

The British Whig
SEED YEAR



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TURKEY NEARING END

With the crushing defeat of the Turkish army at the Suez, all Turkish and German hopes of striking Great Britain a vital blow in Egypt must inevitably have vanished. Not since the war began has Egypt been so absolutely safe as she now is as a result of this Turkish attack. We venture to think that there will be no more attempts to seize the Suez Canal, not only because this long-planned raid has resulted in such irretrievable disaster for the Turks, but because they will soon be fully occupied elsewhere.

Something like dismay will undoubtedly be caused in Constantinople by the news that, coincident with this defeat, an understanding has been arrived at between Great Britain, Russia and Persia whereby a solution favorable to all parties has been found relating to the financial and military organization of Persia. This means that Persia can now be freely used as an area for an Anglo-Russian flank march on Turkey, and that Britain can send her Indian troops there to act in conjunction with the Russians. It is the beginning of the end for the Turks.

Liberals would do well to remember that the British government urged a quarter of a century ago by the Mowat administration to secure control of the Sudbury nickel deposits and safeguard the supplies required for the manufacture of munitions. The invitation was not accepted, although renewed later after the Boer war.

SECRETS OF THE GREAT WAR.

It is becoming obvious that much of the history of the world war will not be revealed until peace exists among the contending nations. From time to time long after the occurrence of some crisis in their affairs disclosures are made which show how narrow has been the space between success and non-success on the battlefield.

Take for instance the defeats of the French and English while they were retreating towards Paris. How skillfully those defeats were concealed from the people of this country. Not until the English and French rallied and defeated the Germans at the battle of the Marne was there any disclosure from English or French sources of the defeats suffered by the French and English previously.

Then consider this despatch from Paris on Tuesday last:

"Paris, Tuesday.—On the first of June, 1915," said David Lloyd-George, the British Secretary for War, a conversation with Maurice Baresse, the French Academician and novelist, "the British army had one week's supply of munitions and only 75,000 shots in the reserve stock at the rear. It had nothing more."

"If there had been a great attack what would have become of us? If the Germans had turned upon our soldiers the forces they then hurled on the Russians I don't see how we could have saved ourselves."

Observers of the gigantic conflict wondered at the apathy of the English army. Lloyd-George's statement acknowledging the lack of ammunition discloses the real cause of that apathy. It had been discovered by costly experience that infantry could not storm well equipped defensive trenches—that the trenches must first be battered to pieces by shell fire. Lacking the shells the English did not dare to advance. It was left to the British artillerist and the French artillerist to patient and ceaseless labor to manufacture the shells which are now showing their deadly force in Eastern France.

CAN GERMANY HOLD?

Frank H. Simonds, a very competent war critic, in an article contributed by him to the American Review of Reviews for August, discusses the great Allied offensive, and apparently comes to the conclusion that Germany's defeat is inevitable. He says:

No one in France, Russia or Britain expects to reach the Rhine or the Oder this year. It is doubtful if there is any general hope in Allied capitals that Belgium can be liberated before show files. The Russians do not expect to approach Cracow or Posen, probably not to reclaim Warsaw or Lodz, before the year-end.

"The utmost that the Allies hope is that France may be freed of German troops between the Meuse and the sea, that the German hold upon Belgium may be shaken, that Austria may have to surrender more of Galicia. So much for map hopes, but what is more vital, the Allies hope and believe that the concentrated and continuing attack on all fronts will begin to wear down German power of resistance, tax German man-power beyond its limits, and establish clearly the ultimate outcome of the struggle if it is prolonged to its natural end.

"We are at the beginning of four months of fighting, more intense, more bloody, more terrible than this war has yet seen. At its close the Allies believe that Germany will know herself beaten and knowing herself beaten be ready to discuss peace on the basis that peace can be had. The four months will cost Germany far more than a million casualties, they will cost Austria not less than half as many. Britain and Russia have the men to pay this price, while France and Italy will make material contribution. But the real test must be in the casualty lists, in the capacity to bear them on the two sides of the battle-front. The war of exhaustion has at last reached the decisive point. And it is to the war of exhaustion rather than to the war of position that we must turn to find an answer to the riddle of the world war. Can Germany pay the price and hold? This is the whole question now."

HAY FEVER

Presumably all that is known to science concerning hay fever, its causes, the means of prevention and methods of treatment, is contained in the current report of the United States Public Health Service in an article by Dr. W. Scheppelgren, president of the American Hay Fever prevention association. In most parts of the United States from one to two per cent. of the population suffer from this disease at some portion of the year and children often have it, unsuspected, while their guardians are "doctoring them for a cold."

Immunity is frequently only apparent, the freedom from attack being due merely to insufficient exposure, and one attack increases the susceptibility. Hay fever is due to plant pollen in the air. Plants are pollinated in two ways, by insects and by wind. Those pollinated by insects are generally conspicuous, bright-colored or aromatic, or both, and these are harmless to man except a few, such as the daisy feebane, which produce hay fever reaction only when applied directly to the nostril. The goldenrod, which has been under suspicion as a hay fever carrier, is said to have been grossly libelled in this respect. Hay fever plants are wind pollinated; they are very numerous; the flowers are inconspicuous, without bright color or scent and the pollen is formed in great quantities.

Although the grasses are wind-pollinated and are on the hay fever list, causing most of the outbreaks in May, by far the most and the worst offenders are rank weeds, the eradication of which by unity of action in a neighborhood would not be difficult and which would be beneficial from an economic and aesthetic as well as a hygienic standpoint. The common ragweed and the giant ragweed are counted responsible for 85 per cent of the autumnal hay fever in the regions where they flourish. Other common hay fever weeds, some of them local, are western ragweed, false wormwood, marsh elder, western elder, thorny amaranth, cockle bur, false ragweed and yellow dock. There are many others, fortunately not so common, but, on the other hand, not all wind-pollinated weeds cause hay fever. Some individuals are immune to the pollen of some plants and not to others.

It is admitted that no method of treatment has given satisfactory results. The only effective handling is by destroying the weeds or preventing them from reaching the state of pollination. Pollen may travel on the wind several miles but it is not regarded as dangerous to health for a greater distance than half a mile and even a shorter distance is sufficient to give relief. Ten states have anti-weed laws but not all of them specify or include the most objectionable hay fever weeds. But now that the exact nature of the worthless weeds that cause hay fever is becoming known, legislation against them is more general and may be expected to be enacted in all of the states.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Those who dislike cutting off human heads have now a fine chance to go west and help amputate the wheat crop.

We are not quite certain what Mr. Hearst intends to do. His support of Norris is at least disquieting and makes prohibitionists anxious.

The labor question is pressing hard on the farmers. Are there not many boys and men in Kingston who could help out and save good food for winter use?

"Although the end of the war may not be in sight, never have we stood in so favorable a position as tonight. The enemy is everywhere on the defensive, and there are signs of his material weakening and exhaustion."—Premier Asquith.

The auto driver who makes every street a speedway and regards every pedestrian as an obstruction of traffic should never be given the opportunity of "queering" the other citizens who know how to conduct themselves while in a motor car.

Robson Black, secretary of the forestry association, says that "in place of the Northern Ontario fires increasing the value of land, as has been claimed, the assets of the entire district visited by flames have been decreased materially. The first concern of a settler, the safety of his life, has no safeguard so long as the playbelt region is so long as the government with the merest skeleton of real fire protection." Ontario forests are the least protected of all provincial forests.

PUBLIC OPINION

Misplaced Confidence (Ottawa Journal)
The impregnable trench has joined the unsinkable ship.

A Strike to be Encouraged (Wall Street Journal)
If the insurance agents strike, may the book agents join them.

Beginning to Learn (Kincaid Review)
The Kaiser is beginning to see that it is unsafe to consider a man licked until he realizes it himself.

How to Make a "Hit." (Toronto Star)
Young men who want to make a hit with the girl he admires can easily do so by getting into one of those well-known and easily procurable khaki suits.

What Every Man Admires (Helen Rowland)
Every man admires a good cook and would marry one if it were not that he is usually too busy courting some fluff, helpless little thing with a pair of eyes and one brain cell.

Professing Without Practice (Our Dumb Animals)
Why has Christianity been powerful?

Random Reels

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

APPENDICITIS

Appendicitis is a final descendant of the old-fashioned stomach-ache, having the same clutch action and Physout ensemble. It has been patented by the medical profession in every state in the Union, one attack being worth more to the average doctor than an epidemic of the prehensible grip.

Appendicitis is caused by the restless behavior of a small, carefully-concealed object called the appendix. The identity, location and cases it steals up on its victim and person habits of the appendix were claps him on the nose and reverse his not known to the medical profession until a few years ago, when an earnest homeopathy physician ran into it while hunting for something else. He discovered that by removing the appendix he could relieve the patient of equal amounts of pain and money, which was one of the most expensive discoveries ever made. From this humble beginning, has sprung that great industry which makes it cost more to possess a stomach-ache than it does to keep up a second hand touring car.

Appendicitis is a very abrupt and treacherous disease, and when correctly diagnosed always leads up to a \$250 operation. In fact, modern surgery relies upon appendicitis as lemonade, we would get something else. The first few attempts to cure this disease by surgery were crude, ment stations

Rippling Rhymes

WIDER FIELDS.

The young men drift away from home; they go to Rahway and to Nome, to Boston and New York; and some of them will cross the sea to try their luck in Gay Paree, in Edinburgh or Cork. They go afar to play the game, to win the laurel wreath of fame, acquire a goodly roll; their native village doesn't yield a chance, they want a wider field than Punktown-in-the-Hole. Yet Punktown is a goodly town, and here a man may gain renown, and wealth, and honor, too; but you are full of dreams, my lad, and so you'll hike for Petrograd, across the ocean blue. Across the hills and far away, you'll have a better chance, you say, as hosts have said before; and so you say farewell to all, and leave behind your father's hall, his roof-tree and his door. I know you'd do as well at home as you will do, where'er you roam, but it were vain to speak, for youth must tread the distant road, and find for itself its own abode, its Eldorados seek. Go forth and hew and carve and build, and may the visions be fulfilled that agitate your soul! Go, wander 'neath a foreign sky, while we old codgers wilt and die, at Punktown-in-the-Hole!

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less to abolish war? Christianity would have abolished war centuries ago if men had lived it one half as vigorously as they have professed it.

Violation of Law (Boston Post)
Judged by all the known circumstances of the case of Captain Fryatt of the British merchantman Brussels, his execution by the Germans seems to have been a gross violation of international law as well as of the laws of humanity.

Home News From Abroad (Washington Herald)
One peculiarity of Col. Ham, of the C.P.R. is that he always wears the same suit of clothes. Nobody can remember having seen him in the daytime when he didn't have on a gray lounge suit and grey slouch hat. Every night when he is not travelling he puts on a dress suit.

Patriotism and Profiteering (Calgary Herald)
A Hamilton manufacturer who has been working on a government shell contract for the past eleven months has just handed over to the government a check for \$750,000, which represents the profits on the shell job for that time. The running expenses of the factory and wages of employees had been paid. It is a magnificent gift; also it shows just how much money Canadian munition contractors are making out of the war.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

To-day was the hottest day of the season. The thermometer registered 93 degrees in the shade down Davis & Son have been asked to make models and plans for a steamboat 180 feet long for a Brockville company. She will be used as an excursion boat on the river, and her speed will be eighteen miles an hour.

TO CONSERVE THE NORTHLAND.

Stratford Herald.

The Canadian Forestry Association is out with a strong appeal for better protection against fire in Northern Ontario. Three main reasons are pressed for in a circular just sent out. They are:

- 1. Remodelling of the ranger service so as to give real protection to the forest wealth of the province and supply a fair return in service rendered for the money spent thereon.
- 2. The employment of inspectors in the ratio of at least one inspector to ten rangers, so as to get the maximum degree of actual forest protection. Over an area of ten million acres of timber lands under license, Ontario has just eight supervisors, each being required to manage, on an average, 36 men, a task so impossible that often more than one fitting visit to the ranger on duty can be paid in an entire season.
- 3. Sufficient rangers must be provided to completely patrol the Clay

Belt region, most of which is now under tree growth, and these rangers must have authority to control the burning operations of settlers so that holocausts, such as that of recent date, shall have less opportunity to recur.

The suggestions appear reasonable and promise considerable improvement if carried out.

IS THERE FISHING RECIPROcity NOW?

Brockville Times.
There is supposed to be a reciprocity in fishing licenses between Canada and the United States in the region of the Thousand Islands. There is a species of one-sided reciprocity in force—United States tourists can fish all they please in Canadian waters between Kingston and Brockville without license, let or hindrance. Ontario fishery overseers have been notified by the provincial fish and game department not to interfere with American fishermen, the understanding being that Canadians could fish on the United States side without license. Not so, however, for if the Canucks fish in U. S. waters they are liable to be pinched. Fishery Overseer Farrell at Morrisburg states that he has had no instructions in regard to any arrangement for reciprocity in licenses with Canada, and as far as he is concerned the law stands as it reads and will be enforced. There is some big blunder here and Brockville's legislative member should look into the matter at once.

REVELATIONS WITH REGARD TO ROADS.

Rochester Post-Express.
Canada still holds her place as the frightful example of the evils of government ownership of transportation lines. In an article published in the "Journal of Political Economy," Samuel O. Dunn says the government railroads in that country are a complete financial failure, and he proves his statement by figures showing that they have cost the public \$268,000,000 more than their present value. This estimate takes no account of the amount the public treasury would have received in taxes in the roads had been owned by private corporations. The rates are said to be unjustly burdensome to general taxpayers, and the government lines are charged with extravagant mismanagement and "pork barrel" improvements. Mr. Dunn's criticism will not seem unduly severe to persons who know something of what has been shown in reports of commissions of inquiry across the border.

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These prices are positively guaranteed against any reduction before August 1st, 1917, but there is no guarantee against an advance in price at any time.

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