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GOVERNMENT IN DISTRESS.

The U. S. Government, especially the head of it, will be asked by Congress for explanations with regard to the war, and to the manner in which American interests have suffered through the sinking of ships, the loss of life, and the wrecking of industries. There has been a gradual subsidence of the spirit that marked the first note of the President, and following the Lusitania disaster, until, from feeble protests there has been a profound silence. The differences of opinion between Germany and the United States have descended to a little secret cajolery on the part of Von Bernstorff, and to the refusal of the State Department to take notice of the Boy-Ed conspiracies. The Austrian Ambassador was unceremoniously bundled out of the country, but Boy-Ed remains. Why? The Government is afraid, for some reason, to disturb His Highness. Meanwhile the Revelations before the special Court of Enquiry prove alarming. Not only was there a deliberate plot to destroy the industries America, but the life of the President and his Secretary of State. Perhaps this will perk-up the President and lift him out of the cooling state of mind into which he has fallen through the preparations for his wedding, and give to the subsequent proceedings of his Government the piquancy which circumstances call for. A Government that allows an alien element to bluff and bully it, and wind up with designs upon the life of its President, is certainly in a bad way.

That Germany went into the war deliberately is proven by the agreement which the Government made with the Hamburg-American ship owners to supply warships with fuel and food. This was long before the outbreak of hostilities. When war was declared it only remained for an agreement to be put in force by a cablegram. And the best laid plans of mice and men gang aft aglee.

NOTHING IS ACCOMPLISHED.

The people are to be asked to consent by vote to a sale of power by the Utilities Commission to the Street Railway at the old rate, and with a knowledge beforehand that the Company will not accept it. The Board of Trade requested the Council and the Commission to get together and see what could be done about keeping the cars in operation either under private or municipal management. The Commission and the Finance Committee of the Council have met, and as a result they have decided upon a referendum with regard to a point upon which the Company is not agreed.

The Commission had at the time of the meeting a letter from the president of the Railway Company to the effect, practically, that with power at the old rate the railway could not be made to pay. It could be maintained as a public convenience at the public expense, but that was all. The conclusion is that the Commission and the Council should have gone further than merely confer and decide upon something that might have been disposed of weeks or months ago so far as they are concerned. The Commission having stated its case to the Finance Committee, setting forth what it could or could not do under the law, it was for the Finance Committee to discuss the question of purchasing and running the railway.

The question with the Company, apparently, is "scrap" or "sell," and the Finance Committee could have

learned on what terms the road was available, and whether the city could presume to manage it. Nothing has been accomplished so far, and nothing can be accomplished by a referendum, seeing that in advance the Company has put on record the fact that it will not accept of the old rate for power, and will not further run the railway at a loss.

The four-bushers of the Hamburg-American line, who broke the law of the United States by sending supplies to the German cruisers at sea under false manifests, have been found guilty. Sentence deferred. And they all pose as innocents. They did not know they were doing any harm. Perjury is a trifling offence with the bloodthirsty Hun.

APPLY THE SNUFFERS.

Who has not, on a summer evening, while the windows were up and the lights burned brightly within the home, seen the insects circle above the lamps, then go straight for the flame and fall singed upon the floor or table? The artist, this week, and for the Whig of this day, has caught the idea and illustrated it. The big departmental store at a distance in the candle whose flickering light has attracted the attention of the farmers, tax payers, wives, and children, and like so many flies they are drawn towards it, with the usual consequences.

The buyer out-of-town is allured by the pictures and the prices, and when he presumes to purchase he realizes that he has been burned. Nor is he cured of the fascination by one sorry experience. The out-of-town house, like the ancient candle, draws its victims again and again, and it is well if they eventually escape with a severe singeing. The lesson is obvious. Something has to be done to avoid the lure and escape the damage. A pair of snuffers will work the trick, so far as the candle is concerned. But in Community Building and Community Saving a host of snuffers in the forms of men and women who will appreciate home trading are necessary.

The out-of-town house is particularly busy at the Christmas season. It presumes to dazzle the buyers with gaudy pamphlets and pictorial literature, and it manages to attract some of them. The home merchants have but one alternative, namely, to set up counter attractions, to promote announcements, and to cooperate with every friend of the city, and every well wisher for its success. How? By offering superior trading facilities. These are the snuffers and it is to be hoped they will be operated to the very greatest advantage during the next three weeks.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Jane Addams is willing to accompany Henry Ford on his wild goose chase after peace. The Whig is distinctly disappointed. It thought Jane had more sense.

The bread riots in Berlin are suggestive. With the people in a state of eruption, and fighting against famine conditions, the era of peace may not be so very far away.

Universal training has received a great uplift in Toronto. There the military training of the boys from ten years upwards is being advocated. The Australian cadets gave a mighty inspiration to the movement.

Hamilton has a new senator, John Milne, whose qualification for a seat in the Red Chamber is his intense partisanship. He is a Tory from away back. The Spectator talks about him like a boy about his Christmas stocking.

The Government that permitted Mr. Fallis, M.P.P., to act as a middle-man in its horse buying, and to profit to the extent of \$3,000 or \$3,500, without labor or service, is as great a sinner as the man himself. The Davidson report will surely call for a punishment to fit the crime.

Toronto people, through the press, are demanding a change in the civic government. They want all the peanut politicians who have been running the city municipally swept aside and the public departments put in charge of some of its greatest business men. Some day this will come to pass, but the people will have to be blistered a good deal in the meanwhile.

PUBLIC OPINION

A German Whine. (London Advertiser.) Vienna whines about churches and works of art in Gorizia being destroyed. She is just getting a sip of the draught Belgium had to quaff.

The Question. (The Calgary Alberta.) The question which confronts every citizen to-day is not "Should I go?" but "Dare I stay?" It is not "How much shall I give?" but "How little can I keep?"

Neutrality is Costly. (Toronto Mail.) Up to the end of October it has cost Switzerland something like \$51,000,000 to guard her neutrality. Whoever wins, neutrals like Switzerland are sure to be losers, for they have no chance of an indemnity.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Petitions are being signed by electors calling on James Swift to be chosen a candidate for mayor. Oscar Teigmann led the orchestra at the Grand Opera House last night.

Sleepytime Tales

ERIC AND THE ICE. Once upon a time Eric started off to the pond all by himself. It had been quite cold the night before and Eric ran very fast to keep warm, so fast, in fact, that when he came to the pond he couldn't stop at the edge but kept right on into what he thought would be the water. Instead of water he struck something very hard and slippery, and he went sprawling in a heap and rolled over and over. This surprised him very much as he knew this was the right place to take a swim as he had done it many a time before. "Oh dear," he thought, "What has happened?" and he began to bark and whine as loud as he could. No one seemed to hear so he howled louder than ever. The children finally heard him and ran to see what was the matter. When Edward reached the pond

and the music was unusually good. The Kingston Foundry is very busy. The firm has enough orders to keep the foundry going six months.

Coaxing Won't Do. (Hamilton Spectator.) Sir Sam Hughes is a strong advocate of coaxing the "boys" to enlist, who will readily do their duty when they realize it. With such purblind material to work upon, coaxing has long ceased to become a virtue.

there was Eric sprawled on the ice and looking as frightened as it is possible for a dog to look. Edward didn't know just how to help him for the ice wouldn't hold a big boy and the dog couldn't get a foothold on the ice no matter how hard he struggled. Just then Edward thought of a way to help and he told the girl to take the white, he went and found something to push out to the dog. In a minute Edward came with a long stick which he pushed out towards Eric calling: "Bite it Eric, bite it." Eric seemed to know what he was told to do and took hold of the end of the stick with his teeth while Edward very carefully pulled it towards the bank with the dog hanging on to the end and sliding along the ice on his side. Just as soon as Eric's feet touched the ground he ran home as fast as he could and hid in the cellar where he stayed until it was almost dark. It was a long time before he would go near the pond again and when he did he stayed close to the bank and the bushes and never would put his foot on the ice again.

"Low Cost of Living" Menu

Menu for Sunday. BREAKFAST: Grapefruit, Holland Baked Liver, Creamed Potatoes, Rolls, Coffee. DINNER: Macaroni Soup, Stuffed Baked Rabbit, Currant Jelly, Baked Sweet Potatoes, Baked Onions and Cheese, Cheese Salad, Baked Stuffed Apples. SUPPER: Olive Omelet, Graham Crackers, Fresh Peas, Hot Chocolate.

BREAKFAST: Holland Baked Liver—Cut the liver in small pieces, pour over boiling water and let stand five minutes. Place slices of bacon in a baking pan add the pieces of liver and, on top of each piece of liver, another piece of bacon. Bake in a very hot oven. DINNER: Stuffed Baked Rabbit—Wash and line with strips of bacon. Make a dressing with two cups of bread crumbs, a cup of chopped veal, a little onion, and the seasoning. Place in a baking pan, cover with strips of bacon, pour over a cup of hot water to which has been added half

teaspoon of kitchen bouquet and a pinch each of clove, sage and ginger. Baste with this often and half an hour before the rabbit is done, dredge with flour. Baked Onions and Cheese—Peel and cut in slices six large onions. Lay in a baking dish, add melted butter, salt, pepper and a little water. Bake until tender and then cover with grated cheese and return to the oven until the cheese is melted. Cheese Salad—Cream together a large cream cheese and a heaping tablespoon of butter. When smooth add a quarter of a cup of chopped nuts and raisins. Sprinkle with sugar and bake in a moderate oven. Serve with whipped cream.

SUPPER: Olive Omelet—Beat four eggs with an egg beater until very light. Add four tablespoons of boiling water, four finely chopped olives and pepper and salt to suit. Put a large tablespoon of butter in an omelet pan. When bubbling pour in the mixture and turn with a knife until the whole is of creamy consistency. Fold over, turn on a hot platter and garnish with parsley. Danish Pudding—Boil one cup of tapioca in water to cover for one hour. When cold add half a cup of sugar and a tumbler of grape or currant jelly, turn into a mould and, when cold, turn out and serve with whipped cream.

BREAKFAST: Cream of Wheat with Dates, Fish Cakes, Toast, Coffee. LUNCHEON: Rabbit Stew, Swiss Fondue, Toast, Peas, Sauce, Tea. DINNER: Spanish Soup, Boston Oyster Pie, Fried Celery, Parker House Rolls, Fruit Salad, Mince Pie and Cheese.

BREAKFAST: Fish Cakes—Freshen a package of shredded fish, add two cups of hot mashed potato, a tablespoon of melted butter, and one well beaten egg. Form into cakes and fry in deep boiling fat. LUNCHEON: Rabbit Stew—Cut all the meat from the rabbits and cover the bones with cold water. Add one onion, and simmer two hours. Then strain, return to the fire, add the meat, season and serve without straining. Swiss Fondue—Cut into small thin slices half a pound of swiss cheese. Place in a pan half a cup of milk, a

teaspoon of Worcestershire sauce and the cheese. Stir until the cheese is melted and then add one beaten egg. Whip half a minute and serve on thin strips of buttered toast. DINNER: Spanish Soup—Chop enough red and green peppers to make three tablespoons. Melt two tablespoons of butter and the same of flour. When smooth add the peppers and stir five minutes. Then add three cups of water or soup stock, two cups of tomato, cover, and boil twenty minutes. Strain and add half a cup of boiled macaroni.

Menu for Monday

BREAKFAST: Cream of Wheat with Dates, Fish Cakes, Toast, Coffee. LUNCHEON: Rabbit Stew, Swiss Fondue, Toast, Peas, Sauce, Tea. DINNER: Spanish Soup, Boston Oyster Pie, Fried Celery, Parker House Rolls, Fruit Salad, Mince Pie and Cheese.

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Rippling Rhymes

PROGRESSIVE DOCTORING. I took some dope, to make my head quit aching; it did the trick, but set my stomach wrong; and that old organ all the by-laws breaking, just raised high jinks, and bucked the whole day long. I took some dope to get my stomach working as in the days when I was a fair rowing; the dope did that, but set my muscles jerking, until it took three men to hold me down. I took some dope to make my muscles steady; they soon calmed down, and started cutting hay; but then my liver acted up, already, and threw a fit, and spoiled my happy day. I took some dope to quell my liver's riot—some bitter stuff, disguised with cherry jam; no sooner was that liver lulled to quiet, than shooting pains whizzed through my diaphragm. I took some dope; but why prolong the anguish? I took some dope; for this disease and that; there's something new each day to make me languish, one an aching stat. Pursuing health, all kinds of pills I swallow, the more I take, the more I have to buy; each pill demands another pill to follow—hand me the bitters, for I'm getting dry.



W. H. MASON

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