

THE Journal of Commerce
 Published Daily by
 The Journal of Commerce Publishing Company,
 Limited,
 35-46 Alexander Street, Montreal.
 Telephone:—Business: Main 2662. Reportorial:
 Main 4702.
 HON. W. S. FIELDING, President and Editor-in-Chief.
 J. C. ROSS, M.A., Managing Editor.
 Journal of Commerce Offices:
 Toronto—T. W. Harpell, 44-46 Lombard Street.
 Telephone Main 7099.
 New York Correspondent—C. M. Withington, 44
 Broad Street, Telephone 333 Broad.
 London, Eng.—W. E. Dowling, 25 Victoria Street,
 Westminster, S.W.
 Subscription price, \$3.00 per annum.
 Single Copies, One Cent.
 Advertising rates on application.

MONTREAL, MONDAY, JULY 5, 1915.

The Tramways.

The charge against one of the controllers of the city of Montreal, that he made an agreement with some person not yet publicly named to sell for a large consideration his support of a scheme for extending the franchise of the Montreal Tramways Company, is before the courts and the public are hardly free to do more at this moment than express a hope that the wretched business may be promptly and fully investigated, and that condemnation and punishment of those found guilty may speedily follow. But it will be a mistake if, in the midst of the indignation that is naturally aroused by what has been disclosed, the public fail to give renewed and more careful attention to the tramways question itself.

For the moment the proposals put forward by the official who is now accused have been checked. The efforts to rush the scheme through the several stages of civil approval necessary to carry it into effect have been frustrated. The Board of Control, by a majority vote, approved of the scheme at the very moment when the injunction of the court forbidding such action was lying on their tables. If the majority of the Board of Control can truly say that at the moment of the voting they were not aware of the contents of the documents that had been placed before them, the members of the City Council, to whom a report of the Board's proceedings may eventually be made, cannot possibly be under any misapprehension as to the situation. The Council will, of course, obey the injunction against further proceedings at present. More than that, it is only reasonable to expect that the Council will look with much suspicion on the scheme itself and will be ready to take whatever steps are necessary to reassure the public as to the manner in which this important question is to be handled.

The point that must seem clearest to the independent observer is that there is not sufficient information available to enable either the Council or the citizens to take intelligent action. It was through a lack of adequate information and intelligent forethought that a franchise was granted to the company in terms which are found to be unsuited to the situation of today. It is this very fact which forms the only excuse for a rearrangement of the tramways business at the present time. The company's franchise has still eight years to run, but those who are disposed to let the matter rest until the end of the term are met with the statement that the old agreement does not meet Montreal's needs today, and that there should be an immediate or early revision of the terms in order that extensions and improvements not covered by the existing agreement may be effected. If this view is to prevail, and a new agreement is to be made now, surely the citizens of Montreal must desire that such an agreement shall be founded on a thorough study of the whole subject by a tramways expert of the highest standing, who will advise not only as to immediate needs but also as to the future requirements of a great and growing city. Committees, representing several associations of citizens, who are doing their best to study the subject must see how utterly inadequate is the information they have for the settlement of a question of so much importance. An inquiry and report by a capable authority of unquestionable standing, in no way connected with the Tramways Company, and with no end to serve but the public interest, seems to be now more necessary than ever before.

Meat Eating Nations.

Canadians are the third greatest meat eating people in the world, the first place being given to our neighbors to the south, while Argentine comes second. The Americans have a per capita consumption per annum of 172 pounds, the people of Argentina a consumption of 140 pounds, while the Canadians eat 136 lbs. per annum, having increased 28 lbs. in the last ten years. In Great Britain the per capita consumption of meat is 119 pounds, in Germany it is 113, and in France 80, while in Spain the per capita consumption is but 49 lbs. per annum.

In the present war the British soldier is the best fed and the best cared for of any of the men fighting at the front. The British soldier gets his "pound of flesh" per day, and a little more, not to mention what he may get from the satisfaction of bayoneting Germans. The daily allowance for a British soldier is 1 1/4 lbs. of meat, which is considerably more than he got at home, no matter whether he was a civilian or a soldier in barracks. The other soldiers are being fed on a variety of foodstuffs, but none of them obtain food containing as much body or strength giving material as "Tommy Atkins."

It is said that the other soldiers hang around the English quarters and ask for the meat bones and a taste of the good rich meat which the English soldier has as part of his daily rations. No one begrudges Tommy his "pound of flesh," but we would all like to see him supplement it with some of the Kaiser's.

There certainly was need to organize the industries of Great Britain. During the first nine months of the war, no fewer than three hundred and five strikes took place in that country. There is such a thing as allowing freedom to have too much leeway.

The war is having unexpected effects on all sorts of commodities. Growers of Spanish bitter oranges are making a fortune out of their fruit owing to the demand for it for the making of marmalade for the soldiers. Cotton growers, especially

those who supply mill waste and linters, are making fortunes from the demand created by gun cotton and smokeless powder. Metal manufacturers and a thousand and one other lines of industry are finding an increased demand for their products as a result of the war. Mars is taking a heavy toll of human life, but at the same time is filling many bread-baskets.

South Africa, in addition to having conquered practically the whole of German Southwest Africa, is now offering to send an army with heavy artillery to Europe to help crush the Kaiser's forces. The German diplomats who counted on a disrupted British Empire have another guess coming.

Commencing on August 2nd the United States will deliver rural mail in many sections of the country by automobile. Henry Ford also announces that next year he is going to make a farm tractor which will banish the horse from the farm. The first thing we know old Dobbin will be a curio.

It is now stated that the J. P. Morgan Company have handled upwards of \$500,000,000 worth of contracts for the allied governments. The poor fanatic who shot Mr. Morgan probably thought that he would put an end to this business by killing the head of the house.

The week-end list of drowning accidents which we look for regularly is unusually large this week. Canada possesses many beautiful lakes and rivers, a temptation to the bather and canoeist. The lesson to be learned is that every youth in the country should be taught to swim.

GROWTH OF PROHIBITION.

The Associated Press constant of liquor legislation of the year shows that, with nineteen states already "dry" and the way cleared for prohibition in three others, the temperance territory now stretches in a broad belt from the Pacific northwest to the south Atlantic and the gulf. From Washington, Oregon, and Idaho it passes through Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma to Iowa and Arkansas on the Mississippi; and through the southern states. From Kentucky and the District of Columbia to Key West the only local option territory is in South Carolina, and in South Carolina a popular vote will be taken on prohibition this fall.

Outside this belt lie the states of Arizona, North Dakota and Maine, while in Montana, Vermont, and South Dakota elections are pending. The four states that went "dry" this year are rural, and simply accentuate the fact of the split on the question between city and country. On January 1, 1915, the average urban population in the prohibition states was but 29.3 per cent. Similarly, the urban population in what the Anti-Saloon league calls non-prohibition states was but 28 per cent, and in partially license states 57.5 per cent. Such facts indicate the natural limits of the state-wide prohibition movement.

THE SWISS SYSTEM.

Switzerland has a striking force of 300,000 men—all trained citizens from 20 to 48 years of age. Yet this army costs less than the Canadian army, which before the war had a striking force of about 60,000. In Switzerland every young man must train. The period is 65 days the first year, then 11 days a year for seven years, then 11 days every fourth year. After 40, the men are called out only in case of war. The man who is physically unfit for drill pays a special tax, which goes to pay the expense of those who are physically fit.

When peace returns Canada should adopt either the Swiss or the Australian system.

WHERE EFFICIENCY IS RETARDED.

The war has not only revealed the failure of the profiteers, but it has revealed their failure in several directions. In the first place co-organization was found to be beyond their intelligence even when the object was their own freedom from state control. In the second place, they failed altogether to maintain the discipline of their men. And in the third place, they failed to expand their output at the rate demanded by the nation. Thus in respect of the three main tests they have ignominiously failed: organization, management and output. After this, a state that relies upon them is a fool, from whom not only its money but its power is soon parted. It will be nothing short of national lunacy if we enter the coming era of world-struggle with no better industrial base than the profiteering system.

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

President H. G. S. Noble, of the New York Stock Exchange, in his monograph on the crisis of 1914, tells a good story of the Committee of Five. In a time calculated to try everybody's temper from minute to minute, there was a surprising harmony in that body. As President Noble says: "Their unanimity was never troubled but once. On one of the first few days of their career, a rather positive and aggressive member, arguing with his colleague, said, 'You must remember you are only one of this committee.' The committee then addressed responded with calm deliberation, 'And you must not forget that you are not the other four.'"

LET THE BLOODHOUNDS COME.

Germany threatens to employ bloodhounds in military operations against the allies in Belgium. "Let the bloodhounds come," will be the cry that goes up from the trenches manned by the Canadians, most of whom are familiar with bloodhounds, having many a time and oft led the animals in the street parade in order to get in free to the evening's performance of Uncle Tom's Cabin. The German bloodhounds will make Canadians homesick with the memory of happy hours spent in the society of the bloodhounds that figured in the pursuit of Eliza crossing the ice.

CARDS ALL ON THE TABLE.

The war will not be won by ingenious bluffs, or even by clever bits of strategy, but by the thrust of brute force against brute force. The cards are on the table. Lloyd George recognized this fact the other day when he declared that the Germans knew very well what the munition problem was in England, and hence that the English people might as well know it, too.

THE SAME MAN.

There is a touch of irony in the coincidence that the man who now as minister of munitions is trying to make the workmen feel a duty toward the government higher than their trade-union regulations, their love of drink, and their right not to work, though the fate of England is at stake, was the architect of that colossal sociological experiment called unemployment insurance.

AN AMERICAN OPINION ON GERMANY.

The late John Hay, the great American Secretary of State and author, had his own opinion about Germany and the German Government. Selections from Hay's unpublished letters now presented by William Roscoe Thayer in Harper's Magazine are not calculated to lessen German hate of Americans. Regarding affairs in China after the Boxer rebellion, Mr. Hay is outspoken when it comes to Germany. To a friend he writes:

"The success we had in stopping that first preposterous German movement when the whole world seemed likely to join in it, when the entire press of the Continent and a great many on this side were in favor of it, will always be a source of gratification. The moment we acted, the rest of the world paused, and finally came over to our ground; and the German Government, which is generally brutal but seldom silly, recovered its senses, climbed down off its perch, and presented another proposition which was exactly in line with our position." (October 15, 1900.)

And some time later to Henry Adams:

"But it will come. At least we are spared the infamy of an alliance with Germany. I would rather, I think, be the dupe of China than the chum of the Kaiser. Have you noticed how the world will take anything nowadays from a German? Buelow said yesterday in substance: 'We have demanded of China everything we can think of. If we think of anything else we well demand that, and be damned to you'—and not a man in the world kicks." "There are many Americans who would rejoice if Mr. Hay were still alive and in Mr. Bryan's place today."

GERMAN LOGIC.

A German officer cries out that "more than one hundred thousand German soldiers have been killed or wounded by American shells." He falls, however, to note the most important fact in the case—which is, that each and every one of these German soldiers was an invader upon the soil of Belgium and France, two countries for which the American people hold great friendship and deep affection.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

Slats—What are you going to run, the mile or the two mile?
 Fats—I don't know; I can tell you better at the end of the mile.—Punch Bowl.

The late Robert J. Ingersoll, discussing the difference between lawyers and journalists as advocates once said: "The difference between them is that in the practice of their professions the lawyer may be a licensed intellectual harlot, but the journalist must have a conscience as well as intellect."

A lecturer recently received the following letter:—
 Dear Sir:
 After 'phoning you about our picnic I thought I had better write to you also. The speaking will commence at two. After that there will be races, baseball and catching a greasy pig. Let me know when you will arrive.
 Yours truly,
 —Winnipeg Voice.

A man descended from an excursion train and was wearily making his way to the street car, following his wife and fourteen children, when a policeman touched him on the shoulder and said:
 "Come along with me."
 "What for?"
 "Blamed if I know; but when ye're locked up I'll go back and find out why that crowd was following ye."

An old Scotsman had been ill for a long time, and it was agreed by the family that the minister should be called in. When he came he told the old man he would have to leave his worldly cares aside and prepare for that terrible visitor, who was waiting at the door. "And who's that, minister?" "That greatest enemy of ours—Death." "What a fright ye've given me. Aw thocht it wis the wife's mither!"

He was a fine specimen of a killed Highlander. When he asked for his tram ticket he spoke with a strange intonation which one lady assured another was the Gaelic accent. At last the inquisitive old gentleman who is always in a tram put the question:
 "And what part of the Highlands do you come from?"
 There was a twinkle in the Highlander's eye as he replied, "Me name, sorr, is Murphy."—Manchester Guardian.

By way of enlarging the children's vocabulary, our village school teacher is in the habit of giving them a certain word and asking them to form a sentence in which that word occurs. The other day she gave the class the word "notwithstanding." There was a pause and then a bright-faced youngster held up his hand.
 "Well, what is your sentence, Tommy?" asked the teacher.
 "Father wore his trousers out, but notwithstanding."

A PRIZE POEM.

The following poem on Belgium by an undergraduate of Harvard won a silver medal and a hundred dollars, known as the Lloyd McKim Garrison prize:
 "Wait, watch and pray!
 The unquen candles from the altar burn;
 The shattered windows blaze the last return
 Of sinking day;
 The evening sky
 Lapses from battled crimson into dark
 And to the altar tapers; spark on spark,
 The stars reply,
 And black above
 The short-torn rafters meeting overhead
 Watch o'er the land's petition for its dead—
 A grief of love
 That never ends.
 A nation, shrapnel-scarred and faint with war,
 Humbled along the Church's stone-strewn floor,
 In conquest bends,
 Bends to receive
 The sacrament of Christ, the blood of peace,
 The benediction prayer, but not reduced, aspires
 In hope to see the morning gild her spires
 And dawn alone
 For dark to-night.
 When brothers slay from hill to distant hill
 Or in the bayonet charge, white hot to kill,
 Fall in the fight . . .
 God grant the day
 Break golden clear beyond the coming morn,
 Wait—light in future glory will be born,
 Wait—light and pray."

TWAS EVER THUS.

About six weeks ago when Distillers' Securities stock was knocking about \$10 a share, a well-informed customer strolled into one of the big brokerage houses of the Street and gave an order to buy the stock at that price. The manager, while not trying to dissuade him from the purchase, did not show any anxiety to execute the order hurriedly. In fact, he said: "Of course, I do not want to influence you, but there is Steel common which ought to go higher and Union-Pacific should work better and I advise you to keep your eye on Goodrich."

The would-be purchaser got rather impatient as it was near closing time, for he knew a lot more about Distillers than the well-meaning young manager. The order was executed and the manager exhibited a face full of sympathy when he announced the purchasing price.

The stock climbed steadily to the tune of war orders. The purchaser at \$10 a share was sitting in the same brokerage house some six weeks later when it was selling at \$25 a share and he was amused to hear his young broker-manager remark to the assembled customers:

"Whiskey looks like its going higher, boys; I bought some of it today at 24 1/2."

The Day's Best Editorial

ENTER MILITARY SOCIALISM.

Military socialism is the dominating system in Europe today. It has absorbed the Germanic and Austro-Hungarian empires. France has been forced to adopt it. Great Britain is compromising and temporizing, but is quite apparently approaching it. Military socialism is a loosely constructed phrase, but it is a fairly descriptive one for a condition of society in which compulsion of the individual for the good of the state begins with prescribing the amount of bread he may eat and ends with prescribing the amount and character of work he shall perform. It does not matter whether the compulsion can be concealed in a word of direction to willing citizens or whether it is force applied to unwilling ones. The individual is giving himself without reservation to the state. Individualism is ceasing to exist except in Great Britain, where its survival is threatening the purpose of the state.

We here in the United States do not like this any more than the English like it or than the French like it. The French just availed themselves of an iron fist and they reconciled themselves to a surrender to necessity with less feeling and better grace than the English, who have only the occasional Zeppelin of submarine to avoid.

Military socialism is the dominating system. Its enemies are adopting it to destroy it. They cannot fight it and succeed if they hold to their principle that the individual is so sacred and important that he may not be forced to do other than pay his taxes and obey the general laws of the state.

Military socialism can be conquered only by military socialism and Lloyd George has been telling Great Britain this for weeks ever since the feebleness of the British effort against Germany was fully disclosed. When it has been adopted, will it be discarded? This is the question of the war which turns itself unpleasantly toward the United States.

It is the inherent optimism of humans to think that if they can get a question stated in new terms they have it solved. From century to century the question of control gets restatement and the revolutionaries who have fought for the changed form and have succeeded in obtaining it have a moment of thinking that their accomplishment is permanent. Then comes the realization that the form of control remains. From absolutism to restricted monarchy, from restricted monarchy to representative democracy, from democracy to socialism—thus the struggle for freedom from control or equality under it progresses, exchanging kings for barons, barons for capitalists, parliamentarians for referendum votes, etc., getting a change of form and never escaping the fact that the strongest will be dominant.

Now Europe is under the control of military socialism. Where the individual is willing he need not be coerced; where he is unwilling he must be. Nothing exists except the state and that is as absolute in its demands and as relentless in its decrees as if the power were in the hands of an unrestricted monarch. The state is the people, but it does not permit the will of the individual to stand opposed to its will.

It will be fortunate for us if the war does destroy this, whether it be good, bad or indifferent, whether it be necessary or unnecessary. Its threat to us is its appalling efficiency. We know beyond any doubt that we shall not adopt it. If the war does not destroy it we shall have to face it, to present to it the temptation of our wealth and the fact of our helplessness.

We are fat merchants exposed on the highway with our rich merchandise in tempting caravans—We do not want to attack any one. We have what we want. If any act of highway robbery waited for our hands to commit it there would be peace on the highways for a century, but the peace of the community never is in the hands of the men who do not want to break it. It is in the hands of the men who do want to.

A nation which is destined and determined to be helpless may with cause consider the possibility of a change of system of control in Europe and in Asia. Japan has none of our repugnance for efficiency. The Japanese mind is not hostile to a fact. The Japanese do not put on smoked glasses to keep from seeing a fact if it be unpleasantly bright.

They accept it. They may regret that it is the fact, but they do not try to persuade themselves that it does not exist. If military socialism be established in Europe as the best means of preserving nationality and advancing national aspirations, it will be established in Asia. It will be established wherever there is a considerable power except in the United States.

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ARMED TRUCE NOT WANTED.
 (New York World.)

There can be no peace in Europe until there is a substantial foundation for peace. What Mr. Bryan calls peace could be only an armed truce, a pause in the fighting until the belligerents were again prepared to spring at each other's throats. Mr. Bryan, in his horror of bloodshed, has forgotten the principles that lie back of this conflict, principles of more importance to civilization than the lives of 10,000,000 men. Something more than a casual peace must come out of this twilight of the gods. Unless there is a Day of Judgment, all the blood will have been shed in vain.

A GENEROUS COUNTRY.
 (Puck.)

German newspapers suggest that Austria placate Roumania by yielding a little territory. Some weeks ago, Italy was to be placated by grants of Austrian soil. When it comes to being generous with the other fellow's acreage, you have got to hand it to Germany.

A FOREHANDED MAN.
 (Seymour, Ia., Democrat.)

Milton Liggett was in Des Moines seeing about the lease for the erection of an elevator on the C. R. I. & P. right of way. While there he purchased a fine new horse.

A WAR SONG.

Friends of England, pray for England!
 Shout with her the battle cry!
 Hail her sons, each gallant thousand,
 Marching off to do or die—
 Praise her faith to her ally!

Sons of England, hear her calling—
 "O, my scattered children, come!
 Cannonading, air-bombs falling,
 And the bullets' hissing hum,
 Cannot strike my spirit dumb!"

Men of England, save old England
 From the great Germanic hordes!
 Keep her noble name named;
 Crush the Kaiser's boasting words,
 Swing your blazing warrior swords!

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CONDITION OF THROUGHOUT
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GOOD WHEAT C
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 Excellent Yield Well Above the
 Other Crop Reports Are Very

OTTAWA, July 5.—A special press b
 by the Census and Statistics Office
 report on the condition of field crops
 on July 1, as summarized from
 statistics from the Dominion Experim
 Stations and Illustration Farms in
 arrangements made between the Dep
 and Commerce and Agriculture.
 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—Th
 was very late, but beneficial rains fe
 the 9th to the 25th, assuring an excel
 a full crop of all early sown cereals.
 late grains have germinated well
 apparently; fruit prospects are good
 generally.

NOVA SCOTIA.—From Kentville
 June has been unusually dark. Fro
 winds. Grain crops are growing
 clover are excellent; potatoes and
 are making a fine start but on we
 poorly. At River John beneficial rai
 the 20th to the 26th. The condition of
 excellent; hood crops and later cerea
 and pastures are excellent; earl
 and the late sown grain is germin
 on June 24 there were 24 hours
 on living ground being submerged;
 cold; parts of some grain fields ar
 from the wet.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—From Fred
 ported that June has been excessive
 central and southern New Brunswic
 planting of crops on damp lands.
 Brunswick conditions are nearly nor
 well-drained lands are progressing re
 crop outlook indicates a yield abo
 report from Hartland states that be
 from the 18th to the 30th; the condit
 and grass is light; hood crops, esp
 are coming along fine. At Anaga
 have fallen all the month; hay is
 crops are fair; hood crops have g
 QUEBEC.—At Shawville heavy r
 the 11th and 22nd; grain crops are
 is very short, corn was retarded by
 report from Cap Rouge states that be
 from the 12th to the 26th, improv
 even, will be poor, the condition of
 silage corn is excellent; root crops h
 ed evenly. At Lennoxville the weath
 erable for grain and hay. At Ste. A
 tific beneficial rains have fallen on
 crops started well, but the hay crop
 less than the average.

ONTARIO.—A report from Essex C
 the temperature has been much bet
 and the rainfall light. Fall wheat
 shows a heavy crop on a large area
 barley is uneven, oats are good, pea
 corn a little backward, turnips are ge
 ly, the hay crop is very light. From
 the weather has been mostly dry and
 excellent and hood crops are looki
 early tomatoes and peaches, give p
 excellent crop. The hay crop is g
 harvested. From Ottawa, covering
 Eastern Ontario, the grain crops
 looking well, but the hay crop is li
 hood crops have germinated evenly,
 which is backward and uneven and
 of rain.

SASKATCHEWAN.—At Indian H
 ster, Kindersley and Gull Lake grai
 ports are looking well or excellent,
 having fallen from the 4th to the 26
 wheat, oats and barley showed less d
 Head from frosts of the 7th and 15th
 what. Hood crops promise well.
 wheat and flax are well advanced, and
 per cent. is in shot blade. Scott St
 abundant supply of moisture with wi
 blade and a few fields headed out
 crops are coming along equally well,
 retarded by cool weather and some
 injury from frost of the 16th. In sou
 stehewan and from Swift Current no
 crops look excellent. From Praelate
 crops are patchy due to cutworm, w
 a few instances to the sowing of poor
 crops look well though late. The re
 turn is less favorable. From this
 pointed that frost on the 15th killed
 grass, retarded potatoes and injur
 that all grain crops, except those on
 pond land, are suffering from droug
 rains come soon the grain crops will
 fail.

ALBERTA.—Telegrams from Edm
 Lethbridge, Pincher Creek, Foremost
 report a copious rainfall during Jun
 hay crops show vigorous growth and
 well advanced. At Lacombe excess
 about 10 per cent. of the area und
 per cent. should produce sufficiently
 ago to offset this loss. At Lethbrid
 grain have been ideal. More sunsh
 weather will be beneficial. Crops i
 Alberta are suffering slightly from
 and cold weather, in south and sou
 all crops are fine though patchy in a
 BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The rep
 states that June has been an excell
 growth. Beneficial showers fell fr
 14th and cereal crops are maturing
 and fodder crops are above the averag

HOWARD S. ROSS, E.C. EUGENE
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