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TUESDAY MORNING, NOV. 13.

Labor in the Government.

It was a useful and common sense compromise that the labor men achieved last Saturday when, after a discussion, they decided that during the war the Independent Labor Party would be guided by the same principle as that which is followed in Great Britain in regard to the acceptance of office in the government.

Several speakers voiced the fear that when a labor man gets into a party government he loses his labor principles, or if not quite that, he loses his identity as a labor representative. It is, as a matter of fact, a difficult thing for any man to preserve his political identity outside of his party. There is, perhaps, all the more need for support to be given to independent men who refuse to be shackled by party conventions. Mr. Allan Sturdivant has had a difficult time as labor representative to the provincial legislature from Hamilton on this account. But he has been independent and supported or opposed the government as he saw occasion required.

The whole question of the existence of a labor party, if there are to be parties at all, which is quite another question, depends on whether the best men of the labor party shall be drawn off from time to time to strengthen one of the other parties. If such weakening of the labor party continued, its leaders going into the cabinets of the other parties, the formation of a labor party would evidently be postponed.

The present situation, however, does not present this possibility. The government, for the time being, has repudiated the existence of party in order to carry on the war in a non-partisan spirit. Labor men could therefore unite with this government on a non-partisan basis without endangering their own principles or weakening their own party. They would even be affording a good example by holding office of what labor men can do when given the opportunity.

After the war the parties may return to their normal attitudes, if it be found desirable to perpetuate the party system. Even in that decision a labor representative who had served the country in a non-partisan capacity would be better fitted, better equipped for future service than if he had withheld himself from the opportunities that non-partisan service offered.

After all, parties are made up of individuals, and the labor party cannot be an exception to that rule. The rank and file of the labor party must learn to trust its leaders, as other parties do. In the past, petty jealousies and suspicions have marred the prospects of labor in the political field, and only as these feelings are outgrown can real progress, real solidarity be achieved.

There are measures such as proportional representation and others upon which all parties are agreed in the abstract. Now is the time, as in the case of party patronage, to introduce them as concrete reforms, and a government in which labor was included, might be more willing to act for these purposes, than if labor held aloof.

Russia and Italy.

Affairs in Europe are already looking a little brighter. As we anticipated, the Trotskyes are not having it all their own way. These pin-headed gentlemen, who are apparently scarcely capable of conducting the affairs of an ordinary family, appear to think that organizing and governing a nation is as easy as calling the turns in a dance hall. Their manoeuvres lend weight to the suggestion made from one quarter that only married men and women shall in future be allowed to participate in national affairs.

The whole Russian situation depends now on the knowledge which must come to the soldiers and the peasantry out of the turn of affairs in Petrograd. Nothing destroys the influence of folly so fast as the opportunity to show itself in authority. Only wise men can govern. Had Kerevsky been wiser he might have saved his nation from all the evils of the last few months. But he is learning, as he seems willing to learn, and as he learns the people will learn. If he and Korniloff will get together, which seems to be a possibility thru Kaledines, order may soon be evolved from the chaos. Moscow is not as bad as the Trotsky people reported. Finland is still in the throes of folly. The army has not found its leader yet. But Russia is far from falling into the lap of Germany.

In Italy the latest reports at the time of writing were that the German report about breaking the Italian line on the Piave was false, and that Asiago was still Italian. It means much to Italy that a stand should be made which would protect Venice. British artillery are in position, and French and British troops are being hurried up. Perhaps United States troops may get their first big chance on this field. They may be relied upon.

The Germans have staked more than most people imagine on this desperate venture. If they succeed it will be as brilliant a military coup as any in history. But it has in it the elements of tremendous disaster. The rapid co-ordination of the allied forces was probably not counted upon, or if considered was discounted. It is a German defect as well as a British one to underestimate the strength of the enemy. It is becoming more and more probable—with every hour that passes that Germany may meet with decisive defeat on the plains of Venetia.

The Citizen's Obligation.

A great many people are afraid that the Military Service Act will be unjustly administered, and they are inclined to blame the government with any errors of this kind that may occur. It is one of the unfortunate things about the democratic system of government that the people do not always understand that the people are the government, and the government is the people. No administration can carry out the work of government without the support and, if need be, the help of the people. It is for this purpose that on occasion special constables are sworn in, and this is merely extending the executive arm of government a little

further than usual by means of the co-operation in more active measures than are customary of some more of those people who are the government in the aggregate.

The same principle is recognized in common law which makes any one with knowledge of a crime, guilty of the crime if he fails to give warning. Accessories to any crime against the state are criminals themselves, in the view of the state. So that if the laws are not kept, those who fail to see that they are kept, or who fail to report their violation, are guilty accessories. A great many people object to this view, because they think it requires them to assume the role of spy or informer. Probably not one of such objectors would refuse or neglect to report it if he observed a house on fire. Yet a great deal more injury might result to the state should he object to report the violation of some of the laws regarded as necessary in time of war.

Unquestionably there is a difference between the duty of a citizen in peace and in war. But the duty in wartime is a graver responsibility, a closer obligation in view of the great peril in which the whole state stands. The question has arisen whether citizens are justified in reporting cases of deception, false swearing, abstention from proper service, and other matters connected with the Military Service Act. So far as the state is concerned those who conceal these things by failing to report them are guilty as accessories to the fact. There are some people so constituted that it is harder for them to tell the truth than to tell a lie. The object of civilization is to make it easier for everybody to tell the truth. It requires moral courage, and this in turn begets physical courage. The men who evade the Military Service Act by a falsehood, do not understand what courage they are. If they were brave enough to tell the truth they would not be afraid of the German Empire drawn up in battle array.

The government will do its duty in making the selective draft as fully as it is assisted to do so. Exemption officers in the tribunals, appeal judges, all those who are concerned with the carrying out of the act, are simply the people, and those who shirk or who know others who are shirking are simply some more of the people, some more of the government. All of us people in the Canadian nation, however we may dislike to think it, are members of one another, and the government is our government, and does what we make it do. If the people on the tribunals, or the people who attend the tribunals fail to do their duty, it is the people of Canada who suffer for it.

It is remarked by some critics of the Military Service Act that it is not administered with impartiality. It is difficult to obtain concrete objections under this head, but a general complaint is made that the well-to-do get off more easily than others. This does not appear to be the case at all. Sir Robert Borden points out in his manifesto that those who are well-to-do have a poorer chance of exemption on that very account, as no one is dependent upon them for a living. It is often forgotten by some of the objectors that the army allowances are frequently more generous than the sums provided by those who claim exemption on the ground of being "the sole support."

Most of the difficulty arises out of utter failure to grasp the significance of the war, and from ignorance of the intimate responsibility which every member of our western civilization has for every other member. We cannot evade this. As good citizens we should not wish to do so.

Another Canadian Contribution.

In the levy made upon the resources of the empire for the necessities of the war, Canada takes a prominent place on account of the abundance of her natural wealth. Her minerals of all kinds, particularly nickel, copper and iron, and the precious metals, have been of immense importance, and aluminium is also a valuable contribution. Our farm products have been indispensable in their degree, and will be even more relied upon every year.

The latest contribution comes from British Columbia, and is found in the spruce which is so plentiful there, and which is required in the manufacture of aeroplanes. The Imperial Munitions Board has arranged with the government, thru the commission of conservation, to secure "the necessary supplies of this vitally important material." The export of spruce timber has therefore been prohibited "to all destinations abroad other than the United Kingdom, British possessions and protectorates."

In the thousands and tens of thousands of aeroplanes which are now recognized as essential to a victorious result for our arms, the most suitable wood has been found for their manufacture in the sitka or silver spruce, which grows abundantly on the Pacific coast.

Somewhere.

(Julia C. Dorr).

How can I cease to pray for thee? Somewhere
In God's great universe thou art today;
Can He not reach thee with His tender care?
Can He not hear me when I thus I pray?

What matters it to Him who holds within
The hollow of His hand all worlds all space,
That thou art dead with earthly pain and sin?
Somewhere within His ken thou hast a place.

Somewhere thou livest, and hast need of Him;
Somewhere thy soul sees higher heights to climb,
And somewhere still there may be valleys dim,
That thou must pass to reach the hills sublime.

Then all the more, because thou canst not hear
Poor, human words of blessing, will I pray,
O true, brave heart, God bless thee whereso'er
In His great universe thou art today.

The rattle of the rattlesnake is developed from the single conical scale or epidermal spine, which in most snakes forms the internal segment of the tail. The bone on which the root of the rattle rests consists of the last caudal vertebra and is covered with a skin which is the beginning of the rattle in young rattlesnakes.

River water is filtered, refrigerated, and sterilized. Then circulated thru 12,000 feet of one-inch galvanized pipe to 35 sanitary drinking fountains in a manufacturing plant at Hannibal, Mo., by a supply system recently installed at an expense less than the old system of supplying the workmen with cooled water in barrels.

Fresh-water eels are said to be very clean feeders; they are sometimes seen cropping the leaves of water-cress and other aquatic plants as they float about in the water; but they are immense devourers of spawn of all kinds of fish.

The single fowl, to be found in Australia, builds a nest in the form of a great mound, sometimes measuring 15 feet in height and 150 in circumference. These are said to be the largest and heaviest nests in the world. It has been found that oysters can only live in water that contains at least 37 parts of salt to every 1000 parts of water.

There is no independence that can be sure but a dependence upon one's self.

Great men do not play stage tricks with the doctrines of life and death; only little men do that.

WHAT THE GERMANS ARE SAYING.

German Socialists, and especially the strong Jewish element in German Socialism, feared and hated Imperial Russia, and it was probably by working on this fear that the leaders of Germany induced the Socialistic party, at the outbreak of the war, to protest their loyalty and to vote the war credits. Otherwise all Germany was united in seeing in England the great obstacle which had to be overcome were Germany's world ambitions to be realized. But there were two schools of thought, united in their hope of crushing the British Empire, but divided in their opinions as to the method by which this might be most successfully accomplished. One school dreamed of the continental method, of striking towards the southeast, dominating the Balkans, Turkey and Mesopotamia, capturing the Suez Canal and Egypt, and thus on the one hand reaching out into Asia, on the other into Africa. The firmness of our hold on Egypt and Asia, and our splendid successes in Mesopotamia have for the time being paralyzed this school, and we hear from it only an occasional wall, as for instance that of the notorious Dr. Carl Peters, in the Leipziger Nachrichten, of Sept. 30. "There are only two ways of bringing England to her knees," he wrote, "namely, to starve out the inhabitants of the British Islands or to drive the British out of Egypt and away from the Suez Canal. In either of these aims is accomplished Germany's defeat and destruction are certain. I asserted last year that England had food for two years, notwithstanding all the arguments and wrangling of our statisticians. Nothing remains, therefore, but victory in the near east, with the help of Turkey."

The second school looks to the Atlantic. The German fleet, with the possession of the Belgian coast, and if possible part of the French coast and with Ireland, separated from England and under German influence, was to dominate the seas and to capture the commerce of the world. This school had its centres in Hamburg and Bremen, and the ruin of these ports and the gradual passing to the side of the allies of one great neutral after another are giving the members of this school "furiously to think." Their thinking leads them to different conclusions.

A Hamburg merchant, writing to the Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung, of Oct. 1, comes back to the U-boats as the only hope. "The outcome of the Scheide- mann-Ebertsberg recipe for peace," he says, "may be summed up in the words 'renunciation of victory.' What this would mean for our economic life is hardly understood. It means neither more nor less than that we are prepared practically to abandon the economic fight with our enemies, or, more properly speaking, with England, and to resign ourselves to England's remaining in possession of the immense advantages which she has gained through the world. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that England has, on the whole, realized her war aims, and our brilliant military position should not blind us to the fact that our economic world position is getting worse. Before the war our position as a world power was based on our economic activity in all parts of the world, our commerce, our colonies, and our shipping—our shipping and our world commerce. The result of the war is that we have lost all this. It will need years of untiring toil to build up our old position again. During the last three years England has been able to maintain the success of her early attacks on our shipping and colonies, to saddle us with fresh enemies, to set herself up everywhere in our place, and to rob us of the foundation for rebuilding our foreign trade by the liquidation of thousands of German colonies and possessions. Practically no foundations for the latter exist any longer, while the enemy has taken our place in some cases in such a way that he cannot be removed from it. The German after peace will find everywhere ruins and a spirit of hostility." After expanding on the need of obtaining an indemnity, he concludes as follows: "Thus, down with the peace associated with this, which would be a disaster for the whole German people. We must hold out until our incomparable 'U-boats' have beaten England to her knees, and trust in the words of our glorious Hindenburg, who says: 'The U-boat war is effective; that is the principal thing.'"

Herr Ernst Hellmann has also been thinking on the same subject, and in the Chemnitz Volksstimme of Oct. 2, he expresses a "peace of understanding" in a spirit that shows a truly German mixture of simplicity and rascality. He first explains that it is no use bothering about France and Italy; they will not make a peace of understanding, because they have nothing to bargain with. "Peace based on understanding can thus be concluded only by England and Germany, the two still absolutely unbroken, gigantic strong main combatants. England can cheerfully abandon her plan of destroying German competition while she is yet far from her own destruction, while reasonable Germany has never wanted anything more from England than the right to live, the liberty to be also in the world. A peace based on understanding would consequently be the conclusion of peace between England and Germany. The plan of a continental political constellation against England, which could be arrived at if England's special wishes were fully gratified. When we think of the fact that the German Empire would mean that the Indian Ocean would be recognized as an English sea, and that England secured the land routes Cape-Cairo-Calcutta, the fate of her allies and the questions of Asia-Turkey, Poland, Riga, Trieste, and Vienna, would be a matter of indifference to her. In this case, moreover, the German Empire of West Africa and the establishment of a number of small states on the eastern front, loosely associated with Germany, such as Poland, Lithuania and Courland, would be in Germany's hands. Germany has failed to 'down' the British Empire and sees no chance of doing so. In the immediate future," And so England is to desert all her allies and turn them into permanent enemies, while Germany waits for that less immediate future when she will be able to accomplish her purpose by attacking a friendless British Empire. They are stupid rascals, these Socialists.

THE OPENING GUN



TO LIMIT PARCELS TO WAR CAPTIVES

Hundred Pounds of Food Monthly May Go to Officer Prisoners.

Ottawa, Nov. 12.—Announcement is made by the postoffice department that, in co-ordination with the new scheme instituted by the British Government, all parcels from Canada to officer prisoners of war interned in Germany or Austria-Hungary containing foodstuffs, and after January 1, 1918, can only be accepted for forwarding transmission, by the postal service if they bear a "coupon" issued by the prisoners of war department. Canadian Red Cross Society, London (England), from whom such coupons can be obtained. Under the new arrangement the amount of foodstuffs which may be sent to an officer prisoner of war during four weeks must not exceed 100 pounds. Of this total the prisoners of war department of the Canadian Red Cross will send to each interned Canadian officer, including those attached to other than Canadian units, not less than six ten-pound parcels each four weeks. The remaining forty pounds may be sent personally by relatives in Canada, but each parcel must bear a "coupon."

The right to send food parcels to an officer prisoner of war rests with the next of kin, but may be transferred by the latter or by the prisoner of war himself to any person. Coupons are to be used on food parcels only, and no coupons can be issued for amounts under ten pounds. If, therefore, it is desired to dispatch a parcel weighing less than ten pounds, an ordinary coupon must be used, and the parcel counts as one of the four permissible in four weeks.

Articles may not be sent to any society for enclosure in any parcel despatched under the Red Cross label.

Parcels for officers interned in Bulgaria and Turkey come under the new scheme, but owing to the difficulties of postal communication it is

TO LIMIT PARCELS TO WAR CAPTIVES

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Ottawa, Nov. 12.—The railway commission has given judgment on an application for an order requiring the Canadian Pacific Railway to furnish cars suitably equipped for carrying potatoes from points in New Brunswick to points in Quebec and Ontario. Complaint was made regarding alleged defects in the type of heated cars. It was set out in the application that the only suitable car for the shipment of potatoes during the winter season would be one similar to the Easterner heated car. As developed at the hearing, however, the question turned on suggested improvements to the cars already in use. The ruling states that the improvements planned should provide a reasonably satisfactory service, and the board does not feel justified in making the order asked for. This is without prejudice to any application which may be made in the event of the improvements not adequately meeting the situation.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT PREPARES FOR BIG RUSH

Staff of Two Hundred Clerks Will Handle Applications for Loan.

Ottawa, Nov. 12.—The rush of work at the finance department as a result of the Victory Loan has already started. Tomorrow's mail will see the first flood of applications. A staff of some 200 clerks has already been added, while all the officials of the department will devote their attention to the loan. In order to keep up with the work it is likely there will be a day and night staff. In addition to the applications hundreds of letters are written direct to the department asking innumerable questions as to the issue. All these have to be carefully answered.

The department has no information as to the first day's canvass, other than telegrams from various parts of Canada that the loan has been launched with enthusiasm.

FORESTERS PRAISED BY PRINCE ARTHUR

Canadian Companies Do Service of Utmost Importance.

Ottawa, Nov. 12.—The valuable work which is being done by the Canadian Forestry Corps overseas is indicated by the following message of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught to the officer commanding No. 6 district, Canadian Forestry Corps, on the occasion of Prince Arthur's inspection some months ago. "I was very glad to have had the opportunity of seeing the personnel of the Canadian forestry companies. It was deeply interesting to see them at their work and to see how well it was carried out, more especially as General de Mitty, commanding the district, was with me and expressed himself as deeply sensible of the excellence of the work done. "This forestry is of the utmost importance to the success of the allied cause, and their record is such that the Canadian Forestry Corps may well be proud."

"I shall have great pleasure upon my return to the Canadian army in submitting an excellent report of your work, which I was able to see for myself. (Signed) Arthur."

The militia department states that last August the total strength of the Canadian forestry forces in France was over 8000. At that time there were 233 officers and 8883 other ranks comprising the 44 companies in France. Sixteen Canadian and sixteen Scottish mills were in operation then, and eight more Canadian mills were under construction. Assistance was given to the United States in the construction of a new city of a crew of trained lumbermen to fill timber for new construction work. This assistance was much appreciated by the American general staff. Sir George Perley, who visited the forestry companies operating in the armies area, expressed his approval of the way in which the forestry work is being carried on.

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