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A Canadian Economic Fable —The Sheep and the Wolf

Once upon a time the sheep complained to Jupiter that they were being unduly harassed and destroyed by the wolf. Now, Jupiter was very busy just then with the case of Tweedledum and Tweedledee. So, having no time himself to inquire as to the justice of the complaint of the sheep, Jupiter turned the matter over to the fox to investigate and pronounce judgment. He had previously learned that the wolf would be quite willing to have the fox deal with the case. Of course, Jupiter did not consult the sheep on the matter of this appointment, because sheep are naturally and incurably stupid, and besides were prejudiced against the fox, considering his kinship to the wolf and that he was similar to the wolf in proclivities and enterprises.

During the investigation the wolf boldly declared that he was not chasing sheep for the glory of God, but to get mutton, and that he was entitled to all the mutton he could get, and that any other predatory animal that could not grab a good supply under the present circumstances must be lacking in imagination and activity.

After due deliberation the fox declared that he "took off his hat" to the wolf in appreciation of his prudent, energetic action in having laid by a very large "reserve" of mutton, and that the complaints of the sheep against him were merely a foolish protest against efficiency in business, and finally, that the only way in which the sheep could possibly receive any relief was to get busy at once and "increase production" of mutton.

The Few That Injure All Among Returned Veterans

Supposing a citizen who did not go to the war notices a man from overseas on the street and goes up to the latter, making the preliminary motions of a handshake and uttering the few words of welcome that he likes to express to the boys who were on the big job. And suppose the returned hero meets him with a movement of hands being placed behind his back, a slight lifting of the chin, a failure to make the corners of the mouth turn ever so slightly upward and in a manner that indicates direct contact with one of the icebergs that float in the Atlantic steamer lanes. What is the greeting person to think?

Does he put it down to "swank" or a conscious superiority that must be displayed to all those who did not go over, or who served in the ranks or did nothing conspicuous? He may not fix the reason in his mind, but when he sees another returned man to whom he would like to show some evidence of good nature and appreciation he will go cautiously before making the advances. It is a definite trait in human nature that "once snubbed, twice shy."

It is true that the vast majority of returned men show the heartiest kind of friendliness to those who seek to renew their acquaintance and to give them some kind of personal welcome. They are glad to see their old friends and not anxious to draw lines of military and non-military distinction. They do not parade their service or avoid, with scornful look and word, the world of civilians.

But there is another element, a small element, it is true, which seems to hold the personal impression that upon their service depended the fate of the country and the Empire. They won the war, and they know it, or they did the bravest thing in the war, and they know it. They regard the civilian population as being largely composed of "rotters," and they set themselves apart from almost all other men.

These men make things most uncomfortable for everyone. They will not find an office that will welcome them, and if their air of condescension is kept up long, they will find that their whole future is jeopardized and that self-conscious heroism is about the most sickening thing that has to be borne with. They will find that other returned soldiers will be the first to rebuke them, because the average civilian who did not go to war has not the courage to do so. Worst of all, they will injure the prospects of every man who served overseas. It is a pity that some of these men, and men who performed really fine service, should have to be reminded that a military snobbishness destroys the glory of almost any great sacrifice. How many people reluctantly turned from a certain distinguished aviator when he so much as gave the appearance of being unsporthanlike? It is with the same reluctance that a lot of people jot down, mentally, a most unfavorable estimate of those of whom they are anxious to hold only golden opinion. Even Napoleon, who should know all about it, had it doped out this way:

The greatest ornament of an illustrious life is modesty and humility, which go a great way in the character even of the most exalted princes.

After Large War Profits

Those who say there is no definite method of regulating profits and controlling speculation in the people's food can find a straight-cut suggestion in the resolution passed the other evening by the local branch of the Army and Navy Veterans.

These survivors of the war, a great proportion of whom are men who were among the original volunteers, have asked that the Government appropriate all profits over ten per cent made by individuals on war contracts, and all profits over

ten per cent derived by manufacturers during the war. This money would be turned to the purpose of paying the war debt, and it is quite within reasonable expectation that almost the entire cost of the war could be secured through such a law, honestly administered. It would be a test of patriotism as to the collection of the money, and resort to every kind of subterfuge to avoid payment might be expected. But the Government had the power to regulate profits and failed to do so to such a degree as would relieve the country and bring some of these good-luck fortunes into the common store.

It is probably too late to talk of extracting profits that have long ago been pocketed. The question as to what profits may be made on food-stuffs and other necessities is one that demands Government attention. The high cost of living report is no doubt gathering dust already, and the country is now looking with anxiety to the future. Are conditions to improve, or is the philosophy of the profiteer to dominate the country? There are methods of permitting the most free enterprise in this country in which men can amass reasonable profits without piling up millions and watering capital. It is the combine and manipulation of prices that cut so deeply into the prices paid for necessities.

Fielding On Divorce Courts

[Journal of Commerce.]

An important judgment has been delivered by the judicial committee of the Privy Council in England, establishing the power of the Supreme Court of Manitoba to grant divorces. It is a curious fact that while, as now declared, the Manitoba court had this power from the beginning of the province, only in very recent months has the power been discovered. "Marriage and divorce" are, by the British North America act, subjects assigned to the Dominion Parliament. The provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia had divorce courts before they entered the Dominion. These tribunals have retained their power, and have exercised it in such a quiet manner as to call for little or no remark. Prince Edward Island had a similar authority in the governor-in-council, which authority remains, though practically it is unused. As respects all the other provinces—Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta—it has been believed that divorce could only be granted by the passing of an act of Parliament of Canada. Divorce applications have been presented to the Senate and examined by a Senate committee; divorce bills have been passed by the Senate and sent to the Commons, where they have usually been passed without any pretence of general examination. Under this system hundreds of divorce acts have been passed, affecting persons in Ontario, Quebec, and the three prairie provinces.

Some months ago the public were surprised to learn that a contention had been raised in Manitoba that, under the terms of the provincial constitution, which applied the laws of England to the province in certain cases, the Supreme Court of the province had the power to grant divorces. The court upheld this view, and in one case exercised this power. The case was appealed, and the judicial committee has now confirmed the decision of the Manitoba court. As the language of the Manitoba constitution was repeated later in the constitutions of Alberta and Saskatchewan, the effect of the judgment is to establish that in all three provinces divorces may hereafter be granted by the courts. This ought to be a great relief to the Canadian Parliament, which probably will hereafter not be troubled with applications for divorce from the provinces named.

Meanwhile, on the motion of Mr. Nickle, member for Kingston, the House of Commons has passed a bill to give the courts of all the provinces the power of divorce and thus to take the whole business away from Parliament. Unfortunately, after passing its second reading in the House of Commons, the bill seems to have struck some unseen snag and foundered, the session closing without any further action. This one of the most useful measures of the session has been defeated.

The conscientious objections to the principle of divorce which are held by a large part of the community can be understood, and must command sincere respect. If the assertion of these objections had prevented the granting of divorces in Ontario and Quebec, there would be a reason against the passing of Mr. Nickle's bill. But, as everybody knows, this is not the case. Divorces are granted every year. The material question is, Shall they be granted in a decent and orderly way by competent judicial tribunals, or by the present indecent—the word is not too strong—system at Ottawa? On that question there should be no division of opinion.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Caruso having lost his wine may quaff the papier-mache cup of the comic operas.

Sir Thomas White has left the ship, and others are standing close to their places at the lifeboats.

Should the people as a whole care for those half million starving cattle or should the owners face the inevitable?

If London objects to staging the trial of the kaiser why not set up a court in the devastated areas of Northern France?

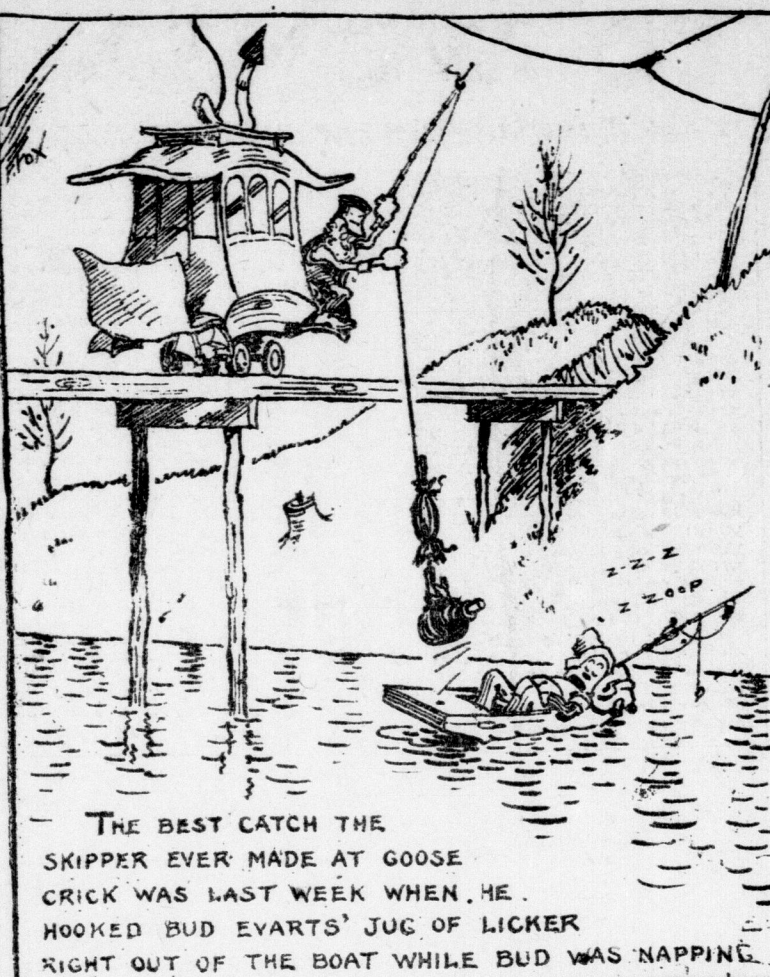
Woodrow Wilson, upon his return, hurried to Carnegie Hall and talked to his people. Sir Robert Borden has never acquired the habit.

Good luck to the R-34 on her homeward voyage! She should receive a Scottish welcome when she draws into her berth at East Fortune.

The London ball team has shown an amazing advance in playing ability. For some time the team has been on a sort of probation, but the fans who continue to remain away are missing some high class baseball.

The Toronto Telegram accuses Orangemen in charge of the "glorious twelfth" celebration of having ignored Mayor Church and other Orange members of the Toronto council because they voted for a grant to the Catholic huts fund. If this means an end to Orange or any other religious domination of politics down there, the mayor and his confreres are going to be regarded as noble martyrs.

THE TOONERVILLE TROLLEY THAT MEETS ALL THE TRAINS



THE BEST CATCH THE SKIPPER EVER MADE AT GOOSE CRICK WAS LAST WEEK WHEN HE HOOKED BUD EVARTS' JUG OF LICKER RIGHT OUT OF THE BOAT WHILE BUD WAS NAPPING.

By FONTAINE FOX (Copyright)

Returned Man Who Goes to Country Or Small Towns Said To Be "Making Good"

"The boys over here are most friendly beggars. You would scarcely credit the variety of callings and pre-war social distinctions that are jammed up together in one dug-out, for instance. Each and every man sharing up what he ever got from his neighbor with the greatest goodwill. I tell you it is going to be a very different life after this war, if any fellow can help to push another's barrow along."

Statements like these are being made by returned soldiers who are naturally sociable creatures, and that they prefer partnership to profiteering, and valued social intercourse above social advancement, and now that they are rapidly returning home again these same facts must not be overlooked in the scheme of plans for the future. Officially, that is so far as the Government plans, carried out through the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, are concerned the idea has been kept well to the fore, and it has been one of the main objectives of the employment service of this department, operating through the information and service branch, to keep those men who enlisted from small towns and country districts within their own area when the time comes for replacement in civil life.

From the experience of officials of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, who have reviewed the fortunes and advancement of men coming under their notice from time to time, it has been proven that the men who are placed in the country districts are more successful in making good than those placed in the cities. To quote at random from the report of one of the graduates of the vocational training classes in a western district, has now held his first position for eight months, and during this period has doubled his salary. In order to encourage the settlement of men in country districts and around their own home centres, the department has opened an additional number of offices and is preparing wherever the need for such is apparent, to open more. Every effort is being made to get the men placed in local industries, as this will keep them within their own districts, where it is found possible for local industries to give the required training, and endeavor to return the graduates to their own home town.

One of the provincial assistant directors of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment writes:

"The men in the country districts get a better chance than those in the towns, since employers and others are able to take a more personal interest in their welfare; also they settle down much more quickly and forget many things which are much better forgotten. A year's steady work in the country makes a returned soldier an ordinary citizen."

"Every man whom I have visited up to the present is doing well. Many of them are doing extremely well. Speaking generally I find that the men who have returned are settling down well in the country towns and are being well spoken of by almost everybody."

Traveling representatives assigned to certain districts and provided with lists of all men who had enlisted from those districts, will call upon local employers to encourage them to provide openings for their own home-town men. The idea will be—"If you are so fortunate as to have your boys return home, why not encourage them to stay with you in the way of a good job. They will be glad to settle down."

Statements have frequently been made that returned men do not wish to go into small towns, craving rather the attractions of the city life as an antidote to the routine they have just discarded. They will crave the feeling of companionship which seems so essential in the large cities, is one idea that has been advanced.

Frequently, when there is talk of sending a man out to a country district or small town, kind friends will emphasize the idea of the loneliness that will probably await him. Loneliness is not, however, a condition entirely confined to the small towns or country districts. One may be equally lonely in the biggest city; in fact, the loneliness of congested cities with their unsympathetic surroundings is of the two the most appalling.

But statistics taken from the questionnaires regarding future occupations which were filled in by the men of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, show that there is a general tendency to move back in the country districts, and it is this change of ideas which should receive every encouragement at the present time. Many who were engaged in close occupation amidst city life have expressed the desire to change around, and the opportunity will be seized so far as is possible to establish community centres of returned men in the country districts.

To this end, however, the co-operation of all individuals, both employers and public-spirited citizens, is enlisted.

ten-year-old Bobby had recovered rapidly. Meantime Alicia Barton had flatly refused to sit in the stuffy tent telling fortunes, though she had been promised by her mother to the committee and duly advertised as one of the "side-shows." As a last-minute substitute, Alicia, about to return to town, had been urged to stay a little longer for the purpose of taking Alicia's place. And Alicia had gone sailing and Maia had been put into the gypsy costume specially made for Alicia, and Mrs. Barton was sure if Maia kept her mask on no one would know the difference.

Meantime Bobby Barton, entirely recovered as to his strained knee and more than enthusiastic over the one who had brought comfort and diversion to his leisurely days of convalescence, was continuing to "bark" outside her tent.

As minutes passed and no shadow darkened the entrance of her tent Maia was aware of a slight disappointment. Then she heard her barker. "Greatest attraction on the grounds. Hey, why doesn't some one come and get their fortune told? Apparently Bobby, too, was becoming discouraged."

Then through her mask Maia was aware that some one was rapidly making for the tent entrance. She felt an unexpected sense of confusion—stage fright, it seemed—and she shuffled her fortune cards nervously. She had gone into the operating room duty with far less nervousness than this. There was a fumbling at the tent flap, a sideward shuffling of the feet and then a dark face was thrust inquiringly into the tent, an unkind face for an especially ferocious one, and its expression was one more of inquisitiveness than anything else, but

still one doesn't encounter even gentle brown bears every day and it was with difficulty that Maia changed a shrill scream of terror into a terrified "Oh, please somebody do something. The bear!"

But somebody and a good many somebodies had done something. Bobby Barton, dropped his megaphone and had seized the trailing rope.

"Hey, you menagerie people, your bear's loose," he called to the group of tents across the path, and before Maia had time to think just what was the wisest course of action when a meeting, a bear single-handed, the menagerie people had come four or five of them, and had dragged off their entirely harmless and spiritless beast, who had prowled off in an ungarded moment.

But every one in that part of the Woodmere lawn had heard the commotion, and like wildfire spread the information that a ferocious bear had been seen in the vicinity. There had been a narrow escape, that Maia with which her palm was crossed was getting to look very tempting, and some of the "silly" was really paper. She rather regretted that Alicia Barton would have all the credit, for as yet her mask had not been removed and she had heard more than one remark from outside that Alicia certainly looked charming in gypsy costume.

The afternoon was almost over, and Maia was beginning to feel the strain of her unaccustomed work, when someone came who caused her heart to beat faster than had the inquisitive bear. "Perhaps you had better knock off, Miss Barton," he began. "You must have had quite a fright from that bear!" It was Dr. Rodney Hill—Rodney Hill, by whose side Maia had worked during those most trying days when they parted four months ago, had held Maia's hand in his own and had held Maia's head in his own and had held Maia's heart in his own and had held Maia's life in his own and had held Maia's soul in his own and had held Maia's spirit in his own and had held Maia's fate in his own and had held Maia's destiny in his own and had held Maia's future in his own and had held Maia's past in his own and had held Maia's present in his own and had held Maia's life in his own and had held Maia's soul in his own and had held Maia's spirit in his own and had held Maia's fate in his own and had held Maia's destiny in his own and had held Maia's future in his own and had held Maia's past in his own and had held Maia's present in his own and had held Maia's life in his own and had held Maia's soul in his own and had held Maia's spirit in his own and had held Maia's fate in his own and had held Maia's 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