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ELECTORAL ECCENTRICITIES.

Hoboken, N.J., which adopted the Commission form of Government in March last, has among its people those who are agitating already for a change from it or for a change in the commissioners. The charge is made that the Commission is under the thumb of a contractors' gang, and that this gang is doing all the paving and charging for it at the rate of \$1.54 per square yard, when it is doing the same kind of work in New Jersey City for 96.4c per square yard.

The defect of the Government, however, is the political aspect of it. Four of the five commissioners are of one party stripe. The party in the minority will never be satisfied until it lands in power, if that be possible.

CHEAP POWER AVAILABLE. The City, so far as its mind can be reflected through its business men, is not disposed to wait for another ten years for cheaper electric power. Sir Adam Beck having intimated that his Commission was not in a position to serve Kingston and does not expect to do so for years, attention has turned once more to the Seymour Company. It controls the power on the River Trent. Twice it made overtures to the City, through a Committee of the City Council and through the Commission, without result.

Now the Seymour Company will resume negotiations for a civic contract, if given the assurance that it will be considered upon its merits. The Company has the power, an abundance of it, without a further development of its plant. The Hydro-Electric Commission may buy the property, as it essayed to do a couple of years ago, but this is a proceeding that present circumstances do not justify.

Utilities' Commission, and it must be willing to ask whether the Seymour Company can supply power, in any desirable quantity, and on acceptable terms. The Company awaits an invitation in order to place, before the Commission information that must interest it very much and perhaps lead to an early contract. Years have been spent fruitlessly in debating the question, while other municipalities to the west of Kingston have hooked up with the Seymour Hydro power and enjoy its advantages.

AMAZING ANNUAL WASTE.

A representative of the Canadian Forestry Department will visit Kingston presently and address the Board of Trade in the interest of that legislation which is so necessary if the woeful destruction by forest fires is to be checked. The loss is occasioned by fires which follow the invasion of the forests by settlers who are operating without care and set out fires which they cannot quench. It is almost inconceivable that there are 10,000 fires in a year, and that the loss in consequence amounts to fully \$10,000,000. Fourteen hundred fires a month between snow and snow is the record!

The Whig has read that in some of the larger cities the fire insurance companies offer prizes for essays or papers by the school children with regard to the best way of guarding against fires. Sometimes a given course of studies is prescribed, and those who write upon these studies are compensated out of a reward fund to which the insurance companies subscribe most generously. In like manner, though perhaps not in the same way, the people may be induced to contemplate certain important facts with regard to the preservation of the timber. The class is a small one, and confined to those whose occupations take them into the forest during the winter season.

Quebec and British Columbia lead in their protective legislation, in providing forest guarding systems, and conscientious overseers, and these are helped by an awakened people. In the provinces referred to safety lies in the laws which make settlers secure the aid and the supervision of forest rangers before setting out their clearing fires. Ontario has not such laws, and it suffers accordingly. It would suffer more but for the regulations of the Dominion Railway Commissioners, and the enforcement of these regulations along the railways. Manitoba lost more than a million dollars through the burning of its timber in 1915. The fires raged over 800,000 acres during May and June, and mostly in the vicinity of the new Hudson's Bay Railway. In Alberta and Saskatchewan the fires were limited in their range because these provinces are not noted for their riches in timber. The safety of the whole country lies in education. The press has been helping in its way, and now an appeal has been made for advanced legislation, and legislation that will be enforced by zealous forest rangers. An annual loss of \$10,000,000 is simply appalling and this loss should be curtailed by direct and forceful means.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Soldiers' Aid Commission will need to be in session every week, if not every-day, in order to deal promptly with all the cases that call for attention.

There is no spirit so vindictive as the German spirit. The evidence of this is supplied in the case of the Germans interned in Kingston, who would injure the American Consul, and he has been their best friend.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians in Canada desire to secede from the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America. Why? Because of the anti-British and pro-German attitude of certain officers in the United States. This is surprising.

The feeling of resentment towards Miss Farrer, the prima donna, as seen in moving pictures, is not without reason. She was so pro-German as to use offensive language towards the Allies. The desire to cut her, even in pictures, is very natural.

A disruption of the Austrian Government immediately followed the visit of Wilhelm to Joseph. No wonder they wept when they realized how futile had been their efforts to subjugate the world. It is true that Serbia has been crushed, and that that end the war was declared.

Russians, acting as inspectors at the Locomotive Works in Kingston, and of work that is being done for the Russian Government, will not speak German, though they know the language, and will not use tools made in Germany. Russians take the misconduct of the Germans very seriously.

The subsistence pay of the soldiers in Toronto, while unattached, has been increased by 10c a day, or 70c per week. In other words, the pay of the unmarried man has been increased from 50c to 60c per day, and of the married man from 75c to 85c per day. Does this rule apply to all recruiting stations, or to Toronto's only?

PUBLIC OPINION

Toronto and Booze. (Book's weekly.) Being no longer able to have Booze on Sunday, Toronto has taken to having Sunday on Booze.

'N' Scraping. (Oshawa Herald.) A contemporary wants to "Scrap the German Navy." That's the trouble. It refuses to scrap.

The Winning Punch. (Windsor Record.) Germ-Huns are getting groggy. All the Allies have to do now is to put over the winning punch.

Scaring Jane. (Oshawa Journal.) Jane Addams ought not to let Henry Ford get the boys out of the trenches until they have been searched for liquor. Heaven knows what they might charge at.

Neutrality Costs. (Montreal Gazette.) Two more Montreal privates have been given commissions as Lieutenants in the army. The opportunities for the soldiers' advancement are many in this war, and there are plenty of men in the ranks intelligent enough to fill the vacancies higher up as they occur.

A Timely Tip. (Toronto Mail.) If Canada did a little less bragging about what it has done and less anathematizing of the enemy and more work in building up forces to defeat him decisively we would be farther ahead in the long run. This country could do many times what it has done if it set about it.

Of "Tin Can" Fame. (Montreal Herald.) Henry Ford's proposal to take a

shipload of pacifists to Europe "to stop the war" looks like another ramification of the Boy-ed conspiracy. Doubtless his ship would go butting around looking for trouble, with the idea of demonstrating that there is no "freedom of the seas" owing to the British Navy.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

The cotton mill has been taken over by the Dominion Cotton Company for the sum of \$150,000. The offer was made by A. T. Gault, D. Morrice and others representing the company.

J. McKelvey will be a candidate for aldermanic honors in Victoria Ward.

Turkey thieves are doing an extensive business in Pittsburgh township.

D. A. Givens is in Los Angeles practicing law.

The Allied Bonds. New York, Dec. 3.—A good deal of uncertainty is expressed over the outcome of the offering of the Allied bonds. The syndicate will expire with limitation on December 15th, and it is expected that the large unsold balance of the bonds will then be distributed to the syndicate members. Up to this time sales are not permitted under 95, but that restriction will no longer apply when the syndicate expires, and it remains to be seen how the market for the bonds will act then. The indifferent demand for those bonds, however, is not a true reflex of investment sentiment, for the \$60,000,000 B. & O. issue has met with a good reception.

Gossip spends more time getting itself repeated than history does.

Sleepytime Tales

THE LITTLE DEER'S ADVENTURE

Once upon a time way off in the woods there lived a little deer and his mother. He was very little, much smaller than his two brothers who had grown up and had gone out into the world to look out for themselves. The little deer always kept near his mother and trotted along beside her very close.

One day, as the mother and little deer were drinking, they were startled by a loud "bang" and they started to run for the mother knew by the sound that there were hunters near. The little deer was in such a hurry that it caught its foot in the root of a tree and, before it could get free, it felt something grab it and it could not wriggle free.

It heard its mother calling it to come to her but the strange thing, which was a man, held it so tight it could not get away. The man carried it in his arms to a clump of trees where there were some other men. The baby could hear its mother following carefully after so it wasn't very much frightened, but very soon the mother began to get worried and to make a loud noise to let the baby know she was near at hand and to try again to come to her. The men gave the deer something to eat and stroked its fur so that the little fellow began to be quite friendly and rubbed his head against the hunter's coat and seemed quite at home.

When it came time to go to sleep, however, the deer wanted his mother so he could snuggle close beside her. The baby began to cry a funny little cry and, although the man tried to comfort it, it cried harder when it heard the answering call of its mother close by.

When the man heard the mother call he decided that he would have to let the baby go, so he untied the deer, lighted a piece of bark from the camp fire and held it up high. When the little deer saw that he was free to go he bounded into the bushes and soon beside his mother rubbing his head against her and whining with happiness. The next morning the hunters saw the two deer close by but didn't try to harm them for they felt too friendly to the little deer and couldn't bear to harm him.

Menu for Saturday

BREAKFAST: Prunes, Baked Cod, Fried Potatoes, Corn Muffins, Coffee.

LUNCHEON: Apple Fritters, Bread and Butter, Cake, Cocoa.

DINNER: Beef Soup, Haricots, Mashed Potatoes, Hashed Potatoes, Parsley, Lettuce Salad, Apple Pot Pie.

BREAKFAST: Corn Muffins—Mix half a cup of cornmeal, one cup of flour, four level tablespoons of baking powder, three tablespoons of melted sugar, one cup of milk, one egg and one tablespoon of melted butter. Bake in gem pans half an hour.

LUNCHEON: Apple Fritters—Mix a cup and a half of flour, two-thirds of a cup of milk, one egg, and one and a half tablespoons of baking powder. To this batter add two apples that have been pared and cut in slices. Drop

DINNER: Beef Soup—Cover the bones and all small pieces of the roast beef with cold water. Add half an onion and simmer two hours. Drain and serve clear.

Haricot Chops—A cheap piece of mutton to be used. Have it cut in slices to look like chops. Cover with cold water, add a sliced carrot, a turnip cut in small pieces and half an onion. Simmer for two hours. Add a teaspoon of chopped parsley and a tablespoon of dissolved flour. Boil until thick. Just before serving add a teaspoon of kitchen bouquet.

Apple Pot Pie—Fill a deep dish with sour apples, which have been pared and sliced. Add a little boiling water and cook in a hot oven until tender. Make a crust as you would for making baking powder biscuits. Roll it out an inch thick and lay over the apples. Return to the oven and bake about thirty minutes longer. Serve with a sauce made by boiling two tablespoons of butter and one of maple syrup in which a tablespoon of flour has been dissolved. Serve hot.

Rippling Rhymes

SUNSHINE

Oh, let us wear the cheerful grin, and mugs that shine like new made tin, when we are paying taxes, 'tis customary then to scowl, and lean against a fence and howl, and brandish battle-axes. But all our howling doesn't help, nor does our protest, groan or yell, we must dig up the roubles; the treasurer rakes up the dust, and doesn't notice our disgust, or care about our troubles. And since it doesn't pay to roar, what is the use of acting sore, as though bereft of senses? Why not produce our little rolls, and say it warms our hearts and souls, to help to pay expenses? 'Twere better far to sing and smile, as we cough up our meagre pile, to keep the wheels a-turning. 'Twill help us on a future day, when, in the good old-fashioned way, for Public Trusts we're yearning. Some day, to make your fortune, increase, you'll run for you may higher yet aspire, and through the press voice your desire to join the legislature. Then, if you always raised a bawl, when paying taxes in the fall, the story will confound you; you'll see true patriots arise to dot you one between the eyes, and flash their knives around you.

A Precious Lesson of the War. New York Times. Surprise is expressed in the despatches from London that the sudden and severe limitation of the hours in which intoxicants can be bought there has not caused anything like the amount of protest and resistance that had been expected or feared. Yet the apparent cheerfulness with which the new rules have been received and obeyed is not, after all, very surprising.

There would naturally be some reluctance on the part of anybody with a reputation worth saving to confess that the daily periods of permitted sales were not long enough for him to get all he needs or even wants to drink. And almost everybody else either belongs to the inarticulate

Bibbys NEW HATS KINGSTON'S ONLY CASH AND ONE PRICE BOYS' AND MEN'S WEAR STORE. SEASONABLE GOODS AT SPECIAL PRICES. YOUNG MEN'S SUITS Handsome new and choice colorings in Grey and Brown Cheviots and Worsteds. New models that are decidedly smart and very English. The Claude \$18.00; The Recruit \$15.00; The Monarch \$18.00; The "Bud" \$15.00; The Hero \$18.00; The Kenmore \$22.50. BOYS' REEFER COATS Special Value, \$3.75. Sizes 25 to 33; Blue Chinchilla Cloth, and Irish Friezes. BOYS' OVERCOATS Sizes 28 to 33, \$7.50. Handsome Tweed Ulsters; two way collars; good patterns; warm fabrics. SMALL BOYS' OVERCOATS Russian style, with military or shawl collars; Blue, Red, Greys and Browns. MANITOBA ULSTER, Special \$15.00. Heavy Tweed, with strong wool linings, double breasted, with large two way collars. Sizes 36 to 46. MEN'S SHOES The Best \$4.50 Shoe Values in Canada. DENT'S ENGLISH GLOVES. WOLSEY ENGLISH PURE WOOL UNDERWEAR. Warren Guaranteed Pure Wool SWEATER COATS. THE BROADWAY OVERCOAT, \$19.00. Sizes 34 to 38. Form fitting, double breasted, silk velvet collar; fabrics, Brown and Blue Chinchilla Cloth. BIBBYS 78-80-82 Princess Street

ECHOES OF THE PRESS

A Great Cut in Prices. Hamilton Herald. It is taking a long time for war profits to come to a reasonable level, but they are getting there.

News comes that the munitions authorities at Ottawa have just made a cut in the price to be paid for 3-inch 18-pounder shells. Early in the war Canadian manufacturers were charging the Imperial Government \$3.80 each for these shells, and there is documentary official evidence of the fact that on every shell made there was a clear profit of \$2. In later contracts the price was cut to \$2.90. Now the manufacturers of shells have been notified that in all future contracts the price to be paid will be \$1.85.

Of the score or more of Hamilton manufacturers who have been making 3-inch shells at \$2.90, only one is reported, has declined to accept orders at \$1.85. Now that the machinery has been installed and the industry organized, there is no doubt that the shells can be made profitably at the new price, although it is 38 per cent. less than the price which the shell-makers have been getting. We don't think that the manufacturers affected have any just cause for complaint.

Doubtless the prices of other and larger shells will also be cut soon. Reasonable profits no reasonable person will object to; but there will be no general regret at the ending of the profiteering orgy.

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NEW GOODS

New Seeded Raisins, New Seedless Raisins, New Valencia Raisins, New Sultana Raisins, New Muscatel Raisins, New Currants, New Peels, New Prunes, New Dates, New Sweet Cider, Raw Sugar for Christmas Cooking.

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class or his opinion is not considered deserving of attention. Among the incalculable losses resulting from this great war there stands out prominently one benefit; it has brought to all the countries engaged in it—and to others—a realization such as they never had before of the relation between alcohol and efficiency. Something, and perhaps much, of that new knowledge is sure to remain after peace returns. For, of course, it is not only with success in fighting that strong drink interferes, or only in war that men need to have all their wits about them all the time.

Best of All Gifts.

London Advertiser. Canada has just made a great Christmas contribution to the Empire, given almost twice what was asked, it is said. But the intimate, friendly gift to the soldiers in the cities and towns and in the trenches is yet to be made. You will not be troubled with the problem of whether your friend in this case is going to give you anything in return. He has already offered his gift. Your gift to him will be a small thing by comparison. But be sure to give it. It will "help to sustain our noble army and carry our flag again to victory and freedom."

Kitchener Still War Minister.

London, Dec. 3.—Premier Asquith yesterday finally disposed of rumors that Lord Kitchener had withdrawn from the Cabinet. Answering a query addressed to him in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister stated that Kitchener "has resumed his duties as War Minister."

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