

The Weekly Ontario
Morton & Herity, Publishers

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W. H. Morton, Business Manager. J. O. Herity, Editor-in-Chief.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1916.

KING ROSS DEAD.

King Ross, of Cocos Islands, is dead. He was the third of his line since 1827 and up to the time of his death King Ross had been the odddest King, with the queerest subjects and most extraordinary domain in the world.

Andy Ross was a Scotchman and, in his youth of roving and adventuresome disposition. In 1823 an Englishman named Alexander Hare settled in Cocos Islands with a number of slaves given him by an eastern potentate.

It was in 1856 that the British Government extended protection to the Cocos. In 1885 Parliament sent a commission to investigate conditions there. When the British warship having on board the commission steamed into the lagoon at Direction Island, the inhabitants, the King and his court welcomed them in true comic opera style.

All the people of the island group are of more than ordinary powerful physique, muscular and lithe. The brown skinned natives speak their own language with Scottish burr and the white royalty speak the native tongue, too.

The last excitement at Cocos Islands was when the German cruiser Emden was sunk by the Australian battleship Sydney off the Cocos coast. The survivors of the Emden commandeered the royal yacht and embarked for Sumatra. Occasionally a cyclone sweeps the islands.

NEGRO HISTORY.

A new magazine has just appeared called The Journal of Negro History.

The first impulse of most white men will be to remark that the negro hasn't any history—at least any recorded history. The race is generally regarded as without a historic past, and just emerging into the light of civilization through its contact with Caucasians.

An effort is made to show what progress had been made by Northern negroes before the Civil War. In Cincinnati, it is maintained, they had reached a surprising state of development, considering the handicap they began with.

"Not all black men everywhere," says the opening article, "have been hewers of wood and drawers of water. On the contrary, through long periods of time there were powerful black nations which have left the record of their achievements and of which we are just now beginning to learn a little."

The writer might have referred more particularly to Egypt as indicating the possibilities of the race at its best. It is not generally realized that the ancient Egyptians, who had attained a high state of civilization many thousand years ago, and were in so many ways the teachers of ancient Greece and Rome, belonged to the Hamitic or negro branch of the human family.

Ex-Premier Giolitti seems to be the Bryan of Italy. His attitude towards the war is very embarrassing to the government. He is now

proving by the crushing of Montenegro by the Austrians that Italy's plans to control the Adriatic have been so badly upset that a further waste of life and money is an investment that approaches criminality.

Is it also the Leap Year custom that the woman should not propose until she is thoroughly competent to make a good living for her husband?

Ireland is at one with Great Britain in the desire to maintain adequate numbers for the army, says Mr. John Dillon. The calm conciliatory speeches of Redmond and his colleagues will be far more effectual to that end than the blustering oratory of Carson.

According to the new year book there are now 28,752 Methodist churches in the United States, with 4,033,128 members, including probationers. The entire property of the corporation is valued at \$327,345,017. A curious fact is that there are 10,000 less preachers than churches.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's description of the transformation of the fire-eating Nationalist whom Sir Robert Borden has placed in the Speaker's chair of the House of Commons was so delightful that "even the ranks of Tuscan could scarce forbear to cheer."

Mr. Runciman's cheerful speech will be welcomed as evidence that, while Britain is waging war with all her might, she is also taking steps to protect herself and her Allies against German trade aggression when peace is concluded.

Mr. W. S. Dingman, vice-chairman of the Ontario board of license commissioners, in speaking on the Sunday prior to the voting at Stratford and announcing his intention of voting on the following day for local option, said:

In the course of our trips over the province, we witness many sad and affecting incidents and on occasion get glimpses into the mouth of the pit, so that my own view on temperance has been much more confirmed than ever before.

So many complaints have been made of the non-delivery of parcels to soldiers fighting on the Eastern front that the following instance of persistent "following-up" mentioned by a London paper. The relatives of a New Zealand trooper forwarded a parcel of clothing from England to Egypt in anticipation of his arrival there.

The Public Service Monthly of Saskatchewan, which is an official publication of the Saskatchewan Government, publishes in its current issue some very significant figures showing the comparison between cases of drunkenness in the police courts in Saskatchewan towns during July, August and September, 1915, and for the corresponding months in 1914.

Table with 2 columns: Town, Cases. Rows include Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Swift Current, North Battleford, Melville, Weyburn, Humboldt, Estevan, Rosetown.

The labor shortage caused by the war has stimulated British inventiveness. The latest and most timely device is a new snow plough. The need for such a machine was sharply felt when the first winter storms tied up rural traffic.

A patent has been taken out on a new apparatus for disinfecting household premises after some member of the family has suffered

from contagious disease. The new machine in action will look something like one of the big vacuum cleaners used by cleaning companies in which the engine stands in the front yard and the vacuum hose is led through a window.

We wish to congratulate our Conservative contemporary, the Port Arthur News, for the splendid campaign it put up in the recent fight for local option in the Twin cities. The support of an influential, ably edited journal like The News, is of inestimable value in a contest of this nature.

The elimination of waste effort and the increase of individual efficiency in all lines of industry is being carried to lengths that seem almost fabulous. The latest device for getting the maximum product out of a worker with a minimum of effort is called the chronocyclograph.

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England has always had an abundance of unskilled labor to shovel her snow, as well as the workers at outdoor trades which were temporarily tied up by the storm. The present scarcity of men accounts for the development of the plough. There would seem to be no reason why it is not adapted for use in our Hastings county roads.

THE STAIN.

It was a German gentleman
Took his good sword in hand,
A genial German gentleman,
To guard the Fatherland.

With covered eyes against a wall
Alone an angel stood,
And prisoned were the gentle hands,
Worn thin with doing good;

"ICH DIEN" (I SERVE).

Weary and worn from the trenches
A soldier struggled along,
No kindly hand to help him,
No Tipperary song.

"He prays for the men in the trenches,
And his interest never fails,
And, comrade, he who speaks to you
Men call the Prince of Wales."

Other Editors' Opinions

PROHIBITION FOR ONTARIO.

A non-partisan campaign for prohibition in Ontario ought to be successful. There is no doubt about the sentiment of the people of the province. It is overwhelmingly in favor of total prohibition.

In any case, there is an opportunity for the Orangemen of Ontario to follow the example of their brethren in Newfoundland, where prohibition was secured mainly through the efforts of members of our society.

THE INFLUENCE OF A LIFE.

We wonder if any person ever gave a thought to the work of an editor of a local paper who is expected to write a good obituary for every person in the district who passes away from this sphere of action.

WHISKEY ADVERTISING.

Even to advertise whiskey for medicinal purposes is objectionable—for this is often done for the psychological purpose of easing the drinker's conscience and to persuade him to keep whiskey in his medicine cabinet.

Decayed Tooth Causes Death

Mrs. D. E. Wark of Pictou, wife of Mr. Douglas E. Wark, a well known Cobourg boy, and daughter of Reeve Dayton of Pictou, died suddenly Monday morning from blood poisoning, supposed to be caused by a decayed tooth, which had been under treatment.

80,000

Twenty Z Strength Erzer

FIVE DEATH

LONDON, ing last night's occurred in Le thestreets indi reached the ci

TWENTY ZEP

LONDON, reports a squiped with silengium preparin

GERMANS

AMSTERD German cavalroute to the Ys allied offensive ly are strength

RUSSIANS B

PETROGR and eighty the bottled up wi which is provi Russian right

BRITISH LIN

GER

NEWPORT British South A off the West C this morning T German subma raltar.

There are board including

REDNER

Address an and Wil Speech

It is a long time worked up to the to which the arriv ening at Rednera huge attendance neighborhood presville Methodist Ch Fritaker Lorne D two young men o have lately enliste cross Battalion. young men recog their spiritation hearty manner. The Methodist C ably filled and a team prepared for R. L. Edwards, was of the circuit, was an excellent add discharging his de course of Mr. Eo gave the young- ollen advice wh to their advantage tette was sung in ses Phillips, Henr Hillman and was by those present, with a couple which Majors Al the 155th gave ex

The most inter program then fo chairman called u pular member fo the person of Ne P.P. Mr. Parliam acknowledged a was at home on an easy manner al and patriotic of which he was the conclusion o read the followi