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THE COUNT ON TRIAL.

The decoration of the Iron Cross is no inducement to Count Zeppelin to risk his life and reputation in an attack on England. The count is at Wilhelmshaven, to oversee the proposed attack on British battleships in the North Sea, and in order to make the news as sensational as possible, namely, to sail over London and drop bombs upon it. All this is according to the original plan. The chances are that the count has been called on to do something spectacular, and so give evidence that the empire has not been wasting about \$4,000,000 a year on airships. The count has had his discommodities. He has been in several wrecks while experimenting with his protected balloons, and is apparently willing to risk another severe test though it involves the loss of a whole fleet and of himself as well.

A DAY OF THANKS.

Thanksgiving Day this year should be a day of sincere gratitude. Usually it is a day of diversion, an occasion when, free from the cares of business, and rejoicing in the presence of plenty, one gives himself up to sincere pleasures. It has always been a matter of reproach that "thanksgiving" was apparently the least conspicuous incident of the occasion. With the Puritans thanksgiving meant something—the presence in the heart of a feeling which could best be expressed in the service of the sanctuary. The early settlers in the United States and Canada realized what it meant, when, in obedience to the call of the president, a halt was made in the occupations of life and, with rifle in hand, the church or chapel was visited in order that God's mercies might be fittingly acknowledged. In their prosperity the people have lost in their devoutness. They have been thankful in a sense, but the exercises of Thanksgiving Day have shown that the time spent by the average individual in his devotions has not been very great. This year the circumstances are different. A great war is pending. Its clouds, without a tint that suggests a clearing of the storm, hovers over the world. In a depression that is continental in its range the paralyzing effects of the conflict have been felt. Millions of people in Europe are suffering. Millions in America are enjoying peace and plenty. There is enough in the contrasts of the times to suggest on Monday next the services, in churches and homes, that will outwardly express the inward emotions, and make the day in Canada one of general thanksgiving.

CHURCH LOSING POWER.

Rev. A. P. Shatford, in Montreal, traced the origin of the drama to the church, which, with appropriate and suggestive settings, undertook to teach its doctrines in this way. Biblical characters were presented, some of them crudely enough, and there was no hesitation, he said, in personating God and the devil, the Deity being a figure gilded from head to foot, and his satanic majesty by a figure that was dressed like a court jester. The drama of the times was justified on the ground that the too elaborate ceremonial of the church "made it necessary to appeal to the souls of men by means of their senses, when it was impossible to appeal to them through their intellects." The lecturer thought the church should get back to the influence of the drama, purified. Dr. Synnott, who heard the lecture and commented upon it, did not see any prospect of a return to the drama in the teaching of religion and religious doctrines. He saw that the playwright was producing literature and not merely plays. He should have said some of those. The playwrights who are authors are very

rare. The most of them are mere adapters of literature to drama. They take some of the better stories, with the permission of the authors, and dramatize them; and occasionally some smutty story, staged, has to be suppressed. The censor does his work, and does it impartially. In that case the dramatist is appealing to the sensuous in the individual and not his senses. In all this talk about the church, and the necessity for reviving it, one sees a loss of power that is much to be regretted. The church is to be commended for anything it does in order to strengthen the faith of the people. Some one, a few days ago, at a conference, said the church was failing because it lacked in "mysticism." This was the observation of one who stood high in the councils of the church, and was not supposed to be a believer in mystery as a means of impressing the people.

TRADITION AND TALK.

The new premier of Ontario has to some extent pacified the members of his own party who were dissatisfied with his choice and had no hesitation in protesting against it. He has promised to live up to the Whitney tradition, whatever that is. It is a catchy phrase for the manufacture of which the Toronto World takes credit, and the use of which by Mr. Hearst has gratified our contemporary for the time being. Mr. Hearst represents Northern Ontario and was expected, therefore, to be specially interested in its development. The Whitney tradition did not do it very much good. Indeed it is a notorious fact that the opposition began the opening up of that country and drove the Whitney government to do all that it undertook. Even now the Montreal Gazette, conservative, criticizes conditions, and passes upon them unfavourably. "A few may stop to wonder," it remarks, "if progress is really advanced by a policy which in some of its developments operates to exclude private enterprise and capital from fields of activity which, first developed, Quebec by those who consider themselves advanced is counted an unprogressive province, its government and municipalities having made few incursions into the field of public grading. Yet Quebec, with some disadvantages of soil and climate, between 1891 and 1911, increased its population by 515,000, while Ontario's population in the same time only grew 409,000. It is not a wild expectation that in twenty years Quebec will be the first province in Canada in population as it now is in evidence of commercial enterprise. It is not real progress that accompanies restricted growth." The closing observation refers to the power policy of the province, which is manifesting itself in a huge monopoly, and as tyrannically as the average monopoly is found to be. Though the commission began its career as a mere vendor of power, it has become a stern dictator, and, as in the case of Toronto, exhibits a spirit which is surely opposed to the Whitney tradition, if it means anything which is favourable to local municipal ownership and government.

PREACHERS OF BUSINESS.

The minister of trade and commerce has been sending out certain literature of an enlightening character. He has been writing articles for the press, too, which are designed to show Canadians that they must be more self-reliant, that the mother country and the colonies or overseas dominions must co-operate in order that within themselves they may produce the goods and merchandise they need. Germany and Austria, and other countries, being at war, will not be competing for the commerce of the world for many a long day. What they have other countries may gain meanwhile, and what they get they will want to hold. The issue is one of competence as well as competition. The Germans secured by skill and excellence, as one result of their splendid industrial system, a trade which was growing very rapidly. They knew how to take care of it. The paternalism of the government had one advantage—that it covered all struggling industry and helped to make it a success. A propagandism is necessary in Canada, and one that will be quite as active on the platform as in the press. In England recruiting was stimulated by the papers, but it became more effective when the leaders of men, irrespective of politics, toured the country and told, in glowing language, what it needed. When Lloyd George had completed his great speech in London recently the recruiting offices were opened and filled with men who desired to enlist for active military service. Canada is depressed, as the whole world is at present, by the war, but she can be aroused to business activity by men who know what she can do and have the faculty to express it in eloquent and impressive terms. The minister of commerce should organize an army of such men and send them out to preach a gospel that will have its transforming effects.

The Italians are in rebellious mood because the government does not declare war on Austria. A referendum on war in this country would speedily put an end to her neutrality.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Col. Hughes has gone to England. The secretary of war must need his help.

The French-Canadians are organizing a brigade of their own for the war. In this way they are repudiating the Bourassa doctrine of non-intervention.

A German paper refers to the overseas troops as "mongrels and niggers." It is astonished that white men of culture (!), should be forced to fight them. White men with very black hearts.

The Berliner Tagblatt says the German troops are fighting for culture. So we have heard from other sources. And yet the warfare they are conducting is about the roughest and the crudest and most atrocious that can be imagined.

It is charged that the manufacturers of Canada are sleeping. Some of them are. They have failed to perceive their opportunities. What is to be done? Some one suggests "dynamic efforts." Better that than dynamic effects.

If the admiralty were as dramatic as the emperor of Germany it would call the commander of submarine E9 in and have him decorated by the king. The kaiser seems to think men fight the harder when loaded down with the Iron Crosses. Perhaps they do.

A German soldier, who expressed in a letter his abhorrence of war and his desire to surrender, had his letter opened by some one who forwarded it to his wife with these words added: "The signatory of this letter has been shot." Another evidence of German culture.

Mary Garden, who made a reputation for herself as an opera singer under the great Hammerstein, has become a nurse for the French army. She may never sing again. She may not survive the dangers of the battlefield. But she is a fatalist and says she may as well die for her country as any other way.

The balance of this year's crop, unshipped to Britain, and next year's crop, should, it is claimed, be held by the government for the benefit of Canada. With the half of Europe devastated, and the war probably still on, grains of all kinds will be very costly and very much in demand.

Well, the conservative junta, who favour an early election, have been in session in Ottawa, have buzzed themselves tired, and separated, and the issue is undecided. It does not require much wisdom to see that an election during a war in which Canada is engaged, would be a political calamity.

Public Opinion

He Has the Grip. Toronto Telegram. That man Von Klueck seems to have a bit of the bulldog breed in him, too.

A Pretty One, Surely. Hamilton Times. What kind of a Christmas card will King George send to Uncle Kaiser this year?

Only a Cackler. Ottawa Journal. On the side it might be pointed out that General Von Klueck, although heard from frequently of late, has yet to lay a successful strategic egg.

A Doubtful Point. Oswego Times. It seems to be doubtful whether destroying a cathedral or blowing up little children creates the greater feeling of joy among the warriors of Europe.

Oh, That's It. Toronto Star. The British government has forbidden the export of raw wool, and Little Willie says it's so the Germans won't have any to pull over our eyes.

Getting On The Map. Montreal News. Calgary, Alberta, reports a heavy fall of snow. Now that oil reports have been smothered by the war news it is up to Calgary to announce something out of the way, in order to get back on the map.

Safer Than Ever. Montreal Mail. Since Mr. Churchill kindly told Admiral von Tirpitz that his son, Lieut. von Tirpitz, a prisoner in Scotland, was safe, the lieutenant has started a mutiny. Now Mr. Churchill might tell the admiral that his son is safer than ever.

Kingston Events Twenty-Five Years Ago

A Shaw was elected a member of the business committee of the Sunday School Association of Ontario. The schooner Oliver Mowat is in port unloading lumber for Oswego. Charles A. Martin is engaged with a sign establishment in Chicago.

The average woman either dresses to please her husband or to worry him.

WAR BULLETINS.

King Albert of Belgium is now at Los Van Ghent on the Dutch border. One report says the king is slightly wounded.

The British admiralty announced Friday night that the aerial attack was successful. One bomb dropped through the roof of a shed destroying a Zeppelin at Dusseldorf.

The Germans have crossed the flooded districts near Antwerp, but at a loss of twenty thousand men.

An Amsterdam despatch says the German army headquarters is now at a French town fifty millimeters from the front to which they were moved from Luxembourg.

The Russian ambassador, while denying the report of the surrender of Przemyśl, said the whole town is in fire and capitulation is now inevitable.

The Belgian government has addressed to the neutral powers a protest against Germany's action in monopolizing the food stuffs in Brussels.

The Germans deliberately shelled Rheims on Thursday when the French president was visiting there.

Cholera is spreading terribly in the Austrian army, and many hundred deaths are reported.

The French fleet has bombarded several Austrian islands in the Adriatic.

Surrender of Antwerp to Germans is confirmed from several sources.

Russians are once more in possession of Lyck, Germany.

Sixteen hundred German prisoners were captured in the neighborhood of Roys, France.

The general summary would seem to indicate that the Germans have lost their grip on France, while attacking Antwerp in Belgium.

Berlin newspapers declare that the German fleet will get busy now that Antwerp has fallen.

London military experts say modern fortifications are absolutely useless before modern artillery.

Official advices received in Washington state that Britain will not think of peace on the basis of a drawn war.

Amsterdam despatches say the Germans entered Antwerp at midnight Friday.

STORY OF SIR JOHN FRENCH.

An Encounter Between Great English General and Boy Scouts.

As an elderly, grey-haired gentleman stood waiting for a train near Westminster Bridge some weeks ago, there suddenly swept into view a rather nondescript company of ten or twelve youngsters—members of the Boy Scouts. The little company, to the monotonous beat of oil-can drums, and led by a very freckled, very young man, who carried a staff from which ribbons fluttered, clattered up the embankment and drew up in double file column on the pavement, to the shrill "At-t," of the leader.

The grey-haired gentleman, who watched the evolution, smiled. The freckled leader, blushed furiously, brought his staff down on the pavement with a bang, and looking the grey-haired gentleman in the eye, said: "Who the— are you laughing at?" They grey-haired gentleman drew himself up stiffly, and apologized. The young leader was not opposed. Without a trace of pertness, but as though the organization for which he stood had been ridiculed, he said, still looking directly at the grey-haired gentleman, "Well, if you want to know, we're doing a little bit for our country. It ain't much, but may I ask when you did yours last?" The smile completely disappeared from the freckled leader's face, as a workman, nearby, leaned to the Boy Scout leader and whispered something in that young gentleman's ear. The boy gulped, fell back momentarily, and then, pulling himself together, stepped to the front of his youthful command and gave a shrill order. Every right hand jerked to every cap in military salute and remained there.

The freckled leader, his face once more a deep crimson, but not of anger this time, about-faced, directly in front of the grey-haired gentleman, who, without moving, had been intently watching these "manoeuvres," which had taken but a moment. As the leader turned from his company and faced the grey-haired gentleman, his hand went to his cap in salute, "I beg pardon, general," he said.

It was General Sir John French, Lieut. von Tirpitz, a prisoner in Scotland, was safe, the lieutenant has started a mutiny. Now Mr. Churchill might tell the admiral that his son is safer than ever.

Now, Gen. French had been waiting for a tram to go back to Blackfriars, he instinctively knew that it was time for his exit. To have remained would have spoiled everything. The Boy Scouts plainly would have shown their embarrassment in their youthfulness. Gen. French retreated. Several who witnessed this scene wondered if they admired the boy or the general more.

It is more-bid curiosity that attracts people to auction sales!

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THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE.

Assembly Held in Aid of O.R.F.U. Team.

Gananoque, Oct. 10.—Under the auspices of the Gananoque intermediate O.R.F.U. team a largely attended assembly was held in Turner's hall last evening. Quite a number of out-of-town guests were present. The Citizens' band orchestra furnished music. The proceeds of the affair are to be used in financing the team, which is to leave on Sunday evening for Ottawa for its first game.

The Lawrence sisters in Scotch songs and dances, were the attraction at the opera house last evening and drew a very fair audience. The home of Mr. and Mrs. George Darling, Front of Leeds and Lansdowne township, was thrown open last evening.

Miss L. Erlen Hurd, teacher at school section No. 2, Front of Leeds and Lansdowne, arrived home last evening to spend Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hurd, King street. She was accompanied by Miss Nettie Griffen, of Lakeside house, Gananoque Lake, who will spend the holiday here.

Nurses Decorated For Valor.

Bordeaux, Oct. 10.—Marcel Bridelone des Moulinais, the noted long-distance aviator, is again mentioned in an order of the day for marvelous audacity in accomplishing reconnaissance, despite the fire of the enemy, under most unfavorable atmospheric conditions. He has been made a sergeant.

Two nurses, Miss Cunay and Bertrand, are mentioned in the same order for valor under fire. These young women saved many wounded during the bombardment of a town.

Funds Secured For New Station.

Toronto, Oct. 10.—That the work of construction of the new Union station will go on forthwith seems certain in view of an announcement made by the terminal company, which is acting for the railways in its construction. The company is said to have succeeded in raising one-half of the six millions in England and the other half in the United States.

Mrs. A. Wood of Felt's Mills, New York, is visiting with friends in the city for a few days.

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