THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1919

THE ACTOR PRES PRESS IS published overy Thursday indicated on the address label.

display advertisements for 100 inches or more per annum 15 cents per inch each insertion. Advertisements without new \$1,817,220,000. H. P. MOORE, Editor and Publisher.

TELEPHONES-Editorial and Business Office

EDITORIAL

The Premier pave short shift to the hopes of the Liberty Leaguers in Northern Ontario during his recent visit in that section. They suggested some modified form of the Ontario Temperance Act. The Premier spoke frankly and plainly at his public meetings, in referring to this question and declared there was no doubt as to the people's verdict on the Referendum, nor was there any doubt that the Government was going to enforce the temperance legislation. This frank declaration has been generally admired and will strengthen his position before the public.

Canadian nickel is now in a fair way for playing into the manufacture of German munitions. Now, it is likely to be used in the proposed new nickel coinage under consideration by the British Government. The substitution of a nickel coinage, or reducing the quality of silver in the silver coins is being considered. A Canadian nickel company is reported to have made contracts with both Great Britain and France for a supply of nickel. Silver has been growing very scarce in Britain, due in a great part to hoarding, especially in India, as well as to the high price of silver which has resulted in large quantities of coined silver being reduced to bullion.

The propaganda for the reduction of waste through unnecessary fires in Canada is bearing fruit. further notice. The public generally and the members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association particularly, are giving this important matter close attention, and the results are gratifying. The Insurance Committee of the Manufacturers' Association reports that for the first nine months of the present year the number of fires decreased by sixty; the fire loss was \$1,704,375, compared with \$3,247,044 for the same period of 1918, and the insurance loss \$1,603,831 less. These are gratifying figures, however looked at, and the result must cause thankfulness for what has been accomplished and inspire still further activity on the part of all citizens to make fire prevention the gen eral watchword.

It is gratifying indeed that so many indications go to prove that Canada's credit stands high. A reputation for sound financial metthods during the war has been of inestimable benefit to the Dominion Behind this stands also the reglization of her im mense natural resources and the fact that on the North American continent she is almost the sole remaining outlet for new settlement on a large scale. Within the next decade or two she will probably receive millions of the best class of immigrants. and these will make her per capita burdens light. The lion dollars. Seventy-five per cent. of it is due to he asked: "What are the Canadians doing?" For operates 14,000 miles of railway.

it was decided to submit to the ratepayers at the sent problems of manufacture fail to distinguish time of the municipal elections a By-law providing between the enormous supplies of raw wools and the for the appointment of a Commission to superintend scarcity of woollens. Manufacturers do not deny the the installation and operation of the waterworks existence of raw wool supplies, but what they have to system. The synopsis of the By-law, which is pub- confess is the inability to convert this raw product lished in another column, shows that provision is into finished material with sufficient rapidity to elimmade for a commission of four, with the Reeve ex- inate the famine created by war and bring down sioners will be elected for two years. Commissions woollens are coming, but it will be a few months beof this nature have proven of advantage to many fore any appreciable change will be brought about that business men who would not entertain a nom- year's clothing. ination as member of a Council with the multifarious duties and vexutious experiences, will accept office on a commission where the duties are confined ness training has qualified them.

den on vacant land.

The reports from the Finance Department of the Dominion show that Canada's finances are in healthy condition, though the net debt has reached farge proportions. During the eight months to December L, the ordinary revenue was \$218,027,000, and the expenditure \$203,536,000. November figures the Pass Pass building, Mill Street, Acton, show that the ordinary expenditure was \$43,486,000 The subscription price is \$1.50 per year, in leading in the larger portion of the leading in charged additional to offices in the United States. The date to which subscriptions are paid is deficit was due to the payment of war loan interest. Increase in net debt during November was \$32; cents per line agate measurement for first insertion and 5 063,000, as compared with \$20,394,000 in November cents per line for each subsequent insertion. Contract of last year. The total net debt of the Dominion is

> At the last meeting of the Canadian Club, Tor-11a onto, Premier Drury said: "The Farmors' party has made prohibition one of the planks in its platform. and it will consider it its duty to enforce the prosibition law impartially, strictly and effectively. The scople have pronounced on the questions. There is question of ht being a trick ballot. It was not rick ballot. The people answered the questions farly. They gave their opinions on four separate and distinct questions. We will see that those opinions are carried out impartially and fearlessly, because we do not intend to make it possible for one class to do what the other class cannot do. Personally, I think it would be discriminating against the rich if we allowed them to drink and the poor not to drink. I think that fair and equal enforcement is what we require."

The inequality of exchange between Canada and the United States continues to cause much concern on the part of the government and the business interests of the country. Although the shipment of a more reputable part than it is reputed to have done ten million dollars' worth of gold to the United States during the war. Then, it was alleged to find it way by the Dominion Government last week to take care of Canadian maturities in New York is expected have a beneficial effect on exchange, the situation is regarded as being so serious that Cabinet Ministers speak with approval of plans for a widespread "Buy in Canada" campaign as the only adequate way of dealing with the crisis. Come Canadian importers have been cancelling orders from United States firms on a large scale and here and there dealers in Canada of United States firms are notifying those from whom they bought goods-elready in stock that no payment will be made until the exchange situation has righted itself. The Dominion Government has protected itself, so far as the Post Office Department is concerned, by instructing post offices not to issue money, orders payable in the United States until

> The Dominion of Canada was fortunate in being accorded an enexpected prominence at the World Labor Conference at Washington. This was the first meeting of representatives of all the nations held wer the auspices of the World's Peace Conference as a prospective branch of the League of Nations. This was due to the fact that the United States, the entertaining country, is for the present not in harmony with the peace nations. It has repudiated the peace treaty, and is still at war with Germany and other nations, and so could take no part, where it might have taken the lead in matters where it was very specially interested. Canada was strongly represented in all divisions, Capital, Labor and Government and must be considerably the gainer by being thus brought to light. , A peculiar thing about this position of the United States is that it leaves her out even from that parallel the world which in the treaty she reserved as her own preserve, namely, Latin America. The A. B. C. nations, Argentine, Brazil and Chili, with a lot of minor ones, are al members of the treaty combination.

"It lookes us if the American consumers were starting on a general strike," said an authority on net public debt of Canada stands to-day at 1,500 mil- the retail textile trade of the United States, and then Canadians. Weighed against her natural resources some weeks past the tailoring trade, amongst many it is not heavy. It must also be taken into account others has been greatly checked by the appearance that among her other assets Canada now owns and of old overcoats and last year's suits. The consumers in thousands of cases are refusing to buy until prices tumble. This is especially true in the case of woollens. The world supply of raw wool is excep-At the meeting of the Municipal Council last week tionally large, and the people unacquainted with preofficio a member. After the first year the commis- prices within a few months' time. Better and cheaper towns in Canada. There is a continuity to the in Canada or the United States. In the meantime members which is not provided for members of the it looks as if a lot of people were going to hold tight, Council. Experience in other places has shown also keep their money in their pockets and wear last

There are many of the present generation who regret exceedingly that they did not have in childto the one specific service. In this work they feel hood musical opportunities and are determined that that they can satisfactorily perform citizenship these shall not be denied their children. The childclaims and give the definite service for which busi- hood of so many of us was at a period in the country's history when music was too generally regarded as something that could very well be done without. Music is the God-given right of children and to de-Another reform has been advocated during the prive them of it is a serious matter. There is dawnweek by Premier Drury which has much in the printing upon parents and educationists a realization of ciple involved to recommend it. He suggests a form the necessity of music in character building, in nation of local option in tuxation. It would be a modified building and in developing citizenship. No home and plan of single tax; not compulsory, but open for no school should be without music. Music will keep adoption by municipalities as they vote for the re- boys and girls at home when parental preferences form. The proposal is to tax the land and not the fail. The study and practice of music develops the improvements. It would give the ratepayers of a child mentally and physically. It makes the boy or municipality un opportunity to exempt improve girl more nimble of mind, trains him to think rapidments and raise the taxes on the land. One parti- ly and accurately, trains the eye and the ear; teaches cular advantage this change in assessment would discipline. Music is more than refining. It is prachave over present methods would be to discourage tical. Gradually music is getting on the curriculum speculation in lands. Vacant lots could not profit of public and high schools. The Free Press, ever ably be held for the rise in price consequent upon alert for the intrduction of departments of interest improved surroundings through the erection of fine and profit to its readers, has arranged for a series homes and other buildings, by other citizens who of musical talks by Prof. C. C. Laugher, teacher of spend their money for these improvements, while the music and signing in the public schools of Bowmanspeculator silently looks on and takes the price for ville. The series was written to help the musical the increased value thus accrued to his vacant prop- development of his town, and particularly for the erty. Such a move has long been advocated but form- benefit of the children. We believe our readers will er governments in Ontario never took kindly to the appreciate this series of musical articles, which comauggestion. At the last session the greatest progress mences this week and will be continued for several along this line was made when the city of Ottawa months. If musical development among the young was granted permission to make a trial of exempting folks of Acton and vicinity results the Free Press improvements from taxation and imposing the bur- will feel amply repaid for the steps taken to secure the interesting articles.

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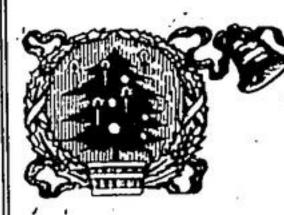
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Family discipline seems to be almost lost art in these days. Doubtless it should be recovered and made a fine art. It would be an interesting quention how much of the spirit of law, lessness provailing in the world to-day ment and the disregard to parental authority permitted during childhood. If statistics were obtainable-of course they are not they would probably show a real and vital connection be-

tween the two things. " Perhaps no better or severer test of the quality of true parentage is possible than the ability to administer sound discretine in a same and helpful way It should be always vindicatory. but never vindictive; punitive only so far as punishment tends to be a rebuke of avil past and a deterrent to evil future. At no time should a parent be more careful regarding his own state of thought and feeling than when it is necessary to punish his child. Never should discipline be adminiatered in passion or irritation or without consideration of the mental and nervous condition of the offender. . For lack of such considerations pun-

ishment which is just and necessary may become needless and inexcusable brutality. Children sometimes intuitively sense the psychological situation better than their olders. T'Do you know why I whipped you?" asked a mother, with intent of enforcing the moral of the chastleement. "Yes," was the aulien reply; "you licked me 'com you was mad." And perhaps that was pretty near the truth of the matter. Little brother broke a valuable yase, and little sister "told on him." "Yos, mamma, I broke it." said the trembling culprit. "Let's be sorry, but don't

hurting himself and solling his clean suit. His mother impatiently ordered him to come into the house, promising him a stipping for his carelessness. gets done hurting," sobbed the little fellow pathetically. There were logic and sound reason as well as pathos in his plea. If punishment for carelesstoes was necresary, castly an open quastion, it would surely have been cruelty to administer it while every nerve and muscle of the little body

was quivering with min.-Exchange.

Past

Present

Future

Another little boy fell in the mud,

Christmas

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rate I'm going."

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The column presided over by "The

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satile old writer have been numerous.

When this venerable old gentleman re-

quested space for a contribution every

week, some months ago, we were just a

little dubious as to how our readers would

take to this kind of writing, but the re-

sult has been wonderful. One day we ask

him how long he considered he could con-

tinue his writings and historical happen-

ings of the town, and to use his own words,

he informed us, "As long as my rheuma-

tics behave and Mary doesn't register a

kick. It'll take me a year at least, at the

will certainly be delighted to give our

readers his jottings from week to week.

And as long as he cares to write we

here is assured one solid year's con-

tributions by this writer, along with our

usual interesting local-features. To get

the full benefits of "The Old, Man's" writ-

ings it seems as if not a single number

should be missed. We are now beseiged

for back numbers for friends. The only

sure war of not missing an issue is to

subscried or the Free Press at once. Back

copies of issues are uncertain and single

copies are not always available. Tell your

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of the "Old Man's" writings and the re-

sults will help us continue to encourage

the "Old Man" and give him more space

if the response justifies it. It will mean

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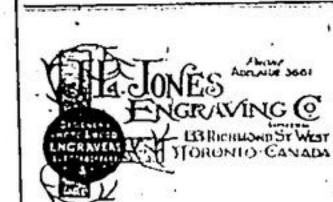
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