furnish the women readers of the WESTERN CALL from week to week with a series of practical and economical recipes for seasonable dishes; and incidentally to suggest any new and attractive methods of serving them.

We will welcome any suggestions from readers of this page, and will gladly give them publicity in these columns if received not later than Monday of each week.

WHY MORE FISH IS NOT USED

Generally speaking, fish may be classed as from two to four per cent. poorer in nutritive nitrogenous ingredients than meat; but owing to its less price it is a much cheaper food than meat.

In the light of the above, why is it that fish is not more largely and more generally used? The following suggest themselves as amongst the more important reasons:

1. It is only within the last few years that it has been possible in the inland portions of the country to procure fish—particularly sea-fish—in prime condition and at moderate prices.

2. Possibly as a consequence of the above, too few housewives yet know how to properly cook fish.

3. Retailers frequently do not present fish to their customers in an attractive manner.

4. While fish is cheap as compared with meat, it is not yet nearly as cheap to the consummer as it should be.

Hints on Frying Fish

There are three ways of preparing fish for frying, viz., firstly, dipping it in milk and flour; secondly, coating it with prepared batter; and thirdly, egging and crumbing. The last is considered the nicest, but is also the most expensive.

The pan used for frying should contain sufficient fat to thoroughly cover the fish. Dripping, lard, or oil can be used for frying purposes.

The fat must be quite hot—in fact, be smoking—before the fish is put in, so as to harden the outside, thus preventing the fat from entering into the fish, which would spoil the flavour and make it indigestible.

Only a small quantity of fish should be fried at a time, and the fat should be allowed to get thoroughly hot before the next lot is put in.

As soon as the fish is brown on both sides, drain it on paper or a cloth, so as to absorb all the fat. It should then be dished up on a folded paper and placed on a hot dish.

When the frying is ended, allow the fat to cool a little, strain it to remove any loose crumbs or bits of batter, and the fat will then be quite fit for future use.

Hints in Buying and Serving Fish

In buying fish see that the eyes are bright and prominent and the flesh firm—not flabby.

Plain boiled or mashed potatoes should always be served with fish. Squash and green peas also go well with it.

As the remains of boiled fish can be warmed up with a little butter, pepper, salt and water, making an excellent stew, they should always be saved.

Canned fish should never be allowed to remain long in the can after opening. It should be used at once.

While cold storage facilities enable fresh fish in prime condition, to be available during all months of the year, it should not be forgotten that most varieties are caught more plentifully at certain seasons of the year, and should then be available mostcheaply.

PRACTICAL BEAUTY SECRETS

THIS series of short practical talks on the scientific care of the complexion, hair and eyes was begun in the WESTERN CALL on February 25th, and will be continued from week to week in these columns.

Readers having any suggestions to offer or inquiries to make are invited to send them in not later than Monday of each week to insure attention.—The Editor.

A Treatment for Red Noses

Red noses are caused, to a great extent, by improper circulation, although the immoderate use of spicy foods, liquors, or even tea and coffee, will do much toward bringing on this very embarrassing trouble. Practice deep breathing. This will expand the chest, distribute the circulation more evenly and relieve the congestion of the nose. This is a good treatment to employ when retiring at night. Dissolve one dram of muriate of ammonia and half a dram of tannic acid in two ounces of glycerin. To this mixture add three ounces of rosewater. Bind absorbent cotton dipped in this mixture on the nose and allow to remain on all night. Applications of camphor water are also very good for red veins in the nose.

* * * * *

Care of the Hands

The care of the hands is often a troublesome beauty problem and one that is too often neglected. The hands, it might be said, disclose the age of a person even more than any other feature. They should have at least reasonable care. Some people have short and stubby fingers. These may be made more tapering by persistently pinching the ends, beginning the pressurejust above the knuckles. Hand massage is also very good, and helps to keep them smooth and pliable, preventing wrinkles. The massage should be gentle but firm—the movement that of washing the hands, with a motion rather toward the wrists. Use olive oil, cocoanut oil or good vaseline. Always be careful to rinse the hands in fairly cold water before drying them, and to dry them thoroughly before going out into the air. Here is a splendid treatment for making the hands soft and white. At night, just before retiring, wash the hands thoroughly with a mild soap and moderately hot water, using a hand brush. Rinse in cool water and dry. Then rub the hands well with sweet almond oil, being careful to see that it is all rubbed into the pores of the skin. It is well to encase the hands for the night in a pair of sleeping gloves. This treatment will make the hands beautifully soft and white. If the hands are sensitive to all but the mildest soaps, rubber gloves should be worn when doing housework.

Excessive perspiration of the hands may be relieved by a warm water hand bath, followed by a brisk alcohol rub. Alcohol closes the pores and starts the circulation. Afterwards dust with talcum. Another good hand ointment that is useful as a whitener and softener is this: One ounce of almond meal, one ounce of spirits of benzoin, four ounces of orange flower water, four ounces of rosewater, half a dram of borax. Make the almond meal, rose water and orange flower water into an emulsion. Let stand about a day, then filter and add the borax. Dissolve the borax, then add the spirits of benzoin.

A good vanishing cream for either face or hands is made as follows: Melt one ounce of Russian gelatine and two ounces of rosewater in a small rice boiler. Cool and add one ounce of glycerine; afterwards add two drams of tincture of benzoin and twenty drops of perfumed oil. Should the mixture harden too quickly it may be immersed in warm water until again dissolved.

* * * * *

Care of the Nails

The finger nails form an important link in the beauty of the hands. Few people give their nails the attention they should have. The way to start out with the nails is to give them a treatment at a good manicure parlor. After the manicure has trained them in the way they should go it will be comparatively easy to keep them attractive. If they are inclined to crack easily a nightly application of ordinary vaseline will be found very beneficial. A good nail file and a pair of cuticle scissors should be always at hand. Occasionally a nail rouge and polishing wax may be applied and the nails given a thorough polishing. Before doing this it is well to use hand pumice on the nails and to soak them for a time in warm soapy water. Hangnails should always be cut off clean with a pair of cuticle scissors—never pulled off.

* * * * *

Care of the Hair

The hair, while it should be kept clean, should not be washed too often—never oftener than once a month, except under exceptional circumstances. If this is not often enough to keep the scalp from becoming itchy, it is best to have a scalp treatment at a reliable hair dresser's. The life of the hair depends on the proper distribution of natural oil at the roots. This is accomplished by hand massage of the scalp, which should be done for a few minutes every night. Dry brushing with a good bristle brush will also do much to accomplish the same result. For excessively oily hair a sun bath is unexcelled. The hair should be loose and flowing. Sunlight tends to dry the superfluous oil. The cause of the dry hair falling out is that it splits at the ends and stops growing, thus losing its vitality. Dilute lemon water used after washing and rinsing the rair will do much to preserve its natural color, especially in the case of blondes. It is quite harmless and will not act as a bleacher.

Two fresh eggs broken over the head and rubbed briskly into the scalp make a splendid shampoo. The rubbing process should last for at least ten minutes. This will lend a natural gloss to the hair. For dandruff try a mixture of five ounces of bayrum, one ounce of tincture of cantharides and one ounce of olive oil, rubbed into the scalp at bedtime. When the hair shows a tendency to become gray, the use of sulphur and iron in the dietary, and a scalp massage occasionally with the yolk of an egg should do much to ward off the trouble, as these mineral substances will nourish the roots of the hair and will tend to restore its color. Patent hair tonics and dyes, however, are usually a good thing to avoid; but there are some tonics containing a good proportion of quinine or tincture of cantharides that are good, both in cases of oily scalp and where the hair is dry and brittle. To apply tonic to the hair, drop it with a dropper along the lines of the part and rub the scalp with a massage movement. Shampoos or treatments, especially where water is applied to the hair, should not be indulged in too frequently. Dry brushing, and especially dry combing, will do more than anything else to improve the condition of the scalp and hair, though occasionally a very little olive oil or vaseline may be used in the hand massage of the scalp. The use of peroxide, however, while it may bleach the hair, tends to make it dry, lifeless and unsightly. The use of an ointment consisting of fifteen grams of precipitated sulphur and fifty grams of vaseline will do much to relieve excessive oiliness of the scalp.

WOMEN RENEWING DEMAND FOR VOTES

A resolution calling on the government to enact a bill at the present sitting of the legislature admitting the women of British Columbia to the franchise on equal terms with men was unanimously carried at a mass-meeting held at the Labor Temple last week under the auspices of the B. C. Suffrage League. Mrs. R. Smith, Miss Eileen Tutty and Mr. J. S. Cowper were the speakers, and all agreed that the present was an opportune time to renew their demands on the govern-

The resolution will be presentment.

ed to the ministers by a delegation from the various equal suffrage societies which will be to Victoria during this week. Miss Gutteridge presided over the meeting, at which musical and literary items were provided by Mrs. Rissel Burnett, Miss Eva May, Miss Ethel Burnett and Miss Helen Badgley.

Mr. Cowper pointed out that with over 27 per cent. of the population of Vancouver foreign born, and thousands of our men leaving for the front, it becomes a matter of political precaution to admit all British-born women to the franchise.

COURSE OF LECTURES TO BE ESTABLISHED

As a means of bringing a larger proportion of the citizens of Vancouver into closer connection with the various scientific, literary and artistic movements which are fostered in the city by different organizations, steps were taken at a meeting held last Friday afternoon in the British Columbia University buildings on Willow street, and attended by officers and members of several such societies, to inaugurate a lyceum or course of lectures which would attract the general public to an active interest.

For some time it has been felt by those interested in the societies of the city dealing with intellectual matters that, although there were lectures held from time to time on different subjects, such lectures were not attracting as many people as they should, and that a large proportion of the citizens were taking no part in these activities.

It was decided at the meeting that Dr. Wesbrook, president of the University, should be asked to act as chairman or convenor of the movement until the organization is completed. He was sent for, and after further consultation, consented to assist in this way until an organiation could be formed and elect its own officers. He will have associated with him a committee of seven or more, which is not yet appointed, and which will draft a constitution to be submitted to a larger representative gathering, or to those who declare themselves desirous of membership in the new institution or lyceum.

It is not intended that this proposed lyceum shall conflict with the work of any of the existing societies, or interfere with their work, or exercise control over them, but it is hoped that the different societies will co-operate with each other in the establishment of a general course of lectures on literary, scientific, artistic, social and economic subjects.

Austria is to resume exploitation of tin mines on her territory, working of which was discontinued before the war owing to small profits. It is estimated that the three principal mines in Bohemia alone, if actively worked, can furnish three-fourths of the country's requirements. Little tin has been mined in Austria heretofore, only about 1 per cent. of the country's needs having been obtained from Austrian mines.

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My Australian Diary

(Continued from last week)

December 21.—My first Sunday in Australia . I think it scarcely likely that any stranger in this country could fail to be impressed with the genuine, refreshing hospitality of its people. Never have I seen more anxiety shown to make the stranger perfectly at home and to show him the sights of the country, to entertain him going and coming. Already I have more pleasant acquaintances than I have known in four years in Vancouver. They are more than mere acquaintances—they are real friends.

Let me illustrate. When I went to the Civic Club to interview the gentleman I came here to meet, he made me acquainted with some of his business friends, one of whom, a men's furnisher, or mercer, as he is called here, asked me where I was staying. When I told him I had my quarters at the hotel, he said: "Well, you must see something of home life in Sydney. My wife and the girls will be delighted to have you with us. You must come out tomorrow (Sunday) anyway. And then, let me see, next Thursday is Christmas. We will expect you from Wednesday to Monday at least. Nobody in Sydney will do any business with you in the holidays." You see, Christmas is THE holiday of the year to Australians, as it occurs in their midsummer. Everyone takes from three days to three weeks, too, to spend it.

Sydney is a surprisingly large city—over 750,000—and laid out on a generous scale, allowing the best districts for residential purposes. Most business men live miles away from the heart of town. Sydney is a city of suburbs. Its excellent tram system and suburban steam railways are equalled only by its system of steam ferries, which are the finest in this part of the world and the equal in efficiency of those of either New York or San Francisco.

Many parts of Sydney remind one of the pictures of old London or Paris. Its streets are not wide. Often they are too narrow to admit of a double track tram line. In such cases the cars go in one direction only, in a belt line fashion. It is nothing extraordinary to see people walking down the middle of the streets as they do in Spanish American cities. Even if you see them going to a ball or the theatre in evening dress, you will frequently see them walking out in the street. That often seems the only logical place to walk.

The sidewalks are nearly always sheltered from the heat of the sun by canopies built out from the stores or offices. These are very convenient also when it rains.

The business men are of a different type from those you meet in northern cities. They take life more leisurely, and there is a happy absence of that feverish haste to outdo the other fellow which we of the north are so familiar with. Yet, though he works only from 9.30 to 4.00, the Australian business man seems to accomplish just as much in his day as we do in ours. He believes in a holiday for everybody when a holiday comes, and that is one reason why, when the stores close in the evening most of the cafes and restaurants close also.

A traveller arrived at the Metropole the other day from Chicago. He came down to breakfast at 7.30, as he wanted to get an early start for the day's business. But no cheerful breakfast room greeted him. Only the hall porter and the clerk were there to give him welcome. In disgust he started out to get his breakfast at a cafe. But they were no better than the hotels—nothing doing till 8.30. You see they do not believe in making slaves of their help in Australia. Many a housekeeper has learned that to her cost. Many a housewife is today doing her own work because she cannot get girls to stay in the evening. This is the land where the labor party rules—and rules with a strong hand.

December 23.—Had my first dip in the surf today. Sydney is famous for its sea bathing, having six excellent ocean beaches of which Coogee and Manly are the most noted. The water from the Pacific is clear, pure and warm, the sand of the whitest, and though sharks abound they never come within the breakers. The beach at Coogee, where I am spending Christmas is fairly alive with bathers from morning till night, and a watch tower on the rocks nearby is equipped with a warning bell to tell us when sharks are nearing the outer breakers. There is always a heavy surf breaking, and it is such fun to dive under the first line of these breakers and come in with the second ones. Even the smallest children will go out this way, as there is practically no undertow; and the waves will often bring you clear in to the edge of the beach.

Sharks are plentiful in the South Pacific ocean, but there is a more deadly breed of shark found in Sydney's inner harbor and up the Paramatta river. In the early days they used to take unruly convicts out to a little island in the harbor and leave them there on short rations untill they became manageable. None of them were hardy enough to attempt to swim to land, as the sharks would certainly have eaten them. Today no one can swim with the least safety in any part of the inner harbor, or even go about in any frail boat or canoe as he would be in danger of these marine tigers almost anywhere. Only yesterday a lad had his leg bitten off near little Manly, and died at the hospital. A shark of the shovel-nosed variety, measuring fourteen and a half feet in length was caught last week near the same spot where the boy was attacked.

Snakes abound in Australia, some few kinds being very venomous. Today on our way to the ostrich farm at the South Heads we saw a kind of adder. At this ostrich farm we saw about a hundred fine South African birds in the various stages of moulting. The ostrich business seems to be a paying industry as they charge five dollars a plume. You get them curled and shaped and dyed to any shade desired.

Made our first acquaintance with the Australian theatre tonight, when we went to hear "Sweet County Kerry," an Irish melodrama, which was well presented by a California company. The audience sings the National Anthem before the performance instead of after. The exits are called "escape doors." The candy boys are calling "lollies." We realize in many such ways that we are in a land of different customs and strange names, and must accommodate ourselves to new circumstances. The theatres are not at all creditable for a city of the size of Sydney. Besides a regular theatre for stock company plays, there is a vaudeville house, an opera house, and Her Majesty's Theatre, the one where the expensive shows are produced. Prices are higher than in America and the attractions away below the average. This is accounted for by the long distance a troupe has to travel to reach Australia, and by the fact that only four cities of any size are here to reward the theatrical company that does brave the distance and the expense of the trip. Australia has only some six millions of people in all her immense territory — a country about as large as the settled part of Canada. Yet nearly one and a half millions of these people live in her three largest cities, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. This does not make it an ideal country for theatrical troupes.

Visited the "White City" this afternoon. This is a sort of Australian Coney Island managed by an American firm, and comprises the usual class of popular amusements, such as "shooting the chutes," "ferris wheel," "crystal maze," "scenic railway," "dancing pavilion," "trip to Lilliput," etc. There was one game called "Sock der Kaiser" that was well worth the entire price of admission. The idea was to hit the wooden effigies of the Kaiser, Crown Prince, Emperor of Austria, Sultan of Turkey, etc., with a baseball as they popped up from behind a screen. If you hit the Kaiser you won a box of cigars. Everybody was having a throw at him. This "White City" is certainly a gold mine.

The traveller from America has a shock awaiting him when he pays his first visit to a soda fountain. Why they do not make better ice-cream, or learn more about the right way to serve it in the many dainty dishes we are so accustomed to, is a mystery. The climate is hot enough, for it is 101 degrees in the shade today. The milk and cream are of as good quality as in most cities. The taste of the general public, however, especially of the masculine element, has never been educated along the line of sweets or "lollies," as they call them. They regard this habit as suitable for women and children only, and you will rarely see a man in any of these parlors. Besides, they close at six in the evening just the hour when our northern thirst begins to waken. The quality of the candies is even poorer than that of the ice-cream, so we have to reconcile ourselves to lemon squash at the bar until we get back to New Zealand.—E.W.S.

(To be continued)

SHRAPNEL

Willing

Recruiting Officer: "Ever served a term of imprisonment?"

Applicant: "No, sir; but I don't mind doin' a short sentence if yer think it necessary!"—Sydney Bulletin.

* * * *

Sentries have been placed over the captured German guns on the Horse Guards Parade. We are not going to have the Germans pinching them back again while no one is looking.—London Star.

* * * *

The Recruiting Official—One gran'father living? Is he on your father's or mother's sid?

The Recruit—Oh, 'e varies, sir; 'e sticks up fer both on 'em—a sort o' nootral.

* * * *

Mistress: "Another sailor has called on you, Jane. I thought you had only one sweetheart?'

Cook: "No, mum, two. I has one 'on the reserve,'' as they says in the military.''

* * * *

"The late Admiral Evans had a quick, buff wit," said Surgeon-Gen. William C. Braisted, U. S. N.

"The admiral once was taken through the Vanderbilt stables in New York. The stable manager showed him walls and floors of pale, translucent tiling, marble drinking troughs, mangers of Circassian walnut, solid silver fittings, and so forth.

"'Do you find anything lacking, Admoral?' the manager said, proudly, at the end.

"'Nothing,' the admiral replied, "nothing except a leather upholstered sofa for each horse.'"

* * * *

Sheepily, after a night off, a certain intern hastened to his hospital ward. The first patient was a stout old frishman.

"How goes it?" he inquired.

"Faith, it'sh me breathin', doctor. I can't get me breath at all, at all."

"Why, your pulse is normal. Let me examine the lung-action," replied the doctor, kneeling beside the cot, and laying his head on the ample chest.

"Now, let's hear you talk," he continued, closing his eyes and listening.

"What'll Oi be sayin', doctor?"

"Oh, say anything. Count one, two, three and up," murmured the intern, drowsily.

"Wan, two, three, four, five, six," began the patient. When the young doctor, with a start opened his eyes, Pat was counting huskily, "Tin hundred an' sixty-nine, tin hundred an' sivinty, tin hundred an' sivinty-wan."—Christian Register.

In Lodgings Evidently

"Do you have hot and cold water in your room?"

"No, cold and semi-cold."

Dorothy's Peril

One day, when Dorothy's mother was reading to the little maid she came to the word "gravitation." She explained its meaning, but thought the child would forget it. Consequently she was much surprised when, a few days later, Dorothy came running in, crying:

"Oh, mother! it's such a good thing for me there's a law of gravitation; if there wasn't I' dhave surely tumbled head over heels into Heaven just now!"

Phone Seymour 9086

One Is Apt

at times to be forgetful, but don't forget that

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in our SAFETY VAULT will protect your valuables, documents, heirlooms, etc., from FIRE or BURGLARY for one year for

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DOW FRASER TRUST CO.

122 HASTINGS STREET W.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Freight Shed on Government Wharf, Vancouver, B. C." will be received at this office until 4.00 P.M. on Thursday, March 23, 1916, for the construction of a Wooden Freight Shed on the Government Wharf, at Vancouver, B. C.

Plans and forms of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at this Department, and at the offices of the District Engineer at Victoria, B. C., and on application to the Postmaster at Vancouver, B. C.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures, stating their occupations and places of residence. In the case of firms, the actual signature, the nature of the occupation, and place of residence of each member of the firm must be given.

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, equal to ten per cent. (10 p.c.) of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the person tendering decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

NOTE.—Blue prints can be obtained at the Department of Public Works by depositing an accepted bank cheque for the sum of $20.00, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

By order,
R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, February 24, 1916.

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.—91779

Ottawa, Canada

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PUBLIC SCHOOL DESKS

SEALED TENDERS, superscribed "Tenders for School Desks," will be received by the Honourable the Minister of Public Works up to 12 o'clock noon of Tuesday, 21st day of March, 1916, for supplying the following desks:

Single Desks

Size No. 3 250
Size No. 2 250

Single Rears

Size No. 2 100
Size No. 3 50
Size No. 5 25

The desks are to be quoted at a price per desk.

The name of the desk and maker to be mentioned in tenders.

Delivery at Victoria or Vancouver on or before 31st day of July next.

The successful tenderer will, free of any additional charges store the desks and pack or crate ready for shipment to places to be hereafter designated from time to time to the order of the Department.

No tender will be entertained unless accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank of Canada, payable to the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, or by cash, in the amount of two hundred dollars' ($200), which will be forfeited if the party tendering decline to enter into contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the contract.

Cheques of unsuccessful tenderers will be returned upon signing of contract.

The Department is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

J. E. GRIFFITH,
Deputy Minister and Public Works Engineer.

Department of Public Works,
Victoria, B. C., 1st March, 1916. mh2

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-west Territories and in a portion of the province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewal for a further term of 21 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 sub-divisions 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, rescinded by Chap. 27 of 4-5 George V. assented to 12th June, 1914.

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. —83575.

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LEGAL ADVERTISING

Get our Rates for Advertising Legal Notices, Land Notices, Etc., which are required by law to appear but once a week. We can advertise your requirements at a satisfactory price.

THE WESTERN CALL

Fairview

The Connaught Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire will hold its regular business meeting this Friday afternon at 2.30 at the home of Mrs. Gartshore, 1126 12th ave. west.

On Wednesday afternoon of last week the King Edward High school hockey team, after a long period of inactivity due to the adverse weather conditions, played a game against the University of British Columbia eleven and were defeated three to one. Both teams were severely handicapped by lack of practice and the game was a poor exhibition.

In a fast game of basketball in the King Edward high school gymnasium on Thursday of last week, the Point Grey basketball team was defeated by King Edward. The game was very even up to half-time, but in the second half McPhail and Hunter of the K. E. side seemed to be incapable of missing their opponents' basket, and the final score was 46 to 11.

The Military Red Cross Sewing Circle tea held on Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. B. McMaster, 967 Tenth ave. west, was well attended, the house looking very gay with its decorations of flags, carnations and pussy willows. Mrs. A. Robinson, the president, assisted the hostess in receiving. Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Pyke, Mrs. Lyttleton and Mrs. J. J. Mackay poured tea, the table being gracefully decorated with daffodils. Among the ladies assisting were: Miss Stewart, Miss Muriel Stewart, Mrs. Mackay, Miss Hilker, Mrs. Slopper, Miss McQuarrie, Miss Lyttleton, Mrs. Cole, Miss Marian Wilson, Mrs. Barger, Mrs. A. M. Sharp, Mrs. Culver, Mrs. Pyke, Miss Pyke, Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. Addison, Miss Miller and Mrs. Paulin.

Could Hear Just As Well

At a British recruiting meeting recently the speaker, having got his audience in a high state of enthusiasm by telling them of the many brave deeds performed by our soldiers in France, suddenly espied a big, strongly built man at the back of the hall. "My man," he cried, "how is it that you are not at the front?"

"Oh, it is all right," replied the burly yokel. "I can hear every word you say from here."—Tit-Bits.

Seeking Them Out

The tragic damage that this war has done to Germany it that it has destroyed confidence in German national character. Honor, truth, mercy are divorced from Germany in the estimation of the rest of Christendom. That is a shocking tragedy, the worse because it involves so many people who are not to blame. We know very well that all Germans are not hell-cats. The difficulty is to separate those that are from those that are not.—New York Life.

A Whole Loaf of Health and Strength for YOU.

SHELLY'S WRAPPED BUTTER-NUT BREAD combines the food values which make strength and health. Made pure and clean, baked pure and clean.

5c 14 Ounce Loaf

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is the best and least expensive food you can serve daily on your table. Delivered fresh daily by phoning Fairmont 44, or INSIST on BUTTER-NUT at your store. Comes in sanitary waxed wrappers.

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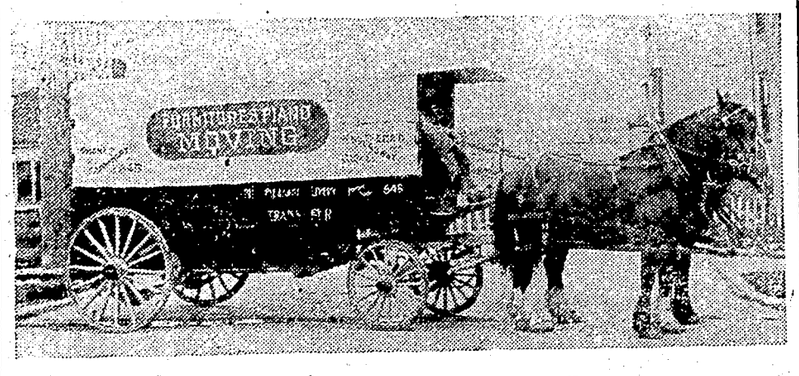

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Baggage, Express and Dray. Hacks and Carriages at all hours.
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FIRE PROTECTION vs. FIRE PREVENTION

While enormous sums are spent annually in the equipment and upkeep of fire departments for the purpose of controlling and extinguishing fires, it is almost a novelty to find a municipality with a department charged with the inspection, and with authority to enforce the correction, of conditions favorable to fires, says a contemporary. In some of our larger cities some progress has been made by the fire departments, which have set apart small details of their staffs, charged with inspection work. The result of their work is minimized, however, by the fact that the inspectors have not sufficient authority.

The fire chiefs have it in their power to advance the fire prevention campaign and secure results. If a fire chief's record depended upon his keeping down the number of fires, instead of his ability to handle fires after they have broken out, there would be greater effort at inspection. Fire chiefs should insist upon sufficient men for inspection work; these men should be held responsible for the inspection and correction of dangerous conditions, and, to make their work effective, the inspectors should be clothed with fire marshal authority, in order that any fire breaking out in their inspection districts might be thoroughly investigated and the cause definitely assigned. In this way an inspector's reputation for thoroughness would be at stake and, with the knowledge that a fire would be investigated by one familiar with the conditions, there would be fewer fires of a suspicious character or due to carelessness.

Municipalities can well afford to make generous appropriations for fire-preventive inspection work. It is an investment which will yield large rereturns, not only in reduced fire loss, but in reduction in the cost of upkeep of fire departmets and equipment.

In Vancouver a very efficient system of inspection is maintained and the inspectors have the power to order dangerous conditions to be removed. The building bylaws also pay special attention to the elements of fire risk.

A Piano in the Trenches

The following account of the strange adventures of a piano in wartime is taken from an issue of The London Times of recent date:

The whole line was digging itself in. The Germans were shelling the position heavily, and life itself depended upon digging in. The men worked feverishly, racing death.

Suddenly the trench tools of one party struck on wood. They had found a box—a large box—a very large box. On this site had stood, in the happy days now so long ago, a large chateau. What was this relic of the old world upon which the trench tools of the new had struck? Buried treasure? Yes. The wooden box grew larger and larger till it revealed itself as a grand piano.

And immediately, German shells or no, some one must needs try it. It was sorely battered, but it sounded. A grand piano which sounded was a prize which the British soldier—brutal mercenary of an unmusical people—was not going to sacrifice for all the shells in Europe. That piano must not be moved. The trench formation must be altered to make room for it, and altered it was. And, tenderly propped upon two legs of its own and a third built up of mud the piano held the field.

A pianist was called for, and, under the whistling and screaming and crashing of the German shells, the piano showed what it could do. The trenches all about were packed with would. And the company officers warned them of snipers, insisted on their taking shelter beneath the parapet. Stand up and listen they would. And the company officers themselves were just as bad. In its palmy days the piano may have had its triumphs, its rapt audiences, in the calm of the chateau; but this was its apogee. And when the time came for the battalion to be relieved nothing would satisfy the men but the piano must go with them. Now, with a new third leg of wood, it dwells in honor in a safer, drier place somewhere behind the lines.

And what music was it with which the pianist had held the men spellbound, oblivious of danger? "Tipperary"? "Let's All Go Down the Strand"? "The Little Gray Home in the West"? Not a bit of it. It was music of a kind to which the piano was probably accustomed. It was Debussy. For the moral of this true story is that, whatever music that odd creature, the British soldier, may choose to sing or whistle or mouth organ on his own account, when it comes to listening he wants the best. Nothing cheaply sentimental or "music hall" for him. In good music only does he find the qualities that he needs.

An Irish "Bull."

Geo. W. Prout, member for Kildonan St. Andrews, in the Manitoba Legislature, recently delivered himself of a mixed metaphor which materially added variety to the proceedings of the day. Mr. Prout was speaking on farm credits. He was very much in earnest. He advocated a system which would benefit the poor farmer.

"We want a system, sir," he said, "by means of which the farmer will be able to raise wheat, oats and barley; and these when boiled down to brass tacks, is gold."

The house roared.

ORDERS OF MERIT WOMEN MAY WIN

It is common complaint among women, that whatever heroic deeds they may perform in war or peace times, they cannot win a memento such as that bestowed on the male sex for signal acts of bravery. This, however, is scarcely correct. There is, for instance, the Imperial Service Order, founded by the late King Edward to commemorate his Coronation, for bestowal upon women for very conspicuous bravery. This is one of the most coveted and honorable decorations that a woman can wear.

The Royal Red Cross

The order of the Royal Red Cross which was founded on St. George's Day, 1883, is another decoration reserved for women only. It is given for merit and valor displayed in nursing, particularly army and navy nursing, and consists of a red and blue ribbon—colors significant of the fighting services—with a scarlet cross inscribed with the words, "Faith, Hope, Charity." The Order of St. John of Jerusalem—a little Maltese Cross, bearing the words, "For services in the cause of humanity," attached to a black ribbon, can also be won by women.

Another Order founded by King Edward is the greatly-coveted Order of Merit, which is bestowed upon men and women who have gained distinction in literature, art, science, or any of the peaceful, as distinguished from the fighting, services. But up to the present it has only been conferred upon one woman—the incomparable Florence Nightingale.

Legion of Honor

Queen Victoria was responsible for the institution of the first English decoration for women—the Royal Order of Victoria and Albert, founded in memory of the Prince Consort, and consisting of a medal bearing portraits of the Royal couple suspended by a white ribbon. This Order is reserved, as a rule, for ladies of European Royal houses. The Imperial Order of the Crown of India was also founded by Queen Victoria, and is usually bestowed on ladies who have been Vicereine of India. Lady Randolph Churchill is one of the holders of the most difficult of all Orders to obtain.

Of foreign decorations for women the French Order of the Legion of Honor has been bestowed on the greatest number of women. There is only one Russian decoration for women—the Order of St. Catherine; while there are two Spanish decorations—the Order of St. James, which was founded in the twelfth century, probably the earliest decoration ever bestowed on a woman, and the Order of St. Maria of Spain, an Order similar to our Order of the Royal Red Cross conferred for distinguished service in nursing. Queen Victoria received it some years ago in recognition of her practical interest in nursing work.

The Ribbon and Star of the Order of the Shefekat (Order of Compassion) is a Turkish decoration which can be worn by women. Turkish women seldom receive it, but Lady Conan Doyle received it some years ago.

Perhaps the most coveted of all Orders for women, certainly so far as Roman Catholics are concerned, is the Golden Rose, which is bestowed upon pious daughters of the Church by the Pope. It may only be conferred once in each year. Queen Victoria of Spain is one of the very few recipients of the decoration.

INVENTED BY WOMEN

Women are generally considered lacking in inventive genius. The truth is that ladies have been taking out patents steadily since 1790.

It must be confessed that these ideas have not always turned out a complete success, but, then, the world has progressed as a result of many mistakes other than those of inventors.

How few women ever realize as they ply the crochet-hook that it was a Scotswoman, Christian Shaw, the daughter of the laird of Balgarran, in Renfrewshire, who was the first to produce linen thread, as far back as 1720; her idea was developed later by the big Paisley firm of Clark and Coats.

Silk-weaving was invented by the wife of the fourth Emperor of China, in the dim ages of antiquity; a woman in the harem of an Indian prince invented the weaving of cashmere shawls; the same clever woman or her mother (authorities differ on this point) discovered attar of roses; while a poor Italian woman rediscovered the secret of Venetian Point lace, which had been lost for nearly six hundred years.

For Her Own Use

As a rule, the women have confined their attentions to the improvements of articles of personal or household use. But there have been notable exceptions, as in the case of a Bristol shipbuilder, who amassed a fortune by adopting his wife's suggestion to use copper-iron nails in the hulls of the vessels.

It was a little girl who hit upon an invention which revolutionized the making of screws; and the American woman who patterned a process for turning out horseshoes on a big scale saved her country the sum of 250,000 dollars in a dozen years.

The most amusing application ever received at the patent office was from a woman who desired to patent a moustache protector; but the authorities are still undecided as to whether it was for her own use or that of a man!

One ingenious woman in London, England, some little time ago topped the record by owning no fewer than ten patents, which ranged from combination toothbrush racks to methods of disinfecting money in tills and microbes on doormats.

To Save Her Husband

Mary Kees was the first American woman to take out a patent, in 1798, for weaving straw with silk or thread; but with the spread of education, the numbers of feminine inventions have increased, until between 1884 and 1910 the sum total of 7,942 patents was granted them. These varied from a baby-jumper to a deep-sea telescope, and from a fountain-pen to the first cooking-stove.

A woman who used her wits, was determined if possible to save the time and labor of her husband, who was a postmaster in California, and she brought out a permutation lock with 3,000 combinations, as well as a letter-box for the outside of houses which displays a sign to the postman when there are letters to collect inside.

A woman shop assistant patented a satchel-bottom paper bag, and pocketed $24,000 for her brainy idea. Several wives who assist their husbands in farm management patented improvements on agricultural implements. Others have reduced labor in factories and shops by their practical solutions and not a few nurses have been responsible for improved hospital appliances.

From Dress to Aeroplanes

Madame Surrie's triumph as the discoverer of radium is still fresh in the public mind, as is that of Dr. Maria Montessori, whose novel methods are likely to revolutionize the art of teaching in the near future.

Last year 350 patents were applied for by women, and the following analysis demonstrates the scope and variety of their interests:

Dress 54, nursing and medical 34, household requisites 20, cooking 9, mechanical 24, motor-cars and cycling 7, gardening and needlework 6, babies' requisites 6, and aeroplane 1.

Others less practical concerned inventions for preserving the contour of face and chin, fleshreducing garments, pneumatic boot-lasts, means for keeping the seats of busses dry, and an apparatus for preventing chills after a hot bath. The warlike spirit of the times was reflected in such patents as nets and arm-rings for defensive purposes, and an inflated life-belt.

"Have you much of a police force in this village"

"Rather. 'E weighs 17 stone."

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They are completely enclosed, not side-curtained—therefore no to or flapping sides to expose your household goods to all kinds of weath conditions.. Each "Car Van" is heavily padded inside to prevent j or friction. First to introduce these in Vancouver. CAMPBELL no operates twice as many as all other firms put together. Your goo will come out safe, sound and whole when moved in them. Rates mo erate—free moving estimates given. Phone Seymour 7360 TODAY.

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First of all, you want a shoe that will be comfortable on your feet---an anti-corn and anti-bunion sort of shoe. Then you want quality---the best leather, the most superior workmanship because that constitutes wear. Then you want appearance---style, attractiveness. Take a LECKIE BOOT. Examine it carefully. You will find it crowded with all three points, FIT, WEAR and STYLE. For sale at all leading dealers.

LECKIE BOOTS

New Belgian Postage Stamps

The most noteworthy postage stamps of modern times are those of the occupation series that Germany imposed upon conquered Belgium; a series that resulted in a stamp issue of reprisal. The Germans confiscated Belgium stamps as fast as they could find them, and sold great quantities at a discount in Germany and neutral countries.

No revenue accrued to the Belgian treasury from those sales and the Belgian government put to press a new Belgian series. The stamps appeared last October, apparently printed in London and distributed from there. The Belgian government has demonetized the stamps that the Germans seized.

The new Belgian stamps will be unique in the annals of philately, because of their historical significance. Seven values, from one centime to twenty-five centimes, of the ordinary size, contain the portrait of Albert. Several higher values of a larger size reflect the coming of the Germans. The 35-centime stamp shows the Cloth Hall of Ypres after the destruction wrought by the enemy; the 40-centime, the College of Dinant and the surrounding landscape after the invasion; the 50-centime, the ruins of the University of Louvain. The 1-franc stamp symbolizes the freeing of the Scheldt, as the most important economic event in the history of Belgium; the 2-franc commemorates the annexation of the Congo; the 5-franc shows King Albert on the steps of the town hall at Furnes presenting the Belgian flag to his army. The 10-centime portrays three kings of the Belgians— the two Leopolds and Albert.

Their Imperfect Tongue

Prior to the war nobody had any idea that the German vocabulary was so deficient Now by Ambassador von Bernstoff's assertion that "there is no such word in the German language, "disavow" is added to the list led by "treaty," "honor" and "humanity" There is no room for these alongside of "Kultur," it appears It still remains to be seen whether there is room there for "fail"—From the New York Sun

As Others View It

Old Housekeeper (to son of the house—home on short leave): "Why, if it isn't Master George! Well, who would ever have thought the war would have been over so soon?"

"Any fool can take a chance. It takes brains to be careful.

Indignant Customer—Barber, why did you drop that steaming towel on my face. Barber—Because it was too hot to hold, sir.