

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.

An Appreciation

Last Friday evening the Mt. Pleasant Dramatic Society gave an entertainment in the hall of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian church. The play staged by the society was entitled "Kleptomaniac," a comedy in three parts. The play was good, much better than the ordinary run of amateur affairs, and the players acquitted themselves in becoming manner. There was a large audience and the affair was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The proceeds went to the funds of the above named church and amounted to a tidy sum.

For some years, and particularly since the outbreak of war, this society has worked extremely hard in an effort to give the public something worth while in their line. They have been heard on numerous occasions, and always their selections have been in good taste. Their efforts to help are not confined to any particular denomination or community. The society has a broad outlook and strives to cater to the city at large. On several occasions they have appeared in the down town theatres and have been accorded a most appreciative reception. The entertainment of Friday last was in line with past performances and was of a highly entertaining character.

The composition of the society is continually changing, but always for the better, and much of the splendid results which have been attained has been due to the constant attention and careful tuition of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Baxter, who have fostered and encouraged this society. The people of Vancouver and particularly of Mount Pleasant owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Baxter and the members of the Dramatic Society for the many pleasant evenings that have been provided during the past four years.

Brigadier and Mrs. McLean, divisional officers in charge of the Salvation Army work in B. C., will conduct special meetings in the Salvation Army Citadel cor. Quebec and 7th ave., on Sunday, May 17th, at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7.30 p.m. The afternoon service will take the form of a temperance meeting. Brigadier McLean will speak on prohibition. An invitation is extended to the public to attend these services.

Under the auspices of the Women's Guild of Mount Pleasant Presbyterian church this evening at 8 o'clock in the school room of the church an interesting talk will be given by Private Loughnan, who will tell of his experiences since leaving here with the First Contingent of the Seaford Highlanders. The chair will be taken by Col. Worsnop. Private Loughnan left Vancouver with the 16th battalion, and returned after being wounded in the midnight charge near Ypres. on April 22, 1915, when "the line that never wavered" made

its glorious stand. Souvenirs of the battlefield will be shown, and any questions asked will be answered. A splendid programme of patriotic music and recitations will be rendered, and a collection will be taken which will be devoted to purchasing material for Red Cross work.

Hugh Leith, aged 12, son of Mrs. Thos. Leith, 3036 Ontario street, was drowned on Friday morning in the Capilano river while engaged with a companion in fishing. Hugh, in company with Thomas Turnbull, a companion, left home early that morning for a fishing trip to North Vancouver. They went to the Second Canyon, and cast their lines near the Japanese bridge. Turnbull, in reporting the accident, said that he heard a cry and turning saw his companion disappear with a splash into the swirling waters of the river. He had evidently changed his position from which to fish and had slipped. The water at the point of the accident was about ten feet in depth, and the little fellow did not reappear. Turnbull called loudly for assistance, but it was some considerable time before he could attract any person. The police were notified and Chief Lifton had the waters of the river dragged. The body was not recovered, however, till Saturday. The funeral was held on Monday afternoon from his late home to the Mountain View cemetery, Rev. A. E. Mitchell officiating.

Miss Millie Siddons was the successful contestant for the silver medal at the W.C.T.U. contest held on Tuesday evening last in St. Paul's Presbyterian church, six young ladies competing.

The distinct pronunciation, enunciation and graceful gesturing displayed careful and correct instruction in the varied selections.

Mrs. James McNeill and the Misses Amos and Lorree, of the Alexandra School teaching staff were judges, and had a difficult task owing to the marked efficiency of each contestant.

A group of girls in Grecian costumes and of boys in cadet uniform sang choruses entitled, "Cast Your Ballots," "It's Prohibition Time Just Everywhere," "It's a Short Way to Prohibition," "O Canada," and "A Call to Arms," the last composed by Mrs. R. Johnston Barnard, president of the union and the musico it set by Mrs. James McNeill.

A quartette of boys sang "Honor Bright Cadets," duets and solos were rendered by Lena Wharton, Dora Brown, Ethel Elsom, Edna and Sybil Bibby, which added materially to the programme.

Mrs. Barnard is to be congratulated on her success as an elocution director. Miss Elva Buetler presided at the piano and Rev. R. G. McBeth acted as chairman.

The presentation of the medal was made by the president in a few well chosen words, a silver W.C.T.U. pin being presented to the other five contestants.

Mrs. Macken, after whom the union is named, gave a short bright address. The proceeds amounted to nearly \$29.

Mrs. Minnie Aydelott, deputy supreme commander of the Woman's Benefit Association of the Maccabees, Oakland, Cal., will hold a three days' rally in the K. P. Hall on the week of May 15. The dates will probably be the 17th, 18th and 19th, and all the reviews of the city and New Westminster will be represented.

A charming tea was given by Mrs. H. L. Turnbull and Mrs. W. H. Steeves, 14th avenue west, on Tuesday afternoon. The drawing rooms were prettily decorated with spring flowers, while the dining-room was exceptionally pretty, the table being centred with a beautiful cut glass basket of pink tulips. Assisting the hostesses in the drawing-rooms were Mrs. H. H. Stevens, Mrs. Brett Anderson, Mrs. Nightingale, Mrs. Munro, Mrs. McNamee and Mrs. E. H. Murphy. In charge of the dining-room were

Mrs. W. McKenzie and Mrs. H. D. Lee; pouring tea were Mrs. Duke, Mrs. Chodat, Mrs. V. D. Casselman, Mrs. T. S. Baxter, Mrs. D. McLeod and Mrs. Skinner; assisting in the dining-room were Mrs. H. Webster, Mrs. Clements, Miss M. McKenzie and Miss Stinson, Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Jeavons. Other ladies assisting the hostesses were Mrs. J. T. Smith, Mrs. MacGuire, Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. Bridgmen and Mrs. Kellett. Miss Beulah Pedlow opened the door to the many callers. The guests were entertained with a very pleasing programme arranged by Mrs. A. C. Stewart, taking part in which were Mrs. W. Patchell (New Westminster), Mrs. Griffith, Mrs. McDuffee, Mrs. Gregg, Mrs. H. M. Hilker, Mrs. McKinnon, Mrs. McCrossan, Miss McCrossan, Miss Patchell (New Westminster), Miss Matheson, Miss Stratton, Miss Ogilvie and Mr. Smith.

CONSERVATIVES SURE OF COMING VICTORY

At the annual "At Home" held last night in the I. O. O. F. Hall, Main street, under the auspices of Ward V. Conservative Club and Ward V. Women's Conservative Club, Premier Bowser declared that after the exposure that had occurred in connection with the alleged "plugging" at the recent by-election, he did not think there was the slightest doubt about the government being returned by an overwhelming majority at the general election.

The "At Home" took the form of a concert, followed by a supper and dance. The Premier arrived after the concert and mingled with the audience shaking hands with many familiar friends and being introduced to new ones. He regretted his inability to remain the entire evening, as he had to catch the night boat for Victoria.

The "At Home" was presided over by Mr. H. C. N. McKim, president of the Ward V. Conservative Club, who was supported by Mrs. Telford, president of the Ward V. Women's Conservative Club, who was supported by Mrs. Telford, president of the Ward V. Women's Conservative Club, while among those present were Messrs. Thomas Duke, C. E. Tisdall and Fred Welsh. A hearty welcome was extended to all by Mr. McKim, who also thanked those who had assisted in carrying out the programme and in making the arrangements for the gathering. Mrs. Telford gave a short address, and urged the ladies who had not yet joined the women's club to do so.

The gathering proved a great success, the excellent musical programme that was presented delighting all present, and being loudly applauded, nearly every item receiving an encore. Those taking part were: Songs, Mrs. Fleming, Mr. Schofield, Miss Stewart, Miss Deckart, Mr. McPherson, Mrs. Randall, Mrs. W. Stevenson, Mrs. C. Gregg, Mrs. McDuffee, Mr. Wark and Mr. C. E. Smitheringale; cornet solo, Mr. J. Corbett; readings, Miss Porter and Madame Burton; piano-forte solo, Miss L. Peace; while Master Stanley Wright delighted all with his Irish jig. Mrs. McKim was convener of the entertainment committee, and the executive of the clubs carried through the arrangements, the programme being in hands of Mr. Smitheringale.

Fairview

Mrs. F. F. Wesbrook entertained the graduating class, the staff, senate and board of governors of the British Columbia university at her residence on Wednesday afternoon.

The Chalmers' Women's Missionary Society Auxiliary and Mission Band intend holding a tea at the home of Mrs. J. M. Brown, 1160 10th avenue west, this afternoon at 6 o'clock. A good musical program in charge of Miss McCraney will entertain the company.

A well-attended and very pretty event in social circles, on Monday afternoon was the May Day tea held at the home of Mrs. McMasters, 967 10th avenue west, by the Fairview Circle of the King's Daughters. There was a large number of guests present. Mrs. McMaster was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Hector MacPherson. Purple and yellow, the

Circle's colors, were used in the decorations. The tea table was centred with a Maypole around which dainty little dolls were placed in a circle. Purple and yellow pansies completed the pretty effect. Mrs. Fleeman, Mrs. Stoner, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Pyke, Mrs. Chisholm and Mrs. Leders presided at the tea table and assisting were Mrs. MacKay, Mrs. Baynes, Miss Olive Sinclair, Miss Muriel Stewart and Mrs. Robinson. Mrs. Hooper was the convener of the programme, the following taking part: Madame Este Avery, Miss Cowperthwaite, Miss Frankie Gillespie, Mrs. Elberton Hopper; piano, Mrs. Taulin, Miss Freeland, Miss Nellie Matherson, Miss Marjorie Hardy; violin, Miss Wood; elocution, Miss Murie-Lipsev.

The science students of British Columbia University were hosts at a picnic given on Tuesday afternoon, the guests of honor being the graduating class, numbering about 20. The party left by launch in the afternoon for the summer residence of Miss Mosevrough, Sunnyside, North Arm.

SOUTH VANCOUVER

Engineer Bennett has reported the Fraser bridge repaired and open for traffic and the river for navigation. The swing part of the bridge was lifted from its bearings on Thursday morning of last week.

J. Munroe, an employee of the B. C. Electric, was knocked down and received a fractured skull when he stepped off a Kingsway car near Nanaimo St. on Saturday last by a jitney. He was taken to the general hospital and is reported on the way towards recovery.

It has been decided by the council to commence immediate suit against delinquent tax payers. Some time ago Solicitor Donaghy sent out letters to a large number of ratepayers who were behind in their tax payments intimating that he had been instructed to take legal proceedings for recovery. The effect of these letters was that a large amount of arrears were wiped off but there still remain a large number of big amounts due the municipality. It is intended to issue a number of writs this week.

The Boys' Brigade of St. Paul's Presbyterian church has furnished twelve of its older members to the service of the Empire in the war. But it still remains an active and useful organization with its Sunday evening Bible Class and its Thursday evening drill. Friday night the plimbed by Lieutenant Housbrigade was inspected and compton of the 72nd Highlanders, in presence of a large company of friends. Next Sunday evening the brigade will attend service when the pastor, Rev. R. G. McBeth, will speak on "A Clean Record."

Women's Conservative Meeting
At the close of the regular monthly meeting of the Ward II. Conservative Association on Tuesday evening, which had been addressed by Miss Ella Paterson on Women's Suffrage, a committee of ladies was appointed to organize a Women's Conservative Association for the ward. A meeting is to be held next Monday evening in the club rooms, Commercial Drive, for the purpose of organizing, and an executive committee, consisting of Mrs. D. C. Craig, who was provisionally nominated as president, Mrs. F. O. Hodgson, Mrs. Leighton and Mrs. R. C. Hodgson, was appointed. In addressing the meeting Miss Paterson said the suffrage question was not one of party. Party politics did not enter into it. It was purely a question of holding and working together to get the vote. She could not agree that a woman's place was only in her home. She has as much right to take part in public affairs as a man. Short addresses were also delivered by Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Williamson, secretary of the Vancouver Conservative executive, and a letter was read from Rev. M. Bolton, the Conservative candidate for South Vancouver riding, expressing his disappointment at his inability to be present but promising his active support and furtherance of the Suffrage movement.

Mr. David Hobson, of South Hill, has enlisted with the 11th C. M. R. for overseas service.

Tomorrow has been selected as the day on which the flag will be unfurled at the Khaki Home on Chester street, the headquarters of the Soldiers' and Sailors' and Wives' Red Cross Association, and for the occasion a fete will be held. Many notable people have promised to be present, including Lady Tupper, Daughters of the Empire and others.

All roads led to the dairy on Thursday morning. The scarlet gowned housewife, the bare footed urchin, the bewiskered head of the school boys' brigade, and the slant-eyed Chinamen, all lined up in the bottle row. And the cause of it all, the first strike of the milk drivers. Wanted, "Better Terms," the cry that has resounded down the ages, the cry of the infant gazing in the face of a fond mamma, the cry of the hunted cat at the foot of the flag-pole, the cry of the suffragette lobbying at the seat of government. Alas, the hour had struck, and the men have won. What a blessing that the Capilano still flows on.

A committee consisting of Mrs. McConkey and Mrs. Woods has been appointed by the South Vancouver Women's Forum to arrange a basis for the organization of a Teachers' and Parents' Association and to interview the various teachers in the municipality regarding their cooperation in the proposal. At the meeting, which was held at the home of Mrs. Woods on Wednesday afternoon, the work of the municipal council was discussed and the manner in which it was transacting its business was commended. A resolution was also passed endorsing the new liquor license bylaw recently passed by the council. It was decided that the next meeting of the forum will be a public one, held in the evening, instead of the afternoon of Tuesday, May 16.

Over 140 people attended the military whist drive and dance given on Wednesday evening by the Central South Vancouver branch of the Red Cross Society in the Collingwood Institute. The scene resembled many of the gatherings held in the hall before the war, and every one present voted the entertainment such a success that arrangements are afoot for holding another one at an early date. The first part of the evening was enjoyed in a military whist contest, arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, the winning flags being of Belgium and Rumania. Suitable prizes were awarded to Mrs. David Morris, Mrs. M. H. V. Craig, Mr. W. Wigley and Miss Campbell. During an interval refreshments were served by a committee composed as follows: Mrs. McIntyre, the president of the society; Mrs. Schroeder, vice-president; Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Buchanan. Sergt. Price acted as master of ceremonies for the dance, the accompaniments for which were played by Mr. Rose. The decorative scheme was the work of Mr. Harrison.

ABOUT ANNUALS

Whether you prefer annuals to perennials is about the same problem as whether you like any other sort of theatrical entertainment as well as serious drama. Most perennial gardens are in the Shakespeare class: stately, classic things that took years to produce.

But the annuals are the thoughts of last week. In March, 1916, you may decide to have a garden of annuals; in June, 1916, you may have it—well along towards bloom, some of it blooming. If you have a small lot—and it may be part of the backyard represented in ten feet by twenty, allowing six feet for walks and borders—the choice of annuals is rather difficult.

You have two kinds of places to fill with flowers. Either an open oblong, or sundry strips along the house and fences, corners and crannies by gates and steps and along verandahs, at the place where the kitchen joins the dining-room and where the back porch joins the kitchen. All these spots are strategic places to put flowers. Don't be afraid of overcrowding. The average back exposure of a modern house—one you are perhaps renting—is so ugly by nature that nothing

but a large elm tree would hide it anyway. You will be surprised how many flowers will go in a small space; how you may have a row of fine hollyhocks along the fence and room for a border line of marigolds or whatever else you think is the best combination with pinks, reds and whites.

Of course a hollyhock isn't an annual; neither a proper pedigree perennial. It is supposed to be a biennial. But the hollyhock patches we used to know down on the old farm were as perennial as the old-man bush at the gate and the orange lilies along the walk.

But for the present you will think about a mass of well-assorted petunias, one of the gayest and richest-coloured things any garden can have. But they require freedom. Don't try to train them too much. Give them room to sprawl a bit; they may even climb the pickets or go behind strings up a board fence. Those audacious youngsters known as nasturtiums are of many kinds. Some climb; others don't; others don't even pretend to. But they are easy to raise from seed.

Then the phlox, in several var-

ieties, resolve themselves into two broad kinds—high and low, whatever the seedsmen call them. The high ones are more stately. The low ones, with plenty of light, will even out-bloom petunias except for mass. You may find the phlox blooming away in the frost belt when the last petunia is dead.

You at once think of snapdragons. These are gay little optimists that sometimes get rather untidy after a shower. In any bright colour scheme, poppies need to be sown at different intervals or else the tissue paper blooms are all knocked off in a week. In the same order of hues comes the salvia, scarlet, good for trim pots in front of the house or large, raised masses. Try a little border somewhere of portulaca, those pink and red little roseline things that, never get much above the ground, but bloom with great prodigality. And for summer-long bloom, from mid-June until frost, nothing can beat the stocks, magnificent and fragrant, going up in treelike masses as high as two feet, in pinks, whites and reds.

And of course in the yellows we come to the marigolds in several varieties and shades from sulphur yellow down to orange and burnt ochre; the ever-blooming stellars, which are much like what some people call elecampane, a small sunflowerish thing growing gracefully to the height of five feet and flowering without stint. Sunflowers everybody knows.

In autumn blooms, beginning sometimes much earlier, commend us to the generous and stately asters and the asterums; easy to raise, but liable to cut-worms in sandy soil. It is well to plant these in colour pots, being sure to get whites, pinks, crimsons and mauves in separate clumps or in some geometrical pattern. Dahlias are more of a problem. You must get the bulbs and plant them deep late in May; and do not be surprised if one year now and again they come to nothing but blobs of pasty green, though the very next year they may glorify your garden with colours—red, crimson, orange, white.

COMPENSATION CLAUSE DENOUNCED BY PASTOR

Rev. Ernest Thomas, pastor of Wesley church, in his sermon last Sunday morning, dealt very forcibly with the prohibition question in general and the compensation clause in particular, comparing the liquor trade to the opium traffic.

"A few years ago," he said, "when the federal parliament passed a law prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of opium, there was no outcry in favor of compensation for those operating opium dens. No one was heard questioning the right of the state to put an end to the traffic in that insidious drug. What was the reason? It was because back of the opium trade there was no highly-organized body to combat the influences at work. There is no difference in the principle of the law that allowed the government to restrict the opium traffic and the law which permits the indiscriminate use, sale and distribution of alcohol. A right was never given in perpetuity to sell liquor. The state created monopolies and therefore has a right to curtail any privileges it has granted.

"Von Tirpitz did not ask for compensation," continued the preacher, "when President Wilson suggested that Germany abandon its submarine campaign. The prohibitionists are assailing the liquor trade as a social, moral and political menace. They are attacking it on the same grounds as the opium trade was attacked."

The preacher quoted statistics

to prove his arguments of the degenerating effects of alcohol. The efficiency of marksmen in the Swedish army had been greatly reduced, he said, in tests with liquor given in a series of experiments carried out to ascertain the effects over a prescribed period.

The average of hits had dropped from 24 out of 30 to 3 out of 30, he claimed, after the subjects had been treated to small doses of intoxicants. Liquor interfered with the co-ordination of eye and hand and mind, so the tests had proven. Men in various vocations were all affected in the same degree, he said.

Rev. Mr. Thomas declared that despite the anti-prohibitionists' arguments that in Great Britain compensation was given to those deprived of liquor licenses, the principle had never been recognized as a right. Public money was not used to compensate the liquor interests, he said, but those whose monopoly was increased by the curtailment of licenses had to pay more for their privilege.

The Bowser Act made it clear, the speaker declared, that those granted liquor licenses were subject to further restrictive measures. He construed this as meaning that the privileges were granted subject to prohibitive legislation. Dealing with the argument that those who had built fine, commodious hotels were entitled to compensations, he asserted that if the accommodation was only designed as an annex to the bar then in such cases they were not proper hotels but only bogus ones.

Continuing his discussion of the compensation question, Rev. Thomas said that it had been proven in other provinces and in different countries where prohibition had been put into force that breweries and distilleries could be adapted to other trade uses. He mentioned instances.

The discharges of political corruption in the recent by-election, the speaker said, had shown the part that alcohol frequently played in politics. He declared that if the liquor trade was eliminated 90 per cent. of the political corruption would disappear.

Far Better

Clerk—Don't you want a burglar alarm?

Knicker—No, I should prefer something to put me to sleep, if they come.

Not Fair!

Callahan and Schmidt were fishing from a pier one day. Callahan bet Schmidt \$10 that he would catch the first fish. The two kept fishing earnestly until noon.

It was a warm day, and Schmidt, overcome by the heat, fell overboard into the water. This aroused Callahan, who was also drowsing.

"If you're going to dive after him, the bet's off," he shouted to his companion struggling in the water.

Another Matter

Mr. Babcock had just been telling his wife of an old friend.

"And he said he knew me when I was a little girl?" interrogated the wife.

"No," said Babcock, "he didn't say anything of the sort."

"But you just said he did," said Mrs. Babcock.

"No," said the man, "I didn't."

"Why, Charles!" exclaimed the wife, "What did he say, then?"

"I said," replied the brute, "that he said he knew you when he was a little boy."

The great trouble about lending a man money to tide him over is that he doesn't always come up with the tide.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

A DOG AS A GERMAN SPY

"Until we had the Adventure of the Black Dog," Charles A. Graham, who fought with the famous Highland "Black Watch" in South Africa and lived to fight in Canada's first battalion in Europe, said, "we wondered why the Germans were invariably able to call our battalion by number whenever we took up our position in a trench.

"It seemed like magic. We no sooner would relieve the fellows who had been there before, and take up our stations at the firing portholes than a voice from the enemy line would call, 'Hello, First Battalion of Canadians.' Now how did they know we were the First?"

Dog Visited Trenches

"The black dog I speak of was one of those nondescript animals used throughout Belgium and Northern France for pulling carts and doing other work around the farms. They are supposed to be very intelligent animals, but there were so many of them when we first got there that we paid little attention to them. They were part of the scenery, and that was all. You couldn't make friends with them.

"For weeks a big black shape used to come bounding through our trenches at about the same hour every night. We weren't over there to shoot dogs and we never fired on him. Usually he went through the trench at some unoccupied point, but when we were there in force he did not hesitate to jump right through a mass of us and bound out to the other side.

"It struck us as queer, but, as I say, we weren't wise then, and we let him go. He came from somewhere back of the enemy line, and went somewhere back of our line, but at that time we weren't suspicious enough to figure it all out. We just noticed that the same dog did the same thing at about the same hour every night—and we let it go at that for a while.

Trapping the Animal

"By and by, though, the boys began to talk about the nightly visitor to our officers. They thought it was queer, and they must have had some glimmering of what was up, for they ordered us to hold the brute when it leaped among us the next time.

"Well, that dog seemed to know we were laying for him, for it was weeks before he took a chance at

jumping right through a bunch of us. Instead he sneaked down the trench till he found a comparatively unguarded place, and then just flashed over in the dark. Finally, he had to take to his ruse tactics again, and we caught him one night as his big black shape huddled down from the parapet into the midst of a card game that was being played in the dugout. He put up quite a scrap and some of the boys had wounds not caused by German bullets before he was subdued.

"Tied to his collar and hidden in the fur of his shaggy throat, we found a match box—a common safety match box. There was a paper in it that our officers saw, but we didn't. Next to the match box was a watch—a dollar watch. The works had been taken out, but the hands and face remained.

Messenger for a Spy

"What was the idea of this equipment? Well, the match box was for messages and the watch was to tell the time of troop movements. The hands could be set at any hour of the day that the spy wished to indicate.

"Let him go now," said the lieutenant, "and, Graham, you follow him."

"That dog sure did lead me a merry chase. He took me way back of the lines and into one of the villages. Here he went to one of the tiniest houses. It was morning by this time and the villagers were waking up. I had orders to get a detail of men when the time came to act and as soon as the door was opened for the dog I got the detail. We arrested everybody in that house. We also took the dog along with us.

"I wasn't there to see the rest of the story enacted, but I heard what happened. The dog was separated from the suspects and then afterward was let loose among the bunch of them. He picked out a woman.

"But what happened to the woman the dog picked out?"

"Parlor Game of War"

"You know as well as I do what happens to spies—man spies or woman spies," he retorted.

"Drum-head court-martial, a white bandage over the eyes, hands tied behind the back, a brick wall and a firing squad?"

"You seem to have a pretty fair idea of the parlor game known as war," acknowledged the infantryman.—Russell Fore, in the Detroit News.

GENUINE BARGAINS

Sacrifices that are not made from choice.

HOUSES

WEST END—9-room strictly modern house on Barclay St. west of Denman St. on full lot 66 by 131 ft. with a garage. House has hot water heat, finest selected panelling on living room and dining room, hall burlapped and panelled, reception room in expensive paper, the 4 bedrooms have washbowls with hot and cold water, the large front bedroom has artistic fireplace. Property was formerly valued at \$22,000. Today's price, \$8,900. On terms.

HORNBY ST.—Semi-business, 25 ft., in the first block off Pender St., closest to Pender, with 10-room house, rented, clear title, old time price, about \$22,000. Today for \$8,300. Terms.

FAIRVIEW—Fully modern 6-room bungalow, just off 12th Ave. and East of Granville St. on lot 62½ by 100 ft. and garage. Has hot water heat, hardwood floors, fireplace, buffet and bookcases, full basement with cement floor. Assessed at \$7,000. Sell today for \$5,800. Mortgage, \$4,000. 7½ per cent. Balance arrange.

KITSILANO—8-room modern house on Dunbar St. north of Fourth Ave. hardwood floors, buffet and bookcases, furnace, fireplace, bath and toilet separate, gas and electric light. Sold for \$7,500. Today for \$4,500. Mtge. of \$3,500. 8 per cent. Bal. arrange.

GRANDVIEW—\$450 buys equity to mortgage in 6-room modern house on Bismark St. Has full basement, furnace, laundry tubs, panelling, chicken house, cement walks, erected 1911. Mortgage \$2,400. 8 per cent. House was sold for \$4,500.

KITSILANO—Most attractive 5-room bungalow, new, on 10th avenue, on full 33 ft. lot., has hot water heat, hardwood floors, beam ceilings, panelled walls, bath and toilet separate, fireplace, basement cement floored and extra toilet, stone pillars in front, cement walks, best hardware. Price \$3,500. Mortgage \$2,000. 8 per cent. Balance arrange.

GRANDVIEW—On Third Ave. near Commercial St., 6-room modern house and small house on rear, both rented, \$20 a month, lot 33 ft. Today for \$1,800. Mortgage, \$1,000. 8 per cent. Bal. arrange.

KITSILANO—3-year-old modern house on 8th Ave. on large lot 66 by 132 ft., has hardwood floors, furnace, fireplace, bath and toilet separate, valued at \$6,000. Today for \$3,150. Mortgage, \$2,100. 8 per cent., Bal. arrange.

LOTS

STRATHCONA HEIGHTS—A full 50 ft. lot in this glorious location, as a homestead you can't beat it. Formerly held and sold here as high as \$2,500, but owner hard up sell for \$600.

POINT GREY—On the brow of the hill near 22nd and Balaclava, a great view, full 33 ft. lot, cleared, for \$250

GRANDVIEW—2 lots on 8th Ave. near Burns St., cost owner \$3,150. Sell for \$1,500.

FAIRVIEW—50 ft. lot on 10th Ave. near Laurel St. for \$1000.

FOURTH AVE. WEST—33 ft. near Trutch St. dirt cheap at \$1300. Also 50 ft. between Fir and Pine Sts. for \$2800. Formerly held at \$17000.

HASTINGS ST. EAST—25 ft. between Dunlevy and Jackson for \$7600.

POINT GREY—Beautiful high corner cleared on 34th Ave. Strathcona Place cost \$4000 for \$1500. A splendid homestead.

KINGSWAY—33 ft. near Nanaimo St. for \$450.

SOUTH VANCOUVER—33 ft. lot near Wilson and Knight for \$75.

ACREAGE

SUREEY—152 acres near Port Mann about 12 acres cleared on Hjorth Road for \$37 per acre.

BURNABY—31½ acres about one-third cleared near Central Park Station. Good location. Valued at \$9,500. Today, \$3,000.

GIBSON'S LANDING—10 acres between the Landing and Roberts Creek 2 acres cleared, 2 slashed balance alder and small fir creek through one corner. 3-room house finished in beaver board, sink, water in house, 20 fruit trees, 3 years' old, assorted and small fruits. Fine view of Gulf. Price \$1000 or will trade for clear deeded lots or house not too far out.

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England Not a Social Democracy

Mrs. Mary Roberts Rinehart, the popular author, who has recently returned from a visit to the front, and whose new book, "Kings, Queens and Pawns," was suppressed by the censor, has some remarks, not entirely complimentary to make concerning that official.

"Politically," said Mrs. Rinehart, "Great Britain is a true democracy. Socially, it is an oligarchy."

Mrs. Rinehart believes that the reason for the suppression of her book is that it contains an interview with Queen Mary. And she endeavored to explain to me why the publication of such an interview would offend the sensibilities of the British government.

"The publication of the interview in 'The Saturday Evening Post,' which circulates extensively in England," said Mrs. Rinehart, "brought out a storm of protest. To understand this it is necessary to know the British attitude toward the royal family. Although Queen Mary herself read and approved the interview before it was published, this fact did not alter the general feeling that no member of the royal family should ever talk for publication. As I said, politically Great Britain is a

true democracy, but socially it is an oligarchy.

You see, this was not an interview in the ordinary sense of the word. I was presented to the Queen, and was permitted to make a record of that presentation and of my impressions.

Prefer Superhuman Royalties

"However, the English people as a mass, not as a class, prefer to have their royalties not human, but superhuman. They like to run the government and the newspapers and the war and the high seas, but they want the royal family left alone, and just brought out for coronations and to open parliament. They like to stage the royal family and then to lift the curtain. This, as I said, is the attitude of the middle classes, who are the real rulers. The English aristocracy has an utterly different attitude."

"But is it possible," I asked, "that so important an official as the censor is governed in his conduct by such prejudices and conventions as you describe?"

"The censor did not give this as his reason," said Mrs. Rinehart. "He says that the book contains information of value to the enemy, and that if the offending parts are cut out there will not be enough left to make

the publication of an English edition worth while.

Objected to Interview

"But this is merely an excuse. I betrayed no military secrets. Everything I wrote was given me by the officers belonging to headquarters of the armies. In several cases I wrote from notes given me by the officers. In every instance I told less, instead of more, than I was given permission to tell. And much of the material I sent to the front for approval after I had written it. Almost all of the material was published by the censor's consent in English magazines, and it is only when the articles are incorporated in a book containing the interview with the Queen that they are suppressed."

"What does the censor, sitting safe at his desk in London, know of conditions at the front, or what may or what may not be safely told? I am a modest person, but I knew more in a minute of the true situation in the places I visited than the British censor can know in a year. I've been there! Please understand that I am not defending myself. I am merely accusing the censorship of stupidity."

A Singular Attitude

"The attitude of the British censor," said Mrs. Rinehart, "is utterly unlike that of the officers at the front, who really know what may and what may not be told safely."

"Are you going back?" I asked.

"I think not," said Mrs. Rinehart. "My family, after reading the book, says that I am not going back."

"Another reason," said Mrs. Rinehart, "has been advanced to explain the censor's action. Lord Northcliffe was told by the censor, I believe, that it was feared that the chapters criticizing the French hospitals might offend the French."

"But this, too, is only an excuse. As a matter of fact, the French press has criticized the French hospitals extensively. The reason for suppressing the book which the censor gave in his letter to my publisher is that it contains information which may be of value to the enemy. As most of the things about which I wrote may be seen with the naked eye by the Germans, and the rest are plainly visible from the enemy's aeroplanes, which are always hovering overhead, I am afraid that the British censor is attributing to the Germans less intelligence than the allied armies have found them to possess."

War Aids Democracy

"I suppose," I said, "that the war is making the English people more and more democratic."

"Undoubtedly it is," said Mrs. Rinehart. "I do not mean that class distinctions are gone. They are not. There are times when they seem to be obliterated, but I daresay that is only temporary. The real thing that has come to England is that the war has made an intolerant people tolerant, a selfish people unselfish."

"And, of course it has united the kingdom. A nation is nothing more than a great family, its members ready enough to quarrel among themselves, but ready also to stand as a unit against the world."

"In a conversation with Winston Churchill, then First Lord, at the British Admiralty, I asked whether a rumor I had heard at the front had any foundation of truth. This rumor was that Germany was purposely antagonizing the United States, for two reasons—one, to stop the shipments of munitions and horses to the allies; the second, and more far-seeing, to secure better terms of peace when the end of the war should come. America, more remote, not bitter with the accumulated bitterness of many years, and partly German, might yield better terms of peace. Winston

Churchill's answer, carefully considered, was that he thought not.

Is Germany Afraid?

"The Americans are bad people to fight," he said. "No nation wishes to quarrel with them. I am sure Germany does not."

I asked Mrs. Rinehart if there was any truth in the report that some of the men on active service were doing work that deserved to be called literature.

"They are not producing literature in quantity," she answered. "Here and there, in the mass of material that comes from the trenches, is something so graphic and tense that it ceases to be mere writing and becomes literature. But, generally speaking, I do not think that any of the men at the front are producing literature."

"This depends, of course, on what is literature. If literature is fine writing, I cannot see how it can be done on active service. Men at the front are thinking in terms of life and death. Probably the best work on the field will be done by those who have had newspaper training, and have learned to work under stress."

"Personally, I do not believe that much work of permanent value, save as a record of conditions, will be done on the field. The conditions are either intolerable boredom and waiting, under strain, or horrifying activities. After the fighting men return to their normal life and regain their sense of perspective, there may be an overwhelmingly great literature of the war. Most of the writing now, aside from that of the correspondents, is being done by men who by age or disability have been unable to take the field."

IRISH ASSOCIATION

The bi-monthly meeting of the Irish Association of British Columbia was held at Eagle's Hall on Thursday, the 27th April, Mr. A. F. R. Mackintosh, president, in the chair.

After routine business had been transacted, the president referred to the present crisis in Ireland, and the following resolution, proposed by Mr. M. B. O'Dell, and seconded by Mr. J. Sterling, was unanimously passed:

"The Irish Association of British Columbia, in meeting assembled at Vancouver, hereby express their abhorrence of the actions of Sir Roger Casement and the adherents of the Sinn Fein Party in their detestable efforts to stir up rebellion in Ireland, especially at a time when the call for adherents to the cause of the empire is so strong as at present, and hereby express their firm and unshaken confidence in the unwavering loyalty of Ireland as an integral part of the British Empire. It is our fervent hope to continue to live and prosper under the protection of the British flag, and we pledge ourselves to do everything in our power to frustrate all attempts which may be made against the crown and empire."

It was arranged that copies of the resolution be sent to Premier Asquith, Sir Edward Carson, John Redmond, Augustine Birrell and President Wilson.

A lengthy discussion took place in regard to compensation in the event of prohibition, in which all the members joined, the majority expressing the opinion that the license holders should receive compensation.

The proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

Prepared

Madge—I wonder why Lucille keeps her lips pursed up that way.
Margaret—Oh, she believes in preparedness.

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

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TURKEY'S SAD PLIGHT

Enver Pasha has held power by his control of the military machine alone; but when the soldier can no longer be fed, and when defeat in its most palpable form dogs the fortunes of the leader, the power of the military dictator, however absolute, is apt to end abruptly. The one hope of Enver and his associates is in the help of Germany. But what help can Germany give? Her peninsular expedition is ending for her as disastrously as Napoleon's did for him. Her allies, Turkey and Bulgaria, in the beggary and ruin to which she has brought them, are loads rather than supports. Feeling in Greece and Roumania is manifestly no longer what Germany would wish it to be. Russia, going from victory to victory in the Caucasus, is massing for another blow in Bessarabia. The French and British are still entrenched at Salonika in ever-increasing strength, impregnable themselves, merely waiting for the moment to strike. The hour of Serbia's vengeance is nearer than any would have dared to hope some weeks ago.—From the London Daily News.

LOVE CHANT HIT TRUTONS

C. Huntington Jacobs, the Harvard senior whose fiery sonnet, "Gott Mit Uns," caused much comment last winter, and influenced Professor Kuno Meyer to write a letter to President Lowell, of Harvard, berating the university authorities for sanctioning the award of a prize for such an unneutral poem, has written another poetical attack on Germany. Jacob's latest poem decries the alliance of Germany with Turkey, and is entitled "The Chant of Love." It is published in the current issue of The Harvard Illustrated, and is a paraphrase to the English version of "Gott Strafe England." It follows:

Dane and Bulgar they matter not;
A smile for a smile, and a plot for a plot;
We love them not, they love us not;
We hold stern power their heads above,
We have but one and only love,
We hate as one, we love as one,
We have one friend and one alone—Turkey!

He is known full well, he is known full well;
He rules the Land of the Crimson Flood,
Rich in madness, in race, in craft of hell,
Cut off by torrents of Christian blood,
Come let us greet him hand to hand,
An oath to offer sublimely grand,
An oath which conscience shall never shake,
An oath for our sons and their sons to take.

Come hear the word repeat the word,
Through Kultur's citadels make it heard;

We will never repent our love,
We have all but a single love;
We hate as one, we love as one,
We have one friend and one alone—Turkey!

Take ye the robe of our God in pay,
With Kultur from Krupp your ram-parts lay;
Trample their towns to a Belgian slough;
Ye are keen for the work, and we'll show you how;
Dane and Bulgar they matter not;
A smile for a smile, and a plot for a plot;
We have fettered their arms with quill and steel,
And the scars of our lash are slow to heal;

But you will we love with a kindred love;

We will never repent our love!
Love in lying and treachery,
Love in battle and butchery,
Love of the cleaver and love of the crown,
Love of a nation to hell brought down!

We hate as one, we love as one,
We have one friend and one alone—Turkey!

The poem has aroused widespread interest among the undergraduates.—The New York Times.

THE ENGLISH FREIGHTER

—Snub-nosed, bull-necked, funnel and spar askew,
Dour, glum, and sullen, like a surly dog,
I saw her drop into the April fog,
Around her masts a hundred sea-gulls flew,
Each with a cry of warning, but she knew
No fear or thought of fear; her steadfast log
Swerved not for U-boat, Beelzebub, or Gog;
Proud at her stern old England's scarle blew.

What was she, she who faded in the night?
Some dauntless bark of Froisher or Drake?
Some echo of the guns of Trafalgar?
Was she not England? England wrong or right,
Strong, ever strong, upon the English lake,
Empress in peace, and tyrant hard in war,
—Earl Simonson, in the New York Tribune.

"I have often stood in a slaughter-house," observed the man from Chicago, "while the butchers were killing hogs on all sides of me."
"Oh," exclaimed the tender-hearted girl, "weren't you dreadfully afraid?"

THE WESTERN CALL

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Evan W. Sexsmith, Editor

MR. STEVENS' POLICY FOR
RETURNED SOLDIERS

In the House of Commons during the recent debate on the shipping question, Mr. H. H. Stevens, member for Vancouver, took occasion to criticize in no uncertain terms the prodigal waste of valuable time in discussing many problems of secondary importance while the urgent matter of the readjustment of labor conditions after the war was left practically untouched. "In my estimation there is no greater problem facing the Dominion of Canada today than the problem of what we are going to do to reorganize the nation's industrial and commercial life after the war," said Mr. Stevens. The member for Vancouver drew attention to the fact that in a general disruption of trade such as the present war has brought about, men do not fall back into their places and occupations readily. To prove this he cited examples from his experiences in this city last winter, notably the cases of a bank clerk who wanted farm work and a young farmer who wanted a city job.

Replying to a remark from Dr. Pugsley that the man must have been after a government job, Mr. Stevens rejoined:

"He was after a government job; and I may tell my honorable friend that I recommended him and about thirty others for government jobs. And further to gratify my honorable friend in his little gibe, I have adopted the policy in Vancouver that no one but a returned soldier gets a government job, and if my honorable friend does not agree with that policy he may as well say so. So far as patronage is concerned, if that is what the honorable gentleman wants to introduce at this time, I would not give a snap of my fingers if all the patronage in my riding were undertaken tomorrow by a commission. Patronage has no attraction for me; it is the curse of public life. But that is the situation and the facts, that these men come back to Canada with all their former ideas disrupted and changed; they have been taken out of the ruts they were in before, and they are going to demand a different outlook on life. The return of 250,000 or 300,000 of these men will have a very serious effect upon the affairs of the country."

There is little doubt that the interests of the returned soldier will be properly recognized in this constituency, but what of the rest of the country? Why could not a resolution be introduced before the close of the present session binding the government to a general recognition of the claims of these men who will be returning in large numbers before long to swell the ranks of the unemployed? How far is patronage likely to impair the chances of these mained soldiers of getting employment with the government in lines more suitable for them than the ordinary run of work?

THE PATRIOTIC HOBBY

During the coming season there will be an additional zest to the hobby of gardening—the patriotic desire to produce something from the soil. Gardening has always appealed strongly to residents of our cities, in that it involves a considerable amount of manual labor and an abundance of fresh air—the very best of tonics. Of course the opportunities to indulge this pastime are rather restricted in the city on account of lack of land. But

many people have worked wonders with even small city plots.

The advantages of cultivating one's own garden, always manifest, are more apparent than ever when the cost of living is rising.

The beauty of this healthful pastime is that a careful amateur may produce as much as an experienced professional. The earth wants merely the seeds and the attention, and that is something the amateur can give in the same degree as the professional. A home garden employs the mind and takes one out into the open after the day's work is done. Are you "digging your bit" this summer?

SHIPBUILDING PROBLEMS

The momentous question of a Canadian merchant marine was once more brought up for discussion in the House by H. H. Stevens, M. P., who drew particular attention to the importance of foreign markets after the war. Russia, a country of 170,000,000 people, he said, was comparatively undeveloped. That country would in the next few years demand more railroad steel than any other country in the world. They would require certain of our natural products such as silver, lead and copper, in abundance, and we would import many valuable articles which we cannot and do not produce at home. "It is a country which may be reached by both our seaboard with equal facility, through Archangel on the Atlantic and Vladivostok on the Pacific side; a country which is open to our trade and waiting for development," said Mr. Stevens.

Much stress was laid upon the fact that the withdrawal of tonnage from the usual trade routes for transport services and also the submarine policy of Germany have been the real cause why freight rates have increased so alarmingly. Mr. Stevens did not think that much could be done to stimulate shipbuilding in Canada when steel plates and ship-angles were high in price owing to the large demand in other places. But as regarded the building of wooden vessels with cheap auxiliary power it was a different matter. "On the Pacific coast," said he, "we have peculiar facilities for this class of industry. We have the timber. We have the trade waiting for ships to carry it, and if we had the tonnage we could today be shipping millions of feet of lumber to the markets of the world. I certainly agree that this is an opportune time for dealing with the question of shipbuilding."

It was shown also that nearly all the material used in shipbuilding comes in duty free with the exception of boilers and engines. And these can be made with the greatest success in Canada.

The efforts of Mr. Stevens to instil a spirit of enthusiasm into the government regarding this issue are only what might have been expected; one can only hope that it will result in an intelligent and friendly discussion of the subject along real commercial lines with a view to the future development of our foreign trade.

DROWNING FATALITY

The people of Mount Pleasant were shocked on Friday last by the drowning of Hugh Leith in the Capilano river. The young fellow had crossed the inlet to enjoy a day's fishing with a companion when the accident occurred. Death under any circumstance is a severe blow to the relatives, but doubly so in this case. Hugh was the eldest of a family of three, sons of the late Thomas Leith, and the tragedy leaves a gap in a home that will be vacant for all time.

Hugh Leith was one of the

brightest and cleanest boys on the hill, a source of strength and encouragement to his mother, and a splendid companion among his chums.

The tragedy occurred between 10 and 12 on Friday. The body was recovered about noon on Saturday, and the coroner notified as soon as he could be reached, which was early in the afternoon. Instead of exercising a slight trace of humanity and common sense, the coroner at North Vancouver evidenced a marked degree of stupidity and ordered the inquest for 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon. Two witnesses only were required to confirm the verdict of accidental death, which was done in ten minutes. On the earnest solicitation of friends of the family the coroner altered the hour of inquest to 10 o'clock Monday morning. The result of his gross stupidity was that the bereaved family were denied the privilege of having the remains of their loved one in the home pending the funeral. Imagine the feelings of the grief-stricken household at such inhuman treatment, and this at the hands of a member of a profession that is supposed to exist for the alleviation of suffering. It is to be hoped that this instance will not escape the attention of the higher-ups, who might be induced to bring pressure to bear on their appointees that a repetition of cases of this sort can not occur.

COMPENSATION

Readers of the daily papers could not fail to notice an advertisement on behalf of the devotees of compensation to the liquor interests which made reference to the opinions of the Westminster Review anent the granting of compensation to the liquor men.

The ad-writers displayed just that degree of recklessness which is being manifested by the liquor men in their desire to hoodwink the public from the real issue, when they quoted an editorial expression in said magazine as representing the Presbyterian denomination of British Columbia at large.

For the enlightenment of the liquor dealers and the easy marks who will have the privilege of the franchise at the referendum to be taken at the provincial elections, the attitude of the Presbyterian Synod of British Columbia at its convention in Victoria, recently made no mention of compensation when a motion endorsing the action of the People's Prohibition Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Westminster Review is not an official organ of the Presbyterian church in British Columbia, but is the outgrowth of the Westminster Hall Magazine, a publication under the management and control of Mr. D. A. Chalmers.

THE UNACCOMPANIED BOY

It is fitting to draw the attention of the public to the many cases within recent years of serious and often fatal accidents happening to youths who go off on hikes, fishing and boating trips without the companionship of an adult.

No one will deny the desirability of the boys having an outing, but very many mothers would have a much easier feeling were the youths accompanied on their jaunts by some one who was old enough and capable enough of seeing to the safety of the boys.

In the case of the late Hugh Leith the presence of some older companion no doubt would have saved the boy from the fatality which we are forced to chronicle.

Ere long the summer vacation will be here and the boys and girls will be turned loose for two months. The natural surroundings of the city are not all con-

ducive to perfect safety to our young people, and it seems to us that fathers and mothers would do well to heed a timely warning and see to it that their boys and girls have the proper protection during their summer outings.

The departure for the front of a thousand dusky recruits from the Society Islands gives a new turn to the social questions arising out of the war.

The arguments brought out by the liquor party in favor of compensation remind us how easy it is for "the devil to cite scripture for his purpose."

It is an assured fact that those of us who stay in the city this summer will have our eyes gladdened by more than the usual number of window boxes. Those who helped to beautify the city last year will certainly feel encouraged to repeat the good work this year. If they only knew how much pleasure their thoughtfulness gave to numbers of strangers they would feel amply repaid.

Weatherman Shearman has handed out the following weather report for Vancouver for the week ending May 2:

Rain: .11 inches.
Sunshine: 62 hours, 12 min.
Highest temperature: 68 degrees on May 2.
Lowest temperature: 41 degrees on April 29.

Weatherman Shearman has handed out the following monthly report for the month of April:

Highest temperature: 61.7 degrees on April 30; lowest temperature: 34.3 deg. on April 23; average temperature: 48 degrees; rain, 4.07 inches; bright sunshine: 141 hours, 30 mins.; mean relative humidity: 80 deg.; wind, total miles, 4057; greatest velocity, 1 hr. 19 miles west on 11th; prevailing direction, east.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, but a pound of cure is worth a ton of I-told-you-so.

LOCAL BUSINESS MEN
TO MAKE TRADE TOUR

Vancouver business men are arranging, through the B. C. Manufacturers' Association, to make a trade tour of all the coast towns of the province between here and Prince Rupert, also touching at Skeena and Naas River points. The trip is planned for June, and it is expected from present indications that at least two hundred will be aboard the vessel which is to be specially chartered for the excursion. Mr. J. Hart, secretary of the association, says that with one or two exceptions business locally is steadily improving, and the object of this journey is to bring merchants more into contact with the trade requirements and opportunities of the northern part of the province.

RED CROSS LINEN
COLLECTION MAY 15

Linen week, for the collection of old and new household linen, which is being conducted by the local branch of the Red Cross Society, has been fixed to begin on Monday, May 15. Such articles as sheets, pillowslips, table linen and cotton can be conveniently spared by many households, and if donated to the Red Cross Society these articles can be used to great advantage in making up surgical supplies.

Preliminary arrangements to carry out the great amount of work which such an undertaking necessarily involves, were completed at a meeting of the committee which has charge of linen week. This committee is presided over by Mr. Edward Mahon, and consists of the chairmen of the various ward branches and suburban auxiliaries. Each branch is to have charge of the organizing and collecting in its particular district, and is to co-operate with the central committee. Further details will be announced in due course.

A valuable gift which the society greatly appreciates, is the offer which has generously been made by Mr. H. Lockyer, manager of the Hudson's Bay Company, of a large number of war relics from the European battle-

fields. These relics have been viewed at some of the company's larger stores, and are now being again shown in Vancouver. The relics are all of the utmost interest, and consist of such objects as helmets, French kepi haversacks, military coats, fragments of shells, swords, cartridges, rifles and bayonets. These articles will be sold by auction and the proceeds will be donated to the society.

COMMITTEE MEETING

A meeting of the Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration committee will be held this (Friday) evening at 8.30 in the office of Mr. Dunbar Taylor, Pacific Building. The business will include reports on the recent celebration in Vancouver and the presentation of the financial statement. Arrangements will probably be made for the prize-giving in connection with the Shakespearean essays competition. The meeting is open to the public.

RICE IN SIAM

More than forty varieties of rice are cultivated in Siam, but the so-called garden rice forms the bulk of the rice that is exported and is the best as to quality. The total rice exports for 1914-15 amounted to 1,226,269 tons, against 1,314,858 tons for the preceding season.

The plowing and planting season generally begins in April, when the rain has fallen sufficiently to admit of "wet plowing," and continues until the end of the rainy season, in October. During this time several varieties of rice may be cultivated, ripening at different dates, so that planting and harvesting can be carried on successively.

His Punishment

"You say that you must face the music this evening. What's wrong?"

"My wife is going to entertain her musical friends."

Casting sheep's eyes at a man is one way a girl has of pulling the wool over his eyes.

Production and Thrift

CANADA'S CALL
FOR SERVICE AT HOME

Produce More and Save More

The Empire needs food. If you are not in the fighting line you may be in the producing line. Labour is limited—all the more reason to do more than ever before. Grow food for the men who are fighting for you. The Allies need all the food that you can produce. Every little helps. You are responsible for your own work. If you cannot produce as much as you would like, produce all you can. Work with the right spirit. Put fighting energy into your effort and produce now when it counts. The more you produce the more you can save. Producing and saving are war-service.

Make Your Labour Efficient

In war-time do not waste time and energy on unimportant and unprofitable work. Economize labour. Put off unproductive work till after the war, and, if possible, help in producing something needed now. Let us not waste labour. Canada needs it all. If possible help to feed the Allies. Make your backyard a productive garden. Cultivate it with a will. Make your labour count for as much as possible.

Do Not Waste Materials

There should be no waste in war-time. Canada could pay the annual interest on her war expenditure out of what we waste on our farms, in our factories, in our homes. Every pound of food saved from waste is as good as a pound of increased production. The way for a nation to save is for every individual to save. France is strong to-day because of thrift in time of peace. The men and women of Great Britain are not only "doing" but are learning to "do without."

Spend Your Money Wisely

Practise economy in the home by eliminating luxuries. Wasting our dollars here weakens our strength at the front. Your savings will help Canada to finance the war. Save your money for the next Dominion War issue. There can be no better investment.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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You would be surprised to find what a fine selection they have.

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A BRILLIANT TRIO

THE advent of the Cherniavsky trio in this part of the western world last Monday night is a never-to-be-forgotten event by those whose rare privilege it was to hear three of the most extraordinary musical artists who have recently appeared in the world's musical firmament. For at the most brilliant and delightful musical festival ever held in Vancouver they demonstrated to a large and enthusiastic audience how susceptible to new movements and to originality of interpretation, without losing any of their former intrinsic beauty, are the works of the great masters. The freedom of their treatment and the abandon of their playing was not only a complete novelty to the record audience which greeted them in St. Andrew's church, but it carried every heart by storm, so magnificent and inspiring were the resultant effects.

The concert opened with a stirring performance of Mendelssohn's famous Trio No. 1 for piano, violin and violoncello which showed to full advantage the Cherniavsky Brothers' rare handling of ensemble work and the close harmony which they maintain throughout the most difficult portions of their numbers. The striking variety of the four movements of this trio afforded the scope necessary to the full display of the unusual artistry of the performers; for whereas they rendered the *Molto Allegro ed agitato* movement with smooth, rhythmic effect, faultless dramatic pauses and lingering cadences, they rendered the *Scherzo-Leggiero e Vivace* movement with a fire and a perfect torrent of ecstatic frenzy which carried the audience out of themselves and made everyone feel that they were listening to something entirely new in musical composition.

The violoncello solos which followed will always vibrate in the memory of those hearing them. Mischel Cherniavsky is undoubtedly one of the few great masters of the cello, and his instrument seems to have become a part of himself, so sympathetically does he handle it. His rich interpretation of Sulzer's "Summer Night," his melodious rendering of Victor Herbert's "Serenade," and his fantastic reproduction of Popper's "Rhapsodie," were all characterized by the beauty of tone and coloring for which he is justly famous. He gave a particularly sympathetic and finished interpretation of the "Rhapsodie," and it was evident that its harmonies were in peculiar accord with his Slavonic nature and Russian temperament. The notes which he produced were like the tones of a marvellously rich voice. He received an ovation which brought as encore another Popper number.

The pianoforte solos by Jan Cherniavsky were equally delightful in their way. This artist contributed three Chopin numbers, namely, the "Nocturne in D Flat," the "Study in F Major," and the "Valse in G Flat," in a manner which made one feel that he was himself Chopin personified and yet with an originality of interpretation and a spirit of unconventionality which is peculiarly a Cherniavsky characteristic. His rendition of Liszt's transcription of the music of the quartette from Verdi's opera "Rigoletto," was something surpassing description, and he sustained the theme with wonderful distinctness throughout the intricacies of the varying text. The audience gave him an enthusiastic applause, to which he responded with an encore.

After an interval of ten minutes Leo Cherniavsky contributed Tschaiikowsky's wonderful "Violin Concerto First Movement." That this amazing number was above the heads of his audience would be saying little and yet all appreciated the tour de force of the number, as he rendered it, and everyone divined the artist in the man who could produce such a tremendous work with such color and such shading of expression and such tonal beauties in the face of great technical difficulties. His bowing and finger-work were perfect. His triumphant execution was shown by his ability to hold his audience spellbound from first to last. His encore, "Imagination," is a composition new to the musical world, having been written for him by a young Russian publisher, and which he is playing

prior to its publication.

The concluding trios, Widor's "Serenade," Schubert's "Moment Musical," and Brahms' "Slav Dance," were further examples of the fine ensemble work, the Slav Dance receiving, for the first time in the memory of a Vancouver audience, the true atmospheric qualities which properly belong to it. A word must be said for the very surprising, novel and delightful interpretation of their encore, Mendelssohn's "Spring Song," which was something entirely new in time and rhythm and theme.

This most delightful evening was brought to a close with an inspiring rendition of the Russian, French and British National Anthems, the audience standing.

Before the audience dispersed they were delighted with the announcement that the Cherniavskys will give another recital on Monday evening next, May 8th.

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Mt. Pleasant

The Helping Hand Committee of Alexandra Review No. 7, Woman's Benefit Association of the Maccabees, met yesterday at the home of Mrs. Miller, Stephen street. There was an unusually large attendance and it was decided to hold the next meeting at the home of Mrs. Nelson Martin 13th avenue east, on the first Thursday in June.

Got the Dairymen's "Goat"
There was jubilation in the camp of the milk-wagon-drivers last night when, at an impromptu meeting held at the rear of the excavation for the new theatre at the corner of Main and Broadway the leaders of the men stood on a lumber pile and announced that the three main demands of the men had been practically granted by the milk dealers. Previously a conference at the premises of the Pure Milk Dairy, on Broadway, attended by five milk dealers, Messrs. Barker, Belderson, Clark, Turner and Garvin, and a committee of five for the men, Messrs. Anderson, Tiller, Porter, Sheldon and Hewitt, had ended, at which the demands of the men had been discussed. At the conference the three demands on which the men are standing firmly, for recognition of the union; that the practice of deducting the losses from bad accounts from the pay of the men be discontinued, and that a yearly holiday be granted were practically agreed to by the dairymen, and at another conference to be held this evening. It is expected that the proposed agreement as drafted by the men would be signed by the dealers.

A wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Shurgold, 562 17th ave. west this week, when Rev. A. E. Mitchell performed the ceremony uniting Mr. Roy Tarp, of Seattle, and Miss Margaret Shurgold. The young couple will reside in Seattle.

Egotism

Billy—I would gladly die for you, but for one thing.
Milly—And that is?
Billy—I'm afraid you could never replace the loss.



BRIGADIER McLEAN
Who will conduct special Salvation Army meetings at the Citadel, Mt. Pleasant.

A GARDENING HINT

Simplicity should be the aim in all ways, a simple plan to be given with avoidance of overcrowding and never planting or sowing things that have not proved themselves adapted to the climate and their environment. Certain things will not live, or if they do, merely exist, and this fact cannot be too strongly impressed upon those who have journeyed from the old land. There is wisdom in looking round and taking heed of what others have accomplished, learning from their failures what not to do and from their successes exactly what to do in due season.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Pettipiece, of Bear Creek, B. C., are visiting friends in Mount Pleasant and vicinity.

Force of habit

Wild-Eyed Aide de Camp—General, the enemy is outside!
General (just graduated from the ranks of business, petulantly)—Tell him I'm busy. Ask him what he wants.

Disqualified

The rollicking middle-aged man and the dignified little girl were left to entertain one another. He began it by asking for a kiss.
"Kissing is only for children," she said.
"Well, aren't you a child?"
"Perhaps," said she, "but I don't call you one."



MRS. McLEAN
Who Will Conduct Temperance and Prohibition Meetings for the Salvation Army.

PLANT A VEGETABLE GARDEN

A garden 60x100 feet should produce sufficient vegetables for a family of ten persons and leave some surplus for storage for winter. Cultivated by hand, it will occupy most of the spare time of a city dweller. A man cannot be a motor car or baseball enthusiast and at the same time make a success of a garden of this size. However, even smaller plots, if intelligently handled, may be made to yield an astonishing quantity of good crisp vegetables which have not lost their health-preserving value in the store window. Where the space available is small, crops should be selected that take but little space and give quick returns. Potatoes, cabbage, corn, egg-plant, peppers, had better be dispensed with, and the space devoted to such things as peas, beans, spinach, lettuce, carrots, beets, tomatoes and onions. Tomatoes should be stake trained.

The cultivation of vegetables is easy and agreeable, and in the days when meat, eggs, milk and other staple articles are tending steadily to increase in price, a wider use of vegetable foods will reduce living expenses and promote health.

The best time to do garden work is early in the morning and in the evening, so that it is well to encourage the healthful habit of early retiring and early rising. If the work is done for the love of it, rather than from necessity, these hours will be the most agreeable of the day.

SHRAPNEL

Too Many

They tell a story in New Zealand of a farewell function to some officers who had recently been married. One of the speakers was endeavoring to emphasize this fact on the gathering, but he did it rather awkwardly. "Two of our friends," he said, "are leaving 1915 brides behind." (Loud applause).

Being Neutral

The most prevalent form of neutrality we have noted is the remarkable neutrality maintained by many folks between God and the devil.

A Hero's Nightmare

Wounded soldier (to man in next cot)—Charlie, I just 'ad a most 'orrible dream. I dreamt I 'eard the whistle to charge, and I was a 'conscientious objector!'—From the Passing Show.

Decorated for Cause

The Kaiser has bestowed the Iron Cross on Herr Ballin, director-general of the Hamburg-American steamship line. He no doubt deserved the decoration, having faithfully followed so far the Teuton policy of keeping his vessels safe in the harbor.

Still a Lease on Life

The Cook—"Sir! sir! There's a Zep'lin outside, and if you don't come wi' the keys of the cellar, we'll all be in—in—heaven in a couple o' minutes!"
The Curate—"God forbid!"—London Opinion.

German chemists may have found substitutes for food, for manganese, for rubber and other necessities, but the waning force of the drive against Verdun indicates that they have not yet discovered a substitute for blood.—New York Sun.

Mr. Pessimist (cheering up, as he reads paper)—British Mesopotamian success.

Mrs. Pessimist—That's the worst of it. They mess up all their successes.—Punch.

At a reception in Paris a traveller, who was a strong "anti-Semite," was talking to a Rothschild on the beauties of the Island of Tahiti, and sarcastically remarked: "There are neither hogs nor Jews there!" "Indeed!" retorted the Rothschild, "Then you and I should go there together. We should be great curiosities."

Here is an extract from a Jack Tar's letter, sent to his mother from the Dardanelles:

"Mother, it is sometimes very hot out here when the shells are dropping all about you and the submarines are hoveringground, and you may strike a mine at any minute. At first I was a bit scared, but I remembered the words of the chaplain last Sunday when he said: 'Men, men, in times of trial and danger, look upwards.' I did look upward, mother, and if there wasn't a blooming aeroplane dropping bombs on us!"—Tit-Bits.

Germany's Case
Are you a baseball fan? Have you ever sat through a game when the weather was threatening, and at the end of the fifth inning, with the home team one run to the good, you prayed fervently for rain?
Well, that's just how the Huns are now praying for peace.

The Off Season
Percy Ames, who is just back from the warring side of the world, says a mustering officer—a sergeant—met on the street of an English coast village a strapping upstanding youngster of 21 years or thereabouts. The non-com hailed him:
"See 'ere, me lad," he said: "are you in good 'ealth?"
"I are," stapt the youth.
"Are you married?"
"I aren't."
"Ave you anyone dependent on you?"
"I 'ave not."
"Then your king and country need you. Why don't you enlist?"
The youth stared at the sergeant, round-eyed.
"Wot?" he said. "With this bloomin' war going on? You must think I'm a silly fool."

Burglar—The only thing I'm kicking about is bein' identified by a man who kep' his head under the bedclothes the whole time. That's wrong.—London Opinion.

The Lady—The last officer billeted on us knew no one else in the neighborhood.
The Officer—Great Scott! How awful.

McIntosh—What're ye hesitating about, Tammas? Play off, mon!
McNab—Mon, you's a bran'-new two shillin' "ba"—and I may never see it again!—Judge.

Tramp—Please, mum, I'm a Belgian refugee.

Lady—Are you? Mention a town in Belgium.
Tramp (cogitating a moment) — I would, mum, but they have all been destroyed.

German Opera in Turkey
For the first time in the history of Constantinople a German opera has been given in the Turkish capital. Kienzl's "Der Evangelimann," which still retains its place in the repertoire of the German lyric stage, is the work thus singled out for distinction. With an orchestra of forty musicians and a chorus composed of amateur singers, the performance was given under the direction of an opera singer named Ernst Von Elberfeld. What impression the opera made upon its first Turkish audience is not mentioned in the report.

DONT ARGUE!



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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.

BREAD, BISCUIT, HOT CAKES, ETC.

Bread is confessedly the "staff of life," and, therefore, it should be good. And whatever takes the place of bread, be it biscuits, hot cakes, muffins, or what not; should also be good, or nothing is gained by the exchange. Many a housekeeper can make excellent pies, cakes, etc., but when bread is needed, she flies to the bakery, confessing her total inability to prepare this indispensable commodity.

Three things are essential to the making of good bread, namely, good flour, good yeast, and judicious baking. A fourth might be added, experience, without which none of the domestic arts can be successfully carried on.

Wheat Bread

Put seven pounds of flour into a breadpan; hollow out the centre, and add a quart of lukewarm water, a teaspoonful of salt, and a wineglassful of yeast. Have ready more warm water, and add gradually as much as will make a smooth, soft dough. Knead it well, dust a little flour over it, cover it with a cloth, and set it in a warm place four hours; then knead it again for fifteen minutes and let it rise again. Divide it into loaves, and prick them with a fork, and bake in a quick oven for forty minutes to an hour.

Potato Bread

Three and one-half quarts of sifted flour, three boiled potatoes, one quart warm water, one teaspoonful of yeast, one even tablespoonful salt. Mix at night; put the flour in a large bowl; hollow a place in the centre for the mashed potatoes, water and salt. Stir in flour enough to make a smooth batter; add yeast; stir in the rest of the flour. Put the dough on the floured board; knead fifteen minutes, using barely enough flour to prevent sticking. Flour the bowl, lay the dough in it, cover and leave it to rise. In the morning, divide in four parts; mold into loaves; when light, prick, and bake in a moderate oven.

Milk Bread

Let two quarts of milk come to a boil; stand it aside to cool, and when it becomes tepid, add flour to it gradually until it makes a batter just soft enough to beat up with a spoon. To this add one cake of compressed yeast thoroughly dissolved in lukewarm water. The batter should then be well beaten. Cover with a towel and set in a warm place to rise. When light, add two tablespoonfuls of salt, one of lard, one of light brown sugar, and flour enough to make a soft dough. Knead steadily for about half an hour. This quantity should make four or five medium-sized loaves. Put them in greased pans and let them rise again. When light, prick with a fork and bake in a quick oven.

Corn Bread

Take one cup of bread-crumbs, one pint of sweet milk, one cup of molasses, butter the size of an egg, one teaspoonful of soda, corn-meal enough to make a stiff batter, with salt to taste. Turn the whole into a buttered basin and steam for two hours; then bake in a quick oven half an hour.

Boston Brown Bread

Take three and three-fourths cupfuls of Indian corn-meal, two and one-half cupfuls rye-meal, two-thirds cupful molasses, one quart milk, either sweet or sour; two even teaspoonfuls soda, dissolved in the milk; steam in a tin pudding boiler five hours; take off the cover and set in the oven to brown.

Brown Bread

Two heaping cupfuls Indian meal, one cupful wheat flour, two heaping teaspoonfuls Durkee's baking-powder; mix well together while dry; one teaspoonful salt, two tablespoonfuls white sugar, two eggs, one tablespoonful lard, two and a half cupfuls cold milk; beat the eggs, melt the lard, and dissolve the salt and sugar in the milk before adding them to the flour; bake in buttered pans in a quick oven.

Graham Bread

Three quarts of Graham flour; one quart of warm water; one gill of yeast; one gill of sirup; one tablespoonful of salt; one even teaspoonful of soda. Mix thoroughly and put in well-buttered pans to rise. Bake about an hour and a half. This same mixture may be thinned and baked in gem pans for Graham gems.

TOAST

As a palatable method of disposing of stale bread, as well as to furnish a variety of agreeable dishes, toast is an important factor in the culinary economy of the home. As a dish for invalids it is indispensable.

French Toast

Beat three eggs light, add one cupful of milk, with pepper and salt to taste. Dip into this slices of bread, then fry them in hot butter to a delicate brown.

Milk Toast

Toast the bread an even, delicate brown, and pile into a hot dish. Boil milk with a little salt, a teaspoonful of flour, and one of butter, rubbed together; pour it over the toast and serve hot.

Cream Toast

Take slices of baker's bread from which the crust has been pared and toast it to a golden brown. Have on the range a shallow bowl or pudding-dish, more than half full of boiling water, in which a tablespoonful of butter has been melted. As each slice is toasted, dip in this for a second, sprinkle lightly with salt, and lay in the deep heated dish in which it is to be served. Have ready, by the time all the bread is toasted, a quart of milk scalding hot, but not boiling. Thicken this with two tablespoonfuls of corn-starch or best flour; let it simmer until cooked; put in two tablespoonfuls of butter, and when this is melted, the beaten whites of three eggs. Boil up once, and pour over the toast, lifting the lower slices one by one, that the creamy mixture may run in between them. Cover closely, and set in the oven two or three minutes before serving.

CITY SCHOOLS HELP IN RED CROSS WORK

While honor rolls of former pupils in the city schools, who are now serving their country overseas, are being unveiled, the service which the boys and girls in the schools today are rendering their country should not be overlooked. They can not go to the front to fight, or nurse the wounded, as many long to do, but are doing "their bit" by service at home.

For the last year or more work for the Red Cross has been carried on in the schools. The activities have been organized in various ways. In some of the schools, work has been done by the girls during the time allotted for sewing. In others clubs have been formed which work regularly each week, and in others the work has been confined to raising money by various methods and handing it in to the general fund of the Red Cross Society.

Funds is Problem

The raising of money for the purchase of materials has been the problem in many clubs, but has been successfully solved by giving entertainments, concerts, teas, etc., and by selling homemade candy. The Red Cross Society has also supplied materials to some of the clubs.

At first it was thought that the making of pads, compresses, bandages, etc., was not work that could be undertaken by school children, but the girls soon demonstrated their ability to do this work acceptably.

Knitting socks was also considered a somewhat doubtful undertaking, but it was found that a few had already mastered the intricacies, and others quickly followed their lead, and many socks have come from their fingers, one intermediate class alone handing in fifteen pair not long ago, and the industry with which the work is continued points to another fifteen pair soon. In one school some of the boys, not to be outdone by the girls, learned to knit, and some very creditable socks have been the result of their efforts.

The articles made in the schools include socks, scarves, wash cloths, roller bandages, knee bandages, bed shoes, ward slippers, hospital bags, pads and compresses, also pyjamas and nightshirts were made by some of the high school pupils.

Boys Help Too.

The boys also have been doing their share by making the bandage rollers and also numbers of hand splints and assist with the entertainments.

All the work has been supervised by the teachers, who have given generously of their time, both in directing the clubs, which are held after school hours and in helping with the entertainments.

Though it is many months since the work was started, the enthusiasm and interest continues, and club days find the members in their place ready for their hour's work. In many cases the time spent at the club is only a portion of the time given to Red Cross work, as much of the knitting is done at home. This club work is, of course, entirely voluntary. In some schools only the seniors are in the club, while others include the intermediates also.

Footing the Bill

Mr. Newman had just recovered from an operation and was talking to a friend.

"The surgeon," he remarked, "said he'd have me on my feet again in three weeks."

"Well, he did it, didn't he?" asked the friend.

"He did, indeed," responded Mr. Newman.

"I had to sell my motor car to pay his bill."

WASHINGTON AND GERMANY

Berlin despatches seem to indicate that, as a result of the latest note from Washington the German government may promise modification of its submarine warfare. Such action would mean either that Germany feared the moral effect of a rupture of diplomatic relations with the United States or that the diplomatists of Wilhelmstrasse hoped by concessions, more or less nominal, to satisfy President Wilson for the time being, and divert attention and denunciation to the British blockade. In a recent article in *The Contemporary Review*, Rt. Hon. Charles Hobhouse reviews the relations of the United States to the belligerents and concludes his analysis as follows: "Should America escape conflict with Germany it will be because her contention as to her international rights in the matter of the life of her citizens has been accepted and satisfied. She will consider herself equally entitled to judgment where her international right of trading is concerned. Her success in the first instance will urge her to press her claims in the second case with the utmost persistence, and should immediate success fail to attend her representations to Great Britain, every word we now utter will be held against us. The necessity for maintaining an impartial attitude will be put forward by the German-American influences, the press will succumb to it, and the electoral agencies will pounce on it as so much grist to their mill. The deep-seated resolve of the United States to seek peace and ensue it determines within what limits the President can enforce national rights or uphold national honor; but within those limits, once the Lusitania is out of the way, the 'Blockade' will move into the centre of the stage."

Precedents for the Blockade

There are many of the best informed men in the United States who believe that their government has no legal, and certainly no moral, case against the allies on account of trade restrictions. Admittedly, there has been departure from codified international law, but protests from Washington and from the citizens of the Republic disregard the fact that the practice of the United States during the Civil War supplies an exact precedent for the blockade of Germany by the allies, through the medium of neutral territory. But the average American either is unaware of this precedent or, if aware of it, refuses to be bound by it. The elements favorable to Germany and those antagonistic to Britain combine with the interests directly affected by the blockade in demanding that the "rights of neutrals" be respected. To them neutrality means indiscriminate.

The President's Danger
Should Germany yield enough to satisfy the Wilson administration it might easily result in one of the bitterest political contests in the history of the nation. For President Wilson himself and also for his party a diplomatic victory over Germany might have serious political consequences. The Republican organization would not fail to seize the opportunity to urge that Berlin's concession now was proof that a stiffer foreign policy would have secured the same concessions months before, that the country has been flouted and humiliated in the eyes of the world. They would hold the Administration responsible for the loss of American lives and property due to submarine operations during the past year. Some truth and organized flag-waving might, in the present state of popular opinion, result in the overthrow of the Democratic government, and the election to power of a party pledged to uphold the honor of the Republic, and demand the recognition of, and respect for its legal rights by all belligerents.

Meaning for the Allies

The President, from all appearances, is facing a severe test, no matter which way Germany may decide. If Germany should refuse to make concessions and war should result, the President must answer to the electors. There are not wanting those who will organize all the pacifist factors against him. The hope of Mr. Wilson and the hope of his party lies in the possibility of a spontaneous unification of the people of the United States in the event of a national crisis. A declaration of war might prove more popular and, therefore, more expedient politically than the less heroic withdrawal of Ambassador Gerard from Berlin. At any rate, the situation has not a few dramatic elements and will be watched by Canadians with interest none the less real because of the confidence that victory for the entente is certain, regardless of whether the United States remains neutral or actually participates in the war. Canadians would applaud the actions of the United States in breaking with Germany in defence of the principles of humanity. It would add moral support and perhaps considerably more than moral support to the cause of the allies. But our confidence and determination do not depend in the slightest measure upon the action of the administration at Washington.

A German Gift

A London "Tommy" lying in hospital, beside him a watch of curious and foreign design. The attending doctor was interested.
"Where did your watch come from?" he asked.
"A German giv it me," he answered.
The doctor inquired how the foe had come to convey his token of esteem and affection.
"E 'ad to," was the laconic reply.

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Morality In War a Certainty

There are some idealistic persons who believe that morality and war are incompatible. War is bestial, they hold, war is devilish, in its presence it is absurd, almost farcical, to talk about morality. That would be so if morality meant the code, forever unattained, of the Sermon on the Mount. But there is not only the morality of Jesus, there is the morality of Mumbo Jumbo. In other words, and limiting ourselves to the narrower range of the civilized world, there is the morality of Machiavelli and Bismarck, and the morality of St. Francis and Tolstoy.

The fact is, as we so often forget and, sometimes we do not even know, morality is fundamentally custom, the mores, as it has been called, of a people. It is a body of conduct which is in constant motion, with an exalted advance guard which few can keep up with, and a debased rear guard, once called the black-guard, a name that has since acquired an appropriate significance. But in the substantial and central sense morality means the conduct of the main body of the community. Thus understood, it is clear that in our time war still comes into contact with morality. The pioneers may be ahead; the main body is in the thick of it.

Basis for Moral Code

That there really is a morality of war, and that the majority of civilized people have more or less in common a certain conventional code concerning the things which may or may not be done in war, has been very clearly seen during the present conflict. This moral code is often said to be based on international regulations and understandings. It certainly on the whole coincides with them. But it is the popular moral code which is fundamental, and international law is merely an attempt to enforce that morality.

The use of expanding bullets and poison gases, the poisoning of wells, the abuse of the Red

Cross and the white flag, the destruction of churches and works of art, the infliction of cruel penalties on civilians who have not taken up arms—all such methods of warfare as these shock popular morality. They are on each side usually attributed to the enemy; they are seldom avowed, and only adopted in imitation of the enemy, with hesitation and some offense to the popular conscience, as we see in the case of poison gas, which was only used by the English after long delay and which the French still deny using. The general feeling about such methods, even when involving scientific skill, is that they are barbarous.

A Civilized Barbarism

As a matter of fact this charge of "barbarism" against those methods of warfare which shock our moral sense must not be taken too literally. The methods of real barbarians in war are not especially "barbarous." They have sometimes committed acts of cruelty which are revolting to us today, but for the most part the excesses of barbarous warfare have been looting and burning, together with more or less raping of women, and these excesses have been so frequent within the last century, and are still today, that they may as well be called "civilized" as "barbarous."

The sack of Rome by the Goths at the beginning of the fifth century made an immense impression on the ancient world as an unparalleled outrage. St. Augustine in his "City of God" written shortly afterward, eloquently described the horrors of that time. Yet today, in the new light of our own knowledge of what war may involve, the ways of the ancient Goths seem very innocent. We are expressly told that they spared the sacred Christian places, and the chief offenses brought against them seem to be looting and burning; yet the treasure they left untouched was vast and incalculable.

able and we should be thankful indeed if any belligerent in the war of today inflicted as little injury on a conquered city as the Goths on Rome.

Goldwin Smith's Prophecy

If by the chivalrous method of old, which was indeed in large part still their own method in the previous Franco-German war, the Germans had resisted the temptation to violate the neutrality of Luxemburg and Belgium in order to rush behind the French defences, and had battered instead at the gap of Belfort, they would have won the sympathy of the world, but they certainly would not have won the possession of the greater part of Belgium and a third part of France.

It has not alone been military instinct which has impelled Germany on the new course thus inaugurated. We see here the final outcome of a reaction against ancient Teutonic sentimentality which the insight of Goldwin Smith clearly discerned forty years ago. Humane sentiments and civilized traditions, under the molding hand of Prussian leaders of Kultur, have been slowly but firmly subordinated to a political realism which in the military sphere, means a masterly efficiency in the aim of crushing the foe by overwhelming force combined with panicking "frightfulness." In this conception that only is moral which served these ends. The horror which this "frightfulness" may be expected to arouse, even among neutral nations, is, from the German point of view, a tribute of homage.

Facing a Grave Issue

The military reputation of Germany is so great in the world, and likely to remain so, whatever the issue of the present war, that we are here faced by a grave critical issue which concerns the future of the whole world. The conduct of wars has been transformed before our very eyes. In any future war the example of Germany will be held to consecrate the new methods, and the belligerents who are not inclined to accept the supreme authority of Germany may yet be forced in their own interests to act in accordance with it.

The mitigating influence of religion over warfare has long ceased to be exercised, for the international Catholic Church no longer possesses the power to exert such influence, while the national Protestant churches are just as bellicose as their flocks. Now we see the influence of morality over warfare similarly tending to disappear. Henceforth, it seems, we have to reckon with a conception of war which accounts it a function of the supreme state, standing above morality and therefore able to wage war independently of morality. Necessity—the necessity of scientific effectiveness—becomes the sole criterion of right and wrong.

War to Remain in Fashion

When we look back from the standpoint of knowledge which we have reached in the present war to the notions which prevailed in the past, they seem to us hollow and even childish. Seventy years ago Buckle in his "History of Civilization" stated complacently that only ignorant and unintellectual nations any longer cherished ideals of war. His statement was part of the truth. It is true, for instance, that France is now the most anti-military of nations, though once the most military of all. But, we see, it is only part of the truth. The very fact, which Buckle himself pointed out, that efficiency has in modern times taken the place of morality in the conduct of affairs, offers a new foundation for war when war is urged on scientific principle for the purpose of rendering effective the claims of state

policy. Today we see that it is not sufficient for a nation to cultivate knowledge and become intellectual, in the expectation that war will automatically go out of fashion. It is quite possible to become very scientific, most relentlessly intellectual, and on that foundation to build up ideals of warfare much more barbarous than those of Assyria.

New Era of Ferocity

The conclusion seems to be that we are today entering on an era in which war will not only flourish as vigorously as in the past, although not in so chronic a form, but with an altogether new ferocity and ruthlessness, with a vastly increased power of destruction, and on a scale of extent and intensity involving an injury to civilization and humanity which no wars of the past ever perpetrated. Moreover, this state of things imposes on the nations which have hitherto, by their temper, their position, or their small size, regarded themselves as nationally neutral, a new burden of armament in order to insure that neutrality. It has been proclaimed on both sides that this war is a war to destroy militarism. But the disappearance of a militarism that is only destroyed by a greater militarism offers no guarantee at all for any triumph of civilization or humanity.

What, then, are we to do? It seems clear that we have to recognize that our intellectual leaders of old, who declared that to insure the disappearance of war we have but to sit still and fold our hands while we watch the beneficent growth of science and intellect, were grievously mistaken. War is still one of the active factors of modern life, though by no means the only factor which it is in our power to grasp and direct. By our energetic effort the world can be molded. It is the concern of all of us, and especially of those nations which are strong enough and enlightened enough to take a leading part in human affairs, to work toward the initiation and the organization of this immense effort. In so far as the great war of today acts as a spur to such effort it will not have been an unmixed calamity. Amen! From a school boy's diary.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND

The special correspondent of The London Times at Paris writes: "It has been my good fortune recently to describe the effort of England to several large French audiences. Deep in the minds of the French people has laid a sense of wonder at the apparent slowness of British preparations. Our half-measures and long discussions upon the expediency of compulsory military service have seemed to them incomprehensible, yet, with wonderful patience and charity, they have regarded our vagaries with indulgence and have trusted us implicitly. A year ago, the names of some British soldiers or Ministers evoked cheers from a French audience. Now names are received in silence. But enthusiasm, strong and warm, greets every assurance that the people of Great Britain and of the British Dominions intend, hand in hand with France and the allies, to see the war through to complete triumph. The action of the British government is not felt in France. Whatever prestige it may have enjoyed at the beginning of the war, has long since evaporated. But faith in the dogged pluck of the British people has grown as the months have passed, and is today one of the main foundations of French confidence.

Our ministers and public men would be well advised in their every act and utterance, to bear this fact in mind. Any appearance of indecision, any shilly-shallying with vital questions, any reluctance to deal quickly and wholeheartedly with war problems as they arise, is noted in France with puzzled regret. Particularly is this the case in matters affecting the blockade of Germany and provision for economic co-operation between the allies during and after the war. No general, politician, or other public man with whom I have talked in France has failed to ask about the blockade, and to express the conviction that it must be tightened in every practicable way. Too little is known of what has already been achieved; but enough is known of what still remains undone to stimulate, a strong desire that we should apply to our brutal foe every means of eco-

omic pressure that our mastery of the seas enables us to render effective.

Yet it is important that people in England should understand the exact quality of whatever criticism of our conduct may from time to time be heard in France. Faith in our determination to win now in our stayig-power is so absolute and the desire for constant and complete co-operation with us is so real that strictures upon our doings are uttered only, in public and in private, when we seem to fall short of the high standard which France has set for herself and for us. When misunderstandings arise they are usually the outcome of our—to the French—incomprehensible home politics. France needs to feel that England is as alive as she is to the importance of our joint task and to the need of finishing it as quickly as may be compatible with thoroughness. Every clear manifestation of our resolve, therefore, enhances the efficacy of the alliance.

France also has her internal political difficulties, which are apt to be as incomprehensible to us as are ours to her. Into these no stranger can wish to enter. They are unlikely to affect the attitude of the nation or to hamper its military effort. The "Sacred Union" between all parties still holds, and, unless I am mistaken, the great struggle at Verdun will have renewed and strengthened it. As I have said, France was "getting used" to the war, and there seemed, here and there, to be signs that the old party intolerance might, in given circumstances, reappear. In some extreme clerical centres a tendency to attribute to the influence of the church an undue share of credit for the miracle francais naturally caused a reaction in the opposite sense among persons and groups that hold anti-clerical views, no matter how completely they may have hitherto subordinated them to the need for union.

Under the influence of the heroic effort of Verdun, an effort accomplished by soldiers who, as a distinguished French Republican statesman truly said, are "in a state of grace," the national instinct to merge every difference in a common fund of patriotism has been stimulated and will carry all before it. The glory of Verdun is purely French, for France has held her impregnable lines alone, and, while unable to repel the Angel of Death, has kept his barbarous minions at arm's length. No praise can be too high for the valiant legions that have held the gate of eastern France. But, far more than praise, the French people and the French army will welcome prompt and solid proof of our determination to vit with and support them in the great contests that are still to come.

FRANCE'S HEROINE

It is well known that since the beginning of the war women have been fighting in the European armies. The latest and perhaps the most picturesque heroine is Mlle. Emilienne Moreau, a young French girl only seventeen years old, who received the Military Medal from General de Sully at Versailles in recognition of her great gallantry under fire.

Mademoiselle Moreau, says the London Sphere, formerly resided in Loos, the town that was captured by the British under Gen. Sir Douglas Haig toward the end of last September. During the German occupation of the town Mademoiselle Moreau lived there with her aged father and mother and her brother. As she was a school-teacher, the children of Loos who remained in the town were in her charge. Her old father died not long after the Germans occupied the town.

When the great attack was begun Mademoiselle Moreau waited in eager suspense for the result. Hidden away in the cellars and in other places of comparative safety were several families, including old men, women and children. She herself refused to remain under shelter when it became evident that the Germans were being driven back. As soon as the British entered, Mademoiselle Moreau sallied out into the streets and during the ensuing struggle assisted the wounded to places of safety. Although not physically strong, her determination increased her strength tenfold. To those who needed them she gave

drink and stimulants, and she dressed as best she could the wounds of others. When the British surgeons entered the town they found her bending tenderly over her charges.

As the British reinforcements moved up, she heard them singing "God Save the King" with true British vigor. When they had finished, Mademoiselle Moreau dashed forward and began to sing the "Marseillaise." The soldiers surrounded her and joined in with a will, singing Rouget de Lisle's undying lines with the greatest enthusiasm.

A few days later this French army order was issued: "Mlle. Emilienne Moreau, aged 17½ years, living at Loos (North France). On September 25, at the taking of the village of Loos by the British troops she organized a first-aid station in her house and was employed the whole day and night in caring for the wounded. With no regard for herself she placed all her resources at their disposal without the slightest reward. She went forth amongst them armed only with revolvers, and with the aid of a few British soldiers, disabled and captured two of the enemy, who, hidden in a neighboring house, were firing on the first-aid station."

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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.
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THE CASE FOR THE PACIFIC GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY

Two facts of compelling importance stand out in the consideration of the question of the P. G. E. Railway, and emphasize the urgency of its early completion.

One is the fact that the road is now subject to an annual interest charge of \$1,000,000.00 which necessitates the road being put in shape to earn this interest charge at the earliest date. Failing to do so, we have a dead loss of \$1,000,000.00 for this year and each succeeding year that must be borne either by the government or the contractors in the first place, but will almost certainly fall upon the public eventually.

The other fact is the depreciation of the roadbed, which has been constructed for a distance of 300 miles and upon which no track has been laid. If the roadbed is allowed to remain in its present unfinished state subject to weather conditions, according to the best engineering opinion, it will through washouts and other disintegrating effects, deteriorate during the present year to the extent of \$1,000,000.00. This, while necessarily an approximate estimate, is probably not wide of the mark if we consider the likely effects from the roadbed being exposed to the elements.

Actual Loss of \$2,000,000 Entailed

We are, therefore, faced with a certain loss of \$2,000,000 if the work is allowed to remain suspended during the present year. It may in fact involve a greater loss, for if the work is not resumed now it will probably be 1918 before the road is finished to Prince George, meaning that \$3,000,000 must be found for interest without any supporting revenue from the road. This does not take into account the far more serious loss that will be entailed on the province by non-completion of the road through lack of preparedness to take advantage of after-war conditions and accommodate our proportion of the tide of immigration that will undoubtedly flow westward from Europe.

Investigation of Expenditure

It has been said in certain quarters that while everyone admits the necessity of completing this north and south road and its completion being essential to the general development of the province, nevertheless there should be an investigation to inquire into the expenditure already made and to see that the province has got value

for the money already obtained out of the proceeds of the bonds sold. But if we delay the completion of the road for the present year in order to make an investigation we incur a loss of \$2,000,000, which is contrary to all sense and business. If the government is of opinion that an investigation is necessary, it can be carried on currently with the prosecution of the work. In this way we will avoid a loss of \$2,000,000 and at the same time satisfy the public as to the propriety of the expenditures already made.

It is sometimes suggested that there has been waste or extravagance in the construction of the road by Foley, Welch & Stewart, and that in consequence no loan should be now forthcoming for completion. But even if extravagance should be established by an investigation, it is none the less necessary to complete the road immediately if we want to avoid the further loss of \$2,000,000 for interest and depreciation, as well as the more serious loss the province will sustain through not being prepared for settlement after the war. In fact, under no conceivable conditions would a delay beyond the present year in completing the work be justified. This is thoroughly appreciated by the public, whether Liberal or Conservative, and there is now a general demand for the immediate completion of the road.

Individual Covenants of Foley, Welch & Stewart

The Pacific Great Eastern is being constructed under a different arrangement from that of the Canadian Northern Pacific. In the former the members of the firm of Foley, Welch & Stewart are individually liable on their personal covenant to complete the road, while in the case of the Canadian Northern Pacific, Mackenzie and Mann are not liable for the completion of that road, but only the Canadian Northern Railway Company, the value of whose covenant is doubtful if we consider the accumulation of bond issues that encumber that undertaking. By proceeding with the immediate completion of the P. G. Eastern Railway the liability of Messrs. Foley, Welch & Stewart on their covenant is not affected. Such liability can be enforced as easily six months or a year hence as at the present, and the public therefore, is losing nothing in proceeding with the work on the railway before or pending an investigation. The government is losing none of its remedies against the firm by undertaking completion forthwith

and by doing so is effecting a saving of \$2,000,000, the loss of which would ultimately fall on the public. If in the opinion of the government the investigation should result unsatisfactorily for the contractor, the government can then take the same action as was open to it if the work had been suspended—without having incurred the loss entailed by a suspension of the work.

Independent Expenditures of Foley, Welch & Stewart

It may be stated here that whereas the railway company has only obtained from the Minister of Finance out of the proceeds of the guaranteed bonds sold and pledged, the sum of eighteen million odd dollars, it has expended on the road the sum of twenty seven million odd dollars, leaving a balance expended by Foley, Welch & Stewart, or by the contractor, of approximately nine million dollars in excess of the amount received from the Minister of Finance. The company is prepared to vouch the accuracy of these figures which have been submitted to both the government and the opposition. It is, therefore, abundantly evident that any margin, or if the word profit is preferred, derived by Mr. Welch from the prosecution of the work, has gone back into the work and a great deal more.

The Position of P. Welch

With respect to the individual covenants of Messrs. Foley, Welch & Stewart to complete the road considerable misapprehension exists. In the News-Advertiser of March 26th, the editorial writer speaks of Welch making a margin of profit between the prices at which he obtained the work and the prices at which he sublet the same. Such margin in no sense represents profit accruing to Welch but merely represents a saving in the cost of the work. The more cheaply Welch can secure the construction of the railway the more he reduces his liability. It is, therefore, evident that Mr. Welch's direct interest, as well as the interest of the government, is to keep the cost of the work as low as possible—their interest in this respect is identical—it is, therefore, incorrect to regard a reduction in the cost as profit accruing to Welch. In fact the less onerous Welch can render his covenant by economical construction the greater will be the security which the province possesses against its guarantee of the company's bonds. Welch is not at all in the position of an independent contractor building the road for profits, but is in the position of an owner constructing as economically as possible for and on his own behalf. How would it benefit the province or the public if Brown & Smith (a subcontracting firm) made a profit of half a million on their subcontract? On the contrary, while being a good thing for the subcontractors, it would mean that amount of capital being taken away from the enterprise and the liability of the government and Welch correspondingly increased.

It goes without saying that it is in the best interests of the province that the road should be completed by Foley, Welch & Stewart. In the first place it is clear that the firm who are legally liable to construct the road, and whose direct interest it is to save every possible dollar in construction cost, will complete it more economically than a contractor who has no such liability. An outside contractor coming on the work would naturally aim to make as much profit as possible without regard to the cost of the work, as to which he would be under no liability. In the second place Welch has already his plant, equipment and organization on the ground for the completion of the road, whereas an outside contractor coming in would have to assemble his plant and equipment and establish his organization for the work at a great initial cost for so doing.

Provincial Loan the Only Means to Complete

Meantime the only way to arrange for the completion of the road is by a provincial loan. The interest upon money borrowed this year will be in the neighborhood of six per cent, whereas a sale of the company's guaranteed bonds is entirely out of the question by reason of the prohibitive discount. It may be accepted as a fact that in the present state of the market the company's bonds guaranteed by the province would not fetch more than 75 per cent, which is equivalent to cutting down a guarantee of \$40,000 per mile to \$30,000 per mile and would be a sacrifice rather than a sale. The government, therefore, should immediately arrange for the requisite loan to carry on the work. This money will be paid out to the company only in monthly instalments as the work proceeds and in the meantime the strictest investigation of the company's affairs and its past expenditures can be made.

The company invites an examination of the work already done by any responsible railway engineer on this continent, and in view of the fact that the total expenditure to date is only \$18,000,000 a competent engineer, after a sufficient examination—measuring all the cuts and fills and ascertaining the quantities of steel and lumber used in construction—should be able to arrive at a very close estimate as to whether or not value has been obtained by the province for this expenditure.

Compelling Necessity for a North and South Arterial Line

The foregoing considerations are chiefly directed to establishing the necessity of making a loan for the completion of the Pacific Great Eastern

Railway by Foley, Welch & Stewart during the present year. So far as the intrinsic merits of the undertaking itself are concerned, broader considerations of course obtain. The necessity of the north and south road is apparent from a glance at the map of the province. The road literally traverses the heart of the province, rendering available all the best country therein, such as the Lillooet, Cariboo, and Peace River districts, which include the vast Chilcotin country. The construction of the line to Prince George is the first step necessary to connect with the Peace River country. This will ensure a thickly populated district in the northerly part of the province, bringing to the Pacific coast traffic which is now finding its way eastward. Mr. Bury, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, while recently at the coast, stated that he looked to see in the immediate future all the grain grown west of Swift Current hauled to the Pacific. It is certain that in a very short time we will see both sides of Burrard Inlet and the shores of Howe Sound lined with grain elevators.

By carrying the road to completion we are not only putting it in shape to meet the accruing interest charge from its traffic earnings and are preventing a deterioration in the roadbed that would entail a serious inroad on the security which the province holds for its guarantee, but we are putting the province in a shape to compete for its share of northern trade now going to Edmonton. It is idle to extol the splendid hinterland of our northern province, its rich soil and equable climate, if there are no railway facilities to render the same available. Our unbounded natural resources can hold no attraction for the inquiring settler and producer so long as there is no railway whereby to develop those resources.

All our splendid mineral deposits must remain undeveloped pending the completion of this road, to say nothing of our lumber industry and other general development. It is not an exaggeration to say that the entire future of the province is based upon the establishment of a north and south railway. The climate of British Columbia is second to none and millions of acres of the finest arable lands are awaiting settlement. It is certain that after the war organized effort will be directed to attracting population to this province and a condition precedent to the accommodation of all incoming settlers is the existence of this railway and the facilities to be provided thereby. Unless we are to limit settlement to the fringe of lands abutting on the existing transcontinental railways we must open up the heart of the province by this line. We should, therefore, put ourselves in a position to take advantage of the conditions with which we shall be confronted at the close of the war.

Importance of Early Securing Peace River Trade

Another reason for completing the line to Fort George during the present year is the vital necessity for the people of this province to reach the Peace River country as speedily as possible in order to attract traffic originating in the Peace River district to Vancouver and the Pacific Coast instead of to Edmonton and the east. Trade routes once established are very hard to deflect. Already the merchants of Edmonton are reaching out after this Peace River business. Fifty million acres, unsurpassed in the Dominion for climate and fertility of soil, are here awaiting settlement. The potential wealth of this country can only be realized through the instrumentality of railway transportation. The extension of the Pacific Great Eastern to the Peace River will form a channel whereby this wealth will flow into our province.

Progressive Policy of the Government Essential

Preparation should be our present watchword and that government will best serve the interests of the country which pursues a policy of enterprise and construction, safeguarded, of course, by an adherence to caution along business principles. A circumscribed policy of inactivity and retrenchment will not advance the interests of this province today. We must promote population and development, and the fundamental agency for such promotion will be found in the establishment of a north and south arterial line of railway. To quote from the Minister of Finance, in his budget speech, "This province has a great line of credit in its natural assets and we must use that credit in order to bridge the present period of depression and keep the wheels of progress moving."

Paralysing Effect of War Conditions

In weighing the situation between the government and the Pacific Great Eastern Railway due regard should be given to the gravity of the conditions precipitated by the war and the impossibility on the part of practically every business undertaking at the present time of surmounting these conditions. Due allowance should be made to the company in consequence and in all cases where a moratorium does not apply specifically the principle should be extended in equity, if we are not to produce hardship and injustice. The war had an almost immediately paralysing effect upon the operations of this company. It had invested over two million dollars in lands from which in the ordinary course of business, it would have had an immediate and commensurate return, and which would have provided a fund for financing the

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main undertaking. As the situation exists today, the company has not disposed of one foot of land nor obtained the least return upon any of the capital expended by it. Everything has been disbursement up to the present without a dollar coming back and the limit of the company's resources in this respect has now been reached. With several millions invested in the enterprise the company can expect no relief in the ordinary course of business until after the termination of the war. Government assistance in the shape of a loan at the present time is, therefore, not only necessary, but completely justifiable under the circumstances and must be forthcoming if the work of building this north and south arterial line is not to come to a standstill and be for the present abandoned.

To appreciate the serious handicap under which the company is laboring through war conditions, one should compare those existing before the war. Through the outbreak of war, the large outlay of the Pacific Great Eastern upon lands for terminal and townsite purposes has been absolutely tied up, so that the company has been deprived of the use, not only of the original capital, but of the anticipated profits, upon which they largely relied, as they were entitled to do, for construction purposes. Take also the fact that the company's guaranteed securities, which brought 100 per cent. before the war, would now only fetch 72 per cent. according to the latest offer made through the Union Bank for the balance of its unsold securities.

Position of Foley, Welch & Stewart

This firm has a recognized standing all over the American continent. It has built more mileage in the Dominion than any other firm or company of railway contractors. They are responsible men of unimpeachable integrity if business reputation of a quarter of a century counts for anything. These people are asking no indulgence from the province, but only the consideration to which they are entitled as the inevitable consequences of war. They have carried through every work they ever undertook and they have been associated with some of the greatest public works of the Dominion, being largely instrumental in constructing the existing transcontinental systems of the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk Pacific, and Canadian Northern Railways. The province is fortunate in having such responsible men to look to in the present crisis, and it is entirely in the interest of the province that these men should be identified with its development. This province cannot afford to discourage enterprise and capital by harsh or unfair treatment. It is simply impossible for Foley, Welch & Stewart to carry out their covenant at this time to complete the

railway. They are not to blame for such impossibility. If the strict fulfillment of every covenant was demanded at the present time the world would be bankrupt. It is incumbent on the government to allow for existing conditions and a policy of operation is not only equitable but will in the end produce the best results.

Let us have all the investigation that is necessary, impose all the safeguards for the protection of the provincial domain, but do not delay the completion of this line to the serious prejudice of the best interests of the province and probably set back the growth of the province for a decade. If the province is not prepared to take advantage of the opportunities that will offer after the war it will have missed the flood tide that would have borne it to prosperity and to its proper rank among the provinces of the Dominion.

If ever a project should be considered without partisan bias, it is this one—constituting, as it does, the groundwork for the real development of British Columbia. Consider the vast areas that must remain unopened, with all their rich resources, until this railway becomes an accomplished fact. The bulk of the province lies practically undeveloped. The only way to meet the provincial debt is to promote production and business, thereby creating revenue, and this can only be done by increasing population. There can be no population without railway facilities. To attract the one we must provide the other. This railway is the basic need of this province at the present juncture. With population comes business, producing wealth and revenue. To stop this railway is to shut up our storehouse, keeping confined therein the treasure that would make this province one of the richest in the Dominion. To sit still and do nothing will not avail; it will only serve to add interest to our existing debt. Establish this arterial railway, bring in the people, create industrial activity throughout the province in every line of business and the provincial debt will soon be a thing of the past.

Hiels—The ancients could give us points on the transportation of troops. For instance, look at the way the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea.

Wicks—That was a regular walk-over, wasn't it?

William Jennings Bryan got into an argument with a fellow Nebraskan and the latter called Bryan a liar. Leaving the merits of the issue aside, we call attention to the fact that Bryan did not get mad or loudly resent the charge.

Which was it—pacifism or unpreparedness?

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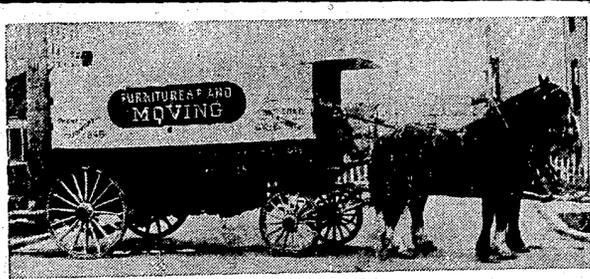
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