

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 21, 1918.

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

Touching the matter of public health, the last issue of the Canadian Municipal Journal says:

"In the United States there is a movement on foot to save to the nation one million babies who would otherwise die in other words more children and young people die on this continent each year through neglect and of diseases that are preventable than do of what are termed fatal diseases. Not a very pleasant statement to make in these days of enlightenment and about a most enlightened part of the globe. The provincial laws relating to the health of school children are excellent and on the whole well carried out, but it is before the age of five that Canada has her great losses in her children. And the responsibility lies at the doors of the municipal or city councils."

The first fruit of the new health law of New Brunswick is the appointment of an eminent specialist as chief of health, and as explained in the Times yesterday it is hoped ere long to have not only the central laboratory in the St. John hospital but very useful branches in other parts of the province. The work of the bacteriologist is so important in modern practice that it is a first essential in connection with a health act for the province. Heretofore the medical profession has been compelled to wait for examinations and reports from Montreal or elsewhere, even when quick results were of the utmost importance in a case.

As the new health act becomes better understood, and the machinery for its successful operation is provided and in proper working order, with the hearty co-operation of municipal authorities the conditions surrounding the health of children will be vastly improved, and here, as in the United States, the death rate will be lowered, while there will be a great reduction in the number of young persons growing up handicapped by defects that could and should have been overcome in early childhood.

We have today, in the order for general vaccination, a warning and a salutary lesson. Smallpox is not the only disease to guard against, and we have also to bear in mind that the healthy and well-nourished are best able to withstand the ravages of any disease. There will be fewer epidemics, a smaller death rate from tuberculosis and several other dangerous diseases when the new health act is made operative and the people are brought to see that compliance with all its regulations makes for the general welfare.

A FORWARD STEP.

Once more an effort is to be made to get the Rockwood playground ready for use. As Canon Armstrong told the Rotary Club yesterday, it is a duty we owe the young people to provide them with a recreation field. Engineer Hatfield described the scene on one street where the boys play ball, with sentries out to watch for policemen. Surely that is not the most or the best we can do for the youth of St. John. Their respect for authority will not grow under such conditions. Let it be pointed out once more that we had a governor-general turn the first sod of the Rockwood playground, and had a great procession of children with band and banners. That was when the Miss Mabel Peters, first chairman of the playgrounds committee of the Women's Council, was also first president of the St. John Playgrounds Association. After a long interval the city council constructed a sewer to carry off the outflow from Lily Lake. Since then the area has lain idle, as it remained for years before. It could be drained, levelled, built up, if necessary, and made to provide baseball diamond, foot-ball field, running track, tennis courts, outdoor gymnasium, children's playground, and all the features of a great recreation field. A beginning could be made with a base-ball diamond at small cost, and now is the time to begin. Some of the children who walked at that sod-turning procession must be voters now. They will be old folk presently. Must they tell their grandchildren of what St. John set out to do when they were children, but fell down on the job?

Then there is the question of neighborhood playgrounds for small children. Any who doubt the need should take a stroll through the poorer tenement districts of this city and count the number of children playing in the streets and dirty alleys. The health department could testify as to that matter and the effect upon the health of the community.

This is the twenty-first of May, exactly two months since the great German drive in the west began. The Allies are daily expecting its renewal on a formidable scale, and meantime have been taking small bites out of the German line and demoralizing the enemy air service.

The work of the Y. W. C. A., and especially the Travellers' Aid work, which is the best organized branch we have in this city, deserves the most generous public support. It is a great safeguard thrown around girlhood and womanhood, and its value is not to be computed in dollars and cents.

"WITHOUT STINT OR LIMIT"

The Literary Digest gathers together some recent utterances by American statesmen and newspapers to emphasize the statement that "the whole-hearted pledge to force without stint or limit is America's answer to Prussianism's bid for world dominion." These extracts make agreeable reading in these days of grave anxiety. It is first pointed out that Secretary Baker told congress the army would need for the coming fiscal year an appropriation of \$18,000,000,000, and asked that all legal restrictions limiting the size of that army be removed, and that the press almost unanimously supported the request for an unlimited army. As one paper put it: "There should be no fixing of an artificial limit upon our contribution to total victory."

Another paper said: "The people of the United States will not be satisfied with any sort of half-way measures in the nation's war activities." The New York World said: "An army without limit is the true index to the sentiment of the American people in this war. Secretary Baker himself said:

"There is no limit. We will call out enough men to make victory certain, and we will call them as rapidly as they can be trained and sent forward. Any specific number implies a limit, and the only limit is our ability to equip and transport men, which is constantly on the increase. We ask for a law that will enable us to keep the flow constant and to keep the organization fluid. Our sole objective is to send men enough to win, and it is useless to attempt to approximate that outcome in numbers. It will be achieved if it takes one million or twenty million men."

Secretary Daniels also urged that no limit be set to the size of the army. "Neither three million nor five million nor even ten million," he declared further that "if there are not enough men between twenty-one and thirty-one to win the war, the age-limit will be changed and men of forty and fifty will, if need be, respond."

The immediate plan of Secretary Baker is based on a minimum of 8,000,000 men, of whom 1,500,000 are to be in camp by July 1. As soon as it becomes certain that more than 8,000,000 can be equipped and trained they will be called. General March expresses the view that nearly 6,000,000 can be raised without changing the present age-limit. It is estimated that the end of the present year will find at least 2,000,000 men in France, and every training camp in America filled. During the present month 250,000 men are to be called to the colors, compared with 150,000 in April. Still more important is the statement of the New York Tribune that "in forty days the rate at which our troops can be sent abroad has been trebled." The New York World observes:

"Nothing will bring more encouragement to the British, French and Italian than to know that the American army is to be without limit as to size, and that there is to be no quibbling about the number of troops that the United States will put in to win the war. Nor can we get any information from this country carry more consternation into Germany, despite the Junker practice of sneering at the military capacity of the United States."

That Germany is beginning to wake up to the fact that the American army cannot be laughed down the wind is shown by the changed tone of the German press. One writer says:

"We were at first rather inclined to underestimate the participation of America in the war. We began now to realize a change of opinion. It is beyond doubt that it will be well to curb at the present time the more or less fantastic vagaries of persons discussing the submarine war. We cannot for the moment estimate when the United States will have ready the millions of which her population will permit her to raise, but it is certain that America will, in the very near future, succeed in amazing armies which in any case will constitute a very valuable aid to our enemies."

The outstanding fact that there were more than half a million American soldiers in France some time ago, and that the transportation of troops has been greatly accelerated in the last few weeks, shows how well-founded are the growing fears of the Germans that if they do not get a decision on the western front very soon the opportunity will have passed forever. Official Germany still professes to disdain the power of the United States, but its reckless sacrifice of men proves that it entertains a quite different feeling. As for the Allies, they trust the strength of the republic, and the assurance of the coming millions who will turn the scale will nerve them to even more heroic determination to hold the line until that help arrives.

Twenty-seven German aircraft were destroyed on Saturday, three driven down and three balloons burned. Twelve British machines are missing. The advantage is more than two to one with the latter.

An Italian woman, a restaurant keeper, was recently fined in Toronto \$100 and costs for giving two men thirty-two slices of bread in violation of the food controller's regulations.

German submarines are sinking Norwegian fishing craft. There is no profit in that policy toward a neutral nation.

LIGHTER VEIN

Continuous Performance. Friend—What about the rent of a place like this? I suppose the landlord asks a lot for it.

Arturpe—Yes, rather—he's always asking for it.

Statistics. Kind Old Lady—I expect you have had a great many trials, my poor man.

Tramp—Yes, but only two convictions, lady.

How to Turn the Trick. The young woman complained that no one seemed interested in her.

She—No, I said the same—you should show interest in other people, and then they'll get interested in you because you seem interested in them.

Poor Thing! He—Did you get Nora to clean the spots out of my coat?

She—No, sir, I did it myself. Poor girl, she can't bear the smell of gasoline since that chauffeur filled her.

With Engine Trouble. She—A person is silly to bother a lot about a car.

He—Yes, unless he happens to be an aviator up in the air.

Untutored. "How do you do, my poor lad. Did you ever go to a stammering school?"

"N—n—no, sir. I did—did—do this naturally."

THE MAYFLOWER AND ITS CLAIMANTS

Toronto Globe: The school children of Massachusetts have by a popular vote, decided that the Mayflower shall be the state emblem and Governor McCall has given his sanction. This will tend to keep before the minds of the growing generation the fact that a vessel called the Mayflower brought out to Plymouth Rock the original settlers. It might be as well if the young citizens-to-be should look a little beyond their own state history, and also give a thought to botany. The Mayflower, after which the vessel in question was named, was the English hawthorn blossom, commonly called "May." As the Massachusetts emblem it would be very appropriate because it is not indigenous.

There is, however, an excellent reason why the Mayflower should not be used as the emblem of Massachusetts. That is because a form of trailing arbutus, which grows to perfection in Nova Scotia, where it is especially large, richly colored and fragrant, and which is known as the Mayflower on this coast, has been the officially recognized emblem of that province for many generations. It appears on the first postage stamps issued by the then colony. It was embossed upon the buttons of the Nova Scotia coat of arms, and the governor sanctioning the choice. Still the resourceful people of Massachusetts might be original and, from the wealth of flora about them, pick out something not previously adopted by others.

Ate Only One Meal in a Day

Because of Great Suffering Accompanying Digestion—Hospital Doctors Said Operation Necessary—Perfectly Cured by Home Treatment.

New Aberdeen, N. S., May 16.—One again the New York Times is claiming that an operation was necessary. Fortunately Mrs. Watkins had a different opinion, and by using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills obtained a perfect cure. That was in 1914, so there seems to be no doubt that the cure was both thorough and lasting.

It is a fact that every year while to read this letter, for if you never have a similar experience you may be able to win the war, the age-limit will be changed and men of forty and fifty will, if need be, respond."

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WEEPING ECZEMA SOON RELIEVED

A Perfect Treatment For This Distressing Complaint

Wasting. Ont. "I had an attack of Weeping Eczema so bad that my clothes would be wet through at times. For four months, I suffered terribly! I could get no relief until I tried 'Fruit-a-tives' and 'Sootha Salva.' The first treatment gave me relief.

"Fruit-a-tives" is also put up in a trial size which sells for 25c.

Both these sterling remedies are sold by dealers at 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50, or sent on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

Altogether, I have used three boxes of 'Sootha Salva' and two of 'Fruit-a-tives', and am entirely well."

G. W. HALL.

LAUNCHED FOUR SHIPS

ON LAST WEDNESDAY

American Yards Have Averaged One Wooden Vessel Daily Since May 1

Washington, May 21.—Shipyards of the United States have launched one wooden ship each day since May 1, according to an announcement of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, thus adding 60,000 tons to the American merchant marine. It is stated also that the average for the last four weeks was slightly better than one ship a day.

Wednesday last was the banner day, and four ships were launched. This established a new record in wooden shipbuilding in the United States. The vessels were: Pascagoula, 3,500 tons, from the Dicks-Bloggett Company, Pascagoula, Miss.; Kiwa, 3,200 tons, from the Grant-Smith-Porter Ship Company, St. Johns, Ore.; Blackford, 4,000 tons, Gray's Harbor Motor Ship Company, Aberdeen, Wash.; Basco, 3,500 tons, from the Universal Shipbuilding Company, Houston, Texas.

ARGENTINA AT PEACE WITH ALL NATIONS AND WONT CHANGE

Buenos Aires, Thursday, May 21.—Argentina is at peace with all nations and has no reason to change her present policy of neutrality, declared President Figueroa in his annual message at the opening of the 57th congress session today, read in the president's absence by Dr. Palacios Luna, the vice-president.

The congress is the first in which there has been a radical majority. The message referred again to the satisfaction given by Germany in the cases of the Argentine vessels, Monte Protegido and Toro, after their sinking by German submarines.

The government, it was stated, will attempt to solve the tonnage dispute by transforming obsolete warships into merchantmen, as well as by buying "several large vessels," which are generally believed to be German interned steamers.

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Kerensky May Visit United States

New York Hears Report of Early Arrival in America

New York, May 20.—Rumors of the approaching arrival in America of Alexander F. Kerensky, former premier of Russia under the provisional government, were circulated at a meeting of the New York Group of Russian Social Revolutionists at Cooper Union, New York, Wednesday. Constantin M. Oberoucheff, former commander of the military forces in the Kiev district under the provisional government, who spoke at the meeting, told, though nothing definite was known, that Kerensky would be in New York within two weeks. After the fall of the provisional government and his flight from Petrograd, Mr. Kerensky succeeded in making his way to Sweden, where, at last reports, he was residing.

Speaking on the internal conditions of Russia, General Oberoucheff said that if 25,000 American troops were sent to Russia, a fighting Russian army could be raised with their aid and made a menace to Germany in the east.

General Oberoucheff, who came to this country from Stockholm several weeks ago, said that from the information he had obtained there, the Bolshevik revolution was nearing an end in Russia, and would soon fall to pieces by lack of cohesive powers.



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MERRY SQUABBLE OVER THE DIVISION OF GERMANY'S SPOILS

Powerful Industrial Interests Fight to Get French Owned Mines—Millions Are Involved

Amsterdam, May 21.—A silent, but fierce fight for millions is going on between Germany's most powerful industrial interests over a share in the spoils of the French-owned mines and steel works in German Lorraine. The iron ore in this region is estimated at 650,000,000 tons. The chief owner is Baron de Wendt, a reputedly the richest man in Europe, who owns one of the iron foundries in four countries—France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Lorraine. His fortune is estimated at \$100,000,000.

Baron de Wendt's possessions in German Lorraine have long excited the enmity of the German overlord and a compulsory "liquidation" of this property is a matter of course. The value of his estate in this region is estimated at \$22,500,000, but the interests concerned are so involved and interlocked that this liquidation has been a difficult business proposition, and a hint has been given the German press to publish as little as possible about the negotiations. The de Wendt concern was a member of the Dusseldorf Steel Trust, and the first idea was simply to divide the property among the members of the Trust. Now a group of South German industrialists have taken a hand, and have submitted a bid of \$30,000,000 cash to the Dusseldorf Trust. This offer was refused, and after much squabbling the South German group split in two into the Rhensia-Westphalian and the Thyssen combines. The latter has independently outbid the parent group, offering \$85,000,000.

The conditions of both offers, however, were that the major part of the ore should be smelted not in Lorraine, as hitherto, but within regions controlled by the buyers, with the consequence that Lorraine townships have petitioned the German government, pointing out in alarm, that a large part of the industrial population is threatened with ruin by the removal of the means of their livelihood, about which they were not consulted. Lately powerful voices have been heard demanding why selfish big corporations should be permitted to ruthlessly dispose of property for purely speculative purposes, where the benefit should accrue to the empire at large, and relieve the over-burdened taxpayers. Public opinion calls for a special Reichstag commission to take the matter in hand. The magnitude of the interests and prospects involved promises an extremely interesting contest, for the big corporations, with interlocking interests

STRANGLES GERMAN DESPITE WOUND

Lieut. Pellache of New York, Mortally Hurt, Inspires His Men by His Deed Boston Athlete a Hero

With the American Army in France, May 21.—Additional instances of unusual bravery by American soldiers on the battlefield in Picardy have become known. Lieutenant James Pellache, a Harvard man and son of a New York artist, and Lieutenant Stephen Fitzgerald, a Boston athlete, have been killed, but their deeds will live.

Lieutenant Pellache went out with a working party which was attacked by German soldiers. Pellache was mortally wounded, but continued to fight with his hands and strangled a German. In so doing he encouraged and inspired his companions. Lieutenant Fitzgerald was shot through the head while leading a platoon in No Man's Land in a day raid against a Ger-

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