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OUT-OF-TOWN REPRESENTATIVES: E. Bruce Owen, 22 St. John St., Montreal; F. M. Thompson, 777 Lumber Bldg., Toronto; F. R. Northrup, 215 Fifth Ave., New York; F. R. Northrup, 1616 Ass'n Bldg., Chicago

Letters to the Editor are published only over the actual name of the writer. Attached is one of the best job printing offices in Canada.

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The railway strike in England was settled by compromise. Why could this plan not have been adopted before, instead of after, the strike?

Too much idleness, I have observed, fills up a man's time much more completely, and leaves him less his own master, than any sort of employment whatsoever.—Burke.

Kingston's jail is nearly empty. Will we follow the example of Berlin, where house shortage compelled the people to rent cells in the old city jail as dwellings?

Great Britain, France and Italy have ratified the Treaty of Peace. The league can now be legally established, even if the United States decides to remain on the outside.

The question of prohibition is now squarely up to the people themselves. The blame cannot be shifted to other shoulders. It cannot be passed on to the government or the politicians.

The United States will refuse admission to Bolsheviks and other extreme radicals. These undesirable are the cause of much of the industrial trouble in that country to-day.

Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, has been deposed, while anti-Bolshevik armies are within thirty miles of Moscow. The soviet form of government has proved unworkable in Russia, as it must everywhere.

In order to better its service, and to bring it up to the pre-war standard, the Bell Telephone Company announces that it intends to expend \$7,000,000 this year in new exchanges, extensions and service improvements.

Centre Huron Liberals have turned down their former representative in the legislature, William Proudfoot, because of his stand on Union Government. This is surely not the way by which a re-organization of the Liberal party can be effected.

An Ottawa architect complains that it is absurd for Canadian banks to erect buildings looking like Greek temples. Would less pretentious buildings and a higher rate of interest to depositors suit this critical gentleman?

The United Farmers of Ontario will have over sixty candidates in the field. Back of them is a powerful organization, destined to take a leading part in the future government of the province. The movement typifies the deep and widespread dissatisfaction with the Hearst government.

The Ottawa Rotary Club has decided to raise \$30,000 to defray the expenses of the Boy Scouts for three years. These clubs are doing a useful public service in many Canadian as well as American cities. A movement to establish such a club in Kingston ought to meet with approval.

Herbert C. Hoover, in his address on the Treaty of Peace to the students of Leland Stanford University, coined a striking phrase when he said: "If we believe we can see our neighbors return to another thirty years' war through the breakdown of this country, and we still maintain our progress, it is the egotism of insanity."

J. M. HUGHES RETIRES.

Last week, when urged by friends to allow his name to go before the people as a candidate for parliamentary honors, ex-Mayor J. M. Hughes consented, and at once announced his candidature. At that time it was not known whether Sir Henry Drayton, who had been tendered the Unionist nomination for Kingston, would accept or not, and in the uncertainty that prevailed in political circles, Mr. Hughes stepped into the breach. Last night the Whig stated its belief that he would retire before many days were over and await his opportunity on a more suitable occasion. This he has now done. He has come to look at the matter in the way in which the Whig expected he would view it, and announces elsewhere to-day that he definitely retires from the contest.

It is not always that a man so readily places the welfare of his city above his own quite justifiable political ambitions. Very often it is easier to go ahead, once the die has been cast, than it is to recede from the position taken. That, no doubt, was true in Mr. Hughes' case, and that he had at once the courage and the magnanimity to do so is greatly to his credit. He has done a gracious thing—performed a real public service—in deciding to permit Sir Henry Drayton to be elected by acclamation, as is altogether likely to happen. The new finance minister has too much responsibility on his shoulders at the present time, in floating the war loan, mastering the details of his important department, etc., to afford an hour's time to fight an election contest. The interests of the country—leaving Kingston altogether aside—demand that he should be returned by acclamation. The retirement of Mr. Hughes has made this possible.

CONSTANTINOPLE, A PROBLEM THAT SOLVES ITSELF.

Ever since the day when some statesman suggested that the United States should have a mandate over the greater part of the Turkish Empire there has been opposition to the move which ranged from bitter denunciation that the United States should take on responsibilities in a part of the world of which the majority of its people knew so little to mild derision against the United States assuming a control over a people with whom she had nothing in sympathy save the brotherly ties that are to bind all the nations of the world under the new League of Nations. Yet it was no sooner proposed than all the Powers at Paris saw what a distinct gain it would be and how the presence of the United States as a mandatory power over this territory would admirably suit the plans which had been formulated for preserving the world's peace. Yet half a century ago Britain would have jumped at the offer of gaining possession of Constantinople and much of the rich land of Turkey. For Constantinople was the bugbear of Britain for over a century. It may yet happen that the United States will assume a mandate over Armenia, but it can scarcely be hoped that she will extend such a sphere of influence to include Constantinople. The reason lies perfectly plain. It would involve recognition of the custom of polygamy. The objection at first seems a trite one, but it is a real barrier and the inwardness of it lies in the fact that Utah was forced to declare polygamy illegal and to accept the doctrine of its illegality, at least technically, before she was admitted as a state of the Union. America thinks that it would scarcely be consistent to trown sternly on polygamy in Utah and to countenance it in Constantinople.

Constantinople, known to the Turks as Stamboul and their capital, is situated on a promontory jutting out into the Sea of Marmora, having the Golden Horn, an inlet of the latter, on the north side and the Bosphorus on the east. Thus the city proper is surrounded by water on all sides except on the west, where there is an ancient high double wall of four miles in length stretching right across the promontory. In Stamboul stands the most ancient Christian church, the Church of St. Sophia, which was converted into a mosque in 1453 when the Turks captured the city, and then and there wrote the last chapter of the history of the Byzantine Empire. But it is with the more recent history of Constantinople that we are interested. The problem of the city goes back to the days of Napoleon, who had cast covetous eyes on Egypt, which he wanted for himself. He sought to divert British attention from Egypt, whose value he saw as a half-way house to India, and for his purpose he created the great Russian bogey. Correspondence of the Little Corporal is still extant which shows the depth and the subtlety of his cunning. In order to gain his end he was forced to pretend that Russia was Britain's worst enemy and that the kingdom of the czar had serious designs on India; and that for this reason Russia's possession of Constantinople (she had already begun to angle for the prize) would be a menace to Britain's whole eastern possessions. The British statesmen seem to have swallowed the bait, line, hook and sinker, and the fear that he inculcated in

British minds remained for several generations. It was this obsession on the part of England that led to the Crimean war and even until Bismarck's time it was a real factor in all our European policy. Yet Napoleon knew perfectly well that Egypt and not Constantinople was the key to the Indian casket, and so must other leaders who, however, seemed to have held their tongues.

As a matter of fact the fear that Constantinople may fall into hostile hands is still a real fear to many thinking Englishmen. Mr. Frederic Harrison, one of the astutest political writers of this age, said recently that Constantinople still remains and ever must remain one of the most important ports in the whole world. In the hands of a great military and naval power it must always be one of the dominant capital cities of the whole world. He even grows alarmed that Russia and not Turkey may in a few years time have possession of Constantinople. The fear was good enough to make statesmen shake in their shoes a quarter of a century ago, but to-day it is just a joke among the powers.

There is no powerful Russia to-day, and Turkey awaits the Allies' pleasure. To be a mandatory under the League of Nations is of no possible value to any nation, but only adds another load to its responsibilities. There is nothing to be got out of Constantinople, and the Gods who weave the destinies of nations are playing a sorry trick on the British when they lay upon her shoulders the care of Constantinople which has been her bugbear for more than a century, but which to-day is found to be nothing but a collection of dry bones to scare the children with.

If Great Britain does not take over the mandate it may be left to Turkey as her last stronghold in Europe, under some sort of general supervision with regard to armament and finance by the league. This might please the tens of thousands of Mussulman subjects of England who have already protested that they do not want, on religious grounds, to see the holy place of the Chosen of the Prophet desecrated by alien hands. But at any rate the danger of Constantinople has passed.

Rippling Rhymes

EATING.

I have just come back from dinner, and I ate an hour or so; and that dinner was a winner, taking it as dinners go. First there was a roast of mutton and I chewed away with zest, till there wasn't left a button on the north side of my vest. There were beets and sweet potatoes, and some prune juice, extra dry, macaroni with tomatoes, and I finished up with pie. Now I have the indigestion, and my works fierce ructions raise, and with me it is a question whether eating truly pays. If we just would cut out eating we could save a lot of rocks, salt them down and keep repeating, in the safe deposit box. We would prosper like the dickens, put all kinds of wealth away, if we'd cut out veal and chickens and be satisfied with hay. But so few of us are able to accumulate a bone! On the ample dinner table all our revenue is thrown. Then our inwards get to balking, underneath the victuals' heft, and the doctor comes a-docking, and he takes what coin is left. Oh, the druggists round me frolic, pouring nostrums into me, for I have spasmodic colic, and I am a sight to see. So it scarcely is surprising that a pain-tormented dub feels so much like moralizing on the vanity of grub.

—WALT MASON.

Canada-East and West

Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

The Beginning of Confederation. On the 10th of October, 1864, a memorable gathering of a few leaders of the British provinces in North America began at Quebec. At that time Upper and Lower Canada later Ontario and Quebec the Maritime provinces and Newfoundland comprised the inhabited portions of what is now Canada. The rest of the great modern nation was either completely unexplored or thought of as a rocky wilderness of no possible value.

Previous to 1864 there was no plan of government or progress provided for by the British colonies. Each did what seemed best to itself. But statesmen were appearing on the scene who dreamed of a federation of all the British possessions on this side of the ocean. They saw bigger and better days in store for the nation if their purposes were worked out in harmony and according to a well defined plan.

To secure a meeting to discuss the points of difference was a hard task requiring months of letter writing and argument. Finally, however, such an assembly was arranged. It met at Quebec on Oct. 10th, 1864. The entire problem of union, in every phase, was discussed and argued. The result finally was a basis of federation various provinces concerned, and New Brunswick was the first to act upon the proposal the carefully prepared agreement was rejected by the maritime states.

This action meant delay and more assemblies. It was not until 1867 that a form of rule favorable to all parties concerned was adopted and accepted by the colonies. On July 1st, of that year the four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick became one Dominion.

Fire In A Home. Fire in the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Logan, 40 Concession street, did about \$300 damage to the contents early Wednesday night. The fire started in a bedroom on the second floor, while members of the household were away.

One touch of nature. Makes the whole world kin; One touch of old Adam Makes the whole world sin; One touch of humor Makes the whole world grin.



WALT MASON.

The Wm. Davies Co., Ltd.

PHONE 597 SPECIAL PRICES ON LAMB, BEEF AND PORK FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

LAMB: LEGS 28c. lb., LOINS 27c. lb., FRONTS 21c. lb., STEWING LAMB 18c. lb.

BEEF: Choice Ribs Beef 25c. lb., Rump Roast 25c. lb., Shoulder Roast 22c. lb., Blade Roast (bone out) 25c. lb., Round Steak 27c. lb., Sirloin Steak 28c. lb., Porterhouse Steak 30c. lb., Boneless Stew Beef 20c. lb.

PORK: SHOULDERS 25c. lb., LEGS 35c. lb., CHOICE ROASTS 32c. lb.

SAUSAGE: HOME-MADE 22c. lb., NEW ENGLAND 28c. lb., LITTLE PIG 32c. lb.

BACON: Boneless Breakfast Bacon (sliced) 52c. lb., Smoked Roll Bacon (sliced) 40c. lb., Smoked Picnic Hams 33c. lb., 500 lbs. Fine Hocks 12 1/2c. lb., Use Davies' Wiltshire Bacon—finest in the city.

Cooked Tripe 10c. lb.

STORE CLOSÉS I P.M. EVERY MONDAY.

Advertisement for BIBBY'S HATS and SHOES. Features: 'The Store That Keeps The Prices Down', 'Fall Suits And Overcoats', 'Young Men's Overcoats', 'Young Men's Suits'. Includes illustrations of men in suits and hats.

Advertisement for McClary's Pandora Ranges and Bunt's Hardware. Text: 'ARE JUST AS GOOD AS EVER AND THE CHEAPEST, FIRST-CLASS RANGE SOLD IN THE CITY.' Phone 888, King St.

Advertisement for DAVID SCOTT Plumber. Text: 'Plumbing and Gas Work a specialty. All work guaranteed. Address: 145 Frontenac street. Phone 1277.'

Advertisement for T.J. Lockhart, Real Estate and Insurance. Text: 'CLARENCE STREET Phone 1035W. or 1797J.'

Advertisement for DR. CHOWN'S DRUG STORE. Text: '185 PRINCESS STREET PHONE 343'

Advertisement for BUTTER WRAPPING PAPER. Text: 'Stock Printing, "Choice Dairy Butter," 1,000, \$2.85; 2,000, \$5.00; 10,000, \$22.00. Specially printed with your own copy. \$2.50; \$1.50; 2,000, \$1.00; 10,000, \$2.50. Special prices on larger quantities. Shipping charges paid on 5,000 and over. BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING CO., KINGSTON'

Advertisement for FARMS FOR SALE. List of farms with acreage and prices.

Advertisement for DOMINION FISH CO. Text: 'Word has begun in Almonte on the erection of a new theatre on the site of the old "People's Store" by the Ottawa Valley Amusement Company.'

Advertisement for EGG-O BAKING POWDER. Text: 'will be demonstrated in our store all this week. OCTOBER 6th to 11th. You are cordially invited to call and see the good work done by this popular Powder. Jas. REDDEN & Co. Phones 20 and 900.'

Advertisement for DELAWARE LACKAWANNA and WESTERN RAILROADS CELEBRATED SCRANTON COAL. Text: 'The Standard Anthracite. Chief Distributor for Kingston. Crawford Foot of Queen St. Phone 9. The Yorkshire Wool Stock Company, Almonte, has had the annex, recently gutted by fire, rebuilt of cement, and it is reported that they will shortly increase their plant and extend their operations.'