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 ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1920.

A COMPELLING APPEAL.

The appeal of the Canadian Red Cross Society for contributions to the British Empire War Relief Fund, which is to combat disease and distress in the war-stricken areas of Europe and Asia, should not be permitted to fall on deaf ears. The suffering and misery which is unfortunately one of the war's aftermaths, is appalling in its intensity; common humanity insists that some attempt at least should be made to relieve it.

It may sound exaggerated to say that Europe today is facing a greater loss in human life than she suffered during the war, but such a statement is amply justified. It is estimated that at least 11,000,000 children are now fatherless as a result of the war. In Galicia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary and the Baltic States there are between three and five million orphaned children practically destitute, about a third of whom are now past saving. What can be done, however, to aid these poor innocents must be done before conditions get even worse than they are.

Active hostilities caused untold misery, but the greatest tragedy of the world has ever seen has been enacted, since the armistice. The people have been waiting two years for some settlement of the great questions raised by the war, and of the conditions which the struggle brought about. During that time they have steadily gone down hill in mental outlook and in physical condition. Today the crisis has been reached in the slow starvation of millions of children. Unless some action is taken, and taken at once, the loss of human life and the loss of future generations will be more appalling than that of the war itself. Of the 11,000,000 orphans scattered all over southern and eastern Europe, practically all have been undernourished for the last six years. That may perhaps not sound so bad, but it means the gravest physical conditions, which are certain to make themselves known within a few years. It is these starved, underdeveloped and physically deficient children who must operate the economic and political world of Eastern Europe within the next generation. To leave them to their fate now will produce results ten years hence that will be far worse than most people would even care to predict. It is not only a question of humanitarianism, it is a question of dealing with one problem now in order to avoid having to deal with a far worse in a few years' time.

This phase of the situation has nothing to do with the League of Nations, and those people who think that the conferences of premiers and statesmen sitting at intervals to determine questions of policy in relation to former belligerent and enemy states or to decide on matters affecting indemnities or reparations are going to settle the great question of Europe's future are laboring under a delusion. Unless other measures are taken, the efforts of peace delegates and others will be futile to save the situation. If political stability were established in Europe tomorrow and constructive economic remedies applied the work would be useless unless civilized social life can be carried on. Of what use to apply splendid constructive economic or other schemes to countries full of starving and helpless people? The British Empire War Relief Fund is intended to help to alleviate the distress and suffering now existing, and the appeal of the Canadian Red Cross Society for contributions to that fund should meet with a hearty response on all sides. Canada has felt the horrors of war only to a comparatively small extent; sickness, suffering and destitution have not made themselves felt here. Therefore her people can the more readily help those countries not so favorably circumstanced. There have been many appeals made to Canadians during the last five years, but these should not be allowed to obscure the urgency of the present request for aid. It is perhaps the most urgent request of them all, and as such it should receive a generous response.

THE CHIEF INSPECTOR.

The Rev. W. D. Wilson, who retires from the position of Chief Inspector under the Prohibition Act at the end of this month, was the guest of honor at a banquet at Fredericton last night at which some quite complimentary remarks were made respecting his administration of affairs.

Mr. Wilson is to be congratulated upon his relinquishment of the office, for it is one that few men care to be connected with. We can quite believe him when he says that he has found his task very troublesome and very unpleasant at times; but no man can expect to handle pitch without getting the dirty hands. The position is one which offers many opportunities for self-expression.

according to Mr. Mackenzie King, "the result in East Elgin is an expression of the public disapproval of the present administration." It would be interesting to know how he regards the public's expression of opinion on his candidate.

Premier Taschereau, of Quebec, says that the enactment of the beer and wine law "has made our province a veritable oasis in the North American desert."

Bread is not coming down in price in St. John quite so quickly as it is in some other places. It is loading on the job here.

AMAZING STORY BY CONAN DOYLE

(Mail and Empire.)
 In Conan Doyle's insane? It is not, he has written an article in the November Strand that is likely to be remembered for many generations. It is about a man who is found to be true then he has written about the most amazing thing that ever appeared in the English language. It is about a man who is found to be true then he has written about the most amazing thing that ever appeared in the English language. It is about a man who is found to be true then he has written about the most amazing thing that ever appeared in the English language.

Conan Doyle's article is a digest of "The Phenomena of Materialization" by a German investigator named Scarenok. In this work is incorporated a book by Mme. Bisson, now out of print. Mme. Bisson conducted experiments similar to those of the German, and the fact that the same results were obtained is offered by Doyle as proof of their accuracy. Students of psychic phenomena will be aware that several years ago Professor Crookes announced evidence of this mysterious matter, and offered evidence that he had seen a medium create a materialization several times. He was laughed at, though he did produce a photograph of this returned spirit. But nobody moving pictures of the investigations that are said to have been made by the German professor. His investigations extended over several years. There were believed to be a medium named Edna, and when interrupted by the war were resumed in Germany with a Polish medium.

Precautions Against Fraud.
 What precautions were taken against fraud are described by Doyle as follows: "The key of the seance room was kept in Mme. Bisson's own pocket. Every one who entered the room was required to exchange into a special dress when in that room, addressing again when she emerged. She submitted to physical examination at the hands of doctors. The illumination of the room was gradually increased until five bright electric lamps were at work, being, as in photography, the one bearable color. Most important of all, a number of cameras, eight in the last period, were directed upon the medium from all angles, and the work was observed by a number of witnesses, so that no motion upon her part could be unobserved. Altogether two hundred and one photographs were taken. The medium was watched intervals for four years, and were witnessed not only by Mme. Bisson and the German doctor, but by a number of scientific observers whose names are given."

What the Cameras Revealed.
 What did they see, and what did the cameras record? Among other things, "there oozed from the medium's mouth, ears, nose, eyes and skin this extraordinary gelatinous material. The pictures are strange and repulsive, but many of Nature's processes seem so in our eyes. You can see this streaky viscous stuff hanging like icicles from the chin, dripping down onto the body and forming a white apron, or projecting in shape like leeches from the orifices of the face. When touched or when undue light came upon it, it writhed back into the body as swiftly as the tentacles of a hidden octopus. It seized and pinched the medium cried aloud. It would protrude through the clothes and would vanish again, leaving no trace upon them. With the assent of the medium, a small piece was amputated. It dissolved in the box in which it was placed, as a candle has done, leaving moisture and some large cells which might have come from a fungus. The microscope also disclosed epithelial cells from the mucous membrane, in which the stuff seemed to originate."

An Embodied Spirit.
 This ectoplasm, we gather, has the power—the power being supplied by the will of a spirit—to wholly detach itself from the body of the medium, from which it is drawn, and then by some mysterious process it builds itself up into a separate entity, that is, a severed long lock of hair from the spirit which his medium produced. Hair was taken from spirits materialized by the German doctor, and when analyzed was found to be different from the hair of the medium. As remarked earlier, moving pictures were taken of the spirits in the very act of being materialized. So we ask again is Conan Doyle insane, or is he the victim, with hundreds of others, of a monstrous hoax? If not this German doctor has made a more important discovery than Columbus, and Doyle is likely to be remembered, at least in the English language, as his Amerigo Vesputci.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Nothing for Nothing. (London Daily Express.)
 New worlds are not made by law and Governments; they are the outcome of a nation's self-improvement. Higher wages and greater leisure depend upon more sustained and more intelligent effort. All good things must be earned, and the progress of a people is measured by the average advance of its human units.

Nationalism or Unity. (Natal Advertiser.)
 The Dutch extremist visualizes himself as such an exile from the fraying immemorial peace of his Republican days. It may be extremely foolish of him to cherish hopes that are not likely to be realized. His own children are breaking away from the ways of their fathers, and becoming, save in speech dangerously like the allies whom they are bidden to avoid. Nevertheless, the Boer dreams of a Dutch national unity once again and though the political portents proclaim it a delusion, he has not given up hope that "his

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE
 Last night we started to eat supper, being well stew with more stew than we, we saying, Wats for dissort, ma? Well for goodnass sakes, he's hardly started his supper and he wants to know wats for dissort, well for goodnass sakes, sed ma.
 He works fast, that boy, sed pop, and my alster Gladdis sed, Wy dont you ask wats for breakfast tomorrow?
 Wy dont you powder your nose a little more so people can see it 3 blocks away instead of only 2 blocks? I sed.
 Benny, dont descend to the personal, sed pop, and I sed, Well G, heck, she's descending to it, aint she?
 Bat your supper, sed pop.
 Wich I keep on doing, wond'ring how much room to leave for dissort instead of knowing trackly like I generally do, and after a while wat did Nora bring in but a big glass dish full of prunes.
 Holy Moses wats that? I sed.
 Disort, wat does it look like? sed ma, and I sed, Well gosh G, wiza it dont look like disort, how can prunes look like disort?
 There's no law to compel you to eat them, I believe, sed ma sarcastic, and I sed, Well gosh G wiza, ma, it is of know we was going to have prunes instead of disort I woudent of left any room, gosh, G, ma, how can prunes be disort? How can anything you dont even like for breakfast be disort?
 Do you want any disort or dont you? sed ma.
 I dont call prunes disort, I sed. Wich I dont, and ma sed, Well then leave the table, and I sed, Well holy smokes I've went and left a space now and I half to fill it with something so it mite as well be prunes.
 How very considerate of you, sed ma. And she gave me 6 small size prunes trying to look like disort in a saucer and I looked at them a while in dissort and then filled the space, with them.

people," as he pathetically calls all speaking his tongue, will once again be found dominant in numbers and in power, imposing their will on the stranger within their gates.

Unqualified Surrender. (Detroit News.)
 Give a hungry man his wheat cakes with the edges water-thin and brown and a plentiful bowl of gleaming syrup in which to drown each gorgeous mouthful, and he expands and purrs like a hearth-warmed pussycat. Give him his steak just rare enough to please him, with the melted butter floating in little rills from its salt-and-peppered sides; frizzle his country sausage and his bacon free all traces of fabbiness or fat; give him his fowl with the proper Dickensian addenda of sage and onions; beat his mashed potatoes until they are creamy stuff of perfection; add a suave snowball of ice-cream atop his crusty, syrupy pie; set before him a cup of steaming coffee that turns a soft velvety biscuit-color, and not a nauseous muddy brown with the admixture of cream, and he is yours. It matters not whether his vow is his vote that comprises your heart's desire.

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THE LAUGH LINE

Wise Student?
 "Who was Nero, Bill?" asked one student of another. "Wasn't he the chap who was always cold?"
 "No," said the wise student; "that was Zero, another guy altogether."
 Jim's girl is tall and slim.
 My girl is thicker set.
 Jim's girl wears shell pink silk.
 My girl wears—flannelette.
 Jim's girl is wild and gay.
 My girl demure and good.
 You think I'd change my girl for Jim's?
 You're darned well right I would.
Make a Start.
 A pessimist and an optimist were discussing life from their different viewpoints.
 "I don't believe," said the former, "that I could make a better world myself."
 "Well," returned the optimist, "that's what we are here for. Now let us get to work and do it."
 The 1920 Girl.
 A bun on each ear and a tight fitting fur-trimmed coat of some fur she's earned; And goloshes—my, don't forget them to mention. They surely have served for attractive attention.
 Some paint of a color that's hard to describe. The boundary of which you cannot decide. And there in a nutshell you have a description. Of most of the sex that is called so bewitching. Put right or wrong, you bet, We are with 'em.

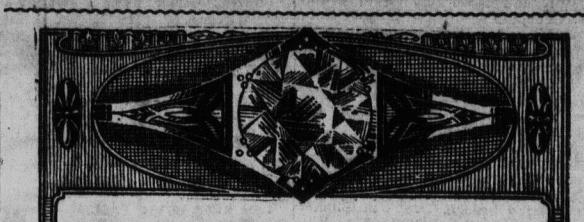
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