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SEVENTH YEAR.



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GOOD MAN VINDICATED.

The immorality charges against T. M. Osborne, the former warder of Sing Sing prison, have been dismissed, untried, and as unworthy of trial. Meanwhile he has suffered as all good men do while lying under imputations of the most cruel and unjust character. Mr. Osborne, a man of wealth, accepted an important office largely for the purpose of developing his ideals. He brought to prison life rules and methods that had not been tried before. His plan was to establish a confidence among prisoners that is usually lacking. He gave the convicts privileges they had previously been denied. He allowed them to govern themselves to some extent, and by a code of laws as unique as it was peculiar. Community interests became a conspicuous feature of prison life. Reforms were reached by new and direct routes, and while the experiment was at its height Osborne was accused of defects and immoralities. The character of a great and good man was besmirched by men who had no special object to serve. They were simply jealous of him. They were willing to do anything in order to end his rule. They succeeded. Osborne could not be retained in office while charges hung over his head. Now that they have failed he ought to be vindicated by re-appointment and for the purpose of carrying through his cherished ideas. Time is on the side of most good men, and time brings to them the satisfaction they deserve. The state officials who co-operated and conspired to do the warden an injury owe him an abject apology.

Fancy the province assuming a liability of \$8,350,000 in connection with the power plants, and without details with regard to the assets it was supposed to be acquiring.

PUTTING ON AIRS.

Only now, when the legislature of British Columbia is passing its estimates, does it become known that the province, in Sir Richard McBride, has such an expensive agent-general. British Columbia, until a year ago, was represented in England by Hon. J. H. Turner, a former cabinet minister. When Sir Robert could not have his way in a new election, in 1915, he decided to retire from public life. He chose the softest place, in which to rest.

But there were difficulties in the way. Mr. Turner had to be removed. A lot of negotiation followed. Sir Richard made a special trip to London in order to pacify Turner. There was, in addition, many letters and cablegrams which have been withheld from the legislature on the ground that they are private correspondence. They are referred to by Mr. Turner, however, and he left his office in London on the strength of them. Having to do with a public matter, they are public documents, but they have been impounded for the present.

Premier Bowser admits, because he cannot help himself, that Hon. Mr. Turner had to be assured of an allowance of \$6,000 per annum, plus a retiring gift of \$5,000. Sir Richard McBride is to receive a salary of \$15,000 a year, and \$20,000 a year for office expenses. Mr. Bowser says that Sir Richard is an expensive public servant, and it is scarcely necessary to make this announcement in view of Sir Richard's past experience. Does the province approve of this high living among its politicians? Hardly. But they cannot help themselves for the time being. The day of reckoning is at hand, however. It comes in June.

TEACHERS' CONTRACTS AGAIN.

Toronto drove some of its male teachers to enlist. If the Whig's memory be correct the trustees went so far as to hint that those who did not respond to the recruiters' appeals deserved to be relieved of their appointments. It did not take compulsion of that kind, with a touch of humiliation in it, to induce some men to do their duty. They donned the khaki because they desired to do so, satisfied, of course, that their employers were willing to keep their places for them until they returned from the war. Now the trustees have a new difficulty on their hands. The female teachers, who took the places of the men who have gone to the front, or are in active military training, demand the same pay as the men. Why not? There is an acute aspect to this question and it is asserting itself in an insistent way. It is the work that is being paid for, not the sentiment either for or against the woman. The woman teacher sometimes fails because she cannot physically enforce the discipline that is required. Discipline aside, her teaching is quite as good as that of any man. Then why should one's pay not be as good, especially when the woman is filling the place of an absentee and performing his duties satisfactorily? The situation is pressing upon the Toronto trustees and well it may. They created, to some extent, the emergency, without considering all of its details. Of course, the experience in Toronto may be the experience in any city or town and hence the larger interest that attaches to it.

The opposition in the legislature proposed that any commission which is to be appointed to manage the Hydro business for Eastern Ontario should have upon it a representative of the municipalities. This was voted down. An enterprise in the interests of the municipalities, and without municipal representation, is an unbusiness-like proposition.

ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE.

Canada, through the Department of Commerce, will prepare for what is to happen after the war. There will be a certain dislocation of business as it is being carried on and in connection with the war, and the question will be how the people are to be profitably employed, and how the trade of Canada is to be developed. To this end there will be established: (1) A bureau of information which will deal intelligently with business in all its details (2) a museum which will represent and contain samples of all of Canada's natural resources and manufactures, and (3) trades commissions whose members, by travel and personal enquiry, will ascertain what Canada may do to meet the commercial wants of the Allies.

Sir George Foster referred incidentally to what Britain is doing in the way of improving her transportation, banking, industrial and engineering departments, for the emergencies of the hour, and the Whig has been paying special attention to this, and has been moved to express its profound admiration for what it has read. The commissions in England have been appointed by the British Board of Trade, and these, in certain branches of the iron, steel and engineering industries, and shipping and ship-building, have accomplished wonders already. They have been employed unostentatiously for months. The question not only of the demobilization of labor has been faced, but also the demobilization of the greater portion of manufacturing which are now so largely devoted to war work. These committees of experts will work out all the problems in the national interest and make arrangements which will facilitate the transfer from munition work to peaceful industry with the greatest possible speed, and prepare for meeting the new demands for machinery, engineering work, and general manufactures.

Both Britain and Canada are, however, behind Germany in its schemes and projections. On the authority of Lord Haldane the Teutons have, almost from the beginning of the war, been preparing for what will take place after the war. Its schools, in which the youth are obliged to take technical training, are said to be ahead of anything of their kind in the world. In Germany there is no gap in the school life of the boy. He may leave the ordinary classes to learn a trade, but his technical work is helped by his school work. Both are continued, and by a system that is not duplicated in any other country. It would be duplicated in Ontario if its law with regard to adolescents were any good, or if it were enforced. Unfortunately so much in the way of school legislation in Canada counts for nothing.

EDITORIAL NOTES.
Toronto claims that the province has collected in fines in the last seven years about \$15,000 which it should have paid over to the city. Why can't the city collect its own fines?

A Chicago judge has decided that Bacon wrote what has been commonly accredited to Shakespeare. In other words, "Shakespeare" was the nom de plume of Francis Bacon. That may settle the question and it may

not. The literary world will hardly accept the ruling of a Chicago judge in this matter.

The first thing the Russians did, after landing in France, was to erect an orthodox church and attend services in it. An object lesson to the French that will not be without great meaning.

Italy did not agree to the Pact of London, but she has signed a document which says that "the signing of peace must remain subordinated to the triumph of the cause that France and Italy are defending."

Dr. Pyne waited until the last day of the legislature, and then had the Teachers' Pension Bill read once. What happened to it then? It went into the waste paper basket or into a pigeon hole labelled "Dreams unfulfilled."

Where was Sir Adam Beck when the Hydro matters were under discussion in the legislature? The fact that he was in Toronto, and not in the house, knowing that these matters were being dealt with, is regarded as peculiar.

The local government asserted that it had Sir Adam Beck's consent and approval of all that it did on the Hydro question. But Sir Adam did not attend the legislature, as he could have done, and speak for himself.

**KINGSTON EVENTS
25 YEARS AGO**

Eight bicyclists wheeled to Odessa today.

Whooping cough is prevalent in the city.

Twelve trains have been added to the Kingston and Pembroke Railway.

S. Ramsay shipped 3,000 gallons of maple syrup from Delta. Seventy cents was the highest price paid.

The Awakening Of The Churches.

Everyman, London.
I had the great fortune of listening last Sunday to a most striking sermon, preached in perfect English, by Monsieur Saillens to an audience of 3,000 worshippers. I do not know of any living British preacher who could have delivered so inspiring an utterance as "The French pastor." The sermon on "The Sacrifice of Blood" was a masterly exposition and application of the central dogma of the Christian religion. It was delivered in Spurgeon's old Tabernacle by an orthodox Huguenot, but it might have been delivered by a Roman Catholic preacher in Westminster Cathedral. It was a wonderful experience. Is this war really bringing us nearer to a union of the churches? Is Protestantism on the eve of being permeated with the Catholic and universal ideals, and, conversely, is the Roman Catholic church, as in the golden age of Bossuet and Pascal, on the eve of being leavened with the Protestant leaven of spiritual freedom?

Col. A. D. Davidson, C.N.R. official is dead at Rochester, Minn.

RANDOM REELS

"Of Shoes and Ships, and Sealing Wax, of Cabbages and Kings."

CARUSO.

Caruso is a successful tenor singer who has become so popular that people gladly pay \$5 per night to hear him pop. He is one of the few tenor singers now before the public who can smoke a cigarette between acts, and still be listened to with reverence by the Anti-Smoking League and the W. C. T. U. Caruso always smokes a long, cork-tipped cigarette just before going on to assault some grand opera melody, but this does not prevent church people from flocking to hear him devour a few high notes, that teach us something, but we don't know what it is.

Caruso was born in Italy before he was ten years of age, and lived there long enough to imitate most of the language. He began to sing when a mere infant, and his voice was well placed from the start. The neighbors used to say that when annoyed by an attack of the croup Caruso could place his voice anywhere he wanted to, within a radius of four miles. When Caruso grew to be a young man somebody with a sensitive ear discovered that his voice needed to be cultivated, as it was lumpy in spots and lacked protein. He was

CONSERVATIVE PRESS.

Our Military Feat.
Ottawa Citizen.
In Canada, what is our performance so far, and our present effort? Our performance is to have put 210,000 men in uniform, mostly British-born, who have practically recruited themselves. Our present effort is to let men go on recruiting themselves, or leave persuasion to the local efforts of the officers of new battalions. Under this condition, the recruiting is proceeding at the rate of a thousand a day or so, according to the Premier.

At the rate of a thousand a day, Canada will reach something like the 500,000 mark by the end of this year, but inasmuch as most new troops need a year's training to be fit for the front, a considerable part of the 500,000 thus raised will not be available for the fighting line until nearly two years from now. In this, if we really wish to put half a million men in the field, as we have as it could be? Would we not do better to get our men more quickly? And so to help in the case presented by Capt. Tryon's appeal, "A stronger army and a shorter war?"

Let some of us fool ourselves with the notion that peace is near. The peace rumors which continually crop up here or there are either silly or inspired for a purpose. No peace is coming which the British Empire will share until Germany is completely beaten. Therefore the British Empire, with the battle line in France, to lick Germany before the British Empire quits; and licking Germany is not going to be done, with or without allies, in any short space of time. But done it must be.

The Russians In France.

Toronto Telegram.
How did the Russian troops get to Marseilles? Transports have no egress from the Black Sea ports of Russia through the Dardanelles. The port of Archangel is still ice bound. The nearest Russian winter port on the White Sea is perhaps not available for the movement of troops. Vladivostok, 1,000 miles to Shanghai, and Shanghai 9,050 miles from Marseilles, is the route that the Russian soldiers may have travelled on the way to the battle line in France. Ships take war munitions to Vladivostok to be rushed over the trans-Siberian railway to the Czar's fighting line in Europe. These ships may have taken a return cargo of soldiers to France, shepherded in safety over 10,000 miles of sea, by the strength of the British navy, whose might is the shelter behind which the warring nations arm themselves for the defence of liberty and the overthrow of tyranny.

INDEPENDENT PRESS.

Premier Not Satisfying.
Hamilton Herald.
The Premier pointed with pride to the fact that about a thousand men are enlisting every day. This answer to the representation made by the deputations was enough to show either that the Premier does not understand the situation or that he willfully ignored the facts brought to his attention. The complaint is not so much that men are not enlisting in sufficient numbers, as that the ranks are being filled too largely by youths who are unfit for military service, by married men, with families, and by men who are needed for work at home, while multitudes of single men of military age who are both physically fit and can easily be spared from the industrial ranks are holding back.

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Rippling Rhymes

THE SINGER
I sing my song the whole day long, and keep my harp a-going, to try to cheer the folk who are dodging bricks they're throwing. I sing of hope and all such dope, of gay and bright to-morrows, of canning care and black despair, and putting lids on sorrows. Year after year this sort of cheer, I'm tireless providing, and my winged steed keeps up his speed, though galled by too much riding. Throughout this land the folks will stand a little taller, if but the bard, when whooping hard, a gladsome note is springing. Though cracked his voice, if he'll rejoice, and laugh at woe and wailing, men will remark, "Long may his bark on smiling seas be sailing!" Yet poets write of starless night, and ghouls and women weeping, of lovers dead and vampires dread that batten on the sleeping. The dismal pite of old finds his goat has from his keeping wandered, his odes won't bring enough, by jing, to have his nightie laundered. For in this vale the rhythmic wall will never tempt sane buyers, who'll blow their piles for cheerful smiles and lays of lulling liars.



W. H. MASON

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