

THE BRITISH WHIG 88TH YEAR.



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And once more the lowly freckle covers a multitude of skins.

Signs of returning normalcy in Germany include verboten signs.

No matter how high taxes are, they always slide on down to the ultimate consumer.

Civilized nations: Those that are regarded by their neighbors as a menace.

The test of any theory is: Will it work? This is also the test of a civilization.

One way to get that bloom in the cheeks is to use a broom on the floor.

As we understand Korfanty, the peace treaty can't be expected to bear fruit without Polanation.

With money scarce and gasoline high, one half the world doesn't know how the other half lives.

If God couldn't keep the first man decent, parents of to-day need not be discouraged by their failures.

Lloyd George says the Treaty of Versailles must be interpreted with fairness. Also, we fear, with an axe.

Detachable eyelashes, eh? Each passing year makes the morning assembly more complicated for the dear creatures.

A good wife is one who doesn't say "I told you so" when her husband catches cold after changing his summer ones.

A happy married man is one who is content to dwell under his own vine and fig tree and his wife's thumb.

"Man is the noblest work of God" — a statement that remains unchallenged, and thus proves that dogs and horses can't write.

A season of depression: One in which a man is required to use his head instead of a scoop shovel to gather in the money.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. Arthur Ellis, official hangman, in an interview with the press gives his views on the system of county hangings carried out by himself since he succeeded Radcliffe, and advocates centralizing the executions at the penitentiaries because of the facilities for the safe custody of the condemned man, and also because the man would be removed from the locality of the crime and the sentimental influences excited on his behalf by numerous friends.

"Within fifteen days of the passing of the sentence of death you will be able to get ninety-nine per cent. of the people of the district to sign a petition to defeat justice because of sentimentality," said he. Proceeding, hangman Ellis further states "that sentimentality would have been lacking had he gone to the penitentiary. There would have been seven days' talk and then the boy hidden away in the security of the penitentiary awaiting death would have already passed away into oblivion."

This is very enlightening from the official executioner who, whatever his qualifications to pass judgment upon the exercise of executive clemency, certainly appears to resent seeing the gallows cheated. In a democratic country there is no good reason why petitions calling for a review of the

trial of a person sentenced to death, should not be sent to the governor-general, neither is there any good reason why the condemned man should be "hidden away" for execution so long as capital punishment remains upon the statutes of Canada. There might, however, be a better enforcement of jail regulations in order that public decency may not be shocked by repetitions of the recent Woodstock incidents.

MORE MONEY FOR MINISTERS.

The adoption of a minimum salary of \$1,800 and a manse for Presbyterians, decided upon by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church held last week at Toronto, is a move which has been delayed far too long. Like school teachers and some other professional men, the ministers have suffered more than almost any other class during the past few years of high living costs. Their salaries have never been adequate to the calls of their position, nor sufficient remuneration for the long years of sacrifice and training which are needed to fit them for the work to which they have been called. There are, unfortunately, those who scoff because the ministers have for the past few years been asking for larger salaries, but it is true that no class has been so self-sacrificing, or so slow in putting forward higher salary demands as have the clergy.

The ministers, as a class, have a hard row to hoe. With the exception of the few who have gathered the plums of the highly-paid large city churches, as a class they have been miserably underpaid, while at the same time they are expected to live up to a certain standard and to maintain a certain position which is far beyond the money which is paid to them. Perhaps the wives of the ministers in the smaller towns and the rural districts know this more than anyone else, for it is their lot to make ends meet on a salary which is not sufficient for even the necessities of life, to give their children an education in keeping with their status, and to keep up an appearance which will prevent the criticism which comes all too easily from the lips of the members of some of the congregations.

Even with the new salary minimum which has been set by the general assembly, the ministers are not well-paid in proportion to other professional men who have a shorter and less arduous period of training. The seven years academic course, with its attendant expense and hard grind of study, surely deserves better financial recognition than has been given in the past. Yet it is significant that, in the discussion on salaries at the assembly, the men who advocated a higher minimum salary were laymen and business men, while several ministers opposed the raising of the figure. This shows that there was no selfish motive behind the resolution. The ministers were apparently willing to let their labors find their own just reward, while it was pleasing to note that the laymen, the men who provide the money which carries on the work of the church, were the ones who wished some of that reward to come here and now, and not altogether in the hereafter. This shows that while church work demands financial support, there are those who will see that this support is given in the proportion in which it is needed.

This increase in the minimum salary will help, to a certain extent, to bring to the ministry the recruits which are needed for the extension of the work of the church. Even in theological students there is a certain amount of consideration for the remuneration which will be theirs when they have finished their course of training. It is a fact that the miserably low salaries paid to ministers have in some measure been responsible for the lack of recruits, for no man with ambitions towards marrying and raising a family could afford to give his life in this service while starvation wages were paid. The increase will therefore be beneficial not only to those already in the ministry, but to those who, in the future, will adopt it as their chosen calling, and in this way the church will benefit, and with it, the nation and the world at large.

TAXATION IN GERMANY.

A proof that Germany is in earnest in its intentions to pay the reparations claims to the full is shown in the drastic taxation proposals which have been made by Chancellor Wirth. Germany is faced with the task of raising \$400,000,000 yearly to meet the demands of its reparations account, and the chancellor has prepared his plans for the raising of this money. While his plans have not yet been definitely adopted by the Reichstag, it is conceded that some of them will be given approval, for Germany is in the position where she must meet her obligations, and any plan put forward which is likely to enable her to do this is sure to be accepted by all political parties, even although there will be an objecting minority, no matter what the plans are.

The taxes which the chancellor proposes to levy are of such a nature that the payment of reparations will make a lasting impression upon rich and poor alike, and, incidentally, this is just what France in particular, and the Allies in general, desire. They wish the people of Germany to feel

the burden to such an extent that they will never again be tempted to follow any militaristic party. Many of the plans are of a confiscatory nature. A twenty-five per cent. confiscatory tax on capital and property has already been levied, and it is now proposed to place a twenty per cent. government mortgage on the pre-war gold basis value of all farms, estates and city properties, as well as a three hundred per cent. increase in house rentals in cities. These taxes will spread the burden over all classes of the population, and will, it is hoped by the chancellor, help greatly in raising the enormous sum required.

Other taxes will bring about an increase in the price of coal, a multiplication of the present railway rates, which, incidentally, will hit foreign tourists even harder than the home population, and a radical expropriation of property. Other taxes include a levy of a twenty per cent. compulsory government participation for the benefit of the reparations fund, on all industrial and mercantile concerns, and on banks. Other minor taxes are also proposed, all of which are expected to add greatly to the total amount of money which will be raised.

With all these taxes added to those already in force, Germany will have taxation which will be more in keeping with its position as the defeated nation in the war. While the reparations negotiations were taking place, the chief contention of the Allies was that Germany was not taxed nearly so heavily as France or Great Britain. That will be changed now, and the German people will be made to feel the burden of the war in a more real fashion than before.

The effect on German industry, however, is not likely to be a happy one, Hugo Stines, who is known as the German Rockefeller, and who is perhaps the wealthiest man in Germany, is not at all well pleased with the future prospects of his country. His outlook is most pessimistic, and he cannot see how Germany will recover her economic standing with this burden of taxation on commercial and agricultural enterprises. The fact remains, however, that Germany has signified her willingness to pay, and whatever taxation may be imposed will be one more means of bringing home to the German people the guilt which lies at their door. Her people will have to get down to real hard work in order to meet her obligations, and in this way it is possible that the burdens will in time become blessings, if they drive the spirit of militarism completely from the country, and bring about a contented and hard working populace. Then Germany would no longer be a menace, as in the days before 1914, but would be able to look the world in the face with the satisfaction of having, to some extent, worked out her own salvation.

Walt Mason THE POET PHILOSOPHER

COFFEE. Evangeline is brewing a noxious sort of drink; it might be laundry bluing, it might be brindle ink; but coffee she believes it, this beverage of death; and when her hub receives it he swears beneath his breath. The two were lately married, the bonds of love are strong, the husband hasn't carried his grievance very long. He hasn't started howling, the riot is delayed, though often he's recalling the coffee mother made. And inwardly he's quaking, he knows not what to do; Evangeline is making a most atrocious brew. Her coffee tastes like leather, it gives an awful folt, and he is asking whether it's time for a revolt. He hates to hurt her feelings, but must he always drink a brew of carrot peelings that puts him on the blink? He hates to spilt the glamor surrounding love's young dream, but he has katzenjammer from coffee that's a scream. It can't go on forever, he'll dump the martyr's crown; some day his wrath will sever the bonds that hold him down; some day, the galled possessor of grievances and cares will wreck a costly dresser and break a lot of chairs. Another home, once cheerful, all desolate will be; a young wife sad and tearful, will ask for a decree. Though moralists are showing the customary bunk, no man can keep on loving where coffee is so punk. —WALT MASON.

What the Farmer Lost.

(Acton Free Press) A surprising statement was made by the Chief Grain Inspector at Winnipeg the other day when he said that enough weed seed to fill a freight train forty-eight miles long has been shipped out of three Prairie Provinces during the last three years. This at a time when the cost of production of crops was at its highest point; seed, implements and farm help were high; yet the farmers grew this weed seed, harvested it, threshed it, at a cost proportionate to that of the highest quality of grain, afterwards shipping and paying the freight on it to market, where owing to the presence of the weed seed, the grade of the wheat was lowered.

Christings Not All Perfect.

(Ovella Packer) "Will a man who is really a Christian allow his hens to destroy his neighbor's garden?" this Page is asked. That is a question—there are many such—which cannot well be answered by a straight yes or no. Some Christians, though well intentioned, are not considerate, and have very little sense.

BITS OF BY-PLAY By LUKE McLUKE Copyright, 1920, by The Cincinnati Enquirer.

stiff. The laundry man's devices are great, but the cost hurts; He charges me stiff prices. To do up my soft shirts.

Man Brute! "Two is company," simpered Miss Oldgirl as she sat down beside Mr. Oldbatch. "Yes," growled Mr. Oldbatch. "Unless they happen to be husband and wife!"

Goosh! C. A. Reck, a traveling man, who lives in St. Louis, Mo., claims that he has seen a number of them.

Cheer Up! Though hardluck hands a jolt that jars, Do not wear gloomy shrouds; For, while we cannot all be stars, We don't have to be clouds.

Oh! "Two rights always make a wrong!" announced the Cheerful Idiot. "What are you talking about?" demanded the Wise Guy. "A pair of shoes," replied the Cheerful Idiot.

Atts Boy! Some men are cheerful pedestrians, while others adopt a silent grouch when they are hiking. But what we started to tell you was that Pleasant Walker is the porter at the Lu Ray Hotel, Central City, Ky.

Tuff! "I'm down and out!" said Mr. Strong. "And everything just goes dead wrong; Into each life some rain must fall, But, darn the luck, I get it all!"

The Wise Fool. "An honest confession is good for the soul," observed the Sage. "Yes," commented the Fool. "And it is often good for 10 or 20 years in the Penitentiary."

Where's Them Riot Gun? Mobbs vs. State, 192 Pacific Reporter, 323.

Wow! That kid will not shut up at all. I hear him from afar. What with his racket and his paw, He'll make a tennis star.

Why, George! (Houston (Texas) Post) Luke McLuke says the farmer is more concerned for his corn than for his Government. And the Government is more concerned for the farmer's coin than for the farmer.

Next! Don Dodge, who is living at his hunting lodge in the wilds near Pickering, Ontario, was fishing in a lake at sundown a few weeks ago. He was using four or five big hooks fastened to a stout line as there are some big fish up there. He fell asleep in the boat and was awakened by a powerful tug on the line. It was dark, but he could see something swimming about 50 yards away from the boat. He held on to the line and followed the catch. And whaddy yo think he had caught? A deer swimming across the lake had gotten the hooks snagged into his hide. Don had a gun in the boat and he shot Mr. Deer when the latter reached the shore. If you don't believe this story, Don can produce the antlers as his Eskimo.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen! What has become of the wagon that used to be seen on the streets of Cincinnati and which bore the painted sign on its sides: Kelly And Ryan Italian Bakers.

You Win! Ananias Munchausen had listened to the argument about realistic paintings, and he ended the argument by telling of a painting he once saw. This painting was called "Spring" and showed a lot of beautiful trees. It was painted in Spring and was so realistic that when Fall came the leaves on the trees turned from green to red, then curled up, and withered and dropped off, leaving the trees bare.

Noted Architect Dead. Ottawa, June 8.—David Ewart, for many years chief architect of the federal public works department, died on Monday morning, aged eighty years. He was born in Scotland and first entered the public works fifty years ago.

Haw, Haw! Dear Luke. They have a bird called the Laughing Jackass in New York Zoo. This is a poor name for a bird, but it would be a bird of a name for some of our Congressmen.—Soak.

Our Daily Special. The Tireless Talker Makes Other People Tired. Volcanoes are generally near the sea.

CAROLINA LAZZARI Metropolitan Opera star, who has been rescued after being lost for nine days in the desert of West Argentina.

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