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GERMAN PERIL

Admiral von Tirpitz' statement in the German Parliament formally accepting on behalf of the German Government, Winston Churchill's doctrine that British supremacy on the sea must be kept up and recognized with at least a 60 per cent superiority over Germany, drove the last nail into the coffin of the still born Borden emergency. Not merely in England was the German statesman's utterance welcomed, but also in Germany and throughout the world as a harbinger of peace, and the end of cut throat naval competition. This is shown by the "Neue Freie Presse," a leading newspaper, which on the day after Von Tirpitz' declaration said, "The point in the important turn in the relations between England and Germany is that British supremacy at sea is to be recognized now and for the future by Germany. The legends about German invasion are now become mere paper. In the history of nations there is no such example of understanding as that intended by which the German Empire is to take upon itself in this or some other form to remain at a certain distance behind the British naval power. This is surely one of the rarest and strongest guarantees of the peaceful disposition of a country."

Discussing this, the Westminster Gazette of February 8th says, "The Germans have their naval law fixed for some years to come, and they are not likely to increase it unless the political strain is renewed. We shall not in a few years hence emerge into a position in which it will be agreed on both sides that a cut-throat naval competition is mere folly. We have learned during the past year that there is more sense in Europe than the pessimist supposed." Mr. Borden's anxiety to send to England \$35,000 borrowed money, to increase this "cut-throat naval competition" is hardly likely to enable people there to learn that there is more sense in the Canadian Government than the pessimist supposed. The establishment of a navy to guard and patrol our own sphere of influence, as advised by the British

prospects in store for this important section of Canada's industries.

SERIOUSNESS BROUGHT IN SCHOOLS

The St. Thomas Board of Education has prohibited dancing in the assembly hall by any of the societies of the Collegiate Institute, and the Stratford Beacon thinks the Board did right, declaring that "the whole atmosphere of such an institution of learning should be charged with the seriousness of the problem of life." Which latter remark is quite true, says the Kingston Standard, though it does not necessarily follow from this that dancing should be prohibited. There is seriousness enough in school life for five days in the week, without asking the pupils to continue that seriousness after school hours to the point of denying themselves legitimate pleasure. The time has passed for Puritanism.

PRETTY SOUND LOGIC

If there is a class of men and women to-day that ought to be ranked among the heroes of the world, it is the class in which are found the men and women who are struggling patiently, quietly and often without hope of other reward than the good they may do, for the prevention of disease. Yet these people attract no attention for the most part. There is nothing dramatic about their work, and the world must have its drama, or it will have no heroes. If a man goes over Niagara Falls in a barrel every school-boy in the country will know his name, but a man may spend his whole life in the service of humanity for the causes of disease and the remedy, and the people of his own town may scarcely know his name.—Woodstock Sentinel Review.

The Review is right. The world's greatest heroes are those who give service to humanity without the glare of "trumpets or the plaudits of the people.

TUBERCULOSIS

Dr. Friedmann, of Berlin, who has just reached New York, says that he has really discovered a cure for tuberculosis. He says that he has found the greatest benefactor the world has ever known. It is not the pain that sufferers complain of in this disease, for it is almost painless, but the dread that it will end fatally. True, the open air treatment has been quite successful in thousands of cases, but it is not every one who can afford to take this treatment. A man may be suffering from tuberculosis and may still be able for months and for years even to do his work, but the disease is sapping his vitality and will in the end result fatally. Dr. Friedmann's treatment, we imagine, will avoid the necessity of a man's giving up his daily work and will in that case be a very decided advantage over the open air treatment.

In discussing the cure, the Kingston Standard says: If Dr. Friedmann is making his announcement without having given his remedy every chance to prove its curative powers, then he will have to be classed among the charlatans of medicine. His assertions, however, have been so positive that we can scarcely believe he is making them without a certainty of their truth. Thousands of people will anxiously await the result of Dr. Friedmann's treatment of tubercular patients in New York.

FIGHTING FOR PRINCIPLE

The Ottawa Free Press, which should be in close touch with Liberal headquarters, says the policy of the party lies "opposition to the Borden navy bill to the last ditch." "The Liberal party," says the Free Press, "are united and determined that, if they can possibly prevent it, Canada shall not enter upon the dangerous policy of direct cash contributions to the Imperial exchequer until the people have been given an opportunity to express themselves at the polls."

The Liberals are standing for a principle as well as a policy; a principle much more important to Canada and the British Empire than three Dreadnoughts. Mr. Borden proposes a violent and fundamental constitutional change by the use of a parliamentary majority won on a different issue. Except in the Province of Quebec, the naval question was not a factor in the last election. In Quebec itself twenty of the Government's supporters were returned as opponents of naval expenditure in any form. Before the election, too, Mr. Borden had not abandoned the Canadian navy idea. He has no mandate for repudiating it now, and committing the country to the servile policy of tribute. He is attempting to turn the whole current of Canadian political development into an old one deserted since the era of responsible government.

The Liberals will do well to fasten public attention on this phase of the situation. The Government is striking at the life of the Dominion as a free country.—London Advertiser.

SLIGHTLY SARCASTIC

A convert's zeal is, says the Weekly Sun, proverbial, and to a convert's zeal may be attributed the advocacy of universal military training in Canada by two of those eighteen Toronto Liberals who abjured their party, and its principles in 1911.

Against whom is the mighty carnage making force, which these gentlemen would create, to be directed? Is it the United States? We read in the organ of the Canadian Defence League, to which most of the eighteen have since conversion allied themselves, that "one thing alone can prevent Uncle Sam from executing his designs on Canada, and that is the thorough preparation of our defence." If that is the object we prefer the Hon. Colonel Sam Hughes' plan of training every Canadian boy of sixteen to hit a Yankee at five hundred yards, and having arranged the hundred million Yankees in order, five deep, to shoot them through and through. That would be cheaper and quite effective, and it would leave the rest of the Canadian males free to address Boards of Trade and Canadian Clubs, which is a function of inestimable importance to the nation, to the empire, and to the generations yet unborn.

PUBLIC OPINION

(Guelph Mercury) This has been a great winter for the bees. This is fine news, but it's no guarantee that the consumer will not get stung on the price of honey next fall.

DEEP LAID CONSPIRACY

(Exchange.) The latest fancy of the suffragettes is to put shot in the keyholes of British houses. Add to this a gay old boy coming home early in the morning, himself half shot, and a fine fusillade will result!

WERE NOT REPRESENTED

(London Advertiser.) On the basis of the census of 1911 the western provinces are under-represented in the present House of Commons to the extent of twenty-five seats. But the population has grown since then so fast that the under-representation today would be nearer thirty-five than twenty-five. (Montreal Herald) Madero introduced idealism in Mexico by sparing the lives of his enemies. They repaid his consideration by murdering his brother and then himself. The code of civilization was regarded as weakness in a land which had known the iron hand of Diaz.

THE LAST WORD

(Montreal Star.) Mr. Borden's proposals will add at once to the effective naval strength of the empire; Sir Wilfrid Laurier's will not. On the other hand, Mr. Borden's proposals—which are definitely put forward as an emergency policy—are in no way incompatible with future expansion or modification on the lines which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has sketched.

AN OBSOLETE PRACTICE

If Mr. T. B. Miller, Canada's prisoner of state in the county jail at Ottawa were able to secure the current copies of English journals with reports of the Maxse case and comments thereon, it would probably add in no small degree to render his imprisonment less irksome. The con-

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trast between the anxiety of the Borden Government to resurrect obsolete practice to uphold its dignity, and the readiness of the Liberal government in Great Britain to rely upon its own dignity without such adventitious aid is very marked.

There is strong parallel between the two cases. Mr. Maxse made charges against the British Government, and before a select committee refused to give the source of his information on the ground of editorial secrecy. Mr. Miller refused to give certain information demanded of him by a muck-raking outfit which was determined to get information to, if possible, injure members of the late Government, on the ground that to do so would injure himself in legal proceedings. . . . There the analogy ends.

Mr. Maxse was brought to the bar of the Mother of Parliaments. He refused to answer the questions put, and Premier Asquith declined to proceed further, remarking, "Under the circumstances and having regard to the stage of the session we have reached, and the importance as all experience shows, of proceeding in matters of this kind only after a full opportunity for consideration and deliberation. I am not prepared to assume the responsibility of advising the House to take an immediate action." There the matter ended, and Mr. Maxse went free.

In the Canadian Parliament when the Miller matter was broached, Sir Wilfrid Laurier asked that the customary two days notice of motion be given so as to give opportunity for the wise deliberation advanced by Premier Asquith in England. This was refused, and the matter was railroaded through the House. Miller was called to the Bar and promptly imprisoned because he still refused to answer, although assuring the House that his secrecy was not because any person, in any way connected with any government or its service could be implicated. Mr. Borden had no hesitation in assuming the responsibility for the immediate action which Mr. Asquith had refused, and Mr. Miller is in prison.

The Westminster Gazette says of the Maxse case, "According to ancient practice, Mr. Maxse could be sent to the clock tower or even to the tower for refusing to comply with a request of the committee of the House of Commons. But such practice is obsolete and it is doubtful whether anything would be done. The general opinion is that a summons to the Bar only advertises a recalcitrant witness and serves no purpose. The Speaker's reprimand in such cases is considered sufficient and the Speaker as guardian of the House will know how best to defend it, and how best to deal with the offence." It is hardly a good advertisement for Canada to let the world know that the Tory Government of this country is recklessly reverting to practices which are condemned obsolete in England, where they originated.

SILVER WEDDING AT MIDLAND

Fred Press: A very pleasant event took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dudley, Midland ave., on Friday evening, Feb. 14th, when their many relatives and friends met to celebrate with them the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding.

The house was decorated with ferns, red and white carnations, and decorations in keeping with St. Valentine's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley have resided on Midland for over twenty years, and have won the respect and esteem of all who know them. At 7.30 the bridal couple, with their friends, sat down to a bountiful dinner, after which Rev. Mr. Sparling on behalf of the guests, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dudley for their hospitality.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley were the recipients of many useful and valuable gifts.

Among the out of town guests were Mrs. Dudley's three brothers, and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brown, Lindsay; Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Brown, Fenelon Falls, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brown, Chatham.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley join in wishing them a happy and prosperous life, and hope at the end of another twenty-five years to celebrate with them their golden wedding.

LOCAL FIRE BRIGADE JOINS ASSOCIATION

Orillia News Letter.—The annual tournament of the Northern Volunteer Firemen and Band Association will be held in Orillia this year on Thursday, July 24th.

This was decided at the annual meeting of the N. V. F. Association, which was held at Huntsville on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Joseph Gibbons represented Orillia.

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This will be a big day for Orillia, as the last tournament held in 1907 brought one of the largest crowds that ever visited the town. Special trains will be run here by the Fire Brigades, and Bands of Huntsville, Bracebridge, Burks Falls, Parry Sound, Gravelhurst, Midland and Lindsay.

The main features of the program will be the firemen's hose and ladder race and the band competition. Besides these, however, there will be a long list of races and other attractions.

At the meeting on Wednesday Mr. A. A. Cooper of Huntsville was elected president of the Association in place of Mr. Joseph Gibbons of Orillia, who resigned. Major Grant of Huntsville was re-elected secretary. The Lindsay Fire Brigade applied for admission into the Association, and their application was granted.

WHERE STATION NAMES ORIGINATED

Orillia News Letter: Mr. Wm. Grant the first station agent on the Midland railway here, speaking to the News Letter recently, remarked, "Have you any idea where the names of the stations, Uthoff, Schepler and Fesserton were obtained? No. Well, I'll tell you. The president of the railway company, then the Midland and Nipissing, had about exhausted his credit, and was finding trouble in financing the construction from Beaverton to Midland. Finally a German firm of bankers, Messrs. Uthoff Schepler & Fesserton, of Berlin, came to his assistance with a half million loan, and as a little tribute to them, he named three stations in their honor. That's how you got three German names on your Midland timetable."

TAX EVERY MAN FIVE DOLLARS BORN

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—At the annual meeting of the Canadian Artillery Association to-day, in the presence of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Col. the Hon. Sam Hughes said: "We have applications from 50,000 young men who want to en-

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roll in the militia, but we haven't the money to accommodate them. Every man should be ready to defend his country. And if not, then he ought to pay a tax of \$5 a year toward the upkeep of those who will.

PETERBORO SEE IS NOW VACANT

Peterboro, Feb. 27.—The "monthly mind" mass celebrated at St. Peter's Cathedral this morning for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop O'Connor was attended by two Archbishops, Mgr. McNeil (Toronto) and Mgr. Spratt (Kingston) and three Bishops, Bishop Fallon (London), Bishop Scollard (North Bay), and Bishop Macdonnell (Alexandria). Priests were present from distant parts of the diocese. Most Rev. Archbishop McNeil sang mass, and Right Rev. Bishop Fallon preached the sermon. The ceremony of the day marked that the See is vacant. It is probable that advantage was taken of the occasion of most of the Ontario bishops being present to consider the submission of three names to His Holiness the Pope.

TENTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

On Feb. 24th a very pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ererson, Cambridge when they held a celebration of their tenth wedding day. About forty invited guests sat down to a sumptuous oyster supper. Friends were present from Beaverton, Cambridge, Oakwood, Eden, Islay, and Lindsay. The evening was spent in music and games until a late hour when all went home well pleased with the evening enjoyment.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

HORN—in Lindsay on Friday Feb. 28th, 1913, to Mr. and Mrs. James Horn, a daughter.

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