

The British Whig



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THREATENED POLITICAL CRISIS

Preparations are being made for the next session of parliament, and, incidentally, the rumours are revived of an early election. If there were any need of it, any call for it, any issue upon which the voice of the opposition should be directly heard, a dissolution of parliament could be justified.

It may be said that the enemy should not know about the details of the war accounts. Surely not. But the enemy is not represented in parliament, and the people's representatives may be misled, even confidentially, without injury to the country.

The liberals have been imitating most faithfully their prototypes in England, and have been co-operating most heartily with the government in its war measures. All they have suggested is a continuance of a truce until the war is over. It is not an unreasonable proposition.

Senator Loughheed, of Calgary, indulges in weird language. He said, on a recent occasion, that an election might come "like a thief in the night." The Toronto News approaches the subject more diplomatically, by observing that while a political riot would be very much out of place in Britain, it would not be any more surprising in Canada than it had been in Australia and New Zealand.

DRILL IN THE SCHOOLS.

The distractions from school study, by the introduction of drill, is very seriously questioned by Dr. T. S. Baker, of the Tompkins High School, Port Deposit, Md. He represents the class that has been engaged in a peace propaganda, as contrasted with a war propaganda, and he realizes how futile it is to argue against an agitation which is made so general by the European experiences of the present.

It is conceded that the youth who has been drilled some, and made familiar with military evolutions, is more readily adapted to soldier life in later years. But it is likewise contended that drill, or the putting in the boy's head of the military idea, unites him for study and prevents his mental development.

ing. The boy works intensively on his books while at school, and when he is mustered into the army he works intensively at his military education. In Germany the intensiveness of school work is increased by the fact that if this is not well done, a boy's period at military service may be more than doubled.

The American school boy already has so many distractions that it is becoming more and more difficult to give him the education he ought to have. If putting him into a uniform and placing a gun in his hand would distract his mind still further from his studies it is very doubtful whether the added help that would result to our army would compensate for the loss of the school's effectiveness.

THE WAR AND THE PRESS.

The war is not a source of profit to the newspapers—as some people imagine. The average publisher is seriously out of pocket, not only in the theatre of war, but in the world over. The paper must have the news of the day, and pay for it at high prices. He must occasionally issue extras, which are a dead loss. They cost more than they earn.

The effect of the war in Europe has been to put many newspapers out of business, especially in countries which are directly concerned in the conflict. Even in England only the great papers have been able to survive the strain. The London Times, for instance, reports the loss of \$10,000 in a single month, and from one class of advertising. Some of the weaker publications have closed.

What is the effect in America? Mr. Villard, in the Review of Reviews, reports that the war has had a grave effect upon newspaper advertising income. All financial and steamship advertising has practically ceased. Publishers find a market chiefly for war books and are advertising less than usual.

In Canada the papers have suffered from the general depression, and not so much from the direct effects of the war. It is true that the advertising is very poor, and that there is the wisdom of striving to do business as usual; still the currents of news have been seriously affected by the general censorship which prevails.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Von Kluck drinks his punch while four thousand of his army bury their dead. A sample of the German callousness which has been a distinguishing characteristic of the war.

God pity the poor in this inclement weather. There are men in the city who are willing to work at anything, in order to earn money, and are idle. The Council must do something to help the people in their distress.

The New York State Board of Health has declared that the water which is chlorinated is absolutely safe. The disease germs are killed by the gasses, and the water is tasteless. What a splendid certificate for our water?

the skull and cross-bones. Very appropriate.

Several Boards of Trade in Ontario have passed resolutions, asking the government to forbid the exportation of nickel or nickel matter. Will these move the government? It is doubtful. For some reason it is wedded to the nickel combine.

The president of the United States cannot prevent the exportation of wheat. Why should he, after providing for the wants of the people, in seed and flour, there is a surplus of 320,000,000 bushels of wheat? Some people like to be panicky. They should be suppressed.

Poor old Emperor Franz Josef, of Austria, thinks of abdicating. What a pity it is that he did not do this long ago? In his advanced years, in what appears to be his dotage, what a shame it is to have him worried by the anxieties of a heartless war.

Public Opinion

A Powerful Word. Toronto News. "The Spirit of the Press" is a stock heading used by a Toronto paper. Why not shorten it to one word—"Cider?"

Tell It Again. Exchange. Some wise Johnny is urged to tell us why the product of cacao seeds is called, not cacao, but cocoa. Our private opinion is that the first Englishman who tried to spell it was an inebricate.

Doesn't Want It. Toronto Mail. "Billy" Sunday is holding revival services in a state where it costs a man a million dollars to be elected to the United States senate. There ought to be a permanent job for him in Pennsylvania.

A Gentle Rebuke. Ottawa Journal. "Rec'dy, neither Canadian correspondents nor our British contemporaries need think it necessary to megaphone so the doings of Canadian troops even if they do capture a trench at a cost of several killed.

Fire Him. Hamilton Spectator. It seems that Armand Lavergne, who protests against Canada's participation in the war, is a lieutenant colonel. A fitting rebuke for his conduct would be to deprive him of his rank and drum him out of the regiment.

Kingston Events Twenty-five Years Ago

William Byers, first mayor of Gananoque, gave a reception to the town council and school board, to celebrate the change from village to town. J. W. Folger, superintendent of the street car line, says it is likely that street cars will soon be run by electricity. The electric system is a success in about two hundred places.

BETRAYED BY OFFICERS

All Time Hiding Behind Of German Soldiers. The correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from Petrograd, gives some stories of a civilian physician assisting the wounded at Vilna, as told him by wounded German prisoners. One of them is very striking. It is that of Moritz Pfeiffer, a non-commissioned officer in the Prussian Guard reserve, coming from Berlin, by profession an engineer.

"I am a social democrat," he said, "and have always paid by subscription regularly to our corporation's funds. We always protested strongly against war, but when it became necessary to defend Germany against the Cossacks all my colleagues stood up like one man. However, we have been vitally betrayed and deceived by our cowardly officers hiding all the time behind our backs. We had no warm clothes and our boots are no use in the rough country here. We have gone hungry for weeks and been kept freezing through the night in the woods while they passed their time in houses drinking cognac. But just give us time to return from this war and we will remind them of all we have learned here."

Baron Von Pritzwitz Halffron, aged 19, of the Prussian Hussars, a proud aristocratic prisoner with a disdainful smile and a broken leg, also gave some views of a suggestive order. The youthful baron said: "We Prussians are ready to fight this war to an end. As for the Southern States—Baden, Bavaria and Saxony—I am not quite so sure, although until now their spirit has been very firm. As for these blackguards—and he turned his head with a look of contempt to where the captured Croats were sitting—they can only be made to work by the whip—nothing else."

The man without ambition is usually possessed with a superabundance of gall. It's always the endeavor of the rogue to make you think his policy is honest. Regret always follows in the path of wrong doing.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

Circumstances alter cases, especially financial circumstances. All the world loves a lover. The world loves to be amused.

A woman can often make a man feel cheap by calling him dear.

Many a woman sits up for her husband in order to be prepared to sit down on him.

It's only when they want to register a kick that some people put their best foot forward.

Have You Noticed It? I saw a girl, the other day, And by the mere chance She looked at me—"Was't just in time To meet my casual glance."

Then she did just what other girls Do always, everywhere, She raised her hand up to her head, And gently smoothed her hair.

No matter where on earth you go, It is astonishing, Girls, meeting unexpected eyes, All do the selfsame thing!—H. S. Hoskins, in the New York Sun.

A Prosperous Scheme. "Doing any good?" "Yep. Got a business men's athletic class; tuition, \$5 a year." "Well, those rates are attractive, but too low to pay you." "You don't get the idea. They all drop out in about two weeks. Then I start another class."—Judge.

Farmer And Professor. "What are you giving your cows now in the way of flatagogues?" "Oh," said the milkman, who has just been graduated from Purdue and is not to be stumped by any Butler College pedagogue, "their sustenance is wholly of vegetable origin; rich in chirophyll and opulent in butyrous qualities." "A pint, if you please," said the professor.

Bill Rendered. Dutton—You should pay more attention to your personal appearance, old chap. Remember that the clothes make the man. De Broke—Yes, but for me the man refuses to make any more clothes.—Boston Transcript.

A Little Nonsense Now and Then. "Then you don't think I practise what I preach, eh?" queried the minister, in talking with one of the deacons at a meeting. "No, sir, I don't," replied the deacon. "You've been preachin' on the subject of resignation for two years, an' ye haven't resigned yet."—Tit-Bits.

Little Archie was told to put down a sharp knife he was playing with, but did not do so. When he cut his finger, he ran to his mother, who said, "There! Now don't come to me for sympathy." "I don't want sympathy," said Archie; "I want a rag."—Boston Transcript.

The recruit being most anxious to get into Kitchener's army, is determined to accommodate himself to any conditions as they arise. Officer (talking in form)—What's your religion? Zealous recruit—Well, what are you short of?—Punch.

English village worthy (discussing possibilities of invasion)—"Well, there can't be no battle in these parts. Jarge, for there bain't no field suitable, as you may say; an' Squire 'e won't lend 'em the use of 'is park."—Punch.

Cashier (to a patient who has just been discharged)—"Ah, madam, I perceive that you are all run down, a complete nervous wreck, in fact. (Seizing up luxurious environment, and absently falling into his usual formula.) I would advise a change of scene—say a little trip to Europe—Lady shrieking—"Good gracious, doctor, I've just come from there!"—Judge.

Father—Son, can't you possibly cut down your college expenses? Son—I might possibly do without my books.—Hartford Times.

Praised the Enemy Westminster Gazette. We like a passage in the report which tells how five prisoners were convicted at Bow street yesterday through the astuteness of Detective Tongue. After the man had been sentenced to three months' imprisonment, one of the prisoners exclaimed, "I wish to compliment the detective officer on his cleverness. He is a surprising young man." There is a certainly professional feeling about this that is altogether pleasing. The man engaged in crime regards the detective as his competitor in wits rather than as an enemy, and he is not above admiring a smart piece of work, even though he is himself the victim of the cleverness. And Detective Tongue may be flattered, for the praise comes from one who seems to have had a very varied experience of detectives.

Mother Of Pearl Buddhas. The clever priests of China often insert tiny images of Buddha within the shells of a living clam, which are left undisturbed for about a year. At the expiration of that time the images are covered with mother-of-pearl to such an extent that they appear to have grown in this natural manner. The Chinese people hold these shells in great reverence, believing that Buddha dwells within them. However, should a Christian chance to look upon one of the shells, it has no further value to them, as its charm is supposed to have left it.—Albany Journal.

Advertisement for Bibbys Underwear. Includes text: "The Store That Keeps the Prices Down", "Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats at Wholesale Prices", "Men's Shoe Special \$2.75", "Men's Storm Reefers \$4.00 Each", "Dent's Knitted Gloves", "Pure Wool Sweaters", "PURE WOOL SWEATER COATS", "Bibby's Overcoats", "Dent's Gloves".

Advertisement for Cheese & Butter Factory. Includes text: "For Sale", "A first class up to date", "Cheese & Butter Factory", "T. J. Lockhart, Real Estate and Insurance, Bank of Montreal Bldg., Kingston, Ont., Phone 1035 or 1020."

Advertisement for J. E. Mullen. Includes text: "NOTICE", "Having decided to stay at my present place of business, all orders placed now for monuments to be erected in the spring will have my best attention.", "J. E. MULLEN, Cor. Princess and Clergy Sts., Phone No. 1417", "SKATING TO-NIGHT ARE YOU READY? IF NOT, SEE US.", "AUTOMOBILE SKATING—Ask an hockey player what are the best skates to buy, and he will say 'Automobile'."

Advertisement for Treadgold Sporting Goods Co. Includes text: "TREADGOLD SPORTING GOODS CO.", "BICYCLES SPORTING GOODS", "PHONE 529", "88-90 PRINCESS ST."

Advertisement for Crawford's Coal. Includes text: "BETTER GET YOUR MIND ON THE COAL QUESTION NOW", "CRAWFORD'S COAL", "USE CRAWFORD'S COAL", "Crawford's Coal is the best coal in the world. It is soft, clean, and burns easily. It is the only coal that is guaranteed to be of the highest quality."