

Some Ottawa Glimpses

Special Correspondence by H. F. Gadsby.

Good Laugh on Public.

Ottawa, Nov. 11.—Some people might call it cynical effrontery, others callous indifference, others again a sardonic sense of humor. At all events the Borden Government has the laugh on the public. It has been a grim practical joker since the war started and for some time before that.

Perhaps the grimmest joke of all has been the war profiteering. Instead of putting the manufacture of munitions on a national basis, as suggested by Lloyd-George's commission, Mr. Thomas, the Borden Government preferred to hand out tremendous fortunes to their party friends. So far as the Borden Government is concerned, this has been a Tory war from start to finish—a special opportunity sent by Providence to shake the plum tree to a finish.

And go to it the profiteers did. Profits anywhere from one hundred to five hundred per cent. Poor quality at that. Paper shoes. Shoddy uniforms. Defective shells. Spavined chargers—and so forth and so on. Get as much for as little as possible. All the traffic could bear and then some.

In pursuance of this policy of handing it to their friends, millions of dollars were spent in equipment that had to be discarded as soon as our soldiers reached England. From five to six million dollars was spent on Ross rifles, after the British War Office had reported against them. Worse than that was the jamming when in action have been responsible for the loss of many Canadian lives.

Another huge joke has been Honorary-Lieutenant General Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, "the man who did things." What Sam did is now all too plain. One thing he did was to inflict on the country Honorary Colonel John Wesley Allison, whose idea of saving money for the British Empire was to steer furs contracts that should have gone to good Canadians to American manufacturing firms on a commission of ten per cent.

Another thing Sir Sam did was to stick Canada for \$40,000 for a load of shovels with a hole in the middle. These shovels, called by the soldiers "Hughes' spoons," were found to be good neither for digging nor for defending, the hole being just big enough for the sand to run through, not big enough to shoot through and a tolerable bull's-eye for a Hun marksman. However, that was only a little joke—something to keep his hand in—not a big joke like the Bertram Shell Committee.

Another thing Sir Sam did was to load up the Canadian Staff in England with friends of his own, who seem content to view the war from that distance. At any rate no attempt has been made to send them to the front or to supply their places with disabled officers who have one their bit in the field. The condition of the Canadian Army Medical Service in England, infested, as Dr.

Bruce reports, with incompetents, drug fiends and booze fighters, who get their jobs because they were party supporters, is another prime example of Sir Sam's method of doing things.

Not to go into trite details of old scandals, the biggest joke Sir Sam has perpetrated on the public is himself. Sam is really the Gypsy's Curse on the Borden Government, but he doesn't realize this. He thinks he is Joan of Arc.

Another ludicrous joke by the Borden Government was the appointment of R. B. Bennett, M. P., as chairman of a "non-partisan" National Service Commission. Non-partisan!! Why, R. B. never thinks of the Almighty save as a Tory, and an Imperial Federalist of the Liberal-Curtis type. An integral part of this joke is the attempt to hand Sir Wilfrid Laurier a lemon—that is to say, offering Sir Wilfrid a full share of the blame for the Government's ineffective recruiting methods, while refusing to give him a look-in on army contracts and matters like that.

On this point Toronto Saturday Night, an Independent Conservative Journal, has this to say: "The mismanagement of our man power in connection with the war has been such that nothing that can be done will ever repair the damage. Muzzling Bourassa would probably be the most effective method of still accomplishing a little something, but, of course, this will not be done. But asking the Liberal Leader to share the responsibilities of Conservative mismanagement was rather a good idea, the only trouble is the Old Man saw the point of the hook and concluded not to bite."

Still another joke is the tariff—a cruel joke. It was twenty-five per cent. tariff when the Liberals went out of office in 1911. It is a forty per cent. tariff now—a veritable Raikes' Progress. War or no war, it would have been a forty per cent. tariff because the Borden Government had to carry out its bargain with its industrial good profiteers, to deliver the consumer to the tender mercies. And well have they done it—so well that in another year, that is to say at the end of the war, the food profiteers will have about all the money there is in the country. Trust the King to keep a good lap ahead of the purchasing value of the dollar. Trust them to lick up all the benefits of high wages to the worker. Trust them to get all there is out of the goose short of actually killing it!

The situation of the worker with a trades union on his back is bad enough, but consider the situation of the unorganized worker, the school teacher, the clerk, the parson, the innumerable wage slaves of desk and counter who are not able to gain their ends by striking and must take that they get or leave it. If the Cold Storage Kings and the other food brigades are allowed to go unchecked these poor fellows will soon be in sight of starvation.

The grimmest joke of all is when a deputation goes to Ottawa to ask the Borden Government for measures of relief against the High Cost of Living, and the Government suggests that the municipalities shall conduct investigations of their own and when they have found the witch the Government will consider what ought to be done, if anything. The Government has or should have four reports on this subject in hand right now. Consequently any proposal to investigate is a stand-off, pure and simple. Go chase yourself—that is what the Government says to the people who complain about the High Cost of Living.

Bakers bread is now six cents a pound. The bakers say they can't do it for less than four at \$9.50 a barrel. Flour is \$9.50 a barrel because the Borden Government's milling friends have it all their own way. The Northwest farmer cannot sell his surplus wheat to the American miller except against a prohibitive duty and the Mexican miller is similarly impeded in selling his surplus flour to the Canadian consumer. Meat prices are scandalous and threaten to become more so. The cold storages are firmly entrenched with the Borden Government. A cold storage warehouse was burned at Lindsay the other day—one of the many and a small one at that—and a quarter of a million dollars worth of food went up in smoke. That is only one of the food-boards the cold-storages are laying by so as to create artificial scarcity and famine prices.

Being as close to the cold storages as the Borden Government is it probably knows these facts. That one bank of which the largest cold storage operator in Canada is a director, finances practically all the big packing companies in this country. What would the depositors in this bank say if they knew that their own money was being used to choke them to death? Would they leave their money there or would there be a run on the bank?

Another little fact worth looking into. Not a pound of meat, not a can of peas, not an apple nor an onion, not an ounce of anything can be bought in Canada except at a retail price fixed by the wholesalers. Fruit rots in the shop windows sooner than suffer an abatement of price.

There must be combines about. Why not get after 'em?

H. F. Gadsby.

OPERATION BLUNDER FATAL

Surgeon Left Forceps in Incision and Complications Ensued. St. Catharines, Ont., Nov. 10.—Mrs. Amy Lavina Moir, wife of Rev. D. A. Moir, pastor of the Methodist church, Thorold, died at St. Catharines General Hospital yesterday as the result of a surgical oversight. Two years ago Mrs. Moir underwent an operation at Hamilton for appendicitis, which was apparently successful, outside the fact that a pair of forceps were left within her body after the incision was wended. The presence of the forceps was made known by excruciating pain. They were removed in a second operation. The instrument, however, had worked its way into the intestines, which had become seriously decayed. Mrs. Moir had been in the hospital here, awaiting a favorable opportunity for a third operation, this time to remove the decayed portions of the intestine, but she was too weak.

Mrs. Moir was a daughter of Rev. Dr. G. Adams, of 86 Hazelton avenue, Toronto.

THE DOOR TO HEALTH

Is Through the Rich, Red Blood Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Actually Make.

The blood is responsible for the health of the body. If it is good, disease cannot exist. If it is bad, the door is shut against good health, disease is bound to appear in one form or another. One person may be seized with rheumatism or sciatica, another with anaemia, indigestion, heart palpitation, headaches or backaches, or strung nerves, or any of the many other forms of ailment that comes when the blood is weak and watery. There is just one certain, speedy cure—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They make new, rich blood and this good blood brings good health and happiness. Thousands owe their present good health, some, life itself, to the pills. Miss Devina Lalbert, St. Jerome, Que., says: "Last year I seemed gradually to grow weak and run down. I did not sleep well, had a poor appetite, and grew pale and generally languid. I consulted a doctor who told me I was anaemic, and gave me a tonic. This I took faithfully for some time, but it did not help me, and I appeared to be growing worse, and finally I was hardly able to go about the house and almost wholly incapacitated for work. While in this condition I read a paper which contained a reference to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and got several boxes. It was not long after I began their use when I could see an improvement, which just manifested itself in an improved appetite and better rest at night. From this on the improvement was rapid and I was not long in regaining perfect health. I think Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a real blessing for all weak girls."

You can get these pills through any medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams Medicine Co. Brockville, Ont.

WON'T SIT BEFORE JANUARY

May Be Early in February Before Parliament Meets. Ottawa, Nov. 10.—The session of Parliament will not be called until the latter part of January or perhaps the early part of February. The date will not be fixed for some weeks, although the matter will come up for consideration on the return of Sir Thomas White from England in December. The Finance Minister's budget and measures of war finance will be, as usual, an important feature of the Government's legislative programme. The speakers of both Houses, Hon. Joseph Bolduc of the Senate and Hon. Albert Sevgin of the Commons, were in Ottawa today.

BREAK A CHILD'S COLD BY GIVING SYRUP OF FIGS

Cleanses the Little Liver and Bowels and They Get Well Quick. When your child suffers from a cold don't wait; give the little stomach, liver and bowels a gentle, thorough cleansing at once. When cross, peevish, listless, pale, don't sleep, eat, or act naturally, if breath is bad, stomach sour, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the clogged-up, constipated waste, sour bile and digested food will gently move out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again.

If your child coughs, snuffles, and has caught cold or is feverish or has a sore throat give a good dose of "California Syrup of Figs" to evacuate the bowels, no difference what other treatment is given. Sick children needn't be coaxed to take this harmless "fruit laxative." Millions of mothers keep it handy because they know its action on the stomach, liver and bowels is prompt and sure. They also know a little given today saves a sick child tomorrow.

Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which contains directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on the bottle. Beware of counterfeits sold here. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company."

WILL HAVE TO ASK GERMANY

When the War Will Cease—Reply Made by English Officer.

HOW MUCH CAN SHE STAND?

THAT IS THE QUESTION BRITISH CANNOT ANSWER

And Upon It Depends Peace—Germans so Tightly Held in West That They Cannot Retreat in Any Great Number.

London, Nov. 10.—"You will have to ask Germany."

This was the answer of a distinguished English officer recently back from the front when the familiar query was put to him: "When will the war end?"

"We know what we can give them," he continued, "but we do not know as yet just how much they are prepared to stand, or are willing to stand. In the meantime we will increase the pressure more and more until the break comes."

With the turning of the tide on the western front that is believed to be naturally a disposition here to feel that hostilities soon would be over. The officers and men of the army do not share these views, however, and are constantly cautioning the people at home against the idea that the issue will be settled within the next few months.

From conversations with scores of officers familiar with the situation at the front it can be stated that they do not expect the war to end at the earliest before next autumn. There are many who believe there are two more years of fighting before the Allied nations.

Long Way to Go.

"We have got a long way to go," said General Sir William Robertson, Kitchener's successor, a few days ago. "And we must be ready to go all the way," he added. "Right to a finish is the order. There must be no slackening off. On the contrary, there must be a great tightening up."

No good soldier will make a definite prediction as to the end of the war. "We must be prepared to go on for a period of time which it is impossible to estimate," said Sir William. And that expresses the opinion of the front at work which they know nothing of, there is the constant talking heard here of internal troubles in Germany, but the army officer only "looks at the map." He still sees a long road ahead before the reality has in mind can become a victory.

The military press cannot talk forward to, means an invasion of the German Empire. Gen. Sir O'Moore Creagh, the distinguished Irish "V. C.," has said:

Not Going to Berlin.

"The Indian Legion cannot ever ride through the Brandenburg gates, but the end of the war will not come until it is possible for them to do so."

Things are going so well at the western front that it is difficult even for any words of warning to dull the spirit of elation in London. With Germany on the defensive it is felt here that the enemy is no longer fighting to retain all he seized in the first great onslaught of the war, but is rather struggling to hold as much as possible until peace shall come. There is the predicted "shortening of the western line," which Londoners confidently look for from day to day.

On the other hand, is the statement of Gen. Foch, the French commander, who declares the Germans are so tightly held in the west it is impossible for them to either advance or retreat in any great number.

"We are on them," he said, "like a corrosive acid. We have eaten into their flanks and they can't throw us off. You cannot always see acid at work, but the disintegrating process is going on all the time."

Artillery.

The artillery of the allies on the Somme, where the great armies of the belligerents are massed, commands such an overwhelming influence as to prevent a retreat, it is said. The shelling behind the German lines is just as intense as it is in front. The expenditure of English and French shells has frankly amazed the Germans, the military critics here all agree, and the artillery activity has brought about a distinct new phase in the fighting. It has driven the once closely locked trenches further and further apart. It has solved the problem of dealing with a "dug in" enemy. It has been discovered that the way to successfully take a trench is to obliterate it, to flatten it out with shell-fire. Recent allied advances have been bought with ammunition rather than with blood. This has led Georg Querf, the German critic, to write in the Berliner Tageblatt:

"Every German killed costs a fortune to the French. The enemy is devoting all his attention to artillery. The whole concentrated experience of two years finds expression in shells and more shells. His infantry is used only to test the bridge made by shells to the German trenches. Infantry fighting is no longer man against man. The trench is only blown by infantry when it has been blown by

dust. It is a confession by the enemy that his infantry is of poor quality." This fling at the infantry, according to British officers, is merely put in to cover up the real tribute to the artillery of the allies. The military authorities here have been somewhat surprised at the deep impression the artillery has made in Germany. They were quite delighted with a report by a German military expert as having said:

Infantry of No Value?

"British infantry never had any value. The French infantry now is only a miserable shadow of what it was two years ago. The French infantry nowadays attacks only when the artillery has done its work so perfectly that they have only to occupy the shattered trenches."

Those officers who believe the war will go on for two years longer say they anticipate it will take two more years to make her acknowledge the defeat which the allies believe is inevitable. As to internal conditions, the army man makes it into consideration only as to its effect upon the morale of the fighting men.

It is undeniable that great sacrifices are being demanded of the civilian population in Germany and it is contended no army long remains wholly superior to home influences.

Those who believe in an earlier ending of the war base their belief—perhaps their hope—upon the military assumption that an army cannot offer the same resistance in third or fourth or fifth line trenches that it did in the first line. They declare that when the French and English were retreating at the beginning of the war it was a retreat of unpreparedness. The German retreat, they assert, is a retreat of exhaustion. These, they say, are the vital physical and moral facts of the laws of war. An army driven from one strong position cannot fall back unshaken upon another.

TO HIT BOOSTERS OF FOOD PRICES

Drastic Measures Are to Be Taken by the Dominion Government.

Ottawa, Nov. 10.—The Government for some time has had under consideration an Order-in-Council with regard to the high cost of living and the remedial steps which are necessary to meet the situation. The order has been redrafted and its final form is expected to pass the Cabinet Council immediately.

It is proposed that the remedy shall be placed in the hands of the Minister of Labor and the municipalities. Any combination or agreement to enhance the price of a necessity of life will be classified as a criminal offence punishable by a fine of 5,000 or imprisonment for two years.

Under the Combines Act it is already criminal to combine unduly to enhance prices. In the new Order-in-Council the word "unduly" is left out as regards the price of food and agreement to enhance prices to any extent is made an offence.

The Department of Labor, as well as the municipalities, will be vested with wide powers to ascertain conditions of food supply and the reasons which underlie abnormal prices. If the situation can be traced to any combinations or agreements, rather than to general conditions of supply and demand, the machinery provided by the Order-in-Council will be quite adequate to meet the situation.

In their final form the new regulations are more drastic than any first foreshadowed. The Order-in-Council was passed today.

The death occurred on Thursday at Black River, N. Y., of a resident of Elizabethtown. Reference is made to Mrs. James Plunkett. On Friday last she left for a visit to her daughter, Mrs. J. Hanson, at Black Lake, and her illness proved fatal. She leaves one daughter and four sons.

PERSONALS.

Well-known Women. Chatham, Ont.—"I was sick for about four years. Got very weak, could not eat to amount to anything. I got very thin and had no strength at all. I was very much discouraged. I tried a lot of times—thought I was never going to get better. I could not walk a block without feeling all tired-out. I took different medicines but did not get the help I needed. A friend of mine advised me to try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I began by taking it with the 'Pleasant Pellets' and by the time I had taken two bottles I was well on the road to recovery, and in six months I was entirely well. My appetite came back and I gained in flesh. Now I am as strong and healthy as any one could wish to be. I owe it all to Dr. Pierce's medicines and I am glad of the opportunity to give testimony in their favor; they have done wonders for me."—Miss Elizabeth Parsons, 141 E. King St., Chatham, Ont.—"I have taken Dr. Pierce's medicine with good results. I was weak and run down, lost my appetite and got very thin. I took 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Pleasant Pellets' and those two medicines built me up in a very short space of time so that I felt as well as ever. I found them to be all that is recommended of them; they are good."—Mrs. Wm. Wessan, Cor. Taylor & Grand Ave., E. Chatham, Ont.

Every woman who has backache, headache, low spirits, sleepless nights, owes it to herself to speedily overcome the trouble before a breakdown causes prostration. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a non-alcoholic remedy that any ailing woman can safely take because it is prepared from roots and herbs with pure glycerine, and has no purgative effect.

The Man on Watch

If Britain has not produced any strategists in this war, the same cannot be charged against Kingston after the strategy used the other day in capturing the Children's Aid Society. And the offensive move cost only \$69.

The Lord loveth the shepherful giver. Those profiting by the war are particularly invited to take notice.

The Collins Bay prophet has the Portsmouth philosopher beaten in discussing the war in the light of prophecy. However, the Portsmouth wise man claims that he discusses the war in the light of facts.

The Children's Aid Society will surely thrive now that so many leading men have joined its ranks. But the men who have been replaced deserve the thanks of the people for carrying on the work so well with little money.

The Wolfe Island municipal hall is within a few years of being as progressive as Kingston's. "Doc" Spankie has thrown out the wood stoves and replaced them with ones that burn coal. Wolfe Island is certainly taking on airs.

The town councilmen will be looking for iron crosses for their heads been very active this week. First they stop the butchering of the trees on the streets, and next day they buy out the Children's Aid Society to run as a side issue.

Did it ever occur to the town council that about one-half the trees on the streets should be removed entirely. Trees are all right in their place, but they are all wrong when allowed to smother the houses.

The Lampan is asked if it would be theft to take the confiscated liquor in the office of the chief of police, which is destined for the gutter. The best way to get an answer to that question is to take the liquor and argue the pros and cons before the police magistrate.

As Wolfe Islanders are getting the highest prices for their produce which they sell here, the Lampan cannot see any reason why Kingston should build them a new wharf, particularly on property that belongs to some one else.

The dairymen say they are going to fight any scheme to make their products cheaper. Well, the housewives can trim the dairymen by using about one-half the usual amount of butter and cheese for a month. Supply and demand will then be on more intimate terms.

—THE TOWN WATCHMAN.

CANADIAN SOLDIER IS WELL BEHAVED

Conduct of Fighting Men in London is Beyond Criticism.

London, Nov. 10.—Sir William Robertson Nicolls' journal, the British Weekly, reiterates as amber Canadian judgment the astonishing liberal upon the morality and temperance of Canadian troops here which appeared in a leading Toronto journal on October 16 and 21.

There is much indignation in Canadian circles—especially among the Canadian boys in khaki, who are seen everywhere in London streets to-day enjoying the Lord Mayor's show—that Canada should be made ridiculous in the eyes of Englishmen by this description of England as a land where the Canadian youth is being debauched by drink and vice under the guidance of "distillery interests, tippling ecclesiastics, and a silent press."

Everyone here knows how ludicrously distorted all this is, as the rarest of all London sights is a drunken man. Never has the drink evil been less than now, under severe war restrictions respecting hours and treating which are rigorously enforced upon all public houses and clubs.

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The Parker dye cleaning process for upholstered furniture grows in favor as it becomes known how thoroughly successful it is.

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Don't Stay Headachy, Sick, or Have Bad Breath and Sour Stomach. Wake Up Feeling Fine! Best Laxative for Men, Women and Children.



Enjoy life! Remove the liver and bowel poison which is keeping your head dizzy, your tongue coated, breath offensive, and stomach sour. Don't stay bilious, sick, headachy, constipated and full of cold. Why don't you get a box of Cascarets from the drug store and eat one or two tonight and enjoy the finest, gentlest liver and bowel cleansing you ever experienced. You'll wake up feeling fit and fine. Cascarets never grip or sicken. No salts, pills and colic. They act so gently that you hardly realize you have taken a cathartic. Mothers should give cross, sick, bilious or feverish children a whole Cascaret any time—they act thoroughly and are harmless.