

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Like the commonplace news of the death of ten thousand men, figures showing the enormous destruction of wealth which each day of war entails have ceased to hold the interest of the jaded world. Nevertheless, the statement of Marcel Sembat, French Minister of Public Works, that the war costs France \$10,000 a minute is likely to raise the eyebrows, for a moment, of all those who realize that their children will have to pay the bill. Ten thousand dollars a minute equals \$14,400,000 a day, and \$5,256,000,000 a year. Premier Asquith, in opening the meeting to secure popular support for the \$5,000,000,000 English loan, said that the British expenditures were about \$15,000,000 a day. Russia, Italy, Austria and Germany are sowing their wealth with the same prodigality and reaping the same crop of unnamed graves.

M. Sembat asks: "How will it be possible to pay the debts contracted on the interest on the loans and at the same time keep up as costly armies and fleets as in the past without renouncing expenditures for social reforms which impose themselves today upon all civilized peoples?" It will not be possible; and armies and fleets are not likely to be abandoned. The next generation will have no surplus wealth to carry out the plans, which a year ago seemed realizable, for social hygiene, for scientific research and for the bringing of an opportunity for happiness into the life of every human being. Mankind is burning civilization at both ends and in the middle. We are destroying the monuments of the past which emblem an unrepeatable act in the human drama, such as the Cathedral of Rheims or the Library of Louvain; we are slaying the beings of the present. We know that it is criminal to live at the expense of the past; we mourn for the dead and dying of the present, and we live at the expense of the future.

There used to be a legend that the hardships of campaigning strengthened the constitutions of those who escaped the missiles of the enemy. Professor Landouzy, dean of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, has made recently an important pronouncement on the subject. According to the London Hospital, Landouzy forecasts that the war will contribute at least 20,000 tuberculosis patients to France alone. The explanation he gives is simple and convincing: The terrible fatigue which the soldiers on the firing line must endure leaves its permanent marks. The resistance of many of the soldiers is reduced. Then a large number of men who once were tuberculous but who have been "cured" have enlisted. For them a return of the disease is extremely probable.

The sick soldiers in the ordinary routine would be discharged from the army. Landouzy makes a plea for them. They are war invalids, he declares, as much as are the wounded. They are entitled to the same treatment and to the same assistance from the nation. Furthermore, the nation must protect itself from the spread of infection.

A CAT AND ITS CHICKENS.

An Interesting Story in Natural History.

The above description will doubtless draw a smile from the reader, but it is true to life all the same, for at Mrs. Mahon's, Sunnyside, Ancrum, Scotland, there is to be seen this strange, and, indeed, touching association. As too often happens to Puss, she became bereft of her kittens, and in her disconsolate state some newly hatched chickens were put beside her. Puss immediately took to them, and for two days guarded and fondled the chickens, seven in number, with true maternal affection. They reciprocated the attention of their warm-coated foster mother, and crowded closely around her. To see them all settled for the night with their second mother was something to ponder over in relation to Nature's ways. Eventually five of the chickens were given back to the rightful mother, and Puss was left with only two to rear. She dotes unceasingly on the pair, and they in turn run after her with every sign of affection. When Puss went out, as was wont to do, to the milk cart, the feathered mites followed closely beside her. On one occasion when the cat was feeding, her place was taken by the other feline member of the household, who acted as black cat sentry, and, when a strange one came too near the chickens, showed fight at once! More curious was this, that when the other Orpingtons came over to see how their little brothers were faring under their whiskered mother, the little pair clearly resented their intrusion by pecking at them! Altogether, the Ancrum cat and its chickens present an interesting study in natural history, and have deservedly won a place in the local records of uncommon incidents.

Bobby's Ideas.

A few Sundays ago Bobby's mother was hurrying him to get ready for Sunday School. Bobby (aged seven), not being very fond of Sunday School, was grumbling all the time about schools in general and Sunday schools in particular. Finally, to give vent to his feelings, he exclaimed: "I wish there was only one Sunday School in the world, and that—that one was in Germany."

AN IMPERIAL COMMONWEALTH

Sir Robert Borden's Visit to England.

Fifty years ago the proposals for a Confederation had just been submitted to the people of British North America, and in 1866 the statesmen of the colonies assembled in London to settle with the Imperial Government upon the terms of the agreement which was to establish the Dominion of Canada. They accomplished their mission. The scattered and disunited colonies were withdrawn together and the new community was endowed with the largest powers of self-government. By effecting this result the London meeting in 1866 completed one stage in the development of the British Empire. A household had been set up within the Empire, managing its own affairs. When Australia and South Africa were prepared in like manner to direct their own concerns they followed the precedent set in 1866, and secured from the Imperial Government their free constitutions.

The Growth of Empire.

Yet, the establishment of these Dominions, while certainly a milestone in the progress of the Empire, left a long road still to travel. The new communities took charge of their local affairs, but they had as yet no voice in conducting the business common to the whole Empire. Such common concerns were left to the Government at Westminster. It administered the great dependencies, it conducted the foreign policy of the Empire, it decided finally upon peace or war, it retained a final authority over all parts of the British Commonwealth. The authority of the Dominions was thus restricted within certain boundaries; and a citizen of Canada enjoyed a less ample prerogative than a citizen of the United Kingdom, since the latter alone elected the representatives who determined the ultimate issues for the whole Empire. This difference could not be permanent. The Dominions once in control over their own business moved inevitably towards a larger participation in the business common to the Empire. Hence the 50 years since Confederation have witnessed a series of meetings in London no less significant than that of 1866. Colonial statesmen have visited the Metropolis of the Empire to take part in Imperial Councils and gradually to assume a share in Imperial responsibilities. The Fathers of Confederation have been followed by the Premiers of Canada, Sir John Thompson, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and now Sir Robert Borden.

The Imperial Conferences.

Suitable occasions for the meeting of the Empire's counsellors were provided by such great Imperial ceremonies as the Jubilee of 1887, the Diamond Jubilee of 1897 and the Coronation of 1902, attended by representatives of every community subject to the British Throne. These in the outward aspect typified for great multitudes of Imperial citizens the unity and variety of the mighty State to which they belong. They also served to bring together around a council board British Ministers and representatives of the Dominions. The Colonial Conference first assembled in 1897 and developed into the Imperial Conference of 1902, 1907 and 1911, as it became firmly established. The scope of its meetings widened. From discussing trade and communications the representatives of the Dominions went on to consider Imperial Citizenship and Imperial Defence Schemes for common defence were submitted to them, and, though not always adopted, conveyed a lesson in Imperial patriotism. In 1911 the foreign policy of the Empire, which justified common preparations for defence, was disclosed to the statesmen of the Dominion. It is true that they were not asked to join in shaping the policy, still they were given every opportunity of studying it, and such a schooling could have only one ultimate purpose and result, that of preparing them for their part in an Imperial Government which would determine the foreign policy of the Empire.

All the Doors Thrown Open.

Meanwhile the Imperial Defence Committee was taking shape in order to co-ordinate the defensive arrangements of the Empire and upon it Colonial Ministers were allotted their place. It was only an advisory body to the British Cabinet, yet its membership was so representative and important as to give its decisions great weight. It proved really an ante-chamber to the Cabinet; those who gained admittance to it were close to the innermost councils of the Empire. Finally, the great war threw all the doors open. It showed as no logic would have done, how decisions taken at Westminster affected the lives and property of British citizens everywhere. It proved the quality of those citizens beyond the seas who were not yet full partners in the Commonwealth. It showed that their strength and goodwill were necessary to the safety of the common flag. It placed upon their shoulders a share of the burden and found them able and glad to carry the load. It made necessary their participation in any settlement which would follow the struggle and in all subsequent policy. It opened the way for the Dominions into the Imperial Cabinet. Sir Robert Borden, the Prime Minister of Canada, the first of the Dominion Ministers to visit England since the beginning of

the war, was invited to attend a session of the Cabinet.

The Final Authority.

A journey by Sir Robert Borden to England at this time was natural and proper. He wished to inspect Canadian troops whether in training camps or at the front, to cheer his wounded fellow countrymen, to discuss with the Imperial authorities the measures which all parts of the Empire should adopt in discharge of their common obligation. His presence in London was a sign to our friends and our enemies of the unanimity of the Empire. Still the most significant episode in his visit was the invitation to attend a meeting of the Cabinet. All the other functions he could have discharged and yet have made no advance beyond his predecessors in shaping the institutions of the Empire. Other episodes during his stay were certainly most dramatic: the meeting with the rulers of the Allies, the visit to the Canadian battery in France, the great review of our soldiers at Shorncliffe. Yet no incident compared in importance with the gathering of a few civilians, unheralded, unattended, surrounded by no pomp or ceremony, to discuss around a table in Whitehall the common business of all the millions of their fellow-citizens. No colonial had ever before entered this Council Chamber. The final authority which the Cabinet exercised had not been shared with any citizen of the Empire from beyond the seas. There now remained no council of the Empire from which a representative of the Dominions should be kept aloof. One by one the ante-chambers had been opened. Now a colonial stood in the innermost room. All the arcana imperii were open before him. The limits to his autonomy had been passed. He could now feel himself to be, in as complete a sense as anyone else, a citizen of his world-wide state.

An Imperial Cabinet.

It is true that the Prime Minister of Canada attended the meeting of the Cabinet by invitation, through the courtesy of the British Government. He was enjoying a privilege, not exercising a right. The distinction is immaterial. What matters is that a representative of the Dominions shared in the final council of the Empire. His right to be present will never be urged. There will be no need of urging it, since no one will call it in question. His presence on one great occasion is a sufficient precedent. We proceed in our British way from fact to fact, rather than from one claim to another. The fact is unassailable. All the counsels of the Empire were disclosed to a representative of a Dominion in person. Sir Robert Borden may not attend another Cabinet meeting, but he will be remembered. It would be difficult indeed to make such attendance a practice. A visitor could only catch snatches of the business passing before the Cabinet. The one case is enough. It has accustomed British people everywhere to the idea that the deliberations of the Imperial Government, which affect all the Empire, can and must be shared with representatives of the Empire overseas. The idea will take shape much more quickly than we should have thought possible a few months ago, in a Cabinet truly Imperial, not restricted to citizens of the United Kingdom, but including representatives from all the Dominions.

Common to the Empire.

The invitation to Sir Robert Borden has prepared the way for the formation of such a body which will deal with matters common to the whole British Commonwealth. The work of the Fathers of Confederation will then be complete. They gave Canada control over her local affairs, but those concerns which affected Canada together with the rest of the Empire were still left in the care of the Imperial Government. Canada will now have a voice in determining the policies which in any way affect her and will at the same time participate in the Government of the Empire as a whole. The meeting of 1866 led inevitably to the meeting of 1915. The Imperial convention such as must follow the war will crown the efforts of all the Canadian statesmen who since the Confederation of Canada have joined in securing for their country her true place in the British Commonwealth.

The Fruit of St. Julien.

That Canada should come to her full stature in these days is a natural consequence of the glorious part which she continues to play in the great war. The heroism of her sons could have no other outcome. To gather with Australians, New Zealanders and their fellow subjects from the dependencies they have given their lives for an ideal. The ideal is in one sense Canadian, for it includes a devotion to their own country; and yet it is broader and more comprehensive than a purely Canadian patriotism. It is a conception, vague enough in form, but powerful in its effects, of a vast community which we call the British Empire embracing many races and creeds, but at peace with itself, strong, but not brutal, united and yet tolerant towards all the different elements within, and towards the nations outside it, large enough to be free from envy and bitterness. How their conception should be expressed in constitutional forms

IN CAPTURED WARSAW



The picture shows the famous "Regiment Church" in Warsaw.

may have concerned these heroes little. They died for much that was real, but much also that was a hope or an aspiration. It remains for those of their fellow-citizens who are responsible for the conduct of our common affairs to give shape to their ideal through the necessary institutions and laws.

Sir Robert Borden's attendance at the Imperial Cabinet is a sign that the statesmen of the Empire will not shrink from this duty. St. Julien quickly bore fruit. The Premier of Canada moved into that council chamber escorted by his mighty dead. They will attend him and other leaders of Canadian opinion until the Commonwealth for which they laid down their lives is well and firmly established. Like the Athenians over whose graves Pericles spoke, "They gave their bodies to the Commonwealth and received each for his own memory, praise that will never die, and with it the grandest of all sepulchres, not that in which their mortal bones are laid, but a home in the minds of men, where their glory remains fresh to stir to speech or action as the occasion comes by. For the whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone over their native earth, but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives."

HAWKS PURSUED GAME.

Birds Trained to Win Their Master's Prey.

Falconry, or hawking, was a favorite sport with the nobility and gentry of Europe down to the first half of the seventeenth century. Hawks were trained to mount and pursue game and bring it to their masters and mistresses, coming and going to the call of the latter with marvelous docility. The hawks were tricked out with gay hoods and held until ordered to pursue "the quarry," or game, by leather straps fastened with rings of leather about each leg just above the talons, and silken cords called "jesses." To each of these leather straps, or "bewets," was attached a small bell. In the flight of hawks it was often so arranged that the different bells made "a consort of sweet sounds."

Bells of this description, but of the cheapest kind, were among the most popular trinkets used by the early explorers and traders in bartering with the natives of America.

Honest Grief.

At the funeral of Baron Lionel de Rothschild, father of the recently deceased Adolph Rothschild, a poor old man wept loudly and bitterly.

"Why are you crying?" inquired a bystander. "You are no relation of Rothschild."

"No," howled the mourner; "that's just why I'm crying."

Honest, Anyhow.

"So you are marrying the man of your choice?"

"Not exactly the man of my choice; rather the man I could get."

There are 175 different pieces in an average watch.

"Are you a chess player?" a landlord asked a prospective tenant. "I much prefer to have my house occupied by chess players." "No, I am not a chess player, and I can't account for such a singular preference," replied the would-be tenant. "It is simple enough," said the landlord. "Chess players move so seldom, and rarely without great deliberation."

ABOUT THE HOUSEHOLD

Dainty Dishes.

Tomatoes Fried in Cream.—This is a German dish. Peel and cut fresh tomatoes into thick slices if tomatoes are large, or if small let them remain whole. Season, flour, saute in hot butter, then add a little more flour over them (if needed) and add a cup of cream. Stew all together until the cream is thickened and the tomatoes are well cooked.

Orange Mint Salad.—Sprinkle the carefully skinned and divided pulp of four oranges with two tablespoons of powdered sugar, two tablespoons of finely chopped, fresh mint leaves and one tablespoon of lemon juice. Chill thoroughly and serve in glasses ornamented with sprigs of mint. If the oranges are very juicy, pour off a portion of the juice before serving.

Fruit Charlotte.—Use what fruits in season you like best. Make individual cases of light puff pastry. Whip up two cups of thick cream, sweeten and flavor to taste and have the fruit ready, raw or stewed. Put a layer of fruit in the case, then a layer of cream, then more fruit and top with cream. Decorate with bit of cherry or other bright fruit.

Apple Cake.—For apple cake sift a pint of flour with a teaspoonful and a half of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Add two tablespoons of butter, rubbing it in thoroughly, and then add a beaten egg and milk enough to make a thick batter. Spread the batter in a buttered tin to the thickness of an inch. Over the top spread quarters or eights of peeled and cored apples, and sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Bake in a hot oven.

Cream of Rice Soup.—Rinse two tablespoons of rice in a sieve under running water. Drop into a pint of boiling slightly salted water and boil for 20 minutes. Then add a quart of scalded milk. When it boils add two teaspoonfuls of cornstarch rubbed smooth in a little smooth milk, a teaspoonful of salt and onion juice and pepper to taste. Two teaspoonfuls of grated cheese may also be added and will much improve the flavor to most tastes. Cook for three minutes and then add a teaspoonful of butter and serve.

Lemon Rice Pudding.—Wash three-fourths of a cup of rice and put into a double boiler with three cups of boiling water, adding more water if needed. The rice should take up all this water. When cooked set aside to cool. Add three lightly beaten yolks of eggs, salt, a bit of butter and three tablespoonfuls of sugar, grated rind of lemon and milk enough to make very moist. Bake forty-five minutes. Beat whites with liberal half-cup of granulated sugar until stiff, add juice of one lemon, spread over pudding, and brown slowly.

Leg of Mutton in Blanket.—Make deep, narrow gashes in the thick end of a clean leg of mutton. Crowd in a mixed seasoning of salt, red and black pepper. Add a little minced onion, a little dry mustard and powdered herbs. Brush all over with melted butter or soft bacon fat. Then sprinkle lightly with salt, set on a rack in a roasting pan. Put in a very hot oven. Let brown, then rub over with a tart jelly melted in a little hot water and envelop in a crust of flour and water, made very stiff and rolled half an inch thick. Finish the edges tight together, lay back in the pan, cover and bake in a hot oven. Take up,

"What Think Ye of Christ?"

A Description From An Ancient Manuscript Sent By the President of Judea to the Senate of Rome.

"They took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus."—Acts iv, 13.

It was rather a representative group, including a lawyer, a physician, a stock broker and a clergyman. The general opinion was that Christ was an extraordinarily good man. Then the clergyman changed the subject. He spoke of literature and the drama and dwelt upon the compelling character that genius had put into books and upon the stage. He mentioned great names in history. The group was a well-read body of men, and the discussion became general up to the inevitable lull, when the clergyman began to ask questions.

"So and so was indeed a stupendous character, but what would you gentlemen say is the weakness, defect in his nature?" There were instant replies. "Caesar was too ambitious," said one. "So and so must have been an epileptic" (this from the physician), and there were flaws to pick at the mention of any name. Then the clergyman asked quietly, "What does any of you consider the debt in the character of Jesus?" There was silence. "Gentlemen, pray do not consider my feelings or fear to offend me by anything you might be tempted to say of my Master; I am asking in reverent but intense curiosity."

There Was Still Silence.

One said that he had not looked into the Bible in so long a time that he hesitated to speak; but he also admitted that he had not read any of Shakespeare in an equally long period. An American might fail to create a character that would satisfy an Englishman and vice versa. But the character of Jesus Christ has satisfied the ideal of every race and every age. That miracle never happened before, nor has it happened since. There can be only one explanation—Jesus Christ is more than man.

It is unthinkable to believe that the four evangelists could create that in which every other literary genius has failed—the Perfect Man.

Since the Bible does not give us an account of the person of Jesus Christ it may interest you to know of a description alleged to be derived from an ancient manuscript sent by Publius Lentulus, President of Judea, to the Senate of Rome. "There lives at this time in Judea a man of singular character, whose name is Jesus Christ. The barbarians esteem him as their prophet, but his followers adore him as the immediate offspring of the Imperial God. He is endowed with such unparalleled virtue as to call back the dead from their graves and to heal every kind of disease with a word or a touch. His person is tall and elegantly shaped, his aspect

Amiable and Reverent.

His hair flows in those beautiful shades which no united colors can match, falling in graceful curls around his ears and parting on the crown of his head; his dress, that of the sect of Nazarenes; his forehead is smooth and large, his cheeks without blemish and of rosy hue; his nose and mouth are formed with exquisite symmetry; his beard is thick and suitable to the hair of his head, reaching a little below his chin and parting in the middle below; his eyes are clear, bright and serene. He rebukes with mildness and invokes with the most tender and persuasive language, his whole address, whether in word or deed, being elegantly grave and strictly characteristic of so exalted a being. He is moderate, temperate and wise—in short, whatever the phenomenon may turn out in the end, he seems at present to be a man of excellent beauty and divine perfection." And so, my dear readers, in our day and age what we need (as some one has said) is not more men, but more man.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, SEPTEMBER 5TH.

Lesson X.—Elijah and the Prophets of Baal, 1 Kings 18. 16-40. G. T.—Prov. 15. 29.

I. Arranging the Altar (Verses 30-35).

Verses 30. Come near unto me—That is, unto Mount Carmel, the one great headland of Palestine, bounding the plain of Esdraelon on the west, and from the top of which a view of the whole of Esdraelon is to be seen as well as a wide sweep of the Mediterranean.

That was thrown down—Ahab had broken down all the altars at which the worshippers of Jehovah had been accustomed to worship. (See 1 Kings 19. 10.)

31. Twelve stones.—(See Joshua 4. 5.) The twelve stones signified the unity of worship among the tribes of Israel, each tribe proclaiming the one true God.

32. He built an altar.—That is, he "dedicated" the old altar which had been thrown down and which, according to verse 30, he had "repaired." The "building," here in verse 32, has reference to the new arrangements which were made necessary by the particular kind of offering he was to make.

Two measures of seed.—In Hebrew, a two-seah measure. One "seah" equalled about three of our gallons. The trench would hold, therefore, about six gallons of water.

33. In order.—Elijah followed carefully the injunction of the law (see Lev. 1. 3-9).

Jars.—The word is the same as in Gen. 24. 14-20; Judg. 7. 16, 19. These jars contained less than half a gallon each.

35. Fill the trench also.—As the water poured on the altar did not fill the trench, more water was added.

II. The Prayer and the Consuming Fire (Verses 36-39).

36. The time of the offering of the evening oblation.—Three o'clock in the afternoon. About five hours of daylight still remained.

Elijah the prophet came near.—He was not a "priest," but a prophet. On occasions such as this, however, the prophet assumed the priestly functions.

At thy word.—Elijah, as Moses (see Num. 16. 28), was commanded to do these things. He did not take the initiative; he was only the instrument of God.

37. That thou, Jehovah, art God.—"That thou art the Lord God." The name of Baal, or tribal god, or of any other such idol, could not be applied to "Elohim," the one true God.

39. They fell on their faces.—Lest they be blinded (see Lev. 9. 24; 2 Chron. 7. 3.).

All the people . . . said.—Not only the worshippers of Jehovah, but also those of Baal.

Recruiting Officer.—You want to enlist, eh? Irish Recruit (enthusiastically)—Yis, sor, for the duration of the war, or longer if it lasts.