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80TH YEAR.

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WHY BELGIUM SUFFERS

Germany's attack on Antwerp can only be explained on the ground that she cannot forgive the little state for its obstruction of the kaiser's way in his move to conquer the world. He has submitted Belgium to the greatest savagery. Wanton destruction has followed in his wake everywhere. Cruelty and inhumanity have marked every movement of his army. Murder and rapine have been the distinguishing qualities of the German soldiery. There must be nothing left of life, of money, and of treasure, in Belgium. There is no punishment too severe for the people who would dare obtrude themselves between the crowned murderer of Europe and the object of his plans. It was not enough that they interfered with his schemes at the outset, and practically spoiled them. They have been persistent meddlers in the war. They must be left nothing of their ancient glories. Brussels is mined and ready for its fate. Antwerp must fall if the devilry of a besotted nation can accomplish it. Women and children, maimed and homeless, must be driven out. The last evidence of art, of industry, and of thrift must disappear. Belgium must be an abandoned land, and then the kaiser can talk of peace or die happy. Such ferocity in a man is without a parallel.

ALL HONOR TO HIM.

The more one thinks of it the more he is persuaded that W. L. Mackenzie King has been highly honoured in being selected by the Rochefeller Foundation to report on the industrial conditions of the world. The relations between capital and labour have been made the subject of many a thesis or debate or controversy, but nearly always there is a colouring in the language used or in the judgment that has been reached. Mr. Rockefeller, one of the richest men, has put a large part of his fortune at the disposal of trustees whose tasks are of the greatest importance. They can administer only, however. They cannot investigate. Experts must do this, men with special training, and Mr. King leads the staff. He is to be congratulated. He was selected for the position upon his merits. He studied economics specially. He graduated from college with special honours. He followed this with original research work. He added to his calling by additional degrees, which marked him out as a man of brilliant attainments. Added to all this was his service under and in the government of Canada, in the labour department, where he distinguished himself as a pacificator. His is to be a world's study, looking to a "bettering of the conditions under which modern industry is carried on and industrial workers live." As the reports appear they will constitute the greatest text books of the age.

THE ASSESSMENT IS HIGH.

It is pleasant to read that the assessment of the city remains high, that it has been in fact increased within the year. But this is only pleasant to some extent. The great advance of over a year ago was the result of a boom which affected everything, and nothing so much as the real estate of the city. As values were understood to have risen all the way from ten to fifty per cent., and this higher valuation was demonstrated in the many transactions which took place, of course the assessment had to move with them. The result was an exhibit which delighted the municipal managers a year ago. The congratulations had scarcely passed away than some people saw signs of the depression, which set in towards the end of 1913, which increased during 1914, and became most intense as the war set in. The tax rate of this year, based upon last year's revised assessment is burdensome. It has hit some people very hard, and they see a repetition of it next year, in the assessment that has now been made, provided it is confirmed. Real estate values are not as high now as they were a year ago. The assessment should not be as high. Two things, however, confront the council—(1) the necessity of keeping up the basis of taxation, in order to procure the money the city must have to meet its obligations, and (2) the difficulty of reducing the assessment once it has been raised. The situation is serious because of the limited earning power of all the people, and the embarassed position of quite a few.

CHURCH LOSING POWER.

The General Conference of the Methodist church accepted from a special committee the strongest arraignment which has ever been presented against it. The church, it was submitted, was failing to meet the demands of the age because of her likeness unto the world. Her influence is waning because she disregarded some of Christ's plainest teachings. And recovery can only be had as criticism is silenced and there is aroused in men "the old sense of moral influence." "The people of Christ must again become a peculiar people, in the realm, particularly of business and politics." The old idea was that the church should be composed of those whose lives were examples unto others, and whose influence for good would permeate the whole community in which they lived. The pastor was the director of this great forward movement and he was seconded and aided by the leaders of classes. The presence and co-operation of a few really good men would transform society as a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. It would be difficult, perhaps, to analyze and describe the causes that led to tht very apparent decadence of spiritual power in the church, but that there has been a decadence is admitted by the Methodist church. The suggestion that the business relations, or ethics of business men, and political policies be reformed, is good enough, but how is it to be effected? The Methodist church offers no solution. Specialists in religion, or evangelists,—men with a passion for revivals—were proposed, but the conference laid the matter over. The day of revivals is seemingly over. The church contents herself for the time with what one delegated called "a melancholy wail of despair."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Rockefeller Foundation, which proposes to investigate industrial conditions, has a fund of $100,000,000 on which to draw. It ought not to suffer in a financial way.

The new premier of Ontario is described as an athlete, and especially a jumper. He gave evidence of his agility by jumping over the heads of Hanna and Lucas into office.

The Ontario government is putting on the market a million dollar bond issue at five per cent. An indication of the value of money and the price people who want it must pay in interest.

The president of the Sherbrooke Associated Boards of Trade, at a meeting last week, said the only establishment in Germany which was working full time was that "for the manufacture of widows and orphans."

The Canadian expeditionary force sailed from Quebec in thirty-one transport ships that had an escort of seventeen battleships. The feat would have been risky, and perhaps impossible, but for the censorship of papers and cables.

The Toronto News says that Sir James Whitney "always regarded the conservative party of Ontario as part of a political organization." He never regarded it as the back kitchen of the federal house, which, under the new premier, it may become.

The Toronto World suggests a revival of tax reform. Would this be according to the Whitney tradition? If only the things that the late Sir James approved are to be taken up now, tax reform is doomed, and the World wants the Whitney tradition made the test of everything legislative.

Dr. Adam Shortt, of the Canadian Civil Service Commission, finds that in Britain all outside appointments in the civil service are non-political and made on their merits. He may as well make up his mind that with a party in power which believes in the spoils system the British system cannot be had in Canada.

New Carnegie Library.

Trenton, Oct. 5.—The corner stone of a Carnegie public library at Stirling was laid with Masonic ceremony in the presence of 1,500 people. The village provided the site and received a gift of $5,000 from Carnegie. The municipality will maintain the library.

People are unnecessarily active when they stir up trouble.

PUBLIC OPINION

Work for Home.

Toronto News.

Buy goods made in Canada, employ Canadian labor, stimulate domestic industry, and improve home markets.

Knows How It Feels.

Boston Transcript.

Germany is now in a position to appreciate just how it feels to be beaten after you have had your ball on your opponent's fifteen-yard line.

An Ardent Wish.

Journal of Commerce.

Lord Roberts at eighty-two, actively engaged in encouraging recruiting, inspecting new regiments and advising the war office, is showing a fine spirit. Would that we had many more "Bobs"!

Road-Hogs Of Europe.

Halifax Chronicle.

Mr. Lloyd-George is inimitable in his popular phrase-making. His characterization of the Prussians as "the road-hogs of Europe" will catch the popular fancy. Everybody detests the road-hog.

Kaiserism In Canada.

Toronto Telegram.

We have heard a good deal about kaiserism of late, but this (choice of a premier) is kaiserism in principle coming right home to Ontario, and it is just as well to start fighting it where it puts in an appearance, and before it becomes more active.

Kingston Events

25 YEARS AGO.

The city council amended the transient traders' license and made the fee $200 instead of $40. Ald. Minnes presented the by-law and it went through in two minutes, not two of the aldermen knowing what the change was. There will be difficulty over the change very soon.

The following gave addresses at the county teachers' convention: Prof. Cappon, Dr. Knight, Dr. Spankie, Mr. Brough, M.A., N. P. Joyner, Misses Bowman, Shaw and Chown.

WHAT ANSWER MAKES MY SOUL?

Winnipeg, Oct. 5—The following poem, called "Canada's Word," by the Rev. Chas. W. Gordon, D.D. L.L.D., (Ralph Connor), author of "The Sky Pilot," "Black Rock," and other fiction, was made public here Saturday:

"O, Canada! A voice calls through the mist and spume
Across the wide, wet, salty leagues of foam
For aid. Whose voice thus penetrates thy peace?
Whose? Thy mother's Canada; thy mother's voice.

O, Canada! A drum beats through the night and day,
Unresting, eager, strident, summoning
To arms. Whose drum thus throbs persistent?
Whose? Old England's Canada, Old England's drum.

O, Canada! A word gleams, leaping swift to strike
At foes that press and leap to kill brave men,
On guard. Whose sword thus gleams fierce death?
Whose? 'Tis Britain's Canada, Great Britain's sword.

O, Canada! A prayer beats hard at Heaven's gate,
Tearing the heart wide open to God's eye,
For righteousness. Whose prayer thus pierces Heaven?
Whose? 'Tis God's prayer, Canada, Thy Kingdom Come.

O, Canada! What answer make to calling voice and beating drum,
To sword-flash and to pleading prayer of God,
For right? What answer makes my soul?
Mother, to thee . . . God to Thy help . . . Quick, my sword."

EXPRESS COMPANY IS BEING SUED

For the Improper Handling of Letters of Several Calgary Firms.

Calgary, Alta., Oct. 5.—Because two Calgary firms undertook to save a few dollars sending correspondence in wholesale lots to outside cities, and then taking advantage of the one-cent drop letter rate for distribution through the respective post offices, the post office wants $57,620 from the Dominion law, which prohibits persons being taken to obtain that sum through the courts, the same being apparently recoverable under the dominion law, which prohibits persons not in the service of the postmaster-general from carrying letters.

FAMILY OF WARRIORS.

All Its Members Are Taking Part in Campaign.

Renfrew, Oct. 5.—Something like a record is being made by the Barnet family, of Renfrew, in the matter of service rendered the empire during the present war. Mr. Barnet is insuring the lives of Renfrew married men going to the war. Mrs. Barnet is convenor of the local committee of the Red Cross Society. Their son, Capt. Barnet, organized the Renfrew contingent, now away to Europe, and is busy getting a home guard together. Their daughter, Mrs. Code, goes to France as a Red Cross nurse, while her husband has enlisted as a member of the Sifton Gun Corps.

There died in Bloomfield, on September 25th, Eliza Rundle Branscombe, wife of William H. Branscombe, in the fifty-eighth year of her age.

On October 6th and 7th there will be held at Picton, the autumnal meeting of the Bay of Quinte Clerical Union.

THE LATEST TIDINGS

PRESENTED IN THE BRIEFEST POSSIBLE FORM.

The Whig's Daily Condensation of the News Of the World From Telegraph Service and Newspaper Exchanges.

All plans for the Hague peace conference next year have been called off.

Dr. George Mitchell, ex-warden of Kent county, died at Wallaceburg at the age of seventy-eight years.

Hon. Sam Hughes has turned up at Ottawa, having been aboard transports in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

A permanent highway between Brantford and Hamilton is proposed by the council of the former city.

Capt. Samuel H. Burnham, one of the best known marine men on the Great Lakes, died in Port Huron, in his 77th year.

Rev. H. J. Kieth Knox church, Peterboro, accepted a call to the pastorate of Westminister church, Edmonton.

Arthur E. Birdsell, a farmer of Brantford Township, is suing for divorce from his wife, whose present address is unknown.

Ethel Davis, five years old, daughter of E. Davis, Niagara Falls, Ont., was fatally burned while playing with matches.

Millard Shaler, an American residing in Brussels, is in London endeavoring to arrange for a food supply for Brussels.

The Ontario cabinet is to be increased in the near future. There must be new minister of lands and a minister without portfolio.

Great Britain and Holland have reached an understanding as to the exportation of foodstuffs from Holland to any of the countries at war.

On Sunday, it snowed in Calgary, and with a strong wind, and heavy clouds gathering, it looked as if the district would register a good fall.

Capt. Eustace Grant Dalton, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, has been killed in action at the front. Mrs. Grant Dalton was a Miss Kitty Farrell, of Halifax.

Jessie Bradley Lawson, wife of Victor F. Lawson, publisher of Chicago Daily News died at her home on Lake Shore drive, after a protracted illness. Mrs. Lawson had been an invalid for twenty years.

The Methodist general conference appointed a committee of sixty to continue negotiations with the Presbyterians and Congregationalists for church union.

A flag-raising ceremony was held at the recently-opened Queen Mary public school in Belleville, and the new Centre public school in Sault Ste. Marie was formally opened.

The health bulletin of Ontario for the past month has been very encouraging to the provincial health board. In making the returns, special reference is made to the decrease in scarlet and typhoid fevers.

The members of the orchestras of the Orpheum, Gayety and Princess theatres, Montreal, having decided to go on strike in sympathy with the stage hands, the managers of these places of amusement are filling their places with women.

At Fort de France, island of Martinique, a strong earthquake shock was experienced Saturday afternoon. The direction was from north to south, and the tremors lasted for thirty seconds. No damage was done.

As a "parting shot" at the United States administration, A. Rustem Bey, Turkish ambassador, issued another statement Saturday, declaring he was forced out of Washington because of the view taken by officials of his statement calling attention to American lynchings.

A despatch to the Reuter Telegraph company from Potchefstrom, the Transvaal, South Africa, says that an attempt by Gen. Christian De Wat to address a meeting of protest against the government's action in regard to the war resulted in the breaking up of the meeting after a demonstration which approached the proportions of a riot.

The method by which the state of Tennessee was able to raise a loan of $1,400,000 in New York, after all banking institutions had refused to accept the proposition was revealed Saturday when it became known that William G. McAdoo, secretary of the treasury, broke all banking precedents by depositing $1,000,000 of the federal government's gold coin with the National Park bank of New York.

RUSSIANS PREVENTING

Flanking Movements On Their March to Berlin.

Rome, Oct. 5.—Cossacks have seized the passes of the Carpathian mountains, and are now moving south and have occupied Hosszumezo. They have also cut the railway at Cziget, thus isolating a great portion of Hungary. The invasion of Hungary, is first of all to prevent any flanking attacks by Hungarian troops in the Russian march to Berlin, and generally to interfere with Hungarian mobilization and instruction of troops, by providing an even present menace.

WAR BULLETINS.

Allies have once more assumed the offensive, and the retirement of the German crown prince has been accelerated.

German defeat was complete by the Russians in the battle of Augustowa.

The czar and the kaiser were both on their respective firing lines on Sunday.

Turkey has closed the Bosphorus to all comers, and has heavily mined the approaches.

Germans fighting Belgians asked for armistice to bury their dead in front of Antwerp.

A Berlin despatch says the German cruiser Karlsruhe has sunk seven British steamers in the Atlantic.

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John W. McGowan, Tweed, has been appointed fish and game overseer for the townships of Hungerford and Huntingdon.