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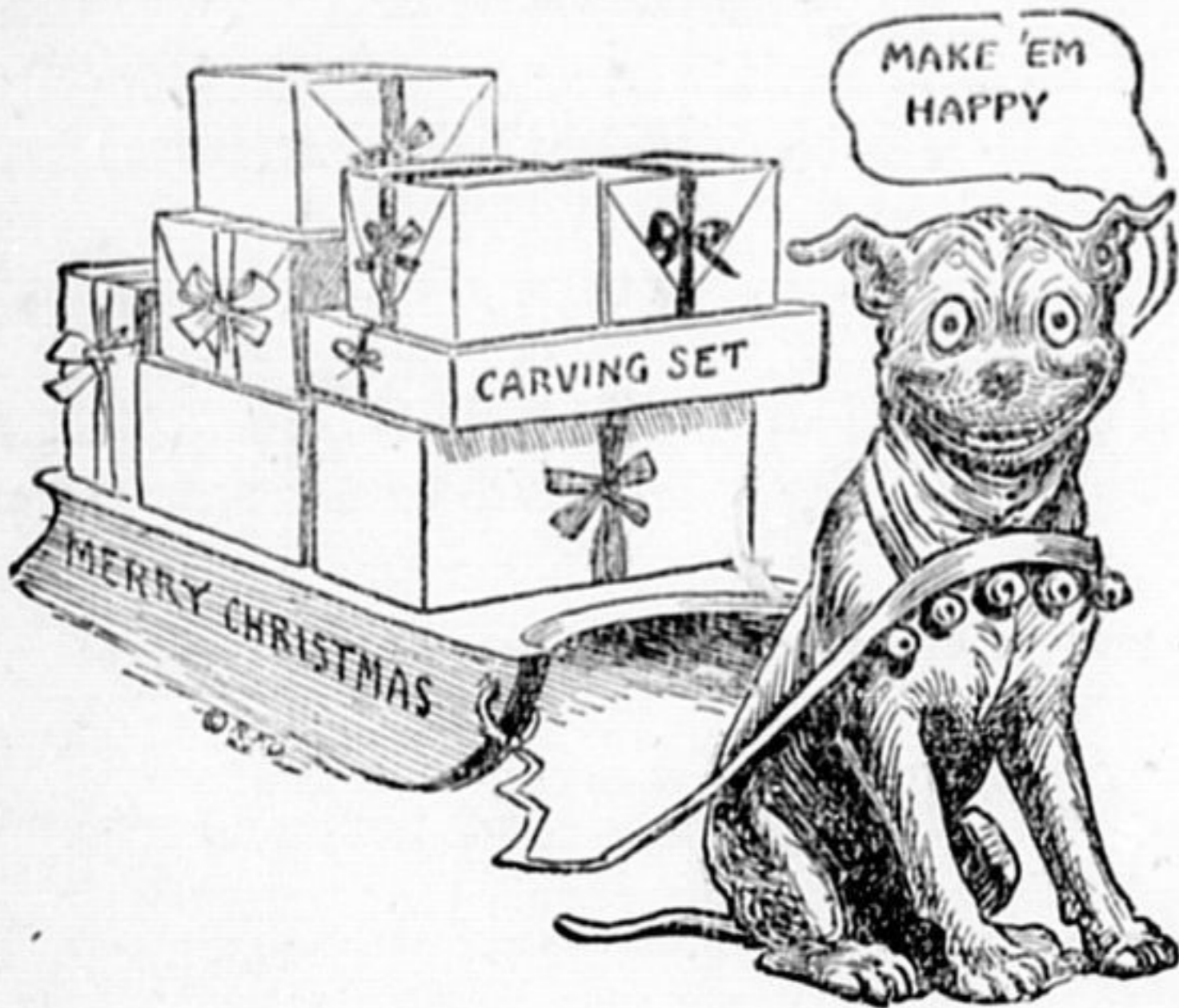
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World News in Brief

Body checking has been upheld by the O. H. A., but charging has been made an offence against the rules.

Two hundred and fourteen members of the Provincial civil service staffs are now in khaki.

Ten thousand lives were lost and tremendous property damage done in Madras province, India, in the recent cyclone in Pondicherry, the chief French possession in India.

Toronto boot and shoe manufacturers say there is an alarming shortage of leather and kid and that shoes that cost \$6 a year ago may soon cost the public \$20.

A prominent Hamilton military man predicts that there will be a modified form of Conscription introduced into Canada next year. Is this the first time such a prediction has been made?

General Logie says that the only way to get recruits now is by personal solicitation, and The Mail and Empire thereupon suggests that the authorities ought to try engaging a number of canvassers, say book agents, on a commission basis.

Carriers of Manyberries, Alberta, armed out with pistols, pitchforks and other weapons and captured two desperadoes who had held up a man ager and teller of the Canadian Bank of Commerce at that place. Between \$16,000 and \$18,000 which had been looted from the safe was recovered.

The ill-fortune and tragedy that followed the Emperor Franz Joseph all through his life seemed also to camp on his funeral train. A train travelling between Vienna and Budapest with a number of personages who had attended the royal funeral collided with another train, and many were killed and more injured, while several cars of both trains were shattered.

The case against the Reinhardt Brewery Co. for supplying liquor in Ontario on an order from Montreal has been dismissed. Apparently, this means that an outside firm can order liquor from an Ontario Brewery or distillery, delivery to be deferred, and as the small orders come in from individuals in the province they may be filled direct from the brewery or distillery as part of the delivery.

In a stirring speech, the new Russian Premier, Alexander Trepoff, told the Duma that Russia's resolution was unalterable to continue the war until German power was completely broken. Russia, he said, would countenance no separate peace, and he could see victory approaching. He said close co-operation of the whole population was needed to reach the desired end. His speech was one that might well be heeded in the Empire.

The Grain Growers' Grain Company, the Grain Growers' Export Company, and the Alberta Farmers' Elevator Company, intend to seek legislation to form a monster merger to be known as the United Grain Growers' Limited. This merger will absorb practically all the farmers' co-operative companies in Manitoba and Alberta. The Grain Growers' Grain Company recently gave \$12,000 for patriotic purposes.

Besides the thousands of bushels of potatoes in warehouses in counties near Philadelphia to which the city looks for its supply, speculators have 180,000 bushels of potatoes on hand on which they will likely lose thousands of dollars. The reason for this is that the consumers have absolutely refused to buy at all at extortionate prices, and the speculators consequently have to unload and get what they can. A similar situation exists in the egg market in New York. All of which goes to show that the consumer does sometimes get his revenge.

While growling about statesmen and politicians it might be well for Canadians to keep in mind the following facts and figures:—Col. H. H. MacLeay, M.P., and his three sons are now at the front; Mr. W. R. Smythe, M.P., for Algoma, is at the front with his two sons; W. S. Loggie, M.P., has two sons and a daughter serving in France; four M.P.'s have had sons killed in the war; Wm. Powers, M.P., has three sons overseas; fifteen members of the Dominion House have two sons each in khaki, and twenty-one have each a son serving King and Country. The showing made by the Ontario Legislature is equally good.

Toronto is planning the building of a new Masonic Temple to cost \$200,000.

About 300 were killed in a revolt at Antwerp, due to a call upon the inhabitants for work in Germany.

Provincial Detective Miller is investigating the disappearance of Miss Mina Eady, of Renfrew, aged 18, former nurse at Rockwood Hospital, Kingston, missing since August.

The U. S. Secretary of the Navy has awarded contracts for more than \$65,000,000 worth of new fighting ships, including four battleships, two fleet submarines and 27 coast submarines.

The Fisheries Department is endeavoring to boom dog fish as a food. The meat is said to be white and palatable and six million pounds of it were eaten in England last year.

Nine farmers of Thorold Township have brought action against the Coniagas Reduction Co. for damages for the loss of bees alleged to have been destroyed by gases from the company's smelter at Thorold, the claims ranging from \$250 to \$10,000.

John D. Archbold, president of the Standard Oil Company, of New Jersey, died last week after a two weeks' illness. A transfusion of blood from his chauffeur was tried, but though he rallied for a time, death eventually came.

Belgian official statements show that the Germans have reduced 500,000 workers to idleness through the seizure of raw materials and machines. Also they have plundered Belgium of 1,000,000 francs in money on the pretext of a war contribution, and of 5,000,000 francs in provisions through the medium of requisitions.

Lieut.-Col. Squier of the United States Army, who is in charge of the bureau of aviation, says that within a year the airplanes may gather mail 500 miles out at sea and carry it ashore. Gen. Pershing now receives his mail in Mexico by airplane, and Col. Squier says that the U. S. Government recently has spent \$300,000 seeking proving grounds on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

FULL AMNESTY CLAIM TO CANADIAN DESERTERS
Men Who Left Canadian Battalion Can Now Rejoin Without Any Penalty.

His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire as an act of grace on assuming his post as Governor-General of Canada has signed an order-in-council which gives freedom to all soldiers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who are now deserters or posted as absent without leave. In order to benefit by this act of clemency deserters or absentees must surrender themselves to the officer commanding the unit to which they belong, or else to the district officer commanding any military district in Canada not later than Dec. 15.

It is probable that the majority of soldiers absent without leave did not when absenting themselves appreciate the seriousness of their offence. It is known that many are now desirous of rejoining their units and would be glad of the opportunity to do so. The amnesty is also extended to soldiers now under sentence of imprisonment or detention for desertion or absence without leave. Such men will be handed over to the officer commanding the military district in which they are. It will be the duty of this officer to return them to their own or attach them to some other unit of the Canadian forces for service.

KING ALBERT AND THE HORSE

The son of a leading manufacturer of Brussels, whose two brothers have been killed at the front, tells the following anecdote, which dates from the first summer of the war:

"It had been a hot day and King Albert, who had not left the trenches for hours, was suffering from thirst. He asked for something to drink, but not a soldier had anything left. Back of the trenches a man saw a horse drinking and went over and started to pull the bucket away.

"Don't do that," said the King. "Let the poor animal drink; perhaps it needs it more than I do."

"It was not until the horse had finished drinking that the King took up the bucket and drank the few drops that remained."

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