

Public Opinion

WATCH OUR LENINES AND TROTSKYS.

(Hamilton Herald.)

Russia's fate should warn us to keep a vigilant eye and a tight rein upon the Lenines and Trotskys right here amongst us. If they are allowed too much rope, what may happen will be our own fault.

DO YOU KNOW HIM?

(Ohio State Journal.)

What makes us madder than anything else is the person who stands by his country in this crisis all right, but acts as if he were making a great concession.

PATRONS OF THE POOR.

(Cleveland Press.)

Three hundred society women of New York have organized to teach the poor how to economize. In self-defense the poor should organize to teach the rich how to spend money.

THE REAL FRONT.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

All the territory that lies beyond East Prussia will not suffice to avail Germany when the Stars and Stripes, the Union Jack and the Tricolor stand, as we believe one day they will, on the eastern bank of the Rhine.

DEMOCRACY AT STAKE.

(New Age, London.)

If Prussia wins, we may be assured that neither capital nor labor in England will profit by any advantage either has gained over the other; while if Prussia is defeated, labor will be entitled to demand a lion's share in reconstruction and in the future of the nation labor will have saved.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

(Louisville Courier-Journal.)

The eight-hour day is an ideal that may be realized and enjoyed in times of peace, but when an enemy is disregarding stated hours of labor and employing every resource against us, the "eight-hours for play" well may be considered of secondary importance.

THE MAN WITH THE HOE.

(Christian Science Monitor.)

It is perhaps worth mentioning, in passing, that while some men can serve the allied cause best in one way and some in another; some in the army and some in the navy; some as heads of commissions, and some as tails of committees; there is going to be place, position, and opportunity everywhere, this spring, for the man who makes pretensions to the possession of no greater ability than is required to swing a garden hoe.

"COOK'S SON, DUKE'S SON"

(Toronto Globe.)

The British army is not entirely given over to the worship of caste. Lord Derby recently quoted the cases of a cook who became a General Staff officer, of a former Sergeant-Major now commanding an infantry brigade, and a Mess Sergeant turned into a Colonel as illustration of the fact that Sir Douglas Haig is on the lookout for brains, and uses them wherever they may be found.

THE FRENCH SPIRIT.

(Buffalo Courier.)

An American recently at the French front writes: "I met a French captain who had three sons in the army. When he was retired he cried like a child because he would not be permitted to fight on. He had already lost two sons and two brothers, but that did not count; he wanted to go on for the glory of France and the liberty of the world. This is the type of man we have to fight with. We have got to bring ourselves up to that standard."

WOE TO THE CONQUERED.

(Kansas City Times.)

If anyone was under illusion about the temper of Germany, that illusion must be dispelled by the peace terms imposed on Russia. If anyone supposed that there was hope in the liberal movement in the Central Powers, that supposition is now shown to be a dream. The German terms are the terms of ruthless conquest. Germany's motto is the motto of the pagan world, "Woe to the conquered!" The world's only safeguard is to defeat Germany in her chosen field and with her own weapons. There is no use pleading with a savage dog!

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER.

(Houston Post.)

A consumer is a town man who wants the farmers to feed him for nothing and prepay the freight on the provender. And a producer is a country man who wants to get every cent the town man has and leave him nothing for tobacco and car fare. How men love each other when it comes to business.

EDUCATION AND EFFICIENCY.

(The Wall Street Journal.)

Henry Ford has his automobile experts, Thomas A. Edison scores of chemists, but the American Telephone and Telegraph system maintains an engineering and scientific staff of more than 500 specialists, made up of former professors and graduates from 76 scientific schools, colleges and universities, including men holding scientific degrees from ten foreign institutions of learning.

All this makes for one of the most efficient organizations in the world. Despite war and its tremendous demands on all industry, American Telephone service has proved equal to all emergencies, in fact, it has been increased. Of 10,000,000 telephones in this country the company furnishes 7,000,000 to the public.

REWARDING OUR HEROES.

(Tit-Bits.)

The brilliant services of the late Sir Stanley Maude have been recognized by a substantial pecuniary grant to his widow and family. Had he lived, it is certain that the House of Commons would have made him a grant in accordance with the well established precedent.

After the South African War Lord Roberts was created an earl and given a grant of £100,000, whilst Lord Kitchener, who had, after his achievements of Omdurman, Khartoum, and Mashoda, been granted £30,000 and a peerage, received a viscounty and a grant of £50,000.

The Duke of Wellington was allowed £600,000 in addition to other grants, and the services of Lord Nelson were recognized with an annuity of £2,000 per annum for three heirs.

THE POWER SITUATION.

(London Free Press.)

Seven hundred and twenty-five thousand horsepower is to-day being developed at Niagara Falls. Under the international waterways treaty 400,000 horsepower is developed on the Canadian side and 350,000 horsepower on the United States side. Canada, however, exports 110,000 horsepower to the United States. This gives a total of 435,000 horsepower which the United States consumers are receiving, as against 290,000 horsepower being consumed on the Canadian side. The limitation of water for power development on the Canadian side is 36,000 second feet, and on the United States side 20,000 second feet. To develop 400,000 horsepower in Canada, 26,000 second feet of the total 36,000 permissible is now being used. The United States is using about 18,000 of their allotment of 20,000 second feet. Because of the exportation of power developed on the Canadian side the United States is receiving 50 per cent more of the developed power than is Canada, although we are generating 25 per cent more than do they.

THE VALUE OF BIRDS.

(New York Commercial.)

Birds are the most effective protection against insect pests. Wherever bird life is reduced to a minimum farmers and gardeners suffer. The boll weevil of the cotton states and other insect pests that afflict the South, could be kept in check by quail and other birds that feed on them. The house wren is the great destroyer of moths. Almost every destructive insect is the natural food of some native bird, and game birds are among the best of these protectors. The noble and now practically extinct wild turkey eats grasshoppers and locusts in preference to all other food, as does his domesticated descendant. It would astonish city dwellers to see the scientific drive a flock of turkeys will make through a field infested with grasshoppers. The whole country should unite to protect our feathered friends. If the destruction of bird life is not checked many beautiful and useful species will soon be extinct. We owe it to ourselves and those who come after us to preserve the balance of nature which has never been upset without inflicting heavy losses upon mankind.

VALE THE TOWPATH MULE.

(Commerce and Finance.)

The Pennsylvania Railroad this year will dispense with mules in operating the Delaware and Raritan canal. Small power boats will haul the boats from one end of the canal to the other in 24 hours. The faithful old mule, for a hundred years the sole motive power of canals, consumed several days in accomplishing the journey.

Where will this nation obtain its future Presidents?

WHAT IS LUXURY?

(New York Tribune.)

It is very easy to jeer at the lady who wanted a private car in which to go to Spartanburg—a private car, when our allies are distressed for lack of food railbound in the West and we ourselves are freezing for lack of coal railbound in Pennsylvania. But who is anybody these days to jeer at a luxury? What is a luxury, anyway, but the thing a little more luxurious and expensive than you yourself can afford? It is a beautiful, endless chain, this pursuit of luxuries. What you yourself use is always a necessity, and not a luxury. You can prove the point by any amount of excellent arguments. If a "movie" is your limit, then it is a "movie." You can't be expected to give up "movies," war or no war. If your limit is a parlor car seat on a train, then a parlor seat is a necessity, not a luxury. If it is a limousine, how can anybody expect you to give up a limousine just to win a war? If you have always travelled in private cars, nothing seems more reasonable than that a mere war should cut off this simple, inexpensive way of proceeding from spot to spot. Let's stop talking of luxuries and begin to cut out necessities. Then we'll begin to hit ourselves instead of safety jeering at the other fellow.

THE BOY PROBLEM.

(Acadian Recorder.)

The current journals are filled with articles dealing with that interesting subject, the Girl, and we think it is about time that the equally interesting subject, the Boy, should come in for some discussion. The small boy, God bless him, represents infinite potentialities and may develop into anything, from a Jesse James to a Shakespeare, but industry and persistence are the prime requisites of his developing into anything of importance at all. But in some mysterious manner the idea of work seems to have become old-fashioned and a thing "tabooed" in the minds of the rising generation. In days gone by, useful activity was apparently not regarded as an evil and something to be shunned, and the growing youth used to look forward with enthusiasm to the time when he could engage in some remunerative employment and be a factor in the busy world. But whether the parents, the schools, or "the spirit of the age" are to blame, a change has come over the spirit of his dreams.

The boy exhibits no enthusiasm at the prospect of useful employment. He does not speak with glowing cheek of the big day's work he has done for his employer, he does not exert himself to get to his duties sharp on time, and he never boasts of doing more work than his chum. In other words, we fear that the small boy of the present generation is inclined to be lazy in regard to actual toil while still remaining a veritable dynamo of energy in regard to games and sport. Wages were never so good as at present day work of all sorts has never been carried on under more favorable circumstances in regard to hours and sanitary surroundings. Yet boys who greatly need every cent they can earn, in a large number of cases shirk their duties in every way. They come late, they dawdle away the time, exhibit no conscience in regard to their duties, and after a few weeks throw up the job and put in their time loafing about the streets. This is a most serious matter. Habits of work, of steady application to duty are of the utmost importance to the growing boy and their cultivation or not constitutes the difference between success and failure, competence or poverty. The parent who permits his son to merely work when and how he likes, to throw up positions at will and to turn his back on all habits of industry, is helping the boy to work his own ruin. It must be impressed upon the youth of both sexes that work is no disgrace, that work is not hardship, and that the disgrace is in cultivating idleness, irregularity, carelessness and lack of responsibility. Certainly unless some change is brought about the young men of the succeeding generation will be sadly lacking in many things.