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THE KNOCKER AT LARGE.

It does not matter very much what the scheme is which is projected in the public interest there is sure to be around those who differ with the majority, who question the bona fides or the faith of their fellows, and knock the movement in every way. Not that they are unfriendly to the scheme. Oh, no; they would not hurt it for the world! They are in perfect sympathy with it. That is what they want their friends to understand. They would be glad to see it succeed. But—and here's the rub—they have heard something about it that is inappropriate and discouraging, and if this thing he true it means that some men are spending their time to no purpose.

For instance, half a hundred of the busiest men in Kingston are just now concerned about the Greater Production Movement. They must be persuaded that it is founded on facts and sound judgment. Yet it is put under suspicion by certain uncivil critics. The mayor of the city deals with some phases of the movement in a letter which he has addressed to the press. It appears in to-day's Whig.

Read this letter very carefully. It is forceful and convincing. It is based upon information which is regarded as reliable. It ought to end the croaking. But will it?

The militia department must have been under a strange spell when it assumed that the men who would not enlist with the overseas forces would line up for service with the Home Guard, at lower pay. The militia department suddenly has become very economical.

FUTURE OF CANADA.

The Canadian Club had a great treat when its members listened to E. F. B. Johnston, K. C., of Toronto, as he discussed "Germany Before and After the War." The purpose of the club is being advanced when it sits under the spell of those whose thoughts, brilliantly expressed, carry them over ground that seemed familiar, but made most interesting as new visions are opened up and one sees things they did not see before.

Mr. Johnston's verbal portrait of the Kaiser was most striking. The Whig has read many sketches of the Emperor, including Gardener's "Prophecy, Priests and Kings," but Mr. Johnston's is more illuminating. The defeat of one whose blood-lust was so clearly established becomes the duty of every fighting Canadian, not because the Mother Country is at war, but because his own country has been menaced by the most destructive power the world has ever seen.

The future of Canada came in for a passing consideration. Mr. Johnston did not share the opinions of those who thought the war was likely to be over in a few months. The change of frontier—the advance or the retreat of the forces by a few miles or by many—was at the present rate not likely to lead to a decisive victory. The empire that had worked for a specific purpose, which had appropriated so much money, so much energy, and so much resources towards military supremacy, was not going to retreat or surrender until its spirit and power had been completely broken. According to present indications and present progress Berlin would not be reached in several years.

While this was the outlook Mr. Johnston was not without great hope. He was not an optimist, as some will regard him, but he was not a pessimist. He expected the Allies to win the war, and he expected Canada to prove true to British traditions, to rally with the other overseas dominions to the support of the Mother Country, and to give such an account of themselves as would make their a glorified record of national accomplishments. The address was interesting throughout. It was marked by rare touches of humor. The presentation was most eloquent.

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Lieut. Forneri, like a hero, falls. He had been in the thick of the fight again and again. Three times he had been wounded. At last he succumbed. But his will be a name that will stand high on Canada's honor roll, and his must be an imperishable memory.

MORE FOOD NECESSARY.

To-day the Whig publishes the first of the announcements to the people of Canada made by the Organization of Resources Committee. It is an appeal that should have the careful attention of every man, woman and child in this broad Dominion. When one considers the millions of men who have been drawn into the front lines of battle in Europe, in Asia and in Africa, and the millions more required behind the lines to sustain those in front, one can see at a glance what a great loss to the productive activity of the nation this means. Hitherto a large proportion of these great masses were engaged in tilling the soil and feeding the population of the world. To-day their services are required elsewhere and a great shortage in the food supply must be the natural result.

Again, other millions who might have been available for work on the farm have been drawn into the towns and cities in order to make munitions and perform other duties necessary to the prosecution of the war. Even the women who might have helped in seed-time and harvest, have also been requisitioned for war duties, and thus their services are not available. One, therefore, sees how few indeed are left to raise food for the teeming millions that must be fed. In order to avert a famine in Canada, in common with the rest of the world, every possible source of production must be used, every available man, woman and child must exert his or her utmost effort in the production of food if a fearful calamity is not to overtake our country before another winter shall have arrived.

All of this and more the Resources Committee points out. The Ontario Department of Agriculture, after investigating the problem, states that Ontario's farm stand in dire need of labor at this seeding time. Only about one man per hundred acres is left on the farms, and unless additional labor is forthcoming in thousands, not even a normal harvest can possibly be sown, much less the increased harvest which the Mother Land expects Ontario to produce.

Canada being nearest to the Mother Country can greatly assist the Allies by increasing the harvest of 1917 to the utmost limit. Will she measure up to the requirements? To-day throughout the whole province goes forth a summons for patriotic service. The appeal of the Organization of Resources Committee should be read in every church and school. Ontario has the land. She has the money. The demand is now for more men and these the cities and towns alone can supply.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The publicity committee of the Greater Production Movement is at work. See the evidence of this in to-day's public announcements.

Get after the knocker. Make him realize how disagreeable is his business. If he cannot do any good in the community see that he cannot do any harm. Above all, see that he does not become a general nuisance.

All the soldiers now under enlistment, in Canada, are expected to be sent out of the country by May. Their places are not being taken in the home defence by the militia under the voluntary system. What a mournful failure it has been anyway.

On dit that the Ontario legislature will be dissolved during the summer, and that the Hearst government will run an election in advance of that of the federal government in order to pave the way, if it can, for a party success. No liberal objects.

The local government will point, in the next election, close at hand, to its great record. Had it not been for the splendid leadership of the liberals on every question, blazing the way as it were, one can imagine what the government's record would have been.

The bi-lingual schools are said to be better than they were, but ideal conditions have not yet been reached. A big man is being called for, one who is several sizes bigger than Dr. Pyne, in order that the efficiency of the Education Department may be

raised, and the bi-lingual difficulty settled.

The Murray government, of New Brunswick, has at last resigned. It held office nearly six weeks after it had been ingloriously defeated and condemned by the people. It retired at last only to save itself from a humiliating dismissal.

Britain is resorting to drastic measures in order to fill up her military ranks. There is to be a new combing of the population of the British Isles. There cannot be in England, as there is in Canada, a dodging of duty by any man.

Mr. Johnston, K.C., made it clear that Canada will have something to think about and something to do in the days of reconstruction, after the war. The conditions that prevailed before the war are not going to be restored without a great deal of thought and service and economy and thrift.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

The schooner Singapore made a trip around the harbor to-day.

Work was commenced in the new Y.M.C.A. Hall.

RESCUE OF HOLY LAND

Britain Enthusiastic at Success in Palestine.

London, March 31.—The newspapers comment enthusiastically on the British victory near Gaza, Palestine, which naturally opens the way for much biblical and historical reference and comparison. "The new crusade," and "fight for the Holy Land" are among the headlines. Jerusalem is assumed in some quarters to be the immediate objective of the invaders. Other commentators, however, think the British aim first at securing the whole coast of Palestine.

In any case the newspapers consider that the blow dealt the Turks near Gaza will seriously cripple the efforts of Emperor William's visit to Palestine and his entry into Jerusalem nineteen years ago. Of this the Times says: "The political dreams which led to that visit are now in the process of being shattered. The Holy Land, it would seem, is on the eve of being rescued from the regime which through centuries has held it in bondage." The manner in which the British have pushed railroads across the desert is considered a remarkable achievement. Apparently hundreds of miles of railroads have been constructed across the desert since last August.

NATION TO CARE FOR BABIES

Britain to Provide Cribches for Munition Workers' Children.

London, March 31.—Lord Rhonda announces that he will suggest legislation to authorize local authorities to provide cribches for the care of babies of munition workers. All marriage license offices report a great increase in the number of licenses issued. Special privileges regarding registration have been given to naval and military men.

Random Reels

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

THE CASH CUSTOMER.

The cash customer is a two-legged ray of sunshine with ready money in his pocket and real religion in his soul.

There are two things which cause the retail merchant to grow old before his time and go down to work in a pair of shiny, buttonless pants. One of these is the credit system and the other is the telephone. The credit system is an amicable arrangement whereby people can buy out the entire contents of a grocery store, down to the cash register, without paying anything down except long-winded promises. It is great solace to people who move into town without anything in the form of credit except a cast-iron cook stove, and enables the merchant to support a large number of families in first-class shape.

The telephone is another boon to the merchant, as the customer can stand at the farther end of it and order enough goods to stock up an orphan's home. People who have exhausted their credit with the proprietor can always waltz up to the telephone and order a dray full of provender from a green clerk who is anxious to oblige. The only way to avoid this is to kill the clerk.

Rippling Rhymes

MOTOR GRIEFS

The man who owns a motor car with briny tears bedews the land; he dwells where tribulations are, and walks with sorrow hand in hand. When skies are bright he starts to roam, to view some sweet, attractive scene, and when he's nineteen miles from home, he finds he's out of gasoline. The grievous mishaps always chance when he's remote from all repairs, to which unhappy circumstance he owes the whiteness of his hair. The radiator's dry as dust in some drear desert, long and wide; and for a well, in deep disgust, he scours the whole bleak countryside. And when he lacks an extra tire, an inner tube is sure to split, and, kneeling in the mud and mire, he weeps and prays and throws a fit. If he's in haste to get to town, to fetch a doctor or a nurse, the steering gear is broken down—if not just that, it's something worse. There's always something he must buy, a tire, a cork-screw or a jack; the cost of motoring's so high that it would break a banker's back. The man who owns a motor car must daily bear misfortune's call; he walks where tribulations are—yet has a grand time, after all!

"SCRATCH A CANADIAN AND FIND A SAVAGE"

Berlin Paper Repeats False Assertions of Ill-Treatment of Bernstorff.

London, March 30.—"Scratch a Canadian and you find a savage." This is the opening phrase of a bitter article in the Berlin Journal, Zeitungsmittag, making astounding charges against the Canadian inspectors who handled the belongings of Bernstorff's party at Halifax. It is alleged that the inspectors cleared the pockets of every German passenger and drank so freely of milk whiskey at the Anglo-American bar that some had to be carried off the ship like so many inert masses of stupid human flesh. It is stated that other inspectors were not quite so drunk, but sang and danced, and inflicted all manner of indignities upon the lady passengers, including the little daughter of the Princess Hatzfeldt.

Several passages of the article were struck out of the English reprints as unprintable. The article concludes: "These will be all the better for the German polish they are doomed to receive before our field-greys are done with them."

HEAVY GUNS WILL TEST NEW FRONT

Attack Will Demonstrate Whether or Not it is Hindenburg Line.

London, March 30.—The Germans are now entrenched along the front over which the French and British have been advancing, according to a statement to-day by Maj.-Gen. F. D. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office. He said that whether the positions taken up by the Germans formed the much advertised Hindenburg line would not be revealed until the French and British armies had brought up their heavy artillery.

"Our advance has slackened, owing to the difficulty of feeding the troops in the devastated country," said Gen. Maurice. "We are also suffering from the fact that we must cover the Somme battlefield, while our Allies have clearer ground. They also have the advantage of not coming into touch with the enemy in as short a distance as our forces, for in making a straight line the Germans had to withdraw to a greater depth on the French front than on ours."

"While we are still engaging the Germans in the open, there is no doubt in my mind that a trench line from which they are not likely to withdraw until we bring up our trench-destroying guns. Hence we are hardly likely to know whether this forms the much-advertised Hindenburg line until we are prepared to assault it. In the meantime our forces are not great enough nor have they had time enough to build an opposing line of trenches."

Praises Canadian Train.

London, March 30.—Gen. Haig, after inspecting the Canadian divisional train, remarked it was the finest he had ever seen in France, and wagons reminded him of the Royal Horse Artillery in peace time.

Bibbys Spring Attractions. We appreciate your custom and try our best to retain it. Young Men's Overcoats. The Count \$15.00, The Chester \$18.00, The Duke \$18.00, The Harvard \$15.00, The Earl \$15.00, The Aviator \$20.00, The Broker \$18.00, The Pinch \$15.00, The Gloster \$20.00. Young Men's Suits. The object of this store of Good Clothes is to sell the best clothes it is possible to secure in this day and generation at popular prices. The Pinch Back Suit \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22, The Poole \$15.00, The Lanark \$18.00, The Biltmore \$22.00, The Claude \$18.00, The Regent \$20.00, The Monarch \$22.00, The Acton \$15.00, The Avon \$18.00. BIBBYS : : LIMITED

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FOR SALE! 1—Frame, 7 rooms, Patrick St., Price \$1225. 2—Double frame, 6 rooms each, Raglan Rd. Price \$1550. 3—Frame, 7 rooms, Quebec St., Price \$2000. 4—Frame, 7 rooms, Plum St., Price \$2300. 5—Double stone, 6 rooms each, Rideau St., Price \$2850. 6—Brick, 8 rooms, Beverly St., Price \$2850. 7—Brick, 8 rooms, Colborne St., Price \$2850. 8—Brick, 8 rooms, York St., Price \$3000. 9—Brock, 7 rooms, Colborne St., Price \$2550. 10—Brick, 7 rooms, Collingwood St., Price \$3500. 11—Brick, 7 rooms, Albert St., Price \$4300. 12—Brick, 9 rooms, Union St., Price \$4200. 13—Brick, 10 rooms, Alfred St., Price \$5500. 14—Brick, 9 rooms, Frontenac St., Price \$5800. 15—Brick, 10 rooms, University Ave., Price \$8000. For particulars apply to T. J. Lockhart, Clarence St. Phone 1035 or 1020.

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