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GUFF ABOUT THE NAVY

The Toronto News has handed out something that is brand new. "It was," says our contemporary, "in the face of the German menace that Sir Robert Borden proposed to place three Canadian super-Dreadnoughts at the disposal of the British Admiralty."

When Sir Robert Borden succeeded to power, largely through the revote of the French against the Canadian naval policy, which he, by the way, supported, something had to be done. The Laurier naval policy was to be repealed at once. That was to be expected, in view of the Premier's deference to the Nationalists and the representation of the party in his Cabinet.

This present war was not dreamt of, nor the present contingencies. Lloyd-George puts it on record that Britain's complete unpreparedness was the best evidence that it meant no attack on any power, and anticipated an attack. And Canada it was menaced from the Pacific Ocean and defended by one of the cruisers which the Laurier Government bought, and which the Borden Government put out of commission, by the submarines purchased in a hurry and at an exorbitant price by the British Columbia Government, and by the Japanese warships. The menace to Canada was from the Pacific Ocean, and it demonstrated the weakness and instability of the Borden policy.

GERMAN MENACE IN CANADA

Two German emissaries or spies of distinction have arrived from Quebec, and been interned in Fort Henry. They should have been there long ago. They were in business and had a mail of prodigious proportions. No house or firm or corporation in the ancient city had anything to be compared with it. Some of their letters were examined, they being suspects, and found to contain nothing of a reasonable character.

The language was that of a business man and referred to nothing, apparently, but business, but these Germans have developed the art of conspiracy to a remarkable extent. The Imperial Government is represented all over the world by men whose shrewdness and diplomacy, (which is another word for deception), are their chief assets, as they had been supplying the Secret Service Department in Germany with a great deal of information. A lot of this information has been of no value, and it must have worried the German staff to read and interpret it.

Occasionally, however, there was something that was carefully noted. The big mail that these Quebec scouts embodied, there is no doubt, instructions or enquiries for details in certain matters. All were discussed in terms peculiar to business men. The code made it inexplicably pungent.

Eventually, these suave and cunning cut-throats made a demonstration that gave them away. Before

the picture of the King in the Chateau Frontenac they cursed and shook their fists. Their disguise for the moment was off. The circumstance was reported to the Dominion Secret Service, and two days later they were in custody and on the way to Fort Henry. As traitors they deserve something more heroic than quiet imprisonment.

Canada has a need to bestir herself. The enemy within her boundaries is showing its spirit. Ultimately, she may have to insist upon the internment of all the Germans who are in any way suspected. The explosions at Walkerville and Windsor are suggestive of the vengeance that lurks in the breast of everyone, and they ought to be treated as such, and their country is treating the Britishers, and that means a curtailment of all their liberties and a deprivation of most of the comforts of life.

MOLLIFIED CONTROVERSIALIST

The writer of the Canadian notes for "The Round Table" finds in the present relations between Britain and France something suggestive of peace with regard to the bilingual question. Our Ally in the war must be regarded with more friendly consideration. It is suggested, therefore, that the manner in which English may be taught in the French schools "so as not to impair the French language" is a problem for experts, and is not insoluble if one is to judge from the experience of other parts of the British Empire.

The present regulations are themselves an attempt to meet it, and may be successful if they can secure the confidence of all parties. Should they not win this confidence "every opportunity must be given for the consideration of amendments in them." It is estimated that particular details and a special form of words must not stand in the way of good relations between fellow-citizens, and "no administration should be prevented by a fear of appearing inconsistent, or by a sense of dignity, from trying by every means to remove a grievance."

The thought is advanced that if once gathered around the common council board representatives of the different interests could easily and quickly reach a settlement. The position of French in the English-speaking schools must be considered. At present it is limited to the secondary schools, and is taught too much out of relation to its presence as one of the two languages of Canada. It is contended in conclusion that its use should be extended for practical and educational reasons so that the larger part of our English-speaking population might command another of the great languages of the world.

The writer of this is understood to be a prominent Conservative, and one whose voice is heard in the councils of the party. He must be regarded as reflecting the mind and sentiments of his fellow-men. A better spirit prevails. This is the result of the great war and the cordiality with which the French and English are co-operating; "and appeals to narrow, selfish, not to say cowardly, provincialism, fall on deaf ears."

Bilingualism in the schools has been a subject of the bitterest controversy. At times it has been discussed in a way that indicated there could be no compromise. The war has brought its mellowing as well as harrowing influences, and among them is the influence that makes for peace on this most important subject—the plate of the French language in the schools of the times.

Liberty is a precious word in England, but it is being abused. If the anti-Government papers of London get their deserts they would be suppressed. They would suffer like the papers of Berlin, which criticized the American attitude towards Germany, and "was halted for its fire-brand talk."

COMPULSION MADE PLEASANT

When the Minister of Munitions proposed in his special Act, which constituted his department and clothed it with extraordinary power, there was a note of dissatisfaction. It came from the Labor Party. It was sounded in the Imperial Commons by a Labor leader. He wanted it understood that if Lloyd-George in the performance of his duty meant to exercise compulsion in any respect and to any degree in the production of munitions there would be trouble. The Minister met this statement diplomatically. He said the Act conferred a power to meet undue contingencies, but it would be reasonably exercised.

Some weeks went by, and during this time the Minister was a very busy man. He not only crossed the Channel and met the leaders of the Army, but he conferred with them on behalf of the Minister of War and himself respecting the wants of the hour. He visited every industrial centre and inspired the employees and employers to do their best. He lifted the corner of the curtain, as it were, by his vivid speech and gave the people a glimpse of conditions at the front, and as a result there has been a rapid approach to ideal conditions at home.

And yet, notwithstanding the tremendous spurt that has taken place,

the call to the service of the Government of the experts in many lines of activity, the organization of business committees of exceptional ability, the granting to these of great power to act, there have been drawbacks which are being overcome in a heroic way. The Minister is assuming the absolute control of all the industries that have been devoted to munitions. He is providing for the development of them under circumstances which guard against strikes, delays and irregularities. He is protecting the nation against exactions, or abnormal profits, on the part of the capitalists; for these, more than anything else, contributed to discontent and disturbance in the labor market.

The transformation in the industrial departments of life, or rather the sudden rise to a mastery position of this masterly little man, Lloyd-George, is the thing that astonishes all England. The fact that he is succeeding, that his restless energy is bringing to pass all that he has set himself to do, shows his wonderful personality and power. Industry will now move onward, it is expected, under a new impetus; and if the object of the Minister be reached he will be acclaimed as one of England's saviours in the crucial hour.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Lord Northcliffe is now posing as a prophet. He says conscription will come. Where? In the Army? It has come to pass in the workshop, but Lloyd-George calls it by another name.

Germany is fencing in its controversy with the United States. It wants British naval policy relaxed, and then it will give the United States an assurance of safety to its merchantmen and passenger steamers from the submarines. Dictating through America to England. Oh, that will never do.

The Hamilton Times has the correct theory. The Canadian manufacturers can make the slogan "Made in Canada" impressive when they have demonstrated that home-made goods are the equal of imported goods in quality and price. Publicity through the press will help in this direction.

Will the British Minister of Munitions come to Canada, or send a representative, to reorganize labor conditions and bring about the larger production of munitions? He could certainly improve upon the conditions that prevail. A purchasing committee will not increase the productive output.

PUBLIC OPINION

Greatest Horror.
(London Advertiser.)
For the first time in many years, London is without a "season" this spring. To the society-mad folk this will be a greater horror than the war which caused it.

Nearly The Limit.
(Hamilton Spectator.)
Ontario Good Templars have decided to ban dancing among their members. Well, well! Kissing games may next be expected to be added to the index expurgatorius.

No More Pull.
(Toronto Globe.)
Major-General Hughes has made the welcome announcement that shell contracts will go only to men able to fill them. Contracts will go to the man with a plant, not to the man with a pull.

Want The Real Thing.
(London Advertiser.)
Ten thousand employees of moving picture houses have gone to the front. Evidently tired of the faked battle pictures.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Members of the 14th Regiment will spend Dominion Day in Toronto. A citizen wants to pull the camp authorities before the Magistrate. His cow was milked by naughty soldiers. At the meeting of the Cheese Board to-day, 8c was offered but there were no sales.



A TUB OF BLOOD

Our dignity demands it, as Jingo understands it, that we should get excited, when'er we think we're slighted, and arm, and go forth slinging and send the slighter running. "The world will not respect us, the nations will reject us," the Jingo still is crooning. "If we keep on poltrooning. Ere we're a minute older let's place upon our shoulder a chip, and act the bully, and be quite wild and woolly. Then kings and warlike princes will see we are not quinces. We'll gain respect and honor, though the grim, fire-eating Gringo. Thus speaks the warlike Jingo, the grim, fire-eating Gringo, whose wars and tribulations, whose fierce, blood-thirsty capers are filling all the papers? The kings now heaving bowiers had chips upon their shoulders. They used to say, "We suffer to swat the sassy duffer who insolently gazes, or springs, defiant phrases." Does any one admire them? Who would not like to fire them, installing in their places some kind of charms and graces, who'd look on war as dizzy, and keep their subjects busy, not trucking to commanders, but raising wheat and ganders?

SHELL OFFER A MYTH

LOYD GEORGE MET CHALLENGE BY ASKING NAMES

Country is Scoured—Talk of Huge Supplies Readily Available Wild and Irresponsible.

London, June 25.—Sir Richard Auld, Cooper, a member of a large chemical manufacturing concern, who frequently had complained that the British War Office, by refusing to deal with responsible agents, had neglected to obtain large available supplies of munitions, made the specific declaration in the House of Commons that he was in a position to offer the Government 3,000,000 shells made in England, 8,000,000 shells made in Canada, and 10,000,000 shells made in the United States. Sir Richard also said he had 800,000,000 rifle cartridges and 2,000,000 rifle delivery, commencing with October, and added:

"If this offer is not accepted, I want to know the reason why."

David Lloyd George, the munitions minister, replying to Sir Richard, said the war office had asked Sir Richard to give it the names of the firms which were prepared to supply such large quantities of munitions. The result of this, the minister added, was the receipt of the name of one firm, which, on enquiry, was found to be engaged in lithographing printing.

Mr. Lloyd George deprecated what he termed all the wild and irresponsible talk of there being plenty of shells available. He said he was scouring the country for them, and was prepared to take every shell that could be produced.

TO HEAR BECKER'S APPEAL

Manton Gets Chance For Police Hearing.

Albany, N.Y., June 25.—Governor Whitman announced after a conference with Charles Becker's counsel, Martin T. Manton, that he would unhesitatingly accept the responsibility of hearing an appeal for a commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment despite his activities as district attorney in securing the conviction.

Must he like to let some one else decide the case because of the fact that his prosecution of Lieutenant Becker is considered to have been one of the leading causes of his election as governor, Governor Whitman will make the final decision in this case.

Mrs. Becker can come to Albany to plead for her husband's life if she wants to, the governor said. He declared, however, that Mr. Manton had not asked permission to let Mrs. Becker make her plea and that she must not come up during their talk.

No one seems to doubt that Governor Whitman will deny the Becker appeal. Not even the action of Georgia's governor in commuting the sentence of Leo Frank will have any effect on the Becker case, it is declared. Governor Whitman, a district attorney believed Becker should die in the electric chair as a penalty for the Rosenthal killing, and still does, it is declared.

A date for the formal opening before the governor will be set next week at another conference between the governor and Mr. Manton, probably Thursday. This hearing will be early in the following week, it is thought, because the next week is the day of the electrocution.

Governor Whitman and Mr. Manton had nothing to say as to the possibility of Becker making a "confession" or "squealing" in order to force clemency from the governor. Mr. Manton would not discuss his talk at all, declaring the governor would say anything there was to be told.

Dernburg's Fatal Mistake

Detroit Free Press.
Dr. Bernhard Dernburg's last word before taking ship was a lament because America had not "understood" him. The doctor was wrong, entirely wrong. The country has understood him and his work altogether too well for his success. It knew why he came here in the first place, why he stayed and what he was all the time trying to accomplish. It caught his viewpoint tolerably well even with regard to the sinking of the Lusitania.

But it has not agreed with him or with his viewpoint. There's where the rub has been. Maximilian Harden might have been a more successful advocate of Germany in this country because he is clearer sighted. He acknowledged long ago that the United States understands Germany, but, he said, the United States is unable to accept Germany's ideas. Which is entirely true, and may be acknowledged as Harden has acknowledged it by persons with the kindest feelings for Germany and its people.

It is the inability of Dernburg to understand not the failure of the American people to comprehend, which made the doctor's failure inevitable.

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