

The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1890

A morning newspaper published every day

except on Sundays and public holidays

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Ideas prevail there will be a break-up of Austria-Hungary, and only Germany would mourn the event. If all the smaller nationalities obtained their freedom and united, Austria and Hungary would be left with about 8,000,000 inhabitants each, and with no ties with Germany. A united Poland and Bohemia would form a nation of 40,000,000, and Bohemia, which was provided by Shakspeare with a port on the Adriatic, would have one on the Baltic, namely, Dantzig. The Jugo-Slavs and the Italians would bar the Germans from Turkey and the Adriatic. Rumania and Jugo-Slavia together would total 25,000,000 people, and with the Poles and Bohemians there would be a solid alliance of 50,000,000 to close the way to Germany's aims on the east.

The Jugo-Slavs have already agreed upon Prince Alexander, the crown prince of the Serbs, as the monarch of the new nation, which will be strictly a constitutional or limited monarchy of the British type.

The College Hospital.

Today is the last day of the collection campaign for the Women's College Hospital, one of seven such in the whole world. It has been struggling along for a number of years with very limited accommodation, only 13 beds being available, which it is purposed to increase to 34. In the past 18 months no fewer than 230 infants have been born in the hospital and exactly half of these were the children of soldiers overseas, whose wives have thus benefited by the excellence of this institution. A house-to-house canvass is being made, but if any are overlooked they may do much good by sending their contributions to the hospital.

Lady Eaton is chairman of the committee.

A Fine Hospital.

For returned soldiers could be made out of Government House with all kinds of temporary wings and sun parlors. Premier Hagar, now that he is back, might consider the subject.

Didn't Know McKinley.

London Daily News and Leader:

Some curious stories are being told in the American papers of the experiences of the American Relief Commission in Belgium. One day in a barber's shop several members of the commission found themselves in the company of a German officer, and another American entering unexpectedly, it was thought necessary to give him certain information secretly. He was told:

"Nix on any of these spangled Petticoats getting wise, but if there were any wally extrees in this burg they'd be scare-headed about a Heine who just tried to put over the Czolgos on the Main Squeeze!"

A dialog quite as intelligible as the above ensued; but can any reader tell what it means?

Other People's Opinions

Capital Punishment.

Editor World: I have been requested to state publicly my reasons for requesting our government to abolish capital punishment in Canada, and in reply would say that the death penalty is in flagrant defiance of the word of God as contained in both the Old and the New Testament, a relic of barbarism and a rebellion against the power which custom cannot justify.

The commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," applies equally to the state as to the individual. That imperative command issued amid the thunders of Sinai leaves no room for debate or doubt; it is succinct, positive, direct, and cannot be evaded by any sophistry or dissembling. "Thou shalt not kill," in every country and state where capital punishment has been abolished, capital has been justly and properly banished as just as well protected by sending our unfortunate criminals to penitentiary and putting them to some useful work and placing their earnings at the disposal of those whom they have deprived of a bread winner. This would be more humane than sending their unsaved souls into eternity.

There is a superstition, older than history, that if you do something bad to your enemy as he has done to you, you have squared things up, have balanced the account, and are ready to appear before the throne of justice with clean hands. In primitive times the doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth was recognized as sound religion and was taught from the pulpit as alternate Sabbaths with the statement, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." Theoretically we still believe in the justice of the life of another, who will suffer in the next world, and we are impatient with the Lord's slowness; we desire to expedite matters, to help Him out by sending the offender to his doom as quickly as can decently be done. So we hang him. This would be highly laudable could we exhibit the badge of a divine deputy sheriff, but, lacking this, it is mere meddling with the affairs of the Almighty, and raises the question whether we are not collectively as criminal as the fellow whom we hang, and if we analyze our feelings we are likely to find underneath a distorted idea of ourselves as administrators of eternal justice, a large residuum of every feeling of revenge which is without reason, the relic of savage impulse, and often differing little from the motive of the murderer himself.

Robt. Bickerdike.

ENEMY SPIES AT GENEVA.

Swiss Authorities Discover Important Bureau in Two Towns.

Paris, April 24.—Despatches from Switzerland state that an important espionage centre has been discovered in Geneva and Lausanne. The chief of this branch of the espionage bureau is a German millionaire, Hermann Hughes, who was caught, together with two accomplices, at Lausanne. Other members of this gang were arrested at Geneva. Among the latter were three men and one woman.

On Parliament Hill

BY TOM KING

Ottawa, April 24.—The government is evidently making time this week.

Sir George Foster brought up his bill in the house this afternoon to amend the Inspection and Sales Act so as to provide for the grading and inspection of hay and straw. It was a subject of which naturally interested members representing rural constituencies, and Sir George remained in charge of the house until 6 o'clock. Meanwhile the nearly all the other ministers of the crown were in conference on the floor above.

It had evidently been the intention of the government to bring the discussion on hay and straw to a close by 6 o'clock and have the bill reported. But 6 o'clock came and found the members deeply interested, and after dinner they showed a disposition to discuss the bill till midnight.

The prime minister and several of his colleagues came down to the evening sitting, but, finding the house engrossed in hay and straw, returned to their in-hay and straw, and finally Sir George had to lay aside the bill for future consideration, and Hon. E. B. Carleton moved the house into committee of supply to consider the estimates of the public works department.

The main purpose of the hay and straw bill was to provide for the compulsory grading of hay and the licensing of all persons who engaged in the business of pressing hay. The bill was met with considerable opposition as imposing an unreasonable burden upon the producer, and finally Sir George withdrew the bill.

He could be bought and sold without inspection and that the farmers could press the same without a license. This did not leave much of the bill, and the government was forced to amend the present grades of hay which obtain in eastern Canada, and authorized government inspectors to have more adequate protection. The Quebec members took the leading part in the discussion, for hay is a banner crop in that province. There is also an enormous export of hay to the United States, and the dealers are more or less interested in having the hay they ship up to the standard. It appears that hay pressed at the wrong time or in poor condition may present a first-class front to a casual inspection during the frosty winter months, but commences to rot as soon as it gets into a warmer climate. The hay is kept for any considerable period in a box car.

Evidently, however, members of the government were less interested than members of the house in hay and straw. They had other fish to fry. Conference were going on, and indications are that they will continue to go on for the balance of the week, and that.

LEAVE MAY BE GIVEN TO FARM LABORERS

Ottawa, April 24.—Efficient farm laborers in medical categories lower than category "A" may be granted temporary leave of absence from military service on the authority of the American consular district. Orders issued by the militia department provided that:

(1) Any member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Canada in a category lower than "A," who can be temporarily spared from his military duties, may be granted leave of absence from military service on the authority of the American consular district, on production of a certificate from the agricultural representative for the district, appointed by the War Department, to the effect that the man concerned is an efficient farm laborer, whose services are urgently required on the land.

(2) Such leave will be granted in the first instance until July 15, and may be extended by the officer commanding the district on or before that date for a further three months, on production of a further certificate from the agricultural representative to the effect that the man concerned has, during his first leave, been actively engaged in agricultural work and that his services are still urgently needed therein.

"A" men are men judged to be medically fit for general service overseas. "B" men are regarded as physically fit for non-combatant service overseas. "C" men for non-combatant service at home.

PRISONERS FARE WELL AT SIX CENTS A MEAL

Windsor, April 24.—Governor Wanless of Sandwich Jail, has solved the high cost of living problem by an announcement today that at a fraction of six cents per meal, he has been able to feed the jail inmates at his institution so well that some of them are actually gaining in weight. There are 95 prisoners confined in the Sandwich Jail at present and these fare sumptuously every day on soup, meat, potatoes, bread and butter, tea and coffee, with desserts occasionally. Last year the average cost was 15 cents per day per man.

PRESIDENT OPPOSES.

Wilson Objects to Declaring War Against Bulgaria by United States.

Washington, April 24.—Definite opposition to a declaration of war on Bulgaria and Turkey at this time was indicated by President Wilson today at a meeting of the War Council. The president, who recently introduced a resolution calling for war with both countries.

ASCENSION DAY.

The Knights Templar of Toronto will attend divine service in St. Albans' Cathedral on Ascension Day, May 9. Not for many years have the members of the order of Templars appeared in public in full Templar dress, but on this occasion it is expected that over 200 will take part in a revival of an ancient custom of the order.

The lord bishop of the diocese having granted the use of the cathedral, it has been arranged that the service will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Ribourg, who is a Knight Templar, and special music will be rendered by the cathedral choir.

THE TORONTO WORLD

On Parliament Hill

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Billion and Three-Quarters Liberty Loan Subscriptions

Washington, April 24.—The latest tabulations at the treasury tonight showed \$1,790,475,159 Liberty Loan subscriptions.

GOOD LUCK!

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