

The Weekly Ontario

Morton & Herby, Publishers

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

A CALL TO ECONOMY.

Had it not been for the war Canada would now have been experiencing a time of financial and industrial stress such as she had never before encountered. The same is true of the United States. The war has saved both us and our American neighbors for the present, but only for the present. The conditions which two years ago were making for immediate and prolonged "hard times," are merely in abeyance. Our apparent prosperity is accidental and temporary. It may end with the war, or shortly afterwards.

We are not disposed to be pessimistic. We have no desire to be, or intention of becoming unnecessarily alarmist. But we believe it to be our duty to warn all Canadians that they are standing on slippery places. Are we indeed standing at all? Are we not, rather, being propped up by outside influences? At all events, let those who think that they stand take heed lest they fall!

There is only one way of taking heed in such a case, and that is not merely by "making hay while the sun shines," but by laying up in store of our abundance against evil days to come. This applies to the Government of the Dominion and the Governments of the Provinces as well as to the people individually. Governments can always live within their revenues when compelled to do so. Individuals are liable to find at any time that while they must live within, they cannot live upon their resources. Hence the imperative necessity, for private as well as public reasons, at this time, that the strictest possible national and personal economy should be practiced.

Are we practicing such economy? The wisest and more thoughtful among us are making a beginning. There is unmistakable evidence in some quarters, to that effect. There has been a sensible diminution of wanton extravagance in certain circles. It is greatly to be deplored that it is only being manifested among the more well-to-do-classes of our people. Those who need most to economize are exhibiting fresh extravagances and additional recklessness every day.

Wage-earners in particular, those dependent on salaries and those operating on small capital need to be impressively warned. Most of them, it is to be feared, have been, and are, living quite up to their daily, quarterly or annual incomes. What the situation may be a year hence they do not know. We have no desire to alarm anyone unnecessarily. We are convinced that it is our duty to warn all. Money is flowing like water, now, from purses in which it should be closely safeguarded against an uncertain future.

The ways of these brought to want through extravagance are proverbially hard. Persons who at present are sunning themselves in the smiles of deceptive prosperity, ere long, may be brought to recognize in bitterness of soul, the truth of the proverb. The ant is never sympathetic or kindly disposed towards the cricket. The sooner our human crickets realize this fact the better will it be for them and the country. Economy—strict, thoughtful, economy—is urgently demanded in private as well as in public life, and from the most lowly as well as from the most exalted.

BRITAIN'S COAL SUPPLY.

The Royal Commission on Coal Supplies reported in 1905 that the contents of the proved coalfields of the United Kingdom were 100,000 million tons, and of the still unproved coalfields, 40,000 million tons. Taking the latter at 25,000 million tons, then, at the present rate of consumption, Engineering calculates, there is still 500 years' supply. But the calculation turns entirely on the assumption that the present rate of consumption will not be increased. Forty years ago Britain's coal production was 132 million tons, of which 12½ millions were exported. In 1903 it was 250 million tons, and in 1911 it was 272 million tons, or more than twice what it was in 1875. If this rate of increase is maintained the estimate of 500 years will dwindle to two figures before the present century has expired.

There is, however, a great deal of coal in the world outside of the British Isles, and already there is known to be in existence 7,397,553 million tons, equal to the world's requirements for 5,400 years at the present rate of consumption.

This estimate should, in Engineering's opinion, go far to reassure Britons, so that their descendants will not have to sit over cold hearths, for although they find it repugnant to picture their country dependent on imported coal, yet the idea is no more impossible than their living on imported wheat or meat. Sixty years ago it was counted impossible that the Western prairies could compete with British wheatfields, but we have all lived to see it.

CONSIDER THE FACTS.

It would be difficult to understand the cloud of gloom which has settled over the British world in connection with the Germanic offensive against Serbia were it not for the existence and operations of the Harmsworth "string of newspapers" in London, headed by the Times. "Harmsworth" explains most things which have been nasty and depressing in connection with the war. Through him and his press-agents have come and are coming much of the alleged news which reaches this continent. His despatches or despatches colored through him, are repeated from day to day all over North America. The opinions of his newspaper organs are disseminated far and wide over the world.

What are the actual facts? When, in the last days of July, 1914, war was declared against Serbia, by Austria-Hungary, who ventured to hope that Serbia would not at once be overrun and crushed? When, some months later, the gallant Serbians had been driven into almost their last ditch, who was surprised? What was the amazement of the world when Serbia turned, sprang at the throats of her invaders and hurled them, broken and bleeding, from their soil! Who could have believed then that more than a year would elapse before the Germanic Powers would dare to make an attempt to "get back" at their tiny opponent? Is there aught surprising that they are now, once more, assailing her? Why should it amaze or dismay anyone if they were now to beat her down?

Since the Germans began the war by attacking Serbia, which attack was a mere pretence for forcing war upon Europe in general, every plan which they had then matured, every hope which they then entertained, has been frustrated. There is everything to indicate they had made definite arrangements with Turkey before bringing on the war. Austria was to clear the way to Constantinople while Prussia was descending upon Paris. Russia was to be driven back at leisure and disposed after Western Europe had been brought to heel, and the way opened up to Egypt, the Indian Ocean, and British India. That was over fifteen months ago.

Paris was not reached. There is not the remotest likelihood of its ever being reached by the Kaiser's armies. A later attempt by the Germans to set foot at Calais was quite as definitely frustrated. Instead of being driven back as predicted by the Germans, Russia advanced and even invaded Germany. It was more than a year before she could be forced to retreat to where she was at the beginning. In the meantime, the German fleet had been swept from the high seas, and the German flag from the ocean. In the meantime, almost every man of Germany's boasted army, which was so wonderfully "cultured" that it could not but win, had been killed or disabled, and she was compelled to have recourse to soldiers quite as raw and untrained and much less intelligent and physically fit than the new armies of Britain, not to compare them with the splendid reserves upon which France was able to draw. In the meantime, after their withdrawal in face of overwhelming artillery odds, the Russians had first checked, then resisted, and finally forced back the German advance into their territory.

It was at this point, when, outnumbered and easily held in the West, worsted and retiring in the East, that the Teutons in desperation, impelled to do something spectacular to maintain the spirits of their own nation, launched their third attack against little Serbia. And then, it was that a howl of Harmsworth despair was set up by the "Northcliffe press" and a wall of dismay arose as an echo from many Britons. Could aught be more pitiful? What everybody expected, as a matter of course, when the Germanic Powers were at the height of their strength and preparedness for war, while their opponents were at their weakest and most unready stage, is now proclaimed an overwhelming disaster, when the conditions with regard to the antagonists have been reversed.

If Britain could regard the prospective downfall of Serbia with calmness, in August 1914, what cause has she for alarm with regard to the imminent defeat of that nation at present? The Balkan States were scarcely taken into serious consideration at all at the beginning of the war. What has occurred to add materially to their importance since then? Britain now has a great army at Gallipoli. She has another army advancing on Bagdad. Egypt is adequately protected. Britain's fleets and those of her Allies command the coasts of Greece, on which she and France have landed great forces. Bulgaria has become an open enemy; but Italy has entered the war as a strong and active friend. Rumania and Greece may still be doubtful. But who gave them, or either of them, a serious thought a year ago? What has occurred since to give them outstanding importance? At present each of them

is at least as likely to join forces with as against the Allies. But should they both throw their weight into the scales against us, what of it? They could not conceivably become finally determining factors in such a struggle.

In addition, to all that it has already done, the British Empire could easily place ten additional men in the field for every one that all the Balkan States, were they united, could contribute. The four great Overseas British Dominions alone, far outweigh the Balkan States in numbers, wealth and fighting capability. Moreover, every man and gun that the Germanic Powers may send to the Balkans is a man and a gun withdrawn, which they cannot afford to withdraw from the Eastern and Western fronts.

Then, why moan with the mournful "Northcliffe press"? Why not "buck up" and be British? Everything is in our favor. Germanic strength is ebbing perceptibly. That of the Allies is steadily increasing. The wider the space over which the Teutonic Powers spread their forces, the worse will it be for them in the end, and the better for their opponents.

We are not suggesting that the Germanic strength should be underrated or despised—far from it. They are strong and resourceful. It will require a tremendous effort to beat them. But Britons, French, Russians and Italians are fully equal to that effort. Let us at least avoid wholly unnecessary "fits of the blues" in the very face of final victory! The Germans were never further from success than they are at present. Our prospects were never brighter.

THE UNHAPPY BALKANS.

Of the five Balkan States only Serbia and Montenegro are ruled by native Princes. Greece, Bulgaria and Roumania have Kings whose connection with the lands they rule is simply the bond of selfish ambition. King Constantine of Greece is of Danish and German descent with a German wife; King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is an Austrian; King Ferdinand of Roumania is a Prussian and a Hohenzollern to boot. They or their fathers were "wished onto" these peoples by the Great Powers of Europe, who could not stomach the idea of these new nations choosing rulers, hereditary or elected, of their own race and blood. They are now trying to betray their people into the slavery of German vassalage. Ferdinand of Bulgaria has succeeded; and if Constantine of Greece and Ferdinand of Roumania fail it will not be their fault. Serbia and Montenegro are the only Balkan States with native dynasties.

The Balkan Nationalities which have linked up with Germany should have considered well the policy of the Allies before they took the plunge. Sir Edward Grey laid down that policy in these words:

Our policy has been to secure agreement between the Balkan States, which would assure to each of them, not only independence, but a brilliant future based as a general principle on the territorial and political union of kindred nationalities. To secure this agreement, we have recognized that the legitimate aspirations of all Balkan States must find satisfaction. The policy of Germany, on the other hand, has been to create for her own purposes disunion and war between the Balkan States.

WAR PROFITS.

As we have often pointed out, this is a time when everybody can do something to promote the interests of the Allies, and thus help to win this war. It is time for sacrifice not selfishness. In all its long history the British Empire has never been identified with all movements having to do with the betterment of humanity. From the time when the Barons wrested the Great Charter from King John, Great Britain has been the home of freedom. Now, we are engaged in a great war, testing whether the freedom of the Home of Freedom shall longer endure. We are engaged in a fight for the sanctity of treaties for the preservation of the little nations of the world, and for the personal freedom of every inhabitant of the globe. It is a great cause; the greatest and most sacred cause for which a nation ever gave battle.

To win this fight for this great cause, we must be prepared to make sacrifices. To be worthy of the priceless boon of freedom for which our fathers fought and bled we must deserve it. We must count no sacrifice too great to preserve for our children that freedom which we did so little to obtain. Better that our people should perish from the face of the earth than that we bow our head to German tyranny, or suffer our children to bear the yoke of a conqueror.

The common people of Canada have cheerfully done all that they have been asked to do, if not all they could do, to win this war. There has been a lamentable lack of leadership from men who should lead our public thought in this country. We have pointed out so often wherein that leadership has failed that we do not propose to labor this question now. The enlistment, training and equipping of our sons who have gone and are willing to go overseas have not been to our credit. Here leadership has failed, and lamentably failed. The people have cheerfully borne the extra taxation which has

been heaped upon them under the guise of a war tax. They have contributed liberally to the various funds of a patriotic nature. The women of Canada have nobly played their part. There exists, we believe, no home in this country, where some effort has not been made with interest to aid the Empire.

On the other hand, from time to time under flaring headlines in various newspapers are to be found inspired despatches from Ottawa to the effect that large orders for munitions of war are to be placed with the manufacturers of Canada. A certain ghoulish glee seems to pervade these despatches at the thought of the tremendous profits that come to this country by reason of these orders. The placing of these contracts is not valued from the standpoint of the assistance rendered to the Empire to defeat its foes, but rather from the standpoint of the profits that are to accrue to this country. We frankly admit we are incapable of understanding the mental attitude of a man who seeks extravagant monetary profit out of his country's misfortunes. The doctrine of "blood and iron" preached by Bismarck is commendable when compared with the shameful doctrine that we should seek to make a point out of human misery and pain.

No one expects a man to manufacture munitions of war without a reasonable profit. But we expect that he should be patriotic enough to forego excessive gains out of these contracts. In Great Britain this principle has been asserted and established. There, the manufacturer must divide his profits with the nation. There, he is expected to produce the munitions required to the limit of the capacity of his establishment—to do this cheaply, and to divide his profits with the nation. There is much need of a similar policy in this country. With war stocks soaring in price, and the stock exchange replete with statements of tremendous profits on war orders, the time has come for the Dominion Parliament to take a firm stand in this matter.

The revenues of the country are not adequate to meet the demands made upon us. We are not even financing our share of the burden of this great war. We are calling on our brethren across the seas to supply us with funds to the extent of millions of dollars per month. At the same time, our manufacturers are making large profits out of their necessities and ours. These profits must be shared. The manufacturers must bear their proportionate part of the cost of preserving their industries and our freedom from the dominance of Germany. This war was not begun—British blood has not been shed—that anybody should make large profits, and extortionate monetary profits must not be made by anybody while the bones of our gallant sons lie bleaching on the fields of Flanders.

Never call a big strong man a liar; it is safer to hire some other fellow to break the news to him.

"DE SUN AM BOUN' TO SHINE."

Oh, de win' am sighnin' mou'nful
In de hollows ob de eaves,
An' de birds am chirpin' softly
In deir nests among de leaves;
All de bees am flyin' homeward
An' de clouds am floatin' by,
While de lightnin' comes a-steppin'
Down de pafway ob de sky;
But de insects am a-chantin'
In de mawmin'-glory vine,
"Oh, de Lawd am in his heabens,
An' de sun am boun' to shine!"

All de trees dey am a-weepin'
An' deir heads am bendin' low,
While de grass down in de meadow
Am a-tossin' to and fro;
Low de cawn tops am a-rockin'
An' a-wailin' in de win'
Like de mou'nahs at camp meetin'
When dey's grieving fo' deir sin.
But de cricket keeps a-chirpin'
In de scarlet trumpet vine,
"Oh, de Lawd am in his heabens,
An' de sun am boun' to shine!"

By and by a little sunbeam
Comes a-peepin' from de cloud;
Den de robin staht to singin'
Like he's feelin' mighty proud;
An' de sound ob fairy music
Comes a-floatin' on de breeze,
An' de leaves, dey staht to dancin'
On de branches ob de trees;
All de shadders am departin'
De de rainbow gib de sign
Dat "de Lawd am in his heabens,
An' de sun am boun' to shine!"

Oh, dere ain't no use ob frettin'
Ef de sky am cold and gray;
Keep a whistlin' and a singin'
An' de clouds will roll away;
You am boun' to meet wif tempests
As you trabel down re road,
An' de sorrows you must carry
Am a mighty heaby load;
But no trouble's gwin' to crush you
Ef you only keep in min'
Dat "de Lawd am in his heabens,
An' de sun am boun' to shine!"

—Julia R. Galloway in the Western Christian Advocate.

Machine Guns Got Signallers

Last evening at the armouries the Machine Gun Section of the 80th Battalion turned their rapid-firers upon the exposed signallers at indoor baseball and defeated them by the score of 65 to 23. The signallers looked as if they would make good at the opening of the game but soon faded in the third inning when the M.G.s got 18 of their scalp. Thence it was all the way of the M.G.s. In the sixth innings they laid down a score of 24. The players were as follows:

M. G. S.	Signallers
Duffy	Conley
Burt	Whitty
Whipps	First Base W. C. Thompson
Barlow	Second Base A. Thompson
Moise	Short Stop Carr
Whitford	Third Base Carmody
Swire	Right Field Bolin
Pearson	Center Field Daw
Phillips	Left Field Montgomery

The scoring was—
M. G. S.—371831024 x—65
Signallers—003507—29

Thirty Days For Breaking Out of Cells

On Monday W. E. Keyes was given thirty days in goal by Police Magistrate Davidson for breaking out of the cells in the lockup in the town hall. Keyes was arrested last Thursday night for being drunk by Night-watchman Cusley. He was placed in the cells. An axe had been left there for hoboes who are nightly accommodated there, to split wood for the stove there. Keyes got hold of the axe and hacked the lock out of the door. He was arrested next day, and got sentenced to thirty days. Keyes has been playing the enshining game. He first joined the Second Heavy Battery here, and when they were ready to go away he got dismissed for being drunk and unruly. He afterwards joined in Toronto and Brantford, and was also dismissed there. —Colborne Enterprise.

Capt. S. J. M. Compton Sick

Capt. the Rev. S. J. Compton, who went overseas with the 6th C.M.R., is now in Edinburgh on sick leave and in a letter tells that he is convalescent. The letter was written on November 8th, and the writer was on three weeks' leave. Capt. Compton underwent a slight operation on his arrival in England and is making splendid progress. He stated that he had not seen the Canadian boys at Shorncliffe as yet, but hoped to do so in the course of a few days.

A Significant Statement

One of the most important statements against the liquor traffic, called "A Joint Message to the People of England and Wales," has recently been issued and was signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Church of England; Cardinal Bourne, Roman Catholic Church; Dr. Selbie of Mansfield College, Nonconformist Churches and General Booth of the Salvation Army. The message in part is as follows—

"In this solemn hour of national history we are constrained to make a united appeal to the Christian land from the curse of intemperance. By the sharp test of war, indulgence in strong drink has been revealed as the foe of moral discipline, and a grave and immediate danger to our country. It weakens our power to concentrate on the serious duties we are called on to discharge.

"We ask, therefore, that the voice of Christianity shall be raised everywhere in urgent protest against this evil and we want the prayerful support on behalf of the newly formed Temperance Council of the Christian Churches in England and Wales. The Council is the official representative of the temperance associations of the eleven Christian denominations and will speak and act with the authority which such a federation represents. Its aim is to secure legislative and other temperance reforms." Extract from the Manchester Guardian.

Message From Capt. Vanderwater

The Ontario has received from Captain Roscoe Vanderwater a service post card in which he informs us that he is quite well, that he is being sent down to the base, and that a letter follows at the first opportunity. This would indicate that Capt. Vanderwater is now on active duty "somewhere in France." The majority of the officers of the 38th are still, we believe, detained in England.

VISIT TO

Ontario Rep views and ney to Ow Officials Shortcomi

Whenever we speak of our minds into Owen Sound, which scene of more fierce ties between the "Wets" than have in the temperance issue other place where been of so sanguine. The "Dry" forces won, but the opposition means annihilation there is before the council a petition to en hundred signatures asking that a repeal be committed at the combination. The council decided that the petition be put in all probability.

A Peculiar

The situation in Ontario. Local Option. In January 1906 the Fifth "inquiry" and straight major. The same rule they the repeal. Here are three of the four elements.

Jan. 1906, major "1909" "1913"

The reduction in 1906 and 1907 quite so much as is the vote was taken the town's area was separation of a sub 2000 acres and a hundred votes. The in the separated local option.

Several prominent citizens took sides on the start and been won over. gives to the Anti force and permanent otherwise possess.

He, too, one mitted of Sir J. M. titude towards str in local option count. In Campbellford places where it required majority to the forces favoring that the fight is hope tion has come to be manent situation. pretty well forgotten system ever was in division and animos. In Owen Sound, ple are still range camps, and everybody else start convery looming up the divisions are s much bitterness of ated. The Three- its good points.

Good Hotel A

By leaving Bellev "Dominion" flyer hour of four o'clock enabled to land in Oly after noon. We

Nearly

The near Watch

won't do any lo BECAUSE ne foid to own t BECAUSE m days make m They want r right time al

So when your W to "do things," quickly it is ru again.

Angus

JFWF MFG. OP The Store With