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APPEAL TO YOUNG MEN.  
"I tell you young men that there is a long career of usefulness for your native land ahead of you. Already there are many problems, there will be more problems for you to solve, problems of national aspirations, problems of economics, problems of creed divisions, and you must find a solution for them. After forty years of public life in Canada, I must give you a safe guide, and unfailing light for your guidance. Faith is better than doubt, and love better than hate. Banish doubt. Banish hate. Let your souls ever be fixed upon high impulses, strengthened by generous thoughts. Be adamant against the haughty, be kind and gentle to the weak. In good report and ill, in victory and defeat let your souls be guided by strong faith and inspiration, that you may rise to still greater and greater heights."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Rumania suffers from Bulgaria's broken promises, and from her own in-prudence. She could have hidden her time for the conquest of the Transylvania. That could have come later.

A WASTE OF MONEY.  
The Montreal Gazette does not think that this is an appropriate time in which to ask the government to build a highway for automobilizing across the continent. The reason is that millions are going into the war and that at the end of it "between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000 a year" will have to be provided in order to meet sinking fund charges and interest. "The taxes," says our contemporary, "are high, and may be higher before peace comes." Which is quite an impressive statement, as it was intended to be. Sir Thomas White's admonition, given about the same time, at Halifax, and while he was en route to England, is that every one in any position of life, must economize. A main road, taking the place in the far west of the trails which motorists follow in their long trips across the prairie, would be a valuable asset. It would mean millions in the travel which it cultivates, but it must be postponed until after the war, and perhaps for ever if the public debt and interest keep piling up as they are doing at the present time.

The school master is getting the best of the lawyer in the presidential campaign. A week ago the betting—the thermometer in the case—was two to one on Hughes. Now it is even, with public opinion running fast in favor of the democratic candidate.

EQUIPMENT OF SOLDIERS.  
The seemingly impossible has been achieved in St. Dunstan's hostel, St. Regent's, England, where blinded soldiers have been taught to write shorthand and operate typewriters expertly. The man or the woman who can, with his or her sight, master stenography and typewriting in a few months, is to be regarded as a wonder, and the blinded soldier excels anything that has been achieved prior to this time.

Capt. Baker, of Collins' Bay, who is a graduate of the Pearson school, or hostel, at St. Dunstan is showing what he can do as one of the staff of the Hydro-Electric Commission, in Toronto, and his is a remarkable case. But in the London Chronicle reference is made to the even more surprising service of Harold Fleet, who, as a private in the Manchester, at the Dardanelles, was completely blinded.

He studied the Braille system of

shorthand and can do what it was supposed would take years to accomplish. The young man is a clerk with the United Yeast Company at Manchester, and has proven one of the best typists of the firm, and proudly intimates that he has "proven" of some worth to the firm, and not as a war curiosity.

RUMANIA CHASTENED.  
The Rumanians committed a tactical error in seeking, alone, to capture the Transylvania. It may have been the ambition of the Crown, but it could have been gratified later, and at a lighter cost in prestige and in power. It was not expected, says a report, that the Bulgarians would attack them, and through the Dobruja, but they did. These are the tools of the German war lords and are used without hesitation in any sort of service which suggests itself.

A study of the map shows how deficient the Rumanians have been in fact and how they have been menaced by Von Falkenhayn on the north and von Mackensen on the south, and by the great bodies of troops that have been withdrawn from the western front for this purpose. The plan was to strike a disastrous blow before relief could be afforded by the Allies. Allied relief is now at hand, but from what source is not apparent.

The thrust at the Rumanians is in keeping with the experiences of the French, British, Serbians, Italians and Russians. It is in these latter days of the war, attended with only spasmodic success. Rumania will probably recover from the rude shock she has received, as did the French and British at the outset of the war, and she may yet earn the rewards of her heroic service.

The success of the Germans on the Dobruja has been more than offset by the loss in the Verdun district. The extent of this last disaster is clearly summed up by a contemporary in the adjoining column.

MODEL CITY CHARTER.  
A committee of the Stratford council has spent some months in meditating upon forms of civic government, and as a result it has proposed something which is said to be really unique, though after the British experience. It involves a smaller body, (twelve men), who shall be elected by the whole people without ward divisions, and hold office for four years each. A certain number to retire annually. The mayor to be appointed by the council.

There is nothing new in all this. Kingston tried the election of aldermen for three-year terms and abandoned it. The idea was that good men, not having to seek election often, would agree to serve the people. The experiment was a sad disappointment. It did not tend to either better representations or better service. Kingston, too, has tried the election of mayors by the council. They were generally good men, but not an improvement upon those who were elected by the people.

The proposal that the committee be larger and manage all the public business, including that now entrusted to commissions, will not strike the average legislator as desirable. Municipal committees, changeable annually, are not conducive to good government, and they would not tolerate very long, if Kingston's experience counts for anything, the advice of the officials who would be members of the committees without votes.

The Associated Boards of Trade appealed to the Bureau of Municipal Research, in Toronto, over a year ago for a model charter, and it has been prepared. The model will be discussed at the meeting of the Associated Boards next month in Hamilton, and it appears to be better than the charter which has been suggested by a committee of the Queen's City Council. Why not submit both to the scrutiny of a committee of experts?

EDITORIAL NOTES.  
Kingston will have reason to be ashamed of her Red Cross contribution unless the means of supplementing it are immediately found.

Toronto is closing its city jail. The few offenders the city has to take care of are being transferred to the farm in York township. Who, two years ago, would have predicted this?

The man who goes to Ogdensburg for liquor had better drink it there and remain away from Kingston long enough to lose its odors. He can't afford to pay a fine of \$200 every month.

The United States must be confounded with the evidence of her assistance to the German submarines. There will hardly be any more objection to the patrol by the British cruisers of the ocean outside of the three-mile limit.

Who would have thought that the German Admiralty would succeed in erecting a telegraph and supply station in the United States. It's the legitimate result of the state department's decision to recognize the U-53 as a neutral craft.

Rumania's greatest loss is the port of Constantza on the Black Sea with her many warehouses filled with stores. These will be appreciated by

the Teutonic forces, for they have been, in some respects, very hard pressed.

PUBLIC OPINION

The End in Sight.  
(Ottawa Citizen)  
The Manitoba trial may end by Chief Justice Rogers sending this fellow Galt to penitentiary for life.

Calling Him Names.  
(Ottawa Free Press)  
Montreal Witness describes Hon. Robert Rogers as "a rather brainless politician." We had thought a real criminal required to have considerable cleverness.

A Timely Warning.  
(Toronto Globe)  
The warning of the Providence Journal that three German submarines are still on this side of the Atlantic should be taken seriously. The Journal in the past has shown an almost uncanny knowledge of German plans and projects.

What Became of Them?  
(Montreal Gazette)  
Prince von Bulow is quoted as saying that Germany has constructed no fewer than 225 submarines since the war began. That is interesting enough information. What would be more interesting, though, would be a statement as to the number lost while on duty. The wastage of war must have cut deeply into the total.

Some Election Language.  
(Vancouver Province)  
We had a warm campaign in British Columbia, but things must be warmer still in Montana. Witness the following from the Anaconda Standard: "No subtle art can in a speciousness that will blind the voters of Montana to the deplorable depravities, the desperate deviltries, and the deep damnation of the roaring Republican rascals."

KINGSTON EVENTS  
25 YEARS AGO

The Kingston drydock is about completed. The cost of constructing it will be \$450,000.

Police Constable James Bateson today received two Plymouth rock hens from Staten Island, N. Y.

The all-night electric light service will be commenced in a month's time.

WHAT THE GERMANS ARE AIMING AT

Montreal Star.  
It cannot be too often said that peace under present conditions would constitute a great German victory. If we may take a parallel from the golf links, it would be as if a man having his opponent "four down and six to go," should propose that they stop the game without playing the remaining six holes, finishing on the score as it stood. The position is that the Allies are now winning, and are confident that they will get the next "six holes." Naturally they will not stop. Just as naturally, the Germans want to stop. If they could get into Bucharest and then stop, their prestige would be enormous. They would be masters of the Balkans, no matter what the peace treaty said. We must remember that, however evident it may be today that the Germans are seeking peace because they know

Random Reels

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

THE ELECTRIC BELT.

The Electric Belt is a substitute for the mustard plaster which can be removed without taking any of the patient with it.  
From the earliest days of this republic the mustard plaster has been relied upon to extract shooting pains from the interior of man's anatomy. It was always applied by some faithful wife who mixed the plaster with her own hands, in order that there might be plenty of mustard therein, and all that a suffering husband had to do was allow the plaster to sit down on his stomach and draw the pain to the surface. It is an uncanny sensation to have a stout mustard plaster with long teeth grasp hold of a vital organ and maul it into a state of helpless submission, and many a patient has preferred to die with his cuticle intact rather than pass through such an ordeal.  
The Electric Belt, however, has forever done away with the mustard plaster and its murderous instincts.

Rippling Rhymes

THE STAY-AT-HOME

"Your King and country need you" to aid the cause of Right; does loyal impulse lead you to arm yourself and fight? Are you ignobly skulking, your motto "Safety First," when woe is largely bulking, and foemen's bombshells burst? The country's stress produces men great of soul, I wist, while you invent excuses for falling to enlist. You have an aching finger and see your neighbors go. When weapons cease to rattle, and peace has come men, when from the fields of battle the boys come home again; when heroes tell their stories of struggles past and done, of sufferings and glories, and triumphs hardly won, how shall the shirker hearken to that, and save his face? He'll feel the shadows darken, the shadows of disgrace. Who'll heed his explanation, when, sore, he whooping cough! My martial spirit tingles, and I to war would jump, but I was down with shingles, a measles and a nump! Your King and country need you, their banner to protect; go, let a German bleed you, and gain some self-respect.



WINT MACKAY

they are in course of being beaten, they will tell the world in ten years that they made peace, while their unbeatable armies held large tracts of Entente territory, because their humane instincts were sickened by apostasy of "kiltar," they could not bear the further crucifixion of civilization.

THE FRENCH ARMY'S LAST CHARGE

Syracuse Post-Standard.  
For five months the Germans battled for Verdun. It took them four days, and thousands of men to take a portion of the Douaumont fort alone. It took nearly three months more to capture the remainder of the fort. It took them from the first of March until the first of July to establish themselves firmly in the Haumont quarries and Thiaumont farm. The great offensive came to an end in July, with Verdun still unconquered.

For twenty-four hours, with slight losses to their own men, the French sweep the German troops out of every position they have gained at tremendous cost, beating them back to their original lines, smashing the strongly fortified quarries and nullifying five months' work by the Crown Prince's army.  
It was strategy with imagination, strategy one would not expect to find in any army other than the French. The attack was unexpected. The Germans were unprepared, figuring that the Somme offensive was using every ounce of France's driving power. They did not look for attack in another direction, least of all at Verdun, where the usual bombardment had appeared to be no more severe during the last few days than in the four months since the German attack slackened. But this bombardment suddenly increased in intensity, and before they had opportunity to bring up reserves, the infantry had swept forward in single impenetrable charges that carried everything before it.  
It was a magnificent piece of work. It will be admired even by those whose sympathies are against the Allies.

THE CANADIAN SOLDIER IN ACTION

Frederick Palmer, in New York Times.  
Before the grand offensive the British staff and commanders, those few professionals who were trained to direct the small regular army, realized fully their immense responsibility in sending an army trained in theory against the experienced German organization. "At that time one commander recalled to the correspondent a saying of Von Moltke that although the German as a soldier might not be better than his enemy the German army always would win because of a superior staff system." We have met that staff, said the man recently, "and I assure you none of us is suffering from stage fright these days. We thank the staff for what they taught us, the days of our unpreparedness, and of late they have been learning a few things from us."  
In the way of concrete achievements the British have taken 30,000 prisoners, or a little less than 1,500 for each of the twenty-one villages captured, with an average population of about 300. They have taken 125 guns, 109 trench mortars and trench guns and 423 machine guns. They have not lost a gun.

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