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# The Beginning of the End

(From The Nation, London.)

The entry of Roumania into the vast circle of the war gives a certain definiteness to its geography and to its politics. Visibly it tightens the physical encirclement of the Central Powers. More than ever it suggests the similitude of a siege. The investment of Austria is almost complete. Threatened from the Vistula to the Danube and thence to the Adriatic, her frontiers lie exposed to the moral no less than the military claims of four Powers: Russia, Italy, Serbia, and now Roumania. Had her Government been a true federation based on nationality, instead of a combination of two ruling races to keep down the rest, the shock might have been withstood. But, save for the Hungarian spirit, little that is stable now meets the Allied arms till Silesia and Prussianism begin. And much that is extremely unstable confronts them on the outer corner of Eastern Europe. German diplomacy snatched at Balkan aid in the beginning of the war, but has had no time to assimilate its prey. Now it slips from her grasp. Bulgaria, it is safe to say, is in no condition to hold against a combined assault from Salonica and the North. If Bulgaria goes, Turkey goes. And with the disappearance of those outlying ramparts the Austrian defensive system collapses. With that subtraction again a great fabric of dreams comes to the ground. Most of the leading lines of German ambition centre in the Near East. A dwindling polity answers to a slowly but surely contrasting material surface. The day of conquest is over. The whole Central Alliance is on a steadily weakening defensive, and when its more vulnerable part makes its inevitable physical surrender, the moral hold of Germany on Austria will fall too. Thus, if we do not see the end of the war, we see what the end must be.

For our part, we unaffectedly rejoice that the termination should come by this Eastern route, for nothing is more likely to convince the German people of the ambitious error of their rulers. The western extension of Germany was barred by the battle of the Marne; and we doubt whether that event either Belgium, or a Belgian port, or an annexation in Picardy, entered seriously into German calculations. In all probability Germany dreamed of an exhausted or divided West, leaving her free to construct and hold her corridor to the East. That vision is now impossible. Neither her own allies nor the neutral world can build on it for a moment; and the continuance of the European War to sustain it must drop clean out of her statesmanship. It is not in her character to make that self-confession at once, and we must look to her to maintain her Eastern and Western lines, and to contest with stubbornness the Allied assaults on them. But so long as she holds them, fixed as they are on foreign soil, she exhibits to her people the visage of an aggressive war, conducted without a reasonable chance of success. How long will they sustain such an enterprise? Germany's rulers may exasperate the contest by outrage; that only loads the peace terms against her, and raises new moral barriers between herself and the Allies. They can conduct the game of ceaseless slaughter with dogged skill; but all its greater efforts are exhausted, and a narrowing strategy and tactics only proclaim the fact that Germany struggles but cannot win. To this conclusion her national consciousness makes a continually nearer approach. The German Socialist Party has now definitely decided that "the moment has come for the German people openly and unlimitedly to protest against plans of conquest." We may be sure that this able and powerful organization does not move on unprepared ground. It is no mere art of Allied journalism to suggest that the German people want peace. It is the most unaffected and acknowledged bit of national psychology in Europe. "Why, then, go on with the war?" Europe wants peace. The neutrals want peace. The warring nations want peace. The armies want peace, and would welcome it tomorrow. If Germany's will is not conquered, her intelligence must be reaching the point of discernment that the war must be entered in her life-book as a profitless adventure, and that peace is not only her people's desire, but her urgent, and indeed her unique interest and hope.

Now we imagine the German answer to this contention to be that if the Allies are the friends of peace, they have only to ask for it in order to have it on reasonable terms. But what terms? We believe that official Germany asserts that she has made two overtures, each of which has been rejected. But the Chancellor's speeches, in which these overtures are said to have been defined provide for the partition of Belgium. That is an unthinkable proposition.

The restoration of the three dispossessed nationalities—Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro—coupled with full reparation for their wrongs, and for the equal injuries to France, is interwoven with the Allies' whole conception of the war, and is essential to its most generous aims. If our whole contention is bad, if the war is only a dog-fight, an illustration of the innate madness and badness of mankind, or let us say, its ineradicable pugnacity and savage vagueness of mind, we had better finish it to-morrow. But we can hardly surrender our conception of right, so long as we hold it, save in the presence of acknowledged and irremediable defeat. The acknowledgement of defeat must clearly come from Germany at whose door these aggressions lie, and it follows that it can only come as the result of a breaking of her will in obedience to an uncontestedly superior force. So far as we can define a situation of this kind in terms of a society that once existed and can never be revived, we should say that there is no room in Europe for neo-Roman Imperialism—that is, for a single dominating will, asserting a Teutonic predominance, to which none of the other fully constituted worlds—the Slav world, the Latin world, the Anglo-Saxon world—will submit. If it is suggested that we desire to substitute for such a hegemony the dominant will of the Entente, we deny it. There is really no such will. It could not be defined, or the constituent parts of it reconciled with each other. We equally demur to the proposition that we would recur to the Balance of Power as the only alternative to the uncontested superiority of one European group. That is really to assert the anti-Ally doctrine of the power of the great nations to dispose of the small. We say that our policy is that of the Concert, so far as it is attainable and can be assured by new forms of common, arranged European action. And we will suggest a following proposition. It is well for the future peace of Europe to aim at a negotiated peace. If Germany—European Germany—will come in to any kind of association, she ought to be given the chance of doing so. If she refuses, the most ardent pacifist will be justified in framing the League of Peace without her. Germany's interior force is great: it is useless to look to the war as a means of destroying it. Neither can an after-war Europe permit it to disintegrate her.

Let us at the same time be on guard against the opposite assumption of so rearranging Europe that every ambition of every member of the Entente will be gratified at the expense of every member of the Central Alliance. It seems to us that our statesmen have taken solemn and explicit pledges against such a policy, and have engaged the sympathies of neutrals, and especially of America, on the ground that they put the general interests of the civilized order above their own. If this policy is reversed in the flush of military success, we may indeed achieve our immediate end of material victory, but we are preparing a complete moral defeat. Let us therefore be prudent and aim at two things: a settlement, based on principle, wide in scope, and based on a new international order; a settlement of territory, based on national needs and aspirations, but limited in scope. If honor points this way, the larger guideposts of European history give the same direction. The organ which brought modern Europe into existence was largely fashioned in the Congress of Vienna. That body had before it three or four manageable questions, such as Poland and Saxony. Yet their settlement all but destroyed the continent of the anti-Napoleonic Powers, and involved Europe in a second great war. How does this measured task compare with the complexity of the approaching settlement, which practically involves the apportionment of five continents, may bring about the disruption of two Empires, and is in the hands of a group of eleven nations on one hand and four on the other?

If such a contest, on such a scale, is pursued to the "last man and the last shilling," a world so devoted merely proclaims its own ruin. Statesmanship must therefore limit it. But we do not believe that the quality of European statesmanship is adequate to its work without the intervention of a force which has reached a complexity and a power corresponding to the need for it. That force is public opinion. Its direction is not good. Its operation is most confused. But it is educable. It is the only direct correspondence between those who made the war and those who suffer by it, and if it proves inadequate or ill-guided, the peace will be short and evil. We hope, therefore, to see it direct itself, as soon as the true character of this terrible problem emerges, to the real difficulty, which is the prevention of war. We shall be urged to take a short cut to this end, first, by destroying the Central Powers, and, secondly, by eliminating them from the economic comity of Europe. Even if that were a possible military policy, attainable by staggering loss, we believe it to be politically a "No thoroughfare." Pursue it, and we shall indeed meet impoverishment and death on the road. But not honor, not world security, not even safety for ourselves. Those purposes are the fruits of goodwill and good sense, and let us add, of the moderation of British statesmanship.

MAKES THEM HAPPY. 'Tis said one can't buy happiness: Yet everybody knows That women buy a lot of it. When buying pretty clothes.

## HOW BEST SAVE TIRES

A large tire maker ran a contest for chauffeurs, giving large prizes for the greatest mileage attained with its tires. The lessons to be learned from this contest ought to be valuable. Some of the winners of the first prizes were asked how they had attained such high tire mileages, and nearly every one put proper inflation in the first place. They made it a point while the contest was going on at least to test the tire pressure each day before doing any driving. Several of them put as the second most important point the careful driving so as to save their tires as much as possible. Proper use of the brakes so as to avoid the very detrimental sliding and grinding of the rubber on pavements, avoidance of sharp stones and street car tracks as much as possible and the taking of bumps as slowly as possible all are considerations coming under this head. The winner of the contest, who had well over 12,000 miles usage out of the tires that brought him the money, also was very careful to go over the tires each day and to fill any cuts of any size with a rubber filling compound.

## CARE OF YOUNG PIGS

Chilling in First Hours is Dangerous—Avoiding Milk Fever. When the sow burrows a deep, hard-packed nest the pigs frequently get caught and crushed. She is less likely to do this if she is well sheltered and out of the cold. While the new-born pigs do not need any such care as lambs, they are more sensitive than many people think, and unexplainable deaths later are often due to chilling in the critical first hours. If the weather is cold, put them in a basket lined with straw or chaff, with a blanket over the top, but leave a space for air, as they smother easily. After half an hour's warming let them nurse. If it is very cold it is best to put them in the basket for another hour or so before leaving them with the mother. To guard against milk fever and to help prevent the pigs from scouring, feed the sow lightly for 24 hours after farrowing. First give a good drink of water, lukewarm, but never cold, then a light bran mash. Be a little more generous each day up to the fifth, after which it is safe to feed abundantly.

## BROWN ROT IN TREES

Mummy Fruits Carry Disease Over Into Next Season. The brown rot of peaches, plums and cherries annually causes great loss to Ontario fruit growers. For peaches, spray with self-boiled lime-sulphur about one month after the fruit has set. If the trees have been well pruned earlier in the year, so as to admit plenty of sunshine and a free circulation of air, the disease is much easier controlled on both plums and cherries, as well as peaches, as it thrives most in a close, humid atmosphere. If rot starts to develop as the fruit of either plums or cherries is ripening, spray with ammoniacal copper carbonate (copper carbonate, five ounces; ammonia, three pints; water, forty-five gallons). Go through the orchard after the fruit is all harvested, pick or knock all diseased fruit from the trees and bury or plough under. These "mummy" fruits, if allowed to hang on the trees, serve to carry the disease over till the following season.

For Pear Slug. Pear slug is troublesome on both pears and cherries. The small, blackish, slug-like larva feed on the upper surface of the leaves, causing the foliage to present a brownish appearance. They can be easily controlled by spraying with two or three pounds of arsenate of lead to forty gallons water, whenever the slugs are numerous enough to warrant it, unless the fruit is beginning to ripen, applying the spray to the upper surface of the leaves. If you have only a few trees, dust them with hellebore or air-slaked lime.

Sell the Old Hens. Old hens are the cause of low averages in egg production. The pullets work regularly, but old hens lay about a dozen eggs and rest the remainder of the year. Unless you are raising a particular stock of chickens of which you have only a few hens, you cannot afford to keep the old hens as layers. A hen is not profitable after her third summer as a layer. Selling the old hens and using the incubator for hatching is the best plan for the small poultry man.

Safety First! School teachers should warn their pupils against rushing suddenly out into the roadway when released from school. Vehicle drivers as a rule are careful, but the pupils must also exercise caution to avoid accidents.

## TRAILS FOR FORESTERS

The need of foresters is, according to a writer in the Canadian Forestry Journal, good and reliable topographical maps. There are very few such maps covering forested areas in Canada. Given good trails and the construction of artificial water supply where natural supply fails—which is not a very difficult or serious matter—then mechanical apparatus would be a godsend to the men in the field. I have always thought that the present policy is very haphazard in regard to "fighting" forest fire. There are all kinds of schemes for discovering fires, but they do not appear to have evolved many methods for extinguishing them. A fire starts at a given point, the wind is in a given direction, and if a man has only got a map of the locality which is reliable, he would soon then be able to have a general plan of campaign, cut and dried. Given the above data he can then make a fair guess in what direction the fire will run. Then he needs a trail by which to get there quickly.

## FORESTS OF ONTARIO

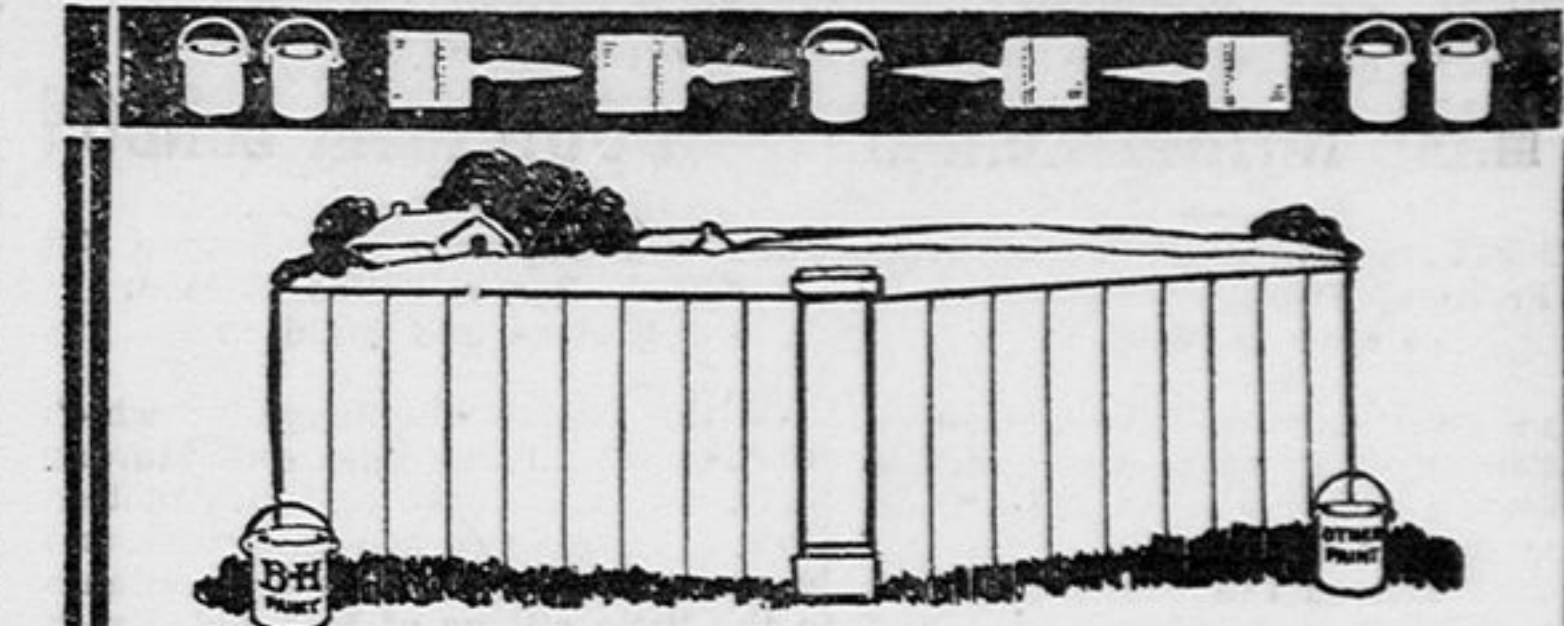
Wide Areas Endanger Future of Great Industry. The vital forestry question in Northern Ontario resolves itself into the conservation of forest growth on lands not suited for agriculture and this automatically rules out, under present conditions, the claybelt section. It is quite true that even in that enormous territory, some form of supervision of clearing fires would work in the interests of the settlers themselves and of every town and village, but until the absolute forest land of Northern Ontario, south of the claybelt, and measuring roughly a thousand miles long and from one hundred to two hundred miles wide receives proper fire protection, the claybelt itself can not be singled out for special treatment. Within this non-agricultural region are some reserves and parks, but the condition of much of the remainder shows how very urgently protection is required. From the appearance of much of the country south of Cobalt and for some distance back from the railway, with little or no settlement in sight, the combination of cutting and fire have left no very inviting prospect for the future. Ontario has over 2,000 wood-using industries and upon the supply of enormous quantities of materials from Northern Ontario their security depends. As to suggestions for the better control of fires on non-agricultural lands there is practically a unanimous opinion among settlers, merchants, miners and professional men of Northern Ontario. These men fully appreciate the value of standing forests as a source of supply for Ontario's industries and knew likewise the inadequacy of the present protective system. That forest rangers should be closely supervised was not disputed in any quarter.



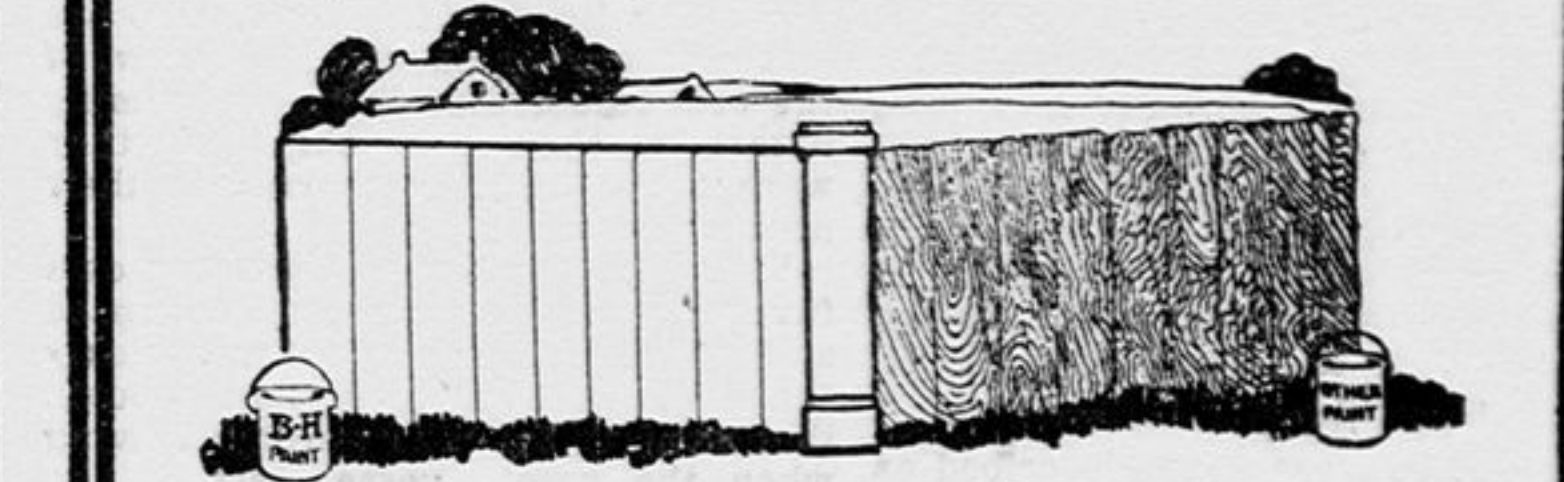
ROBERT F. GREEN, M.P. for Kootenay, B.C. After a visit to England he stated in an interview that the Canadians captured the popular fancy everywhere in the old country. Their courage and determination, he said, won admiration on all hands.

Killing Red Mites. The roosting houses should be constantly watched for the appearance of the red mite. They creep in quietly and multiply very rapidly, sometimes becoming decidedly troublesome to the chicks before they are noticed. A thorough spraying of the whole inside of the house with one cupful of crude carbolic acid in five gallons of whitewash will kill the mites and keep the house sweet and clean. Many of the coal tar preparations on the market may be used for this purpose with satisfaction.

Don't wait until the inspector of the Health Department orders you to clean up your premises. Start early, and be classed among the cleanest in the neighborhood.



Paint Looks Alike When It's New. You can't tell much about the quality of paint by looking at it when it is freshly applied. Colors are easy to produce, and the glisten of fresh oil gives even poor paint a temporary beauty.



But look at it a Few Years Later! The cheap paint, that started out so bravely, has faded, cracked, and peeled. It is unsightly, and—more important still—has exposed the wood below to the destructive effect of sun, rain, wind and snow. The other,

## "ENGLISH" B-H PAINT

is still a good-looking, weather-tight coating, that will give years more of reliable service. There is no mystery about the reason. It lies in the fact that B-H "English" Paint is perfectly proportioned to meet Canadian weather conditions. It contains 70% of Brandram's B.B. Genuine White Lead, and 30% of Pure White Zinc, ground to such marvellous fineness that it penetrates deep into the fibre of the wood. Being the best, it's cheapest in the end.

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## COMFORT ON THE FARM

Statistics Suggest Why Children Go To Cities. At a meeting of the Commission of Conservation a report of a survey conducted on 400 farms was presented. Keeping the young people on the farm is one of Canada's national problems. Many causes have been suggested for the yearning for the city. The conveniences of the city home constitute one of the chief attractions. Notwithstanding this, however, very few farmers have introduced these conveniences into their homes. Of the 400 farmers visited, 53 per cent. have young people in their families. With this large percentage of young people it is a regrettable fact that only two farmers out of every hundred have bathrooms in their homes. Only 6.2 per cent. had water closets, only 2.5 per cent. had a complete service, and only 2.2 per cent. had electric light. In these 400 homes, only 16.5 per cent. had the water piped to the house, and but 17.5 per cent. had furnaces in the home. These conditions are entirely within the control of the farmers, 86.7 per cent. of whom are the owners of farms averaging 126.5 acres. In contrast with the foregoing, the conveniences which have been supplied by the government and public utility companies and of which the farmer has availed himself stand out prominently. The Post Office Department had carried to 76 per cent. of these 400 farmers rural free mail delivery, allowing 77 per cent. of them to be supplied with daily newspapers, while 58.2 per cent. had the convenience of a telephone. Only 2.5 per cent. had complete sanitary service in their homes, while 5 per cent. had automobiles, and 31.5 per cent. had either automobile or horse and buggy for the young people.

Much has been said and written to interest the farmer in the automobile, but little is heard of such household conveniences as the bath tub, kitchen sink, sanitary closet, etc. The automobile may carry the rural housewife away from her drudgery for a few hours a week, and to that extent proves a blessing, but the price of an automobile would provide a water supply and other conveniences that go with it, and render the home a home both to the housewife and the young people.

## THE YOUNGER GENERATION

He had learned to play at tennis. He had won full many a match. On the ball ground he was famous. He could pitch, and bat and catch. He could box and throw the hammer. And at wrestling he was good; He was thoroughly athletic— But His Father Chopped the Wood. She was well informed on ethics. She could formulate a plan which would show us all our duty. To our struggling fellow-man. She could write on household topics. In a manner hard to beat; She was thoroughly domestic— But Her Mother Cooked the Meat.

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