CURRENT COMMENT

Effect of the Indemnity.

An immediate effect followed the reported settlement of the amount of the German reparations indemnity. It was placed at $60,000,000,000 and in spite of the vastness of the sum the German mark immediately doubled in value, such is the difference between certainty and an unknown quantity in the operations of commerce. Human faculty can always face the inevitable, and while the indemnity amounts to $1,000 a head of the population of Germany, this is no impossible sum to a people so thrifty, so industrious and so docile as the Germans. General Foch is emphatic on the military character of the Germans, and asserts that war is their trade and that by war they seek to prosper. The imposition of this huge indemnity, it must be admitted, gives their militaristic leaders an excuse to support their old contention that the object of the Allies was to plunder Germany. The effect of the levy of the indemnity will be to rally and consolidate the German people. Had no indemnity been asked the moral effect on Germany, it may be argued, would have been disintegration of the militaristic influence. On the other hand France and Belgium have been impoverished and need the help which does not appear to be obtainable otherwise. No one disputes the justice of the indemnity, but the dilemma is with regard to its wisdom or expediency. Could it have been possible to reject it as blood money who can doubt but that glorious France and gallant Belgium out of their own resources and industry, and with the assistance of their allies, could have recovered from the ruthless savagery of the Germans, and felt the stronger morally for such independence. We do not admire the lady who sues for damages for breach of promise. There are wounds money cannot heal.

The Hudson Bay Co. Celebration.

A wonderful demonstration took place at Vancouver on May 19 in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Hudson Bay Co., the great corporation which spread its factors over Northern Canada, many of whom afterwards became notable men. It was Charles II. who chartered the company, and it assists one to understand how short a span in human affairs 250 years constitute when it is realized that there might be alive to-day a man who could have heard from his grandfather about the events of that time. Yet 250 years seem like an eternity to most men. The men of those days laid a great foundation and those who followed them did not fail to enter into their spirit. Their enterprise, their dead and gone personalities, their manner of life, their picturesque costumes, their strange adventures and notable incidents in their history formed the subjects of a pageant second in interest only to the romantic and beautiful tercentenary celebration in Quebec in 1908. The Hudson Bay Co. was a pioneer of the empire, and when the Dominion of Canada was formed it owed not a little to the hardy men who represented the company for two centuries previously. Among the interesting things shown in the parade were reproductions of the old ketch "Nonsuch" which carried the founders of Fort Charles from Gravesend across the Atlantic in 1668; one of the Spanish ships, "Sutil," which met the fleet of Captain Vancouver off Point Grey, on the morning of June 22, 1792, the same year that Governor Simcoe was laying the foundations of Ontario; and a real Indian war canoe 70 or 80 years old, with twenty tribesmen in charge of it. This canoe was 39 feet long with a beam of five feet. Amid the celebrations of the H. B. Co. the Northwest Company is not forgotten and many are recalling the exploits of Jasper Hawes, whose name is so familiar in Edmonton, and will go down to history in Jasper Mountain, Jasper Lake and Jasper Park.

A Ferocious Organization.

It was thought that the elimination of the Dublin Castle system would have been as certain and necessary a move in establishing a new order in Ireland, as the break-up of the Family Compact was in Canada. But a new policy is undoubtedly in evidence, and it is apparently a policy that takes note of facts as well as theories of government. The reign of terror established by the Clan-na-Gael since the close of the war with German and American assistance was not dictated by reason or interest for the people of Ireland, any more than the invasion of Belgium by Germany in 1914 was an act of reason or benevolence. There is only one way of meeting such forces and it is the method of war. This the Irish executive has at last decided upon, and they may depend on having at least two-thirds of the people of Ireland behind any effort that will release them from the terrorism of recent months. It was not the Irish people who were responsible for the murder of the Chief and under secretaries in May, 1882, nor have the Irish people any sympathy with the dastardly murders of the present day. But they dare not protest nor exhibit sorrow for the victims, because of the malice of the secret forces. There is a certain type of Irishman, particularly when inflamed with whiskey, who is capable of saying and doing anything, feeling assured of justification and excuse for all that is done for "the cause." It is a state of mind identical with that created by German militarism, and extinguishes all moral sense and the impulses of humanity. The growth and spread of such a spirit is a menace to civilization, since it is fatally infectious. The United States can testify to this. War against such forces means the protection of the innocent and the relief of the people generally from an oppression in which all liberty and freedom are extinguished, and self-determination becomes an idle tale. This spirit of tyranny and fear is so foreign to the naturally frank and generous character of the Irish people that its presence can only be accounted for on the ground of alien intervention. We know how long such demonstrations would be tolerated in the United States, yet it has been in the United States that some of the worst crimes of the Clan-na-Gael have been perpetrated. The resolution of the Government in Ireland to declare war on this ferocious and insensate organization will have the approval of all who desire to see Ireland as peaceful, as prosperous and as happy as any of the provinces of Canada.

Tariff Tears and Profits.

No tariff ever satisfied everybody. Tariffs are not constructed primarily to give satisfaction, but to raise money, and a tariff that accomplishes this purpose can afford to ignore the criticisms and objections levelled at its provisions. The new Canadian tariff does bear somewhat heavily on those whose incomes have just been sufficient to keep them according to their station without any margin to spare. Incomes of $3,000 to $5,000 probably cover more hardship under present conditions than at any other level. The smaller incomes have generally been increased. The larger incomes have always had an ample margin, sufficient to absorb the shocks of rising prices. The Minister of Finance has not had much consideration for these people without a margin. They will have to economize severely. The man with $5,000 a year must dress as well as the man on $10,000 or $15,000. So must his wife. He will come in for all the taxes on so-called luxuries—boots over $9, clothes over $45, and such extras. But the people of this grade play the game. They will pinch and scrape and economize as they have done for some years now, but they will not complain openly. There will be more public objection taken to the tax on music, probably, than on any of the others. The drastic action taken elsewhere to secure a fair share of the gains of the profiteers for the public purse has not been imitated by Sir Henry Drayton. The profits remain with the acquisitive persons and the tears with the public. A substantial reduction of the nation's debt should have been made from these war gains. One honest manufacturer turned over $750,000 excess profits voluntarily early in the war. It stands as a mark by which to measure the possibilities to the public treasury of a general and equitable levy. It is believed that a great part of the war bonds are investment of the gains of war profiteers. The nation is bearing a heavy load in this respect, and if it should bear more heavily still, there are elements which will insist on a fairer adjustment of the burden. The great point, universally recognized, which Sir Henry has aimed at, is reduction of the national debt. Sincere efforts in this respect will be appreciated, and the new Budget promises such results.

Our Diplomatic Start.

There is no great enthusiasm in the country over the proposal to have a Canadian diplomatic representative at Washington. To those familiar with United States methods it is merely an additional possible source of friction and an occasion of affront. The less we have to do with some people the better we get along with them. There is a popular impression that this is the case with the United States. In ordinary years this may not be quite so evident, but in a presidential election year anything might happen. The machine partisans who do not scruple to make the League of Nations and the Peace Treaty the shuttle-cocks of their presidential battledores would not hesitate about involving a Canadian ambassador in a dispute if it promised capital to their political party. A Canadian plenipotentiary might not be willing to accept a rebuff as meekly as Lord Grey of Falloden did, and the exceeding care that Britain has taken to avoid a quarrel with the United States, coupled with the concessions she has made from time to time, some of them at the expense of Canada, indicate that the fewer points of contact there exists the less danger there will be of friction. On the other hand the growing importance of Canada nationally warrants her in seeking direct responsibility in the management of affairs that immediately concern her, and there is much to be said for the policy of choosing one of ourselves to plead our own causes instead of one whom we must instruct, and who may be so judicially minded, as has happened before, that he may give the benefit of the doubt to our opponent. Most of the difficulty over matters of this kind is over detail. Once the main principle has been recognized there should be no trouble about applying it.

THE BRAIN BOX

CONDUCTED BY E. GUNN RAMSAY.

Registered According to the Copyright Act,

"Made in Canada."

What does this phrase mean to you?

Owing to a sensitive national conscience, that has been more or less roused at the present time through the publication of figures regarding Canada's indebtedness ,and the depreciation of our good dollar in the United States, a great deal has been written and said about the duty of purchasing "Made in Canada" goods.

Stores are featuring the output of Canadian factories in clothes, household goods, toys and all kinds of useful articles.

One of the arguments pushed by an ardent advocate is "shall we be less pound of Canadian-made goods, proovereas for us, than we were of the same men?"

What is the answer?

Where is our pride to-day?

How much of national pride have we?

Are we really proud of the things that matter?

There is more being made in Canada to-day which we shall be called upon at some future date to stand by or to disown than articles of apparel, household utensils or fancy goods.

Winnipeg, in the West, has often been described as the melting pot of the world. Into its everyday life pour the cosmopolitan assortments of dozens of nationalities, there to be "Made into Canada."

All over this country more or less the same forces are at work, the same processes evolving. Now and to-day Canada is weaving slowly but surely her history. "Slowly," one says, but yet there are some passages regarding that weaving which are written hurhiedly, with the hand of haste, as it were, overnight, written, never to be erased, and so they will go down to posterity in the annals of the achievements of this land—"Made in Canada."

As one turns over the history of the weaving which has already been written, pages come up to view which have "Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, five new slums." Slums made in Canada. How did they come? By whom were they made?

Driving across the prairie one might expect "Here surely there will be no overcrowding," yet in the small town so newly sprung to life, the sad picture is only too frequently presented of houses built end to end, backing several in a block, so close to each other, that far from having garden space, there is often barely room for the occupants to put out a chair.

What poor building in a new country!

What shortsighted planning for the days to come!

The overcrowded, meanly built little streets of to-day will be the slums of to-morrow.

In such surroundings we are making citizens. Of what will their future consistency be? Is this the best that Canada can do. Remember that the goods so made or marred, will go forth from us bearing the stamp whether we will or no "Canadian Made."

Another phrase which is so frequently on the lips of Canadians to-day is that of "Save the child."

Baby welfare clinics, nursery homes, orphanages, creches, hundreds of benevolent societies busy themselves upon behalf of saving and guarding infant life, but between the time that the infant toddles off into the little child and the time when a well-formed boy or girl should take his or her place in the communuity, "Made in Canada" safeguards seem few and far between.

Here is a child, a potential Canadian citizen. Stored up in its little brain are vast possibilities for good, for high endeavour and rich achievement. It may be that such a one moulded aright, will re-make and rewrite the name "CANADA" so royally across the page of our history that it will glow down the ages, but we who vaunt so much at times of our pride in the "Made in Canada" idea, what are we doing with this little child in our midst?

According to half the rules of the game, its only chance lies in the barbaric custom of the "survival of the fittest," "fitness" being interpreted by physical strength and surroundings. Many a little Canadian home harbors a potential genius, which is smothered, stifled under conditions of poverty.

How many children to-day in this new land who are fatherless, have been forced out to work at a tender age, following some uncongenial employment for which they are absolutely unfitted, because this country has lacked appreciation of the tremendous value of its child products, and of the responsibility of the State in seeing that even the children of Canada may have a chance to be well-made.

"Made in Canada."

What are we making?

Support home industries, buy "Made in Canada" goods Yes, let us do all of this, but what next?

Shall we not see to it, that the "Made in Canada slogan is synonymous with efficiency in every line. Efficiency not only in the planning of our towns, our schools, workshops and buildings, but in the care of the children, the widows and the mothers who have lived to give children to this land.

Put the stamp of "Made in Canada" upon your goods with pride, but first let us see that the goods bear the true stamp in themselves of fair workmanship.

A STRANGE CITY IN CHINA.

Just after sunrise, our great river steamer steamed into the wharf at Canton City (China), writes Sir Robert Baden-Powell in his book, "Boy Scouts Beyond the Seas." Apart from a few big buildings on the river front, the city is a mass of low, brown-roofed houses, so like the thousands of brown, roofed-in boats along the bank that it is difficult to see where the houses end and the boats begin.

And these boats, although small, are floating homes of no fewer than 300,000 men, women and children.

They are punted and sculled by the women and children, the women carrying their babies on their backs all the time. I believe this accounts for the flat faces of the Chinese, because when the mother is rowing, if she "catches a crab" or misses the water and falls backward, she is liable to squash the baby on her back.

If you peep into one of these boats, you find the cabin beautifully clean and brightly ornamented, however dingy the boat may seem outside.

The small children are tied up like monkeys on a long string, fastened to the roof of the cabin. This enables them to run about, while it prevents them from falling overboard.

I was told that some of them, instead of being tied up, have two empty bottles strapped on to them to act as a buoy, if they fall into the river.

The families do all their cooking on board their boats, buying their firewood and fish and vegetables from traders' boats which ply on the river selling their goods.

It is said that a large number of the boat people have never set foot on land and are very pround of the fact.

THE QUIET OBSERVER

H. B. Co. Business Good.

Sir Robert Kindersley, Governor of the Hudson Bay Co., has been a prominent visitor in the west, and he has announced the resumption of the progressive policy adopted in connection with the company's stores which was interrupted in its realization by the war. The large store in Victoria, B.C., partially completed, at one-third of its estimated cost, is now to be finished, the other two-thirds or more to be expended chiefly on the interior. It is expected that the new store contemplated by the company in Winnipeg will soon be commenced. These are indications not merely of the enterprise of the company, but of the faith of business men in the future of Canada. No country in the world is more favorably situated at the present time. and the prospects of accessions to the population by immigration were never so definite. The war gave Canada a great advertisement, but peace will prove her qualities. Substitutes are being offered in Europe, but emigrants there are wary and are learning to "take no other."

Mexico's Plight.

Mexico has slain another ruler. The ambition of the Mexican patriot is near to death. Christianity has conferred no boon on the land of the Montezumas. There is nothing to be proud of in assassination and revolution, and there is nothing more in sight for the Mexican people at present. Diaz, who seemed likely to be the father of his country, was unable to establish a tradition or to suppress the spirit of intrigue and defiance of civil authority, which is the weakness of the situation. After him came chaos, and the several leaders who have followed have not given promise of the growth of a sane and stable public opinion. This must rest primarily on education, but it is being demonstrated more completely as time passes in many countries besides Mexico, that education alone will not deliver a country from anarchy and crime. There is sore need in such lands as Mexico for standards of ethics and morals, of character and purpose, of service and sacrifice, such as will evoke loyalty and enthusiasm in the national and community life, and a robust independence, integrity and unselfishness in the individual. To impose these conceptions of life from outside is not enough. They must be developed from within and spread by national growth.

FOR A CLEAR COMPLEXION

The following rules for a clear complexion have been given by a New York physician:

1.—Eat
- (a) Three meals
- (b) Of substantial food
- (c) Slowly
- (d) Resting before meals
- (e) And after meals.

2.—Walk
- (a) Some distance every day
- (b) And twice a day if possible.

3.—Drink
- (a) Plenty of water
- (b) Between meals.

4.—Sleep
- (a) Eight hours at least.

5.—Breathe
- (a) Plenty of fresh air
- (b) In office
- (c) In living room
- (d) In bedroom.

6.—Bathe
- (a) Skin frequently
- (b) With water
- (c) And castile soap.

7.—Shampoo
- (a) Scalp frequently
- (b) To overcome dandruff.

8.—Nourish
- (a) Skin by
- (b) Eating eggs and
- (c) Drinking milk.

9.—Overcome
- (a) Pimples by diet, especially by
- (b) Eating green vegetables.

10.—Powder
- Sparingly.

11.—Avoid
- Cosmetics.

12.—Massage
- (a) With cream
- (b) When necessary.

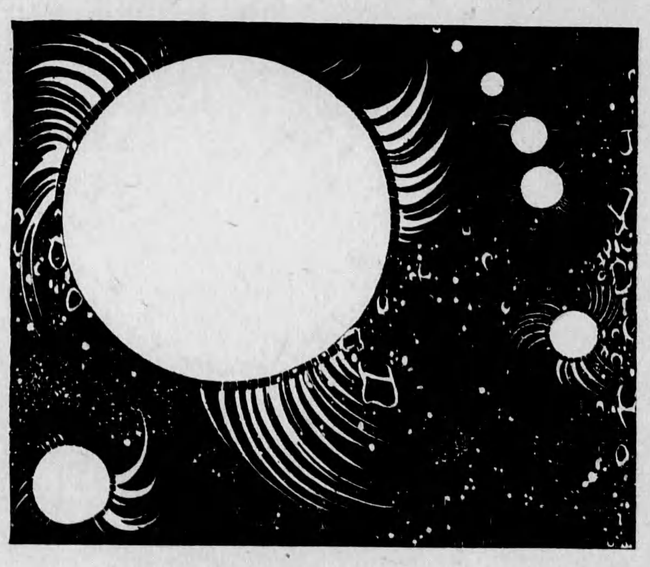
Evidence.

Muriel loves me.
How do I know?
A gossipy daisy
Has told me so.
I love little Muriel
How can I know?
A dog-eared check-book
Has told me so.

"Big checks for dresses will not be in demand this season," read his wife.

"Thank heavens!" rejoiced her husband.

No doubt the women will agree with Bishop Burch of New York that they are angels. But, then, he adds, they are always up in the air, always harping on something, and always in need of clothes. That's different.



On Neptune, a year is 164 years long!

But don't try to go to Neptune to prove it! Even though you traveled 100 miles an hour, it would take you 3.000 years to get there.

Leave it to Little Dolomite. He goes to Neptune every day or so—whenever he takes the notion. He can make the trip in a little over four hours.

Half human, half moth—so small he can stand upon a molecule within a dew drop---wondrous, quivering, glorious---clad in living flame, Little Dolomite plays among the planets, sports from star to star, penetrates everything, and---

---comes back every week to tell about it all to the readers of this paper.

LITTLE DOLOMITE

STORIES AND PICTURES BY WILLIAM STEVENS

Starts Soon in This Paper

You always know the right road with APPLETON'S ROAD GUIDES

Wherever there are roads these new guides will unerringly show you every mile of the way. It is impossible to make a wrong turn, because, unlike other maps, THEY SHOW EVERY ROAD; with all main motoring roads indicated in color.

Every railway, electric line, city, town, village, lake and river is accurately indicated. Each guide includes through route maps of all principal cities, license regulations, international regulations, and a complete index.

The Guides are published in four separate volumes, one for each section of the country, including three for Ontario and one for Quebec. Each section covers an area of over 40,000 square miles.

50 CENTS PER COPY AT ALL BOOKSELLERS

The MUSSON BOOK CO. LIMITED Publishers TORONTO