

### DISARMAMENT A GRAVE PROBLEM

Spokesmen for Britain and France Feel Little Done to Ensure Continent Peace

Ever since the Treaty of Versailles was signed there has been much talk of international disarmament—and talk has been about the net result. M. Litvinov comes forward with a proposal for total disarmament within four years and the almost united voice of Europe assumes that he is jesting; the Three-Power Conference last summer broke up in something approaching confusion because neither Great Britain nor United States was ready to accept any reasonable formula to which the other two countries could agree, although Japan professed herself ready to accept any such formula. Once more the Disarmament Commission has met at Geneva, and once more nothing that the eye of the layman can distinguish as significant has resulted.

In view of these facts, it is interesting to compare the utterances of two sharply contrasted writers: Lord Robert Cecil and Pertinax of the Echo de Paris. Both men know their subject and can be regarded as speaking with some authority for their respective nations. Says Lord Robert Cecil:

"I refuse to believe that the hope of any general agreement to limit armament is baseless. If it be so, the outlook is black, indeed. It means a return to pre-war conditions as far as armaments are concerned, with the old competition, the vast expenditure, the old gradually increasing fear and suspicion between the nations of Europe until the breaking strain is again reached. That is my firm conviction.

By the Treaty of Versailles, Germany's armaments were drastically reduced and limited. Her army was cut down to one hundred thousand men. A proportionate reduction was made in her artillery and other weapons of war. Her navy was for battle purposes practically wiped out. All this she has agreed to and has carried out on the footing that it was to be the first step in a general international disarmament. That was indicated in the treaty itself. It was even more clearly expressed in the correspondence which passed between M. Clemenceau, acting on behalf of the Allied and Associated Powers, and the German Representative. The latter agreed to the terms proposed 'provided this is a beginning of a general reduction of armaments.'

"Mr. Clemenceau replied that it was the first step toward that general reduction and limitation of armaments which they (the Allied and Associated Powers) seek to bring about as one of the most fruitful preventives of war, and which it will be one of the first duties of the League of Nations to promote. On several subsequent occasions the policy of general international disarmament has been accepted by those who fought against Germany. At Locarno, they undertook 'to seek its realization in a general agreement', and at almost every Assembly of the League it has been expressly or impliedly endorsed.

"It is in pursuance of these precise and repeated declarations that the Geneva Preparatory Commission is now attempting to reach a result. It may fail, but if it does one consequence is certain. Germany will claim liberty to rearm. Her representatives at Geneva have on several occasions inflated as much. It may be said that Germany's obligation to remain disarmed is absolute. Whatever the other parties to the Treaty of Versailles may do or fail to do, she is still bound. Legally, for aught I know, that may be true. Practically such a contention is unsustainable. How can it be maintained that Germany is to fulfill obligations which her late opponents are free to disregard? Nothing can be more certain than that, if it be definitely established that international disarmament is a baseless dream, we must be prepared to face the rearmament of Germany and her late allies.

"Are we prepared to face that? And what of other European nations? What would be the effect on the European situation of an announcement five or ten years hence that Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria were all re-arming? Surely it is worth a great effort to avoid any such complication as that.

"And why should we fail? The technical difficulties are great, but they are not insuperable. If the government of any of the European countries decided to reduce its armaments to a certain standard, the necessary orders could be carried out. What one country can do they all can do. The real difficulty is not technical, but political—it is international fear and suspicion. That is why the questions of security and arbitration lie at the root of disarmament and those two questions can, undoubtedly, be solved, if we really mean business. 'Nothing for Nothing' is the rule of the world. We can get disarmament, and with disarmament a new era of peace, if we are ready to pay the price for it. Are we?"

Pertinax apparently feels as strongly as does Lord Robert Cecil that the time for some form of disarmament agreement is the present; equally he feels that almost nothing has been accomplished toward this end. If the continental powers find the question of naval strength a stumbling block, he asserts, "France and Italy are even less likely to subscribe to a common policy regarding military establishments. M. Paul Bonecour has been flattering himself for years by repeating his thesis of 'measured security' and making it score theoretical triumphs over other hasty and perilous methods of disarmament." "Once more," he continues, "we shall discover that the ideologue is a very shaky rampart in the defence of European order." He concludes his article with the following thought-provoking paragraph:

"France is exerting herself in two distinct directions. On the whole, the Quai d'Orsay favors a Franco-British accord, with France supporting the naval ideas of the British Admiralty and England backing up the major thesis of our General Staff."

### FERTILIZER APPLICATION FOR STRAWBERRIES

(Experimental Farms Note)

Most strawberry fields will profit by an application of fertilizer as soon as a good stand of runners has been obtained. From about the middle of August until well into October the newly formed strawberry plants are laying down their fruit buds for next season's crop. From September 1 to 15 appears to be the most active period of fruit bud formation for eastern Canada and field trials have given us our greatest results at this time when fertilizers have been used. An application of fertilizer, made to the plantation about September 1, will be amply repaid in increased production next season. As research work at Ottawa is demonstrating the value of proportions between the mineral elements of the soil and nitrogen, it would appear advisable to use a complete fertilizer rather than nitrogen alone, unless it is known for certain that the soil is well stocked with the mineral elements. Such a complete fertilizer may consist of the following: 200 pounds nitrate of soda, or its equivalent in some other equally suitable nitrogenous fertilizer, 100 pounds acid phosphate and 50 pounds of muriate of potash. The above proportions appears to meet the needs of the strawberry plant satisfactorily and on soils of good tilth could constitute an acre application. On poorer soils simply increase the quantity of each fertilizer in proportion.

This may be applied by broadcasting between the rows and, if a good dry day is selected, may even be broadcasted over the plants, providing that immediately after applying a heavy canvas or some other heavy material is dragged over the foliage to dislodge any fertilizer that may have adhered to it. If this is done the amount of foliage injury is practically negligible.

### Fond Regrets

Archibald—I live in the country now. It's terribly dull.  
Florence—It must be. What do you miss most?  
"The last train."—Answers (London).

### NEW TUNNEL TO SET PRECEDENT

Windsor Subway First Underground Link Between Two Nations—Ambassador Bridge Well Under Way, With Towers Already Up.

A new link piercing the water boundary between Canada and the United States will soon be forged.

The first underwater vehicular tunnel ever built to connect two nations is being laid beneath the Detroit River between Detroit and Windsor, Ont., and what is called the world's largest steel bridge—the Ambassador international bridge—is to join the Border Cities in their first shore-to-shore roadway.

Those two projects represent a \$49,000,000 expression of faith in the good will between the countries.

Two other international bridges, one across the Detroit river and the other to span the St. Clair River between Port Huron, Mich., and Sarnia, Ont., await only final Government approval. The cost of the two projects will approximate \$9,000,000.

Giant dredges with seven-ton buckets have begun eating into the opposite shores of the Detroit River to prepare for the \$23,000,000 vehicular tunnel, which will be financed with Canadian and United States capital.

The big tube is to be made of steel and reinforced concrete and is to rest 30 feet below the river at the harbor line. Contracts call for its completion in 30 months.

### Well Lighted

The subway will be brilliantly illuminated and equipped with signals, telephones, and a sidewalk for officers controlling and supervising traffic. It will have all modern safety devices similar to those used in the Holland tunnel in New York.

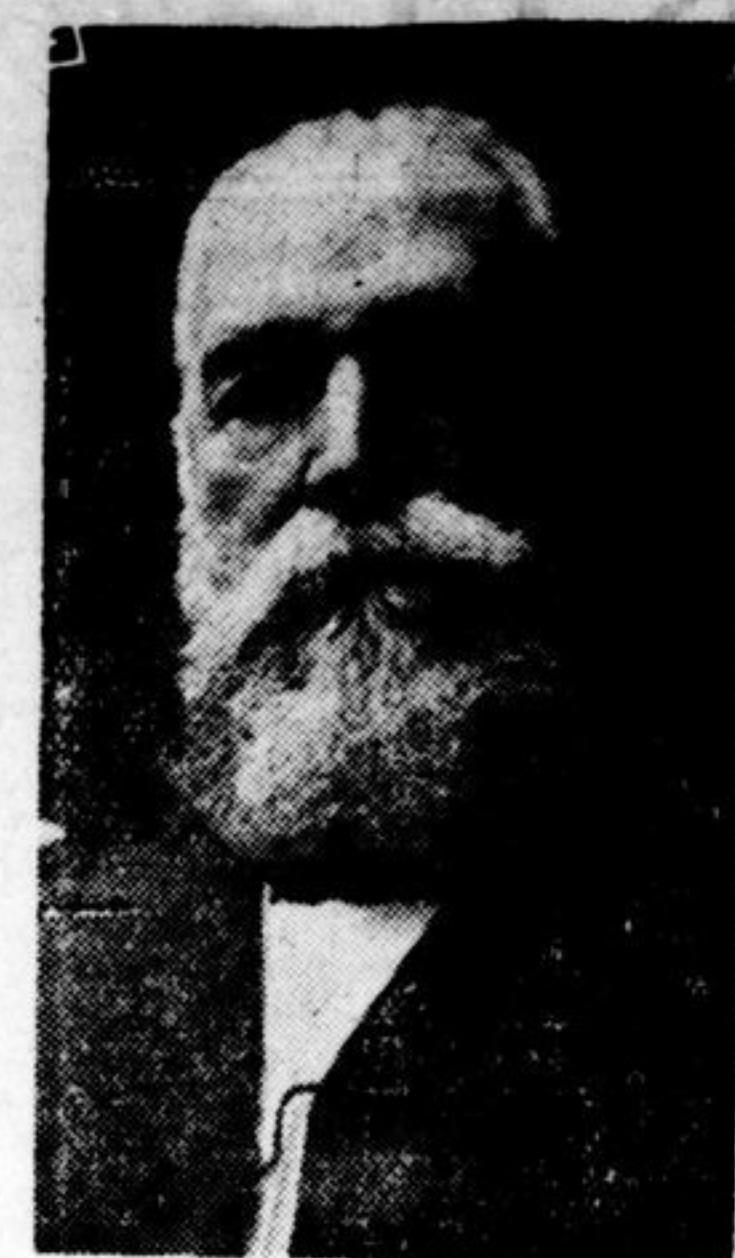
Vehicles will be permitted to travel 30 miles an hour, both ways. It is planned to provide continuous bus service between the terminals in Detroit and Windsor.

First sections of the Ambassador international bridge, which, with the tunnel, will largely supplant ferry service between Detroit and Windsor, have been put in place. Mammoth towers to stand at the base of the bridge on either side of the border have begun to soar upward on opposite sides of the river.

The bridge will be 55 feet wide, with a roadway sufficient to accommodate five separate lines of traffic. It is to be a 1,850-foot span and will stand 150 feet above the water to permit shipping craft to pass underneath it. The estimated cost is \$26,000,000.

Legislative approval is being sought for a second international bridge across the Detroit River between Amherstburg, Ont., and Grosse Ile. It would be 40 spans of 250 feet each and would stand 150 feet above the water and cost between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000. Plans have been drawn for the structure.

Congress has authorized construction of the Port Huron, Sarnia bridge over the St. Clair river. It is to cost \$4,000,000.



Bishop Pinkham, 40 years Anglican bishop of Calgary, and the longest consecrated bishop in the British empire, died in Calgary recently.

### OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

#### "Robbing Peter to Pay Paul"

An old expression, but one that lucidly expresses a world of meaning is the above title, "Robbing Peter to Pay Paul."

The other day we heard a merchant say, "It gets my goat to see these people breezing through town in a new motor car looking like a millionaire when if they would pay their debts I could respect them."

Statistics show that a very large percent of motor cars are purchased on time payments, but the time payments carry interest, whereas most of the time payments for groceries, clothing, meat, etc., carry no interest whatever. It is not to be taken seriously that everybody who drives a car owes bills for other things, for this is not the case although there may be a few who drive in this position. We have known people who have gone to their merchant for articles, charged them, sold them for cash and used the money for pleasure.

What we are getting at is why should Peter allow himself to be robbed? It seems to us that the time is ripe to make such people pay cash with every order, and we think it would be kindness to them for thus their money would be going for the necessities and not so much for unnecessary pleasure. Many merchants claim they

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cannot do business on the cash basis. Have they ever tried the cash system?

The unfair part of the credit system is, usually, that the man who pays cash pays the same price as the man who charges everything and usually has debit balance on the books all the time. There are a few, a very few that have an extra charge for booking accounts, and the tendency is more and more to conduct a cash business only. The postoffice does a cash trade, all mail order houses are cash, why not the small town merchant?—Teeswater News.

### Canada and World Trade

The various striking advertisements of the Trade and Commerce Department at Ottawa which have appeared in Canadian newspapers from time to time are calculated to create an "export trade consciousness" throughout the Dominion.

It was decided last year by the Honorable James Malcolm, Minister of the Department in question, that Canadians should become more intimately acquainted with business opportunities outside their own country. In order to accomplish this, the campaign of publicity was embarked upon.

Canada's external trade has grown in such proportions as probably few Canadians realize. For instance, in the last fiscal year, ended March 31, the Dominion's total exports were valued at more than a billion and a quarter dollars, or to be exact, 1,250,456,297. This represents an export trade of more than \$130 for every man, woman and child in Canada. At the beginning of the present century Canada's export trade amounted to less than 200 million dollars.

Another method of gauging Canada's export trade is found in the fact that last year the country's exports of manufactured products alone amounted to about the same as her total production of manufactured products in 1900. In other words Canada is exporting as much today as the total output of every factory in the Dominion twenty-eight years ago.—Tara Leader.

He might believe right and live wrong, but the odds are against him living right and believing wrong.

### Pass the Asbestos Spoons

A colored preacher down South was trying to explain the fury of hell to his congregation.

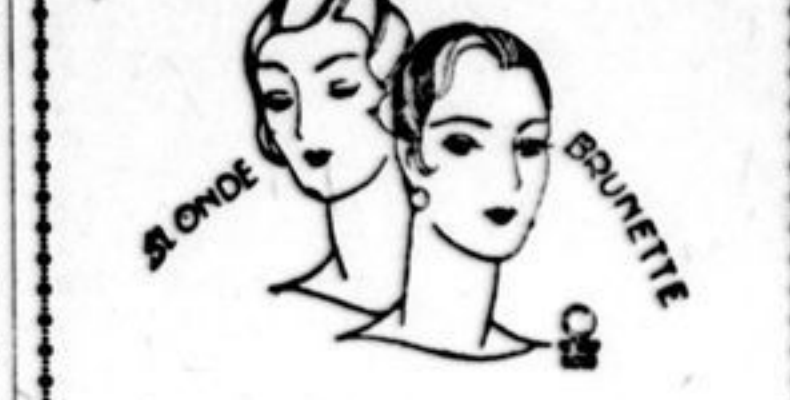
"You all is seen molten iron runnin' out from a furnace, ain't you?" he asked.

The congregation said it had.

"Well," the preacher continued, "dey uses dat stuff fo' ice-cream in de place what I'm talking 'bout".

New York Evening World.

### Remain neutral. If you won't help to make the world better, don't help to make it bitter.



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