

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO

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J. O. HORTON, Business Manager. J. O. HERRITY, Editor-in-Chief.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 16, 1921.

POOR VISION CAUSES WASTE

IT IS no new thing to be told of the commonness of defective eyesight. Repeatedly statements have been issued by health authorities concerning the measures necessary for keeping the vision unimpaired. This advice has been directed to individuals and related to the care of their own eyes. The subject is approached from another angle in a report which has just been issued by the Engineering Council's Committee on elimination of waste in industry, a report which merits the earnest study of all large employers of labor.

The committee finds that it will be to the employers' advantage to protect the eyesight of their workers because of the increased production which will thus be made possible. There is much waste in industry—available waste—because the vision of employees is not conserved. Of 10,000 workers examined in factories and commercial houses, 54 per cent. were found to have uncorrected faulty eyesight. There are many rejections in all the various armies during the war because of eye trouble. Men and women cannot do their best work when thus handicapped.

Proper illumination is suggested as one of the ways in which improvement can be effected. That it pays to have the workshop adequately lighted has been shown by the experience of several factories. Betterment of the lighting system has increased output two per cent. in steel plants, and as much as ten per cent. in shoe factories. One estimate is that the loss in production due to faulty eyesight is greater than the entire cost of illumination in the country, and it is asserted that the cost of providing proper lighting in every industrial plant would be less than one per cent. of the wages paid.

Such a loss, attributed to bad eyesight, is not to be ignored, and if it can be avoided by so comparatively small an expenditure as is indicated it is downright stupidity to permit it to continue.

BIOGRAPHY GOING TO SEED

GOSSIP is the small change of social currency and the world more often has 20 five-cent anecdotes than a single dollar fact. This explains the charm of biography. Biography is an art, and a very fine art when it is used to enlighten for posterity the methods, purposes and achievements of worthy leadership.

Biography, of late, has been going to seed. Never were personal confessions so plentiful, and certainly never in such bad state. It seems that reticence is in decay, that privacy exists no longer for the diarist, and that the chief purpose of intercourse is to collect full-flavored anecdotes for a gossip book.

There is only justification for autobiography when the subject either has occupied a distinctive and influential position in public affairs or has been brought into intimate contact with those who have. The surprising thing about every, or almost every, current autobiography, is the tremendous amount of information each writer has about other people, and the very little information he has about himself. This may be modesty, and again it may be insignificance; we suspect the latter.

It is said the golden bait for anecdotal memories is very enticing—so enticing that every unwilling Johnson has his watchful Boswell, not always, however, wearing a halo but occasionally forging a pronged

A GERMAN JOB.



Uncle Sam: "Well, there's no use inviting you, Michael, you haven't got the clothes."

—Kladderatsch, (Berlin).

fork out of the malleable metal of scandal. When a biography is sought, it is sought with the expectation that there will be something quotable in the smoking room or in other circles of similar seclusion. Nor is the practice of revelation confined to the dead, as in a former age; today the living may wake up any morning and find the world laughing or whispering over the color of his shirts or his misadventures as an occasional Romeo.

While this state of affairs remains, the biography will languish in disrepute among honorable letters. We have something to learn from the life of Morley, but nothing that is worthy from Mrs. Asquith, and for one book equivalent to a Morley analysis there are twenty Mrs. Asquiths. More's the pity.

'VERBOTEN' DISREGARDED

A DISPATCH from Berlin says that the Germans are taking delight in doing many things that are "verboten" and are getting away with it. The laws, or the rules, have not been repealed, but the people disregard them. So long as the old government remained, penalties for violation of a "verboten" sign were swift and sure, and the average person would not think of defying it because the regard for the warning had been instilled through long practice. Now that there is a less rigorous government, a people's government in name at least, like children, the people feel daring. Released from the parental control, they want to cut capers, so they disregard "verboten" signs. They go on bathing where once they would not have dreamed of such an act, and laugh at the policemen who are helpless to deal with such a crowd.

The situation is not astonishing. In fact, it is logical. The fear of the rigorous Hohenzollern rule, having been removed, it might be expected that a bit of license would succeed repression. No longer held down by an arrogant caste, it is natural that the common people should have their day and do things that make the Junker sigh for the old time when authorities were powerful enough to make members of the common herd keep to their places. It is not stated that they are doing anything very bad, only that "verboten" no longer carries the authority it once avayed. The situation is an indication that liberty is gaining way in Germany, that the paternalistic feature of the government is disappearing because the people disregard it. Germany was the most "verboten" place on earth under the Hohenzollerns. It is well that it is changing. The danger, however, is that the Anglo-Saxon countries are likely to succeed Germany as places where "verboten" will be the law of the land. We are rapidly drifting in that direction.

A WAR STORY

THE material for a touching little war story is furnished by a news despatch from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The story opens in France. Harry W. Haley, a British soldier, had for his "buddy" an American named Thomas Jones. He was a faithful "buddy" and when Haley fell one day with a German bullet through his leg, Jones remained with him, in spite of shell and shrapnel, and eventually succeeded in dragging him to the shelter of a dug-out. There they remained until darkness, and then Jones took Haley on his back, and while the battle still raged, carried him to a first-aid trench. When the Americans entered the war, Jones was transferred, and Haley lost his "buddy." They met again in Canada. Haley had been discharged and was a free man. The American had deserted before his time was up, and had come to Canada where his family was. Of course disciplinary punishment awaited him if he returned to the United States. Haley having no family and remembering that Jones had saved his life, decided he would take Jones' punishment. He crossed to the United States, gave himself up as Jones, and was sentenced to six months in prison. After serving five months the truth was discovered in some way, and he was released. Much poorer material has gone into the making of many a fine poem or tale. And there is a touch of originality about it that is refreshing. It helps, too, in a way to an understanding of the spirit of the "unknown soldier."

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

THERE is not much talk about senate reform in this campaign. Thus something new in the way of practical senate reform has happened. Senator Claude Macdonnell has resigned, and his brother, Brigadier-General Archibald Heyes Macdonnell has been appointed in his place. Brigadier-General Macdonnell had a distinguished war career, and no doubt is well qualified for the position of senator; still the idea of keeping senatorships in families is something new in this country, and is likely to raise some questions.

Perhaps the government in making the appointment did not intend to establish a precedent; still the appointment will serve as a precedent.

CANADIAN LITERATURE

PROF. PELHAM EDGAR, of the University of Toronto, concluded a lecture on some aspects of Canadian literature, the other day, with the statement that "only the best in literature should satisfy us, whether Canadian or not." And he made it quite clear that in our search for the best we could not restrict ourselves to the Canadian output. One book which he placed among the best in

Land Poor

LONDON, Nov. 14.—The plight of some of the landed proprietors of England was illustrated here when the Marquis of Northampton, in returning thanks for a wedding present from the tenantry of his estate, said that at the present time he was living on borrowed money.

"We are passing through difficult times," said the Marquis. "I try to excuse myself because I feel that people must hate me. I hope they do not. My grandfather had a great deal of money to play with. My father had some too. I have none. I have to live on borrowed money. I have to be rather pinching."

"The cost of living has arisen, and with it wages, and it is just as well I should tell you that in order to employ you at present wages I have to borrow money all the time. The money will have to be repaid but I do not quite see when that will be possible."

A BRITISH BANKER'S PROPOSAL

(Financial Times, London). Mr. Reginald McKenna, according to the cabled message which appeared in our last issue, made a statement of the first importance in his address at Chicago on Tuesday. Though no longer in the House of Commons, the former chancellor of the exchequer has retained some of the more useful arts of the politician and there must be a particular reason why he should select America instead of England for an announcement that virtually commits him to the policy of the cancellation of war debts and to a drastic revision of the treaty of Versailles. Naturally we cordially welcome Mr. McKenna's admission to such a policy, for we strongly favor it and have given special facilities for its discussion, as our readers are well aware. It is, in our opinion, the only policy that can help us out of the present plight in which we, in common with all other nations, find ourselves, and we are convinced that even if we do not hasten to voluntarily adopt it it will be ultimately forced on us by the sheer pressure of circumstances.

SERMON ON CHEERFULNESS.

(Brandon Sun) Moreover cheerfulness is a tonic on the body. This physical body is affected by the mental status so cheerfulness is a mind cure. The mind controls the functional activity of the physical organs.

A well-known pastor of the United States recently gave a sermon on the text, "A Cheerful Heart is a Good Medicine," and showed that fear, anger, hatred and despair act directly on the nervous and muscular mechanism, affect the secretions and excretions and leave their imprint on the tissues. This minister of health added "worry, fretfulness, discontent, petulance, envy, jealousy and uncontrolled grief may work great damage to the body. A fit of anger sometimes causes a spell of jaundice and often a bilious attack. It is because of the strange power the mind has over the body that the personality of many physicians is more potent than their pills. Cheerfulness in the atmosphere of the physician as well as in the heart of the patient is a good health tonic.

THE STAND THAT FAILED.

Calgary Alberta; The railway brotherhood in U.S. made the last stand against a reduction in wages and the stand failed. The price of labor must come down to a reasonable extent just as price of other commodities. The people will see to it that the cut is handed on to the people in reduction of freights.

BEST SELLERS.

Kingston Wm; From the generous sale of recent books by popular novelists it is safe to conclude that the best seller in fiction is not to be taken lightly as it was years ago, and as it still is by some. We have put on the best seller list recently some distinctive contributions to literature. It is no longer possible to put aside a book as not worth reading merely because a lot of people want to read it.



How NOT to Encourage the Reduction of Armaments. —Knütt in the Dallas News

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ENTERPRISE NEWS

Three School Children Suffer Operations for Appendicitis.

ENTERPRISE.—Politics is the order of the day as political men are planning for speeches every available place possible.

This village has fallen a victim to appendicitis as three of the young school pupils have undergone operations in Kingston Hospital the past month, ages from 8 to 13. Mr. Nelson Bell's son, Mr. Elmore Jackson's adopted girl and Mr. King's little girl being the victims. All are progressing nicely.

The Women's Institute meeting was held at the home of Mrs. W. Wagar, with twenty-five in attendance.

A meeting of the Conservative ladies was held in the Orange hall last week with a good attendance.

Mrs. J. Love and baby from Windsor are guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Dine. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlop, of Oshawa, are staying for the winter with Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Fenwick. Mrs. Clayton Brown entertained a number of young people to a Halloween party in O. B. Jackson's hall. The boys enjoyed the night of Halloween by playing usual tricks, but no serious damage was done. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Martin, Mr. Hudgins and sisters were guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Fenwick for Thanksgiving. Miss Bessie Fenwick spent Thanksgiving with her

parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Fenwick. Mrs. S. Lockwood has sold her home, occupied by Mr. A. E. Smith. Mrs. Hunter has returned from visiting her parents in Ingleswood. Miss McGee, the teacher in the senior room, has resumed work after the lapse of a week due to illness.

MANY GO HUNTING

Many Visitors to and From Village of Foxboro.

FOXBORO.—Mr. and Mrs. Will Rose and Mrs. Wilmot Rose and little Doris were Sunday guests of Mr. Neil Davis and family. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sills and children spent Sunday at Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Walt's. Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Prentice were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Shaw, Belleville, on Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Murney Reynolds are spending a few days visiting in Madoc. Quite a number from this vicinity went north hunting. Mr. and Mrs. Zensie Palmer spent Sunday at the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rose. Mrs. C. Hetherington is spending a few days in Belleville. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ward, also Mrs. Youker and daughter Clara, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Ashley, Madoc, on Friday of last week.

PERFORMING ANIMALS

As for trained animals on the stage, I am for total abolition!—George Ar. H.

CITY CO SEES "HARD"

"Telephone W at Belleville Bell AN INTER City Fathers T to Garrett—the In

Telephone W the local exchange phone Company today, when Ma members of the ed the exchange mems. The Cou the local manage Mr. W. A. G. Spr ey, local plant son, Citizens in the exchange and plant.

They were rece ace on the main of different type apparatus was s are situated, the chief's offices, the offices and long e phone booths. The visitors w basement which heating plant, in ery supply room power plant com of storage batter each, motor-gen chine, tone test a power board and generator; to be used in ca electric power.

The next plac tributing room; and intermediat the wire chief's is mounted a vol cal lines, and a ing and locating troubles. The w kept here, a co telephones in nearly 5,000. T type of instrum each station and the troubles on phons. The v piece of hundre and it was the individual line required a pair, ace, these wire ing in cables t conduit and co frame for the p there to the in the purpose of numbers on the

The operati local and long and information of an individual busy tests were planned, the loc boards in actual the system of calls by means map of the long system, of find long distance r at less than five per mile "as the planned and the its uses were ale

The visitors v operators' rest which is made, the operators w

The local ex der three depar commercial, pla ments. Mr. Jas er of the comm has charge of contracts and p assisted by W. clerk, and Miss Crosby, clerks. under plant ch charge of the tions and the m pany's plant an Doolittle, wire assistant wire traffic departme Wilson, chief op of the local and is assisted night chief ope and Miss F. staff.

Belleville is 30, covering a about 50 miles.

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For Inf In Use Fo Always bears the Signature of