

## Ottawa Glimpses

BY H. F. GADSBY

Ottawa, May 15.—Premier Borden's friends in these parts express the wish that he comes home by the next boat. If he can't get a boat he can swim. The reason is that in his absence things are getting no better fast. All the bluffs the Government has pulled in the last three years are being called and there is the deuce to pay.

Premier Borden's supporters at Ottawa take it ill that he should stick around in England, after his business is through, soaking up L.L.D. degrees and such. It's all very well, they say, for Premier Borden to get little gold boxes with the freedom of British cities inside; but meanwhile what about the freedom of the Conservative party in Canada to do something better than mark time?

If Premier Borden comes home now, all will be forgiven and the reconstruction of the Government can be gone ahead with. Those who are to be reconstructed out of the Cabinet into the government jobs are just as anxious to have him come back as those who are to be reconstructed into the Cabinet. As the poet says, the sooner it's over the sooner to sleep. Among the smaller omens of approaching fate is the translation of Mr. Blount, the Premier's faithful and efficient private secretary, to the clerkship of the Senate, Major Chapleau, the aged incumbent, being superannuated to make room for him. Thus does Mr. Blount get in out of the wet, having earned a safer and more permanent job than secretary to a premier who does not know when his hour cometh.

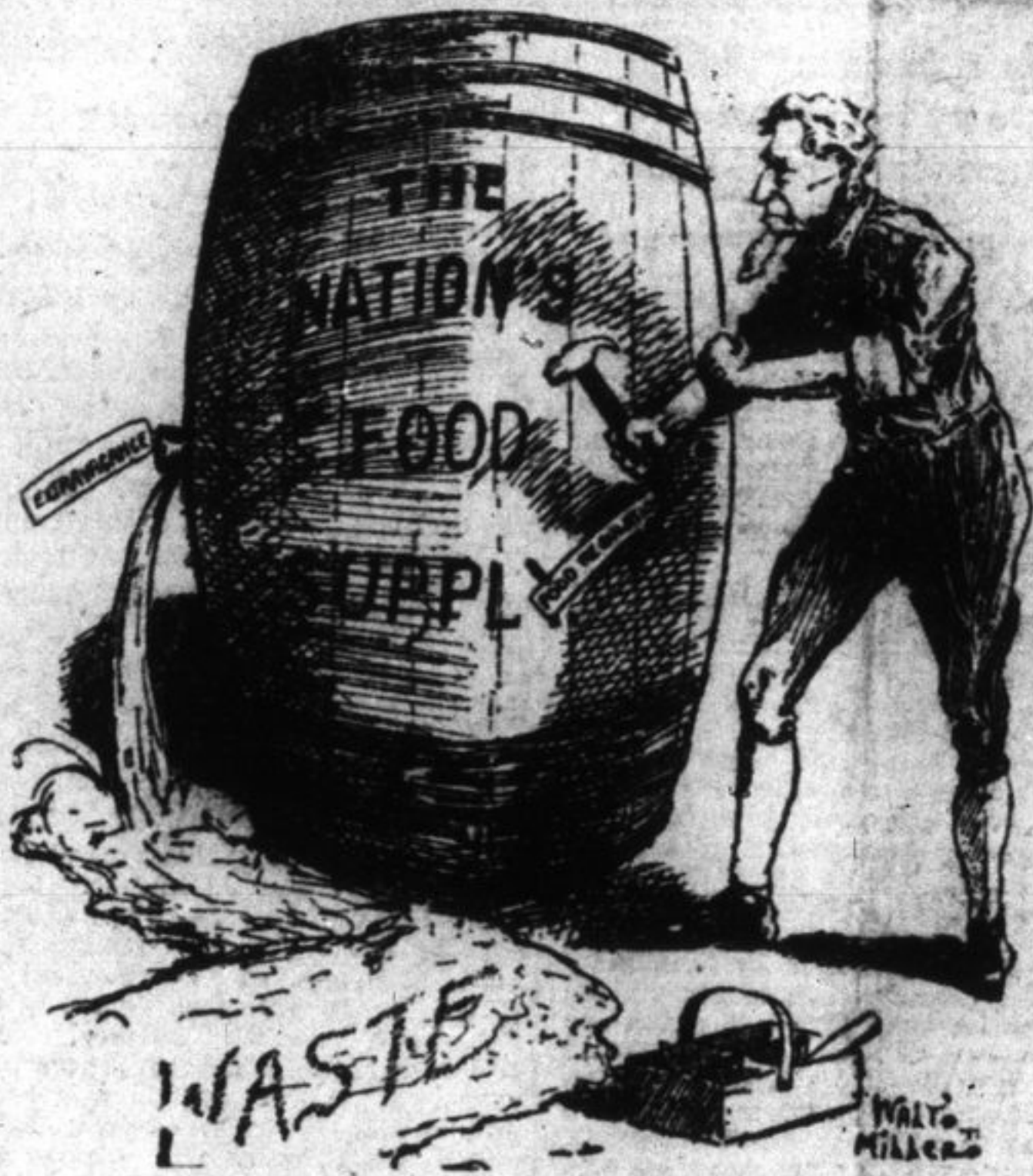
Sir Edward Kemp, the present Minister of Militia—I wonder how many voters know that he has got Sir Sam's job—is up against it in the matter of recruiting. Overseas or Home Guard—nobody jumps, Major General Newburn, who is managing the Home Guard movement, said at Winnipeg the other day that he was all through it by Government didn't help him out by enforcing the compulsory clauses of the Militia Act or adopting some

sort of conscription. And all the other colonels agreed with him. They said the voluntary spirit was quite dead.

And may be it is. At any rate, Sir Sam is convinced that he got out at the right time. He tells his friends so. Whether accident or policy was the cause, Sir Sam seems to have got from under just when the slump came. At his nomination meeting in Lindsay Sir Sam repeated his statement that the Government had issued orders to ease up on recruiting almost a year and a half ago, thereby starting the chill which subsequently killed the voluntary spirit. Sir Thomas White says the charge is absolutely without foundation and there the matter stands—Sir Sam's word against Sir Thomas's. You can take your choice. The fact remains that when the alleged order to ease up on recruiting was issued recruits were pouring in at the rate of a thousand a day. Something happened to put a crimp in it.

Sir Sam considers that it is his turn to laugh. After all the personal equation does count. Moreover, as the poet remarks, sweet are the uses of advertisement. Sam never dodged the limelight. The Ottawa correspondents were always welcome at his headquarters. Sir Edward is not exactly the kind of flower that is anxious to blush unseen, but he has no knack with the newspaper men and there is a great abatement of publicity for the Militia Department in consequence.

It is conceded that Major General Newburn had a superman's job to get recruits for the Home Guard. It was not in human power to beat the game they gave him to play. No wonder he got sore. The Home Guard is said to be Sir Edward's own particular happy thought. If he could get fifty thousand men who would be content to advertise themselves as willing to defend their country anywhere except where bullets were flying it would look as if the Government were doing something. What's more, it would, by a little oblique reasoning, bring Premier Borden's limit of five hundred



WAITING AT THE BUNGHOLE. —New York Commercial.

thousand that much nearer. The only thing wrong with the scheme was that the fifty thousand men stayed out. Sir Sam might have got away with it. But Sir Edward's personality does not inspire fifty thousand men to label themselves yellow for a dollar a day.

The best guessers in Ottawa predict that Major General Newburn will get no help from the compulsory clauses of the Militia Act, because the Government is pledged not to adopt conscription in any form. Macdonald of Pictou brought this point out in the House of Commons the other day, when he produced advertisements published by the Interdepartmental in United States newspapers, promising prospective settlers or farm laborers from the United States immunity from military service. Sir Edward, being questioned, replied that the Government's policy had not changed since the advertisements were printed. This makes Canada a safer coun-

try for the slacker to live in than the United States, which is going in for selective conscription. The people whom Colonel Blondin advised to slip over the border can now flock back again. The United States is going to do her bit and, being an undivided democracy, is going to show how arbitrarily she can do it. At the same time, Sir Edward will find small comfort in the thought that Canada quits because the United States is beginning. That is one of the ways they explain the failure of recruiting—not any fault in the Government or in Sir Edward—but general feeling that it is the United States' turn.

Colonel Blondin, known to fame as the verbal perforator of Union Jacks, in meeting up the recruiting problem in Quebec, Colonel Blondin is not having much success with his special train and his entourage of seventy-six gorgeous officers. It has been estimated that what recruits he has got have cost about five thousand

dollars each. The truth seems to be that the simple-minded people of Quebec do not trust Blondin, the Nationalist talk with the other side on his face. They regard Colonel Blondin as the Militia Department's practical joke on Quebec. Surely no one would take Blondin seriously as a diplomat.

Another colonel Quebec cannot understand is Armand Lavergne, whom Sir Edward Kemp is now utilizing as a source of loyalty and enthusiasm for the British cause. With such a pair as Blondin and Lavergne doing the missionary work, Quebec would appear to be justified in disbelieving the message. Sir Edward's tactics in employing Lavergne have earned him the anger of some of the most influential Conservatives in Montreal. They fully expect that Sir Edward will call in Henri Bourassa next.

—H. F. GADSBY.

## WANT "PEACE THAT PAYS"

FRANCE WILL NOT BE CONTENT WITH ANY OTHER

Restoration of Alsace and Indemnities From Foe For Damage Done and Ships Sank Are Urged.

Paris May 14.—The report of the Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the bill providing for a new income tax, as a substitute for all other direct taxes, shows that the war has caused only a comparatively small increase in taxes in France thus far. It emphasizes the purpose to effect a peace settlement which will impose upon Germany the chief burden of meeting the enormous expenditures resulting from the war. The report shows that taxes in England increased during the war from 95 to 265 francs per capita, while the increase in France was from 30 to 103 francs.

"Finally," the report continues, "let us remember that we must impose upon our enemy a considerable part of the burden of this horrible conflict, provoked by them alone. We must have a peace that pays. Reintegration into our country of territories wrested from us in the war of 1870 will aid us in repairing many ruins. We should know also to what extent the Central Empires will be able to pay us in money the indemnities they will be compelled to render to us and our Allies. It

interpretation. Mr. Fred Pelletier, writing in Le Devoir, says of Mme. Thibaudau's work: "For finish in phrasing, brilliance of execution, and sympathy with the concerted parts it would be difficult to find any one better." Mr. Pelletier is not disposed to be enthusiastic over Franck's modernism, although nowadays some people imagine that composer in the rear of the procession. He said that after Franck, Schumann came like an oasis in the desert. Many musicians who have discovered great things in the modern French organist who dreamed away his life, may not be disposed to share Mr. Pelletier's opinion. The Dubois Quartette consists of Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Chartier, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Dubois. For many years it has been a factor in the musical life of Montreal, and it is deserving of long life and prosperity.

New York as a Musical Metropolis. New York is declared by some to be, not only the musical metropolis of this continent, but of the world. In support of this claim it is pointed out that not only in the quantity and quality, New York is superior to any of the great European capitals, more particularly since the war.

In the matter of chamber music, and in the number of piano, violin and song recitals, Berlin takes—look—the lead; but with reference to opera, New York stands above comparison in the number of high class performances.

Many great artists now make New York their home, among them Paderewski, Hofman, Yasay, Kreisler, and a host of others quite too numerous to mention.

New York is noted for its concerta given in hotels, and for performances of great musical works in some of the prominent churches, where artists of the highest distinction frequently appear.

In the matter of military bands, New York is distinctly inferior to even the smaller cities of Europe.

The Agricultural Committee of the Eastern Townships Associated Boards of Trade want the Federal Government to make its proposed legislation to aid soldiers settling on land applicable in the east as well as in the west.

London Men's Federation strongly condemned race meets in Canada during the war, and asked the Government to prohibit them.

## BANISH SCROFULA

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cleanses the Blood, Skins, Troubles Vanish.

Scrofula eruptions on the face and body are both annoying and disfiguring. Many a complexion would be perfect if they were not present. This disease shows itself in other ways, as blemishes on the neck, inflamed eyelids, sore ears, wasting of the muscles, a form of dyspepsia, and general debility.

Ask your druggist for Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine completely eradicates scrofula. It purifies the blood, removes humors, and builds up the whole system. It embodies the careful training, experience, and skill of Mr. Hood, a pharmacist for fifty years, in its quality and power to cure.

Scrofula is either inherited or acquired. Better be sure you are quite free from it. Get Hood's Sarsaparilla and begin taking it today.

## GERMANS PERFECT DEVICE

To Raise Sunk Ships When the War is Over.

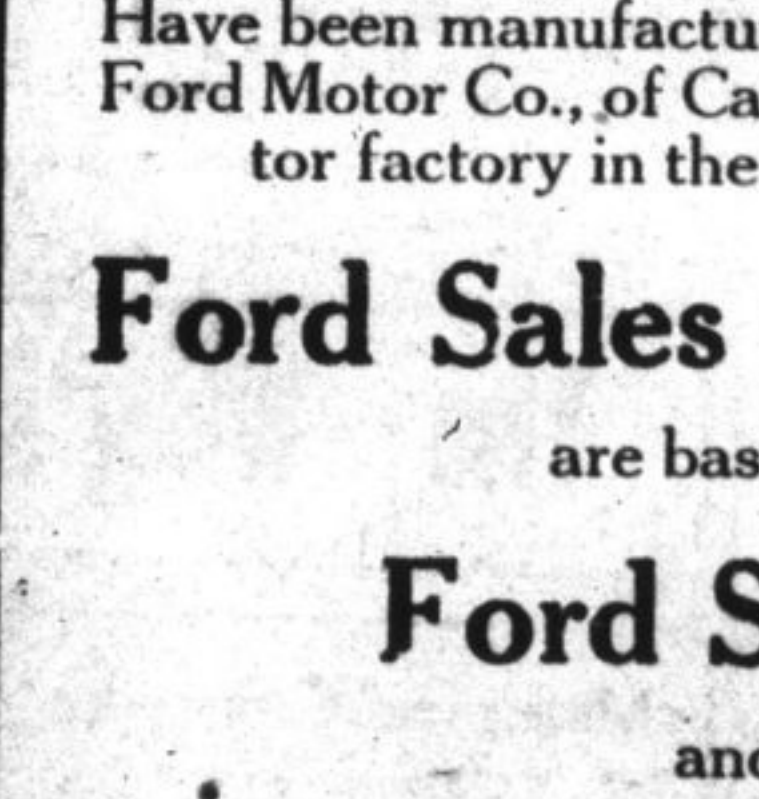
Amsterdam, May 15. — via London.—The Problem of salvaging ships sunk by submarines is solved, according to The Hamburger Fremdenblatt, which says that German naval engineers have perfected a process of raising ships from the bottom of the sea.

Details are withheld, except that especially equipped salvage vessels will be employed and that they will be able to operate even in stormy weather.

The Fremdenblatt which, as an example, puts the value of the ships sunk in February alone at what it calls the moderate figure of \$100,000,000, says that the number of ships sunk and their favorable position in most cases for raising guarantee for many years after the war plenty of work and a rich profit.

Omar Khayyam won the Kentucky Derby on Saturday.

W. A. Sherwood, St. Catharines, died suddenly at his home.



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# Music in the Home

### Music in Music-Halls and Picture Theatres.

The music-hall first came into existence in England about 1850. In ten years these halls had become a very important institution in the public life. Generally they were attached to public-houses, with separate entrance, and frequently had a seating capacity of from one to two thousand.

The admission prices in London were 6d and 1s. Food and drink were served visitors if ordered, and smoking was permitted. The class of performance reached a high level, and the audience-as a rule was orderly and well-behaved.

The music-hall of to-day is an evolution from the halls and entertainments of these early years ago. It has become a separate business enterprise, in which much capital is invested, and business methods all through govern. The management is strictly business, and performers must adapt themselves to present-day ideas.

Today smartness or celebrity is the essence of the music-hall. One act or "turn" must follow its predecessor without appreciable interval. Even a single minute's delay annoys. Indeed, every member is definitely timed, and must conform to the time-table set.

Musicians must be wide-awake to have the music of the following turn ready to play. The method usually adopted is to have the books of the "turns" opened each at the first number to be played, and placed one above the other in proper order on the music desk. As the "chord off" to which the artist retires is being played, the orchestral player places the book in its open position on the floor, leaning it against his music desk. Similarly the next book is removed and placed on the floor open, over the book before it, so that when the performance is over, and when the whole of the books are picked up from the floor and placed on the desk face outwards, they are in position for the next performance.

Commonly, after the last verse of a song, or the last bars of a dance, the music is re-played to cover the retirement of the performer, and as a precaution should the performer return for an encore.

Music-halls have a rival in the moving-picture theatre. The more ambitious of these "movie" theatres have an orchestra or band; the most modest of them have pianists or piano-players mechanically operated.

The art of playing to pictures is not an easy one, if the music is intended to enhance the situation. Owing to the large number of scenes used in a single film the situations are constantly and rapidly changing in character, and therefore the leader can at best only fit in music appropriate to the general sentiment, and change when a suitable or special opportunity arrives. Examples of special opportunities are struggles, storms, and pathetic and religious scenes that may have a dura-

### Of Great Educational Value.

216 Frontenac Street, May 11th.

To the Editor British Whig.

Dear Sir:—

Allow me to compliment you on the music and dramatic column in the Whig. It will certainly be of great educational value to students of music as well as the citizens generally. There is no news, in my opinion, that is more uplifting in the refinement of a people than that of music and the drama. I shall be pleased to contribute articles of musical literature, etc., from time to time.

Respectfully yours,

O. F. TELGMANN.

tion of a minute or two at least.

For the needs and requirements of moving picture theatres special albums are printed—albums of incidental music appropriate to varied situations.

The class of music played by moving picture theatre orchestras of five or more members is often of a very high order. Selections from the latest operas are nothing out of the way. Playing Wagner, Mendelssohn and other classic composers is common. Apart from the constant playing required of a "movie" orchestra or musician, which makes it the hardest musical occupation, really excellent musical ability and talent are required. It is no infrequent thing to find members of fine orchestras playing in "movie" orchestras.

Chamber music is played at all first-class picture theatres, though there is not much music of this type suitable for pictures. It is the heavy dramatic picture that presents the best opportunity for classical music.

### The Music Maker.

A Baltimore mathematician has calculated that in a presto movement by Mendelssohn the pianist played 5,595 notes in four minutes and three seconds. Like most mathematical calculations this remains supremely uninteresting until one sees the meaning of it. There were 72 muscular movements per second, and according to physiology, psychology, anatomy and half a dozen other items and ologies, 200 transmissions of nerve force in the time, to say nothing of the work performed by the memory cells of the brain. The average citizen might be inclined on reading this, to say, "Let George do it." George being a player-piano on the tubular pneumatic principle. Music students on the contrary will regard the information with a certain respect, and perhaps understand for the first time the real meaning of technical "grind" work. If the facts as set forth were widely circulated we might hear less of these wonderful gentry who promise to teach anyone to play the piano in six weeks, with no drudgery of practice. It is amazing to think that in an age compar-

ably fine. I feel sure his feeling so happily situated is almost entirely due to his being able to play the piano so nicely. I tell you a boy who can sing or play has the inside track when it comes to taking up residence in a new place."

Certainly boys do not see these deeper advantages of a musical education. You would not expect them to. When parents undertake to keep a twentieth century boy at piano practice for an hour or so a day, they are undertaking a task of no small magnitude. But if they will sometimes glance ahead at the time when many boys leave the parental roof, they will see the possibility of the love of music fostered and developed by that practice, standing between the young man and perhaps a life of bad habits, or at least of indifferent accomplishment.

### When the Censor Isn't Musical.

Every one knows the heavy burden that rests upon the shoulders of the nations' censors. Like most great men, the censors generally are fond of music. But there is a report of one who is not—and he an Austrian. William G. Shepherd, the war correspondent, has been recounting some of his experiences in getting his stories of the war past the censors on all fronts. In Everybody's Magazine Mr. Shepherd cited this incident among others: "In a little chateau on the Austro-Italian front, not many months ago, the Austrian staff-officers gave an after-dinner concert for a few correspond-

The staff-officer who acted as censor was not a music lover, and he departed from the gathering before the programme was ended. The finale was an 'Ave Maria' exquisitely played by piano, cello and several violins, and the effect was highly sentimental. The next day one of the correspondents writing of the concert told how thoughts of home and loved ones had come over the war-bound officers as they had listened to the strains of the beautiful old air. He wrote that 'chins dropped to chests and heads were bowed, in contemplation and reverie, while cannon boomed out above the chest in that crowd,' said the non-music-loving censor as he read the story. 'I don't want the world to think that Austrian officers ever feel sad.' And his blue pencil cut out every reference to the sweet spell which the music, amid the sound of guns, had thrown over the Austrian leaders."

### Why Boys Take Music Lessons.

A number of parents have been asked why their boys were being given music lessons. This question brought a great variety of answers, showing the many angles from which the subject is viewed. But the great majority of parents agreed that in giving their sons the advantages of a musical education they had especially in mind the time when the boys might leave home to go to another town or city.

One mother said to the writer: "The time will likely come when Harold will leave home either to go to college or to take a position. Then he will then be well fortified to meet one of the greatest crises in his life."

A father said: "Almost a year ago our boy was transferred to a branch of the Bank in S—. He very quickly made friends of some very fine people who have been exceedingly kind in making things as homelike as possible for him, and his work is