

# TOYS FOR THE CHILDREN

Only four weeks to Christmas and then the children will look for a gift. This year it will be a real peace gift. We have made preparations for supplying your wants in serviceable Gifts for every member of the family and especially for the children. Read over the list.

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## FREEDOM OF SEAS Defined by Expert To Formulate Laws for Ocean Warfare Conferences may take up Question

French papers publish Secretary Daniels' demand for a three years' naval program with a clause that in case of a general international agreement for reducing armaments President Wilson shall be authorized to stay the construction of war vessels and some journals, like the *Figaro*, conclude that this reflects a fluctuation in America's naval policy. The European press is unaware that this clause has been a part of the United States law for two years, and has not now been introduced for the first time. The Naval Appropriation bill has started afresh the vexed question of the liberty of the seas, and most journals demand a precise definition of what the term signifies. While declaring Britain cannot abandon, in war time, the right to drive enemy commerce off the water and establish a blockade, the *Figaro* adds:

"What we shall energetically demand is that the British navy shall continue to maintain the high standard of power which it has already attained."

Unnecessarily Obscured  
"From everything I have heretofore observed," writes Dr. Dillon, "the whole subject has been unnecessarily obscured, first by vagueness of terminology and then by the indiscreet silence of the press. Discussions are beside the mark, resembling the debates of the Berlin academicians who, when asked by the great Frederick why a full tumbler of water overflows when a small dead fish is lowered into it but does not overflow if the fish is living, offered various explanations until one professor tried the experiment and demonstrated the needlessness of the explanation because the statement was groundless. Similarly when the problem of liberty of the seas comes up for discussion, the public will be surprised to learn that no storm has rent the conference in twain."

The Main Object  
The state of the question as I apprehend it is this: Heretofore there were but certain laws imperfectly codified but generally respected, tending to keep military violence in war time within certain broad limits on the land. These regulations were settled not by any one power, however strong, but by the common consent of all. Transgressors were not unknown, but neither were they fundamental. The state of things continued until the recent conflict, when Germany broke through them all and united the civilized world against her. Now nothing corresponding to the accepted restriction governing war on land existed or exists for warfare on the sea. Whatever limitations obtained were dependent entirely upon the good-will of the strongest naval state. That state laid down the law, and modified or revoked it according to

necessity or caprice. To this reign of the arbitrary, the advocates of the new arrangement are desirous of putting an end. They seek to infuse a spirit of legality and attainable humanity into the fluctuating usages of naval warfare.

This, at the bottom, is the main object they have set for themselves. Everything else is secondary. Inflexible conceptions and remote ideals have no place in their program.

Code of Rational Laws  
Paying due deference to concrete circumstances and recognizing the needs of naval states, they ask only that a code of rational laws, obligatory to all, shall be accorded to by these states whose warships rule the waves. The notion that the American people are preparing to enter into systematic competition with the British on the seas is utterly unfounded. The grounds allotted by Secretary Daniels for the Appropriation bill exclude any such supposition, but are of commanding significance in appreciating the necessity for clear and binding international convention which will not merely lay down rules of naval warfare but will also, if circumstances are favorable, extend over a wider field and establish a fair ratio between real needs and the lowest efficient means of satisfying them.

Essence of the Issue  
This would appear to be the essence of what is aimed at in the first instance, for nobody seriously imagines that after a world war which has shaken the foundation of the political and social structure throughout the globe, a conference assembling to compose disputes can carry things much further in the course of a few months. The door, however, will be left open for ulterior endeavors. There is no doubt, for instance, that special conferences will be held periodically for the purpose of embodying in laws these far-reaching transformations which the humanitarian spirit of progressive peoples are even now silently effecting.

British Boys' Showing  
As shown by the report of the Chief Inspector of British Immigrant Children and Receiving Homes, the total enlistment of immigrant boys in the Canadian forces equals nearly 25 per cent of all the boys who came to Canada.

During the fiscal year 1917, 605 persons were deported from Canada, as shown by the annual report of the Department of the Interior on Immigration.

## Red Cross Gift Shop LAND RAFFLE

Don't forget the Plot of Land at Deep Cove to be raffled for

On Sale from Members or at Sidney Review Office

## National Parks of Canada are Great Valuable Assets

Report of Commissioner for Dominion Parks Shows that if Developed they May Become Large Revenue Producers.

### PROGRESS FOR YEAR

The report of the Commissioner of Dominion Parks for the last year shows clearly that the parks, if developed as tourist attractions, will produce an increasingly large revenue, which will place them among the many sources of wealth of the country.

The report refers to the hundreds of millions of dollars spent yearly by tourists and points out that although the battlefields of France will be the premier tourist attraction for several years, the future possibilities of the Dominion parks as fields for the cultivation of tourist traffic are almost beyond calculation.

The report also shows that the magnificent facilities for outdoor recuperation available in the parks will be a prime factor in restoring the physical and nervous energy consumed in the strain of war, and that as great open air pleasure grounds the parks will be a future source of immense advantage in invigorating and conserving the national physique. The sinewy fighting power and driving force shown by the Canadians in the war was drawn from the woods and mountains and outdoor associations, and the parks afford the means of replenishing it from the same primeval sources.

### Endowed by Nature

The Dominion parks have every natural inducement to attract visitors. The beauty and grandeur of their scenery is not surpassed anywhere in the world. In older countries in which natural beauty has been commercialized for many years scenic features have the advantage of being surrounded by tradition and association, and have been made famous by literature and art, but in no cases surpass, and in many instances do not equal, the romantic loveliness and wild grandeur of the scenery of the Dominion parks. Canadian mountain scenery is drawn on a grander scale and Canadian sylvan beauty is more prim-

eval than that of Europe. The Dominion parks have special qualities and advantages which it has been the aim of the parks administration to develop as far as possible, according to the report. The work of equipping the parks with facilities for tourist traffic has made good progress in spite of limitations due to war conditions.

### Dominion Parks' Area

The total area of the six national parks in western Canada is 8,694 square miles. Jasper park alone is 4,400 square miles in area, which is about twice that of Prince Edward Island. The area of Rocky Mountain park is 2,751 square miles. These parks contain a variety of alpine scenery and outdoor attractions of every kind, such as the imagination cannot grasp. About one hundred miles of automobile roads penetrate Rocky Mountain park and attract many thousands of motor tourists each season. In Buffalo and Elk Island parks there are about 3,000 buffalo in the national herds. In the parks wild life is increasing under intelligent care. Telephone lines and watchfulness of the park-wardens protects the parks from injury by fire.

Figures compiled by the Canadian Pacific railway quoted in the report show that ten per cent. of the money spent by tourists in Europe before the war would amount to \$500,000,000, a sum equal in value to the Canadian wheat crop. "If this amount could be diverted to Canada each year," says the report, "think what it would add to our national prosperity."

Mr. and Mrs. Storey of James Island have moved to Sidney, where Mr. Storey is employed at the Sidney Mills.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1918, 101,100,502.60 gallons of petroleum and naphtha were inspected in the Dominion, according to the report of the Department of Inland Revenue for that period.

### Over 35,000 Women and Children to Return

TORONTO — Arrangements have been under consideration for some time and are nearing completion whereby the women and children, wives and families of the soldiers returning from England will be cared for from the time of their arrival in Canada until they reach their homes, by the patriotic fund.

There are about 35,000 women and children to return to Canada. One of the large vacant hotels will be secured in Toronto and turned into a hotel for the women and children of this city and vicinity.

## "That Line is Busy"

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Smith & Champion  
The Better Value Store  
... .. Victoria, 8th January, 1919.

Mr. Cunningham,  
The Sidney & Island Review,  
Sidney, B. C.

Dear Sir:  
With reference to our advertisement appearing in your paper we will be obliged if you will discontinue it until other arrangements are made.

When you are next in town we will be glad to discuss with you the question of our advertising.

We may say that we believe the Sidney and Islands Review and Saanich Gazette a useful advertising medium for Victoria merchants.

Yours truly,  
SMITH & CHAMPION,  
Per U. S. Lee.

Why not also Give the Review a fair Trial? It may well Repay you.