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Man A. Gault, Editor and Managing Director.

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Montreal Representative: R. Bruce Owen, 122 St. Peter St. Toronto Representative: F. C. Hoy, 1005 Traders Bank Bldg. United States Representative: F. R. Northrup, 225 Fifth Ave., New York.

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What became of the January thaw?

We know now what a glacial epoch is like.

The winter is moving along. Water is scarce in country sections. A thaw is greatly needed.

Keeping the home fires burning is a duty now turned over to ex-Ald. H. C. Nickle.

People who have never saved before for their own good should save now for the country's benefit.

If the college girls go to the farms this summer they'll help—for the college boys will follow them.

It remains to be seen whether or not the German strike is a self-inflicted blow by the Government.

From the current history of the war it seems that Italian troops are specialists at fighting up-hill battles.

If it is true that the brewing of beer, even for the army, is to stop, Germany is indeed in desperate straits.

Is it possible that all the unmarried ladies who voted on Dec. 17th will now be called upon to pay a five dollar poll tax?

Ottawa streets are well cleared of snow. The walks are roughed by a machine so that people can walk upon them without nervous strain.

John Masfield, "the historian of the Somme," describes Germany as a "nation of natural brutes governed by a small clique of unspeakable scoundrels."

These people who kick on the good corn Johnny cake that mother used to make, should try eating canned bull beef while dodging shells in the trenches.

The municipal bond sales in Canada during January totalled \$461,000, compared with \$894,000 in December last and \$1,969,256 in January a year ago.

It was a German boast that the submarines would bring England to her knees in three months, but a year has elapsed and the hope is far from realization.

It is said that the coal shortage will probably be even more acute next winter. We can see where Canadian forests are due for an awful slashing. The old box stove will be resurrected.

When a magazine wants to reach the people for possible subscribers it advertises in newspapers. What the magazine does ought to be a good thing for other advertisers to do.

The ministers at Ottawa are hard-worked. They are loaded with duties, and the council meetings are protracted late into the night. One minister told the Whig there were many overwhelming matters that had to be fought out and arranged. Patronage is dying hard.

The churches, schools and movies are suggested as things that could be dispensed with during the

coal shortage period. But none should be dispensed with. There should be unions so that service could be rendered in all the above institutions. Save coal by keeping the mind active and the body vigorous and abounding with red blood. Moroseness is an evil and a destructive force.

IRISH CONSCRIPTION.

Colonel Repington, who resigned as military critic of the London Times because that newspaper found it necessary to put the brakes on him, calls for the conscription of Ireland. Now there are a great many people besides Colonel Repington who think that Ireland has as much right to be under conscription as England, Scotland, Wales or Canada, but the best opinion is that it would be very unwise to apply conscription to the Emerald Isle just now. Ulster would stand for it of course, but there would be strenuous objection from some other quarters. The Whig has talked with various Irishmen, and they say it would be the height of folly to apply conscription to Ireland at this time. Nothing would be gained by it, as British troops would have to be sent there to take care of disturbances that would be sure to occur. It is said that nothing would please Germany more than to hear that the British Government had decided to force conscription on Ireland at this time. All the troops that Britain can raise are required in Flanders and France just now to fight the Teutons, and none can be spared to coerce the Irish. The British Government has a big problem on its hands in the Irish question, which has to be dealt with in a circumspect manner, and it has no intention of inviting any more trouble than faces it now. If the Irish question is shortly settled, it may be that Ireland will respond with alacrity to the call for more men to fight the enemy of mankind.

THE REVOLT IN GERMANY.

The murmurings of discontent, the food riots and the strikes in German cities are not likely to have far-reaching consequences. The Germans have a drastic method of dealing with popular uprisings of this sort; it is the machine-gun method, and it is a very effective one. Under the iron hand of the military the strikes that occurred last week in Berlin, Hamburg and other cities have been suppressed. Ambassador Gerard long ago stated that there would be no revolution in Germany; only women, boys and old men were left at home and these do not make revolutions. The man power of the nation is practically all enrolled in the army, where stern discipline prevents any effort at self-expression. The fact that strikes have broken out in various parts of the empire is an evidence, however, that deprivation and hunger are beginning to open the eyes of the masses, and that the war has produced a serious economic condition. It would be folly for the Allies to count too much upon internal disturbances in Germany as evidence of a coming peace. Peace will probably come only as the result of a decisive victory over German arms.

A CITY OF PEACE.

Men prominent in all the faiths and sects for whom Jerusalem is a venerated shrine agree that, whatever else may happen, the Turk has gone from the Holy City for good. It is regarded as unthinkable that his iniquitous misrule will ever desolate the ancient land again; and it is argued, and with confidence assumed, that the city of David will henceforward be truly a city of peace to which Protestants and Catholics, Jew and Mohammedan alike will look as a source of uplift and a seat of moral authority.

Monsignor Barnes of Oxford describes the rejoicing at the Vatican and the joy throughout Catholic Europe when General Allenby by masterly strategy made the retention of the city by the Turks impossible and captured it with its holy places absolutely unharmed. He praises also the admirable, tactful steps taken to put the sacred shrines under the protection of the several faiths which consider them holy spots. Sir Mark Sykes, a leading Catholic statesman of Great Britain and authority on Near-Eastern affairs, is convinced that there will be an enduring, civilized regime in Palestine, and that an era of pilgrimages to Jerusalem will begin at a time as the city has never seen before. Hundreds of thousands of Jews will journey there, he says, as visitors to see where the seed of Zionism is being planted. Hosts of Russians will make the pilgrimage. The Pope may call his children to a Pilgrimage of Repentance to which untold numbers will respond; and there is reason to anticipate a spiritual revival in Islam in which the intellectual and devout Arab and Indian Mohammedans will go, as badjis to the city thinking more of the Word than of the sword. There is, continues this thoughtful statesman, a deep rooted desire throughout the world that this war shall be the last; but if the hope is to be realized something more will be required than Hague conferences where

hypocritical diplomats and soldiers prepare for fresh hostilities. There must be a physical force at the disposal of whatever authority the nations set up to shield the world from war. But behind this there must be a moral force; and where else so well as at Jerusalem will centre the moral forces of Islam and obedience, of Calvary and sacrifice, of Zion and eternal hope?

Is this only an iridescent dream? enquires the Rochester, N.Y., Post-Express. Will the hope of the war-worn nations for a permanent peace be disappointed? Perhaps; and yet even the possibility that this may be the last great war, and the seeming certainty that a new era has dawned for the Holy City gives the words of the ancient prophets a living interest; and reality they never until now possessed: "The Lord shall yet choose Jerusalem, will dwell in the midst of it and it shall be called a city of truth, the mountain of the Lord of Hosts, the holy mountain. He will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths, for the law shall go forth of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations and shall rebuke many peoples and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

PUBLIC OPINION

Why Not? (Vancouver World) Sir Edward Carson has made an excellent comment on the proposed world league of nations. He asks: "Why not a League of British Nations as a preparatory step? Why not, indeed?"

Getting Cocky Already. (Montreal Star) The degree of Montreal's self-respect is raised by the city's attainment of a business standing. There is good reason for belief that Montreal no longer will be a byword throughout the country, a reproach to the citizens.

Telephone Operators Brave. (London Advertiser) Some telephone operators have been decorated in England for bravery. The average telephone operator, is very brave, although few get decorated. Notice what they have to stand for from a lot of peevish gentils and fussy women.

Playing to the Gallery. (Ottawa Evening Journal) "Playing to the gallery" is a temptation that all too many politicians—federal, provincial and municipal—fall into and more of the inefficiency and wastefulness of democratic government is due to this tendency than is nice to contemplate.

The Rulers of the English. (London Daily Chronicle) The promotion of Admiral Wem-

ys brings the army and the navy under the control of two Scotsmen—Sir Douglas Haig, of course, being a real Knight of the Thistle. It tempts one to look around at the small number of high offices now held by Englishmen. We have a Welsh prime minister, Scotsman as chancellor of the exchequer and foreign secretary, an Irish member of the war cabinet, while in the earlier days of the war we put our trust in two other Irishmen, Lord Kitchener and Lord French. The Goddes family, now holding several high offices, are Scotch, and the majority of our army commands are also held by men from beyond the border.

DIGESTIVE TABLETS. Judge—What is your verdict of the jury? Foreman—Your Honor, the jury is all of one mind—temporarily insane.—Everybody's Magazine.

"We live to learn." Said Henry Chears. "Why girls leave loose their overshoes."—Geneva Times.

"Have you and Jack been engaged long enough to get married?" "Too long. He hasn't a cent left."—Judge.

A little winter now and then is relished by the wisest men. But Nature doesn't be so rough. We know when we have had enough.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"How do you know that Chaucer dictated to a stenographer?" "Look at the spelling."—Buffalo Commercial.

It was a heathen Garfield day. A chilly one, God wot. And yet, whiffal, and strange to say. It made the people hot.—Springfield Union.

"Good morning. I came to tune your piano." "Piano? But I didn't send for you." "No, madam, but the neighbors said I ought to call."—The Passing Show.

Sadly old John Barleycorn Views his departing goat. "I went to stay the luckless day That women got the vote."—James J. Montague in Boston Advertiser.

Why We Are All Afraid. Nearly every one of us has some peculiar fear—something which continually grips us and keeps us in dread. Some fear thunderstorms, some are afraid to meet people—there are a hundred and one other phases.

It is possible to banish these fears by a process now known as Psychoanalysis. This is rather a fearsome name in itself. But H. Addington Bruce, in the February Harper's Bazaar, shows that Psycho-analysis is nothing but a common sense way of ridding people of their fears.

If a man agrees with a woman she thinks he is a fool. If he doesn't, she considers him stubborn. When some women cast their bread upon the waters it comes back in the form of a bread pudding.

Rippling Rhymes

A WINTER DAY It is a bitter, roaring day, the wind comes whooping down the hill; the skies are of a leaden gray, and I would give ten cents for May, with azure sky and babbling rill. The winds each moment colder grow, that through my whiskers blow apace; and there are symptoms now of snow; my cordwood pile is getting low; such weather is a rank disgrace. It's sad to see the furnace eat the costly coal, and call for more, then shed around some sickly heat, not strong enough to melt the sleet that's drifted underneath the door. It's sad to shovel in the coal, and know that each expensive lump, diminishes your hard-earned pile, and puts you farther in the hole, and brings you nearer to the dump. My scanty wages I have earned by labors fierce, that made me yell; it's hard to see such money burned, to see one's savings hourly turned to ashes, which one cannot sell. An ashpile's all I have to show for long weeks in the clanging mart; for endless journeys to and fro, for weary trips in rain and snow, and things that rend the human heart. The day wears on to evening, each minute brings an added jar; I sit as gloomy as a king, the while the girls waltz round and sing, "Brighten the corner where you are." —WALT MASON.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN By GENE BYRNES



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KLIM IS BEING DEMONSTRATED IN OUR STORE THIS WEEK. Use Klim regularly in place of fresh milk. It is more convenient. It can be mixed dry with flour, sugar, coffee, cocoa, etc. Klim tastes exactly like fresh liquid milk. It will not turn sour. 1 lb. costs 35 cents; makes four quarts.

Jas. Redden & Co., Phone 20 and 990.

WATCH YOUR FURNACE. ECONOMIZE IN COAL DO NOT WASTE CRAWFORD Foot of Queen St Phone 9.

TRYING TO FORCE SPAIN INTO WAR Sinking of Giralda Was Deliberate—Detained Ship While Orders Awaited. London, Feb. 5.—Eilson Young, a well-known war correspondent, has telegraphed the following striking story to the Daily Mail, dated at Seville on Friday: "The sinking of the Spanish steamship Giralda continues to be the chief topic of conversation and of government deliberations. Indignation over this latest insult to Spanish dignity is higher even than when the German submarine U-293 escaped from Cadiz, where it had been interned. "A perceptive examination of the facts in the case, and conversations with members of the Giralda's crew has satisfied me that the incident bears a much deeper significance than can be gathered from the bare facts that have been published. The Giralda's chief officer, who was or-

dered aboard the submarine with the ship's papers, was kept on board for four hours while the submarine commander sent wireless messages to Aranzuez, through which there is direct communication with Madrid, asking instruction whether he should sink the ship. Presumably the answer came back from the German Embassy saying "yes." "A party from the submarine then boarded the Giralda, and ordered the crew into the boats. The Germans behaved in a deliberately insulting manner, robbed the officers of their money and effects and bombed their ship, as the men declare. "I am satisfied as to these facts. It is said that the cabinet meeting was divided over the question of breaking diplomatic relations with Germany, but it is almost certain that Germany is now acting on a deliberate policy of forcing Spain to enter the war either as enemy, by irritation, or as an ally, by terrorization." "Foolish people allow prize to rob them of many comforts."