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There is nothing I abominate more than frock coats and top hats. I did not bring mine to Canada, declared the Prince of Wales. A sensible fellow is the young prince.

Medical men in various parts of the country are predicting a return of the influenza epidemic. Now is the time to take precautions by a free use of gargles, sprays and disinfectants.

The British government is taking strong steps to deal with the railway strike situation. As a result there is already some talk of a settlement. This quick method of doing things well might be copied in Kingston.

The Ottawa Journal announces that there seems at least to be a fair possibility of the early abolition of toll roads around the capital. It is only away back north that such medieval institutions as toll gates are to be found in this country.

During the week-end no less than two Conservative candidates declared themselves as opposed to prohibition. The return of the government would likely mean a return to the license system, the premier to the contrary notwithstanding.

There will be plenty to keep the public busy during the month of October. In Kingston we are faced with the referendum, the provincial election, the dominion bye-election, a Navy League campaign, and, just following, the Victory Loan campaign.

In his long election manifesto Premier Hearst promises "measures to reduce the cost of living." The people of this province will probably regard this simply as an election cry, seeing that he did little or nothing to effect a reduction during his term of office.

Another follower of Sir William Hearst has deserted the party. This time no less a personage than Sir Adam Beck, chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission, who states that he will run as an independent candidate in his old constituency of London.

By the way, has the divic finance committee forgotten about the big one-day celebration they promised for the Kingston returned soldiers some time ago? And might we ask when the twice-postponed meeting to discuss a war memorial for Kingston is to be held?

The British government has taken its political life in its hands when it determines to fight the railway strike to a finish. A show-down had to come some time, and the sooner the better, because the general public was slowly being ground to death between the upper and nether millstones. The greatest industrial struggle in the history of the nation is now in progress.

UNWISE WASTEFULNESS. At a time like the present, when the most vital subject of public interest is the effort to decrease the costs of living, it is very unfortunate that there should be so many strikes. The average worker has little use for a strike. As a rule he is a man with a family and home, and the idea of knocking off work is, to him personally, a repulsive one. But influences are brought to bear upon him, and the result is a strike, which means a loss of money for him and hardship for his family. The unemployment caused by a strike means a loss of money that can never be regained.

That has been well demonstrated by the amount of wages lost by the striking workers of the Locomotive Company in Kingston. Money is being lost by everybody concerned, and there is very little prospect of that loss ever being made good.

The greatest need of the present day is an increase in the purchasing power of money. That need is felt by the laboring classes to a greater extent than by any other. That alone can bring about a general condition in which the working classes and their families can have a peaceful, comfortable, cheerful existence. But that cannot come until there is greater production in every line. Unemployment and strikes have the effect of decreasing production and lessening the purchasing power of money. If the strikers could only see this before they laid down their tools, we believe that there would be greater willingness to accept reasonable terms. The strikes which have occurred all over the country, indeed, all over the world, have played a great part as the war in making living costs higher than ever before, and until there is a general settling down to hard, conscientious, productive labor, there can be no hope of any decided, permanent reduction in the cost of living. Waste of any kind—of money, of labor, of time and of resources—can only serve to increase the burdens which have to be borne by the working masses.

THE LATE DR. J. M. PLATT. With the passing of Dr. J. M. Platt at Picton on Saturday Canada loses one of her foremost citizens. He was one of the older politicians, being a warm personal friend of the late Hon. David Mills and the late Hon. William Paterson. After graduating in medicine he practised his profession at Picton. For many years he was editor of the Picton Gazette and represented Prince Edward county in the Dominion Parliament during the MacKenzie and MacDonald administrations. He was a great admirer of the late Hon. Edward Blake. From 1899 to 1913 he was warden of the Portmouth penitentiary, and instituted many needed reforms. He possessed peculiar qualifications for the office, showing unerring judgment and astuteness in dealing with his subordinates and the delinquents under his charge. His deep sense of public duty made him most scrupulous in the expenditure of government money, and by his keen interest in agriculture he placed the prison farm on a paying basis.

In the enforcement of discipline he was most humane, for harshness was foreign to his nature, and while scrupulous in his observance of the statutes and regulations in force, he was a strong advocate of reforms and indeterminate sentences. He lived to see many of his ideas incorporated in the provincial laws governing reformatory, and the removal of insane prisoners to proper hospitals, but not the transfer of the penitentiaries to provincial control. He held advanced ideas in practical penology, and had he taken up the work when in the prime of life he would undoubtedly have achieved for Canada a marked improvement in prison administration.

During his editorship of the Picton Gazette he was a versatile writer, and his wide knowledge and mature judgment made him an authority on many important public questions. He was always a most interesting conversationalist and effective platform speaker.

WHY THE D.S.C.R. HAS FAILED. The evidence which is being given before the Parliamentary Committee on Soldiers' Re-Establishment is bringing some very interesting facts before the people of Canada. The figures given by the Deputy Minister of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment give some idea of the tremendous nature of the task which confronts the government in enabling the returned soldiers, whether disabled or not, to become properly settled down in civil life.

For instance, it was stated that the medical services of the department are giving treatment weekly to 15,413 cases, the vocational training department is giving assistance in re-education in 22,073 cases, and 21,560 are being assisted weekly by information of the provision of employment or some other service. Of 75,045 soldiers who applied for employment, 69,020 have been placed, an average of over ninety per cent. for the whole of Canada. Sums of money amounting to over \$10,000,000 have been paid in providing these services for the returned soldiers, and of the whole amount expended, about forty-six per cent. is paid in cash to the men in allowances for themselves and their dependents.

These facts seem to indicate that this department is making a serious effort to deal adequately with the re-establishment of soldiers. That success, in every department has not been secured is evident from the attitude of the veterans to-day. Perhaps the fault lies in the officials who have had the responsibility of deciding the policies of the department. There seems to be a lack of appreciation of the needs of the veteran, so that, although so great an amount has been done, it has been in many cases done along the wrong lines, and important considerations have been entirely neglected. This might have

been avoided had the government taken the initial step of placing returned soldiers at the head of the department. Sir James Loughheed and Deputy Minister Robinson may be conscientious and well-meaning officials, but they lack the sympathetic consideration and the proper outlook necessary in dealing with veterans of the war. These two essentials can only be found in men who have themselves been in the war. This is where the department has failed to obtain the maximum of service and the best possible results, and at this point it should be re-organized in order to ensure satisfaction.

PUBLIC OPINION

Dangerous Infection. (Philadelphia Inquirer) Some people are crazy to get into politics and others become crazy after they get in.

William The Coward. (Their Magazine) History forgives all crimes except cowardice. Posterity undoubtedly will know the kaiser as William the Coward. He will attract attention only as the man who ran away.

Cheating Himself. (Washington Star) "A man can get so dishonest that he cheats himself." "You said it," replied Cactus Joe. Three-finger Bill has got so downright crooked that he plays solitaire with a marked deck.

Like the Anarchists. (New York Herald) Striking policemen of Boston are to ask the courts to put them back in the jobs which they left of their own free will. This is just like the anarchists, who defy the law and when they get into trouble invariably send for an attorney and seek the law's protection.

Kerensky's Blunder. (Philadelphia Public Ledger) One of the pathetic delusions of the Kerensky regime was that if certain concessions were made to the radicals they would become reasonable. On the contrary, the more concessions he made the more his radical opponents despised him, the more they plotted against him and finally overthrew him and his government.

The Wasteful Strike. (Buffalo News) It is to be hoped that in the evolution of industrial relations, which is proceeding, conditions will be made such that all need of strikes will be eliminated. Complete establishment and permanent maintenance of social justice and the spirit of equity and democracy in industry should eradicate the strike as something altogether unnecessary. Toward this goal all elements of society should strive. For it is in the interest of all concerned—labor, capital and the public.

A BUREAU OF INFORMATION May Be Necessary Regarding Canadian University Appointments. The following is from the London (England) Christian World: "Principal Bruce Taylor, D.D., of Queen's University, Ontario, well-known in Aberdeen and London, where he formerly held pastorates, is present on holiday on the Clyde engaging in his old and favorite sport of yachting. He is on this side in search of no fewer than thirty-one professors for the immense seat of learning with its 2,000 students and 81 professors, of which he is now the distinguished head."

In commenting upon the above, the educational editor of the Toronto Mail-Empire says: "Eminent British scholars will always be welcome in Canada, in academic positions, but we should be glad to believe that Dr. Taylor has carefully examined the field of Canadian scholarship before filling the appointments mentioned. There are good men to be obtained in Britain, but the best prefer to remain there. There are good scholars to be found in Canada among our own graduates, and the best of them would ask nothing better than an opportunity to serve their country in her universities. American colleges are full of our graduates, and many of them would be glad to return to their own land. It is not time for the establishment of a bureau of information with respect to university appointments in Canada? There is a great and very apparent danger of some of our presidents of universities judging merit and scholarship according to the old standard: Omne lignotum pro mirifico."

A woman's idea of good luck is to find in the pile a pair of socks that doesn't need darning. The average man believes in future punishment—for his neighbor.

Rippling Rhymes

BUYING THE BEST. The best things are the cheapest, and shoddy things are punk; that man's a chronic weeper who blows himself for junk. Some bargain he goes hunting, in hens or rubber tires, in celluloid or bunting, in hats or cast-off lyres. He doesn't ask the merit of calico he buys; he doesn't bite or tear it, or hold it to his eyes; if it's as cheap as blitzen, he thinks the deal will pay; and every game he sits in he plays this sort of way. His clothes are always ready, his shoes are down at heels, he's looking poor and the routine he earns many wheels. He blows in all his wages for things that do not wear, for birds in cheap tin cages, and wigs that have no hair. The chairs all go to squall, he purchased at the store, depositing his pieces and suits upon the floor. His car is always busting when he would take a ride, and accidents disgusting deface his snowy hide. His hat is always sagging when he would row a bit, and coroners are always finding his bones, on which to sit. His dog is always mangy, his cat was built to squall, his nose is less and rangy, and kicks him through the wall. He always hunts the cheapest; if it's a good one, cheap price are the steapest, as we know, in the end. My large anti-shining dollars in good things I invest; in buying cots or collars, I always want the best. WALT MASON.

Canada—East and West Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

One of the most picturesque old fighters of the War of Independence times was Col. Ethan Allen, who was consumed with a tremendous desire to add Canada—or what is now a part of Canada—to the United States, as it was in the days of the rebellion against the British. Washington, the American commander-in-chief, was not averse to the conquest of the British domain along the St. Lawrence, but he recognized that it would be a very difficult task to complete. In September, 1775, Col. Allen entered what is now the Montreal area. He formed his camp near Sorel and waited for the disgruntled of the country to join him. He soon had, he wrote home, 250 Canadians in his force and many more were expected to enlist under his colors.

When he had gathered a little force he set out for the Montreal area. He was marching on the road between Longueuil and La Prairie—two little towns across the river from the present city of Montreal—when he discovered that the city was garrisoned by only a regular troop. He planned a surprise attack. He retreated to Longueuil, prepared to cross the St. Lawrence to the city in flat boats. Another officer, Col. Brown, was to cross higher up. Col. Allen carried out his part of the plan without fault and on the night of Sept. 24 he landed near Montreal; but there was no sign of Col. Brown. When morning dawned there was nothing for the American to do but fight just where he was. A gallant action was started at once but the defenders were too numerous and finally the assailants were forced to surrender. Night saw the old fighter, Col. Allen, a prisoner of the Montreal garrison. He bitterly bewailed his fate as he languished in prison.

Defaulters And Fines. In reply to a question asked in the House of Commons, Hon. Mr. Doherty, Minister of Justice, stated that the total number of defaulters under the Military Service Act who were apprehended and prosecuted in the province of Quebec was 4,145. Those figures were for the period from Nov. 1st, 1918, to Sept. 1st, 1919. During that period the sum of \$125,236 was paid in fines by defaulters in that province, but this was largely offset by the fact that a sum of \$128,920.50 was expended by the government in various ways in the arrests, transportation of the defaulters and the officers and agents who made the arrests, and for expenses and fees paid in connection with the trials of these men. It was ascertained that no payments in the way of bonuses or rewards had been made to officers or agents arresting them.

Meat Prices In Syracuse, N.Y. The following prices are quoted by the City Market at Syracuse, N.Y.: Round steak, sirloin and porterhouse steak, 24c. a pound; lamb chops, 25c.; lamb stew, 12c. Oh for these prices in Kingston!

There are times when a rounder finds it difficult to square himself. Just the same, some homely people are fully thick-skinned. Long skirts never indicate that the wearers have small feet.

For Agonizing Corns You Can't Beat It. Certainly not, "Putnam's" has 'em all beat a mile. It's a marvel on corns and foot lumps, acts like magic. Why for nearly fifty years Putnam's Extractor has been the standard remedy, the dependable one, the sure kind that never disappoints. It's painless too. Think of it! Paint it on to-night, in the morning the pain is all gone. Small wonder the sale of Putnam's Corn Extractor is so large, 25c. at dealers everywhere.

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