

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO

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THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1916.

CHEESE AND TOURING CARS.

The war is causing us to smash records in many directions. This is particularly true of the price of cheese which on Tuesday at Stirling reached the hitherto unheard-of price of twenty cents a pound, lacking one sixteenth of a cent.

Taking into consideration the fact that cheese is selling at twenty cents a pound, live pork at \$11.40 per cwt. and beef at a price that makes the word "sirloln" sound like "silver," do you any longer wonder that the honest farmer has the touring-car bee in his bonnet?

At a recent automobile delivery in this city we were told that the aggregate value of the fifty cars in the procession was seventy-six thousand dollars. We were further informed that the majority were sold to the rural capitalists who had merely to write their names to cheques in order to obtain possession.

The farmer is in a better position than most of us to make a car earn its salary. When the city dweller buys a car it is usually with the twofold purpose of advertising his prosperity and obtaining pleasure. It is exceptional for him to use it in his business.

Nevertheless the auto-craze is the worst thing possible for general business. It is concentrating too much of the capital of the country in what is for the most part a huge piece of extravagance.

It is useless to talk against car-lunacy. It is in some respects an evidence of an age that is unprecedentedly progressive. In other respects it is evidence of an age that is recklessly extravagant.

Every man will have to be his own judge whether he can afford to buy and maintain a touring-car and whether the game he will be compelled to play is worth the candle.

FREAKISH WEATHER.

J. Pluvius is again menacing in a most serious manner the agricultural prosperity of Canada. The farmers of Ontario have been able up to the present to perform but very little of the customary spring's work owing to the excessive rainfall and miry state of the soil.

The delay causes another complication in that the sowing of grain and the planting of corn and potatoes will all be thrown in together.

Last year Canada harvested the greatest crop in her history. Conditions for seeding were never more favorable and the growing crops re-

ceived the refreshing showers whenever they were needed. At the end, just when the great crop was yellowing for the harvest, Nature, in a capricious mood, seemed determined to undo all her previous bounty by sending along such continuous rain-storms as threatened to destroy utterly the record harvest.

This season the menace is more serious for unless there is sowing there can be no reaping. The amount already seeded is insignificant. There is one redeeming feature about the situation, the meadows and the fall grain are looking fine and are enjoying the showers to the full.

Perhaps this year, like last year, our troubles will not be so serious when they are realised. Our worst troubles, after all, are those that never happen.

BE OF GOOD COURAGE!

Be strong and of good courage! The surrender of General Townshend and his gallant troops came as a shock and a great disappointment. Coming after the Gallipoli evacuation, it may be expected that a general consensus of opinion will severely condemn these isolated adventures.

This is the explanation of this seeming paradox: Each expedition involved the employment of enemy forces probably five times as numerous as those employed by Britain or even greater numbers when one considers the length of the lines of supply, especially to the Turkish Tigris forces—all the way from Constantinople.

In all these combined operations our, as it is called amphibious warfare, the immense power of troops seaborne should be recognized by all. In this, history repeats itself and in this we see again Pitt's system that won the Seven Years' War against vastly superior continental forces.

Let us, therefore, take heart that the third attempt will succeed and instead of wasting breath in criticism remember Edith Cavell and the little children, on board the Lusitania when no doubt as to the final victory can arise!

HEROIC ENDURANCE.

The surrender of General Townshend at Kut-el-Amara was, of course, an unpleasant piece of news. He held the position in the face of the gravest difficulties, since his capture of it last September, and his subsequent forced retirement to that fortress where he was immediately besieged.

Major-General Gorgas and his assistants of the sanitary corps of the U.S. army have achieved one of the greatest triumphs of modern sanitary science in the Panama Canal zone. Malaria, once one of the curses of the Isthmus, is largely

elaborately constructed with a thoroughness that missed no detail. In front of the trenches were barbed-wire entanglements, military pits, and land mines. Behind were miles of communication trenches connecting the various works and providing covered outlets to the river, where ramps and landing stages had been made to facilitate the transfer of troops to or from ships.

The immediate surrender of General Townshend was no doubt precipitated by the failure to reach the beleaguered garrison of the steamer which ran ashore on the Tigris the other day. We may be sure that only the direst necessity would force General Townshend to give up the position so hardly won.

Some three hundred or more years ago the finding out of witches was an established business and was accepted in the courts of law as highly proper. There were expert witch finders who were called upon to go from place to place seeking out those who had dealings with the devil.

WHEN WITCHCRAFT WAS PRACTICED.

It was easy to discover witches when you knew how. The suspected person could be forced to weep and then detected by the well known fact that a witch could shed only three tears and those from the left eye, or she could be pricked with pins to discover the spot insensible to pain.

Curiously enough the Cork rebels were bottled up before they got started. The flowers that bloom in the spring, trials, are riots and battles and raids.

Our idea of the height of futility is defending Shakespeare from George Bernard Shaw. If 400 Irishmen could hold the front pages of the world's press for a week, what could 200,000 of them do if well armed?

Billy Sunday has given an ultimatum to sinners at Kansas City that they must get right withers at Kansas City that they must right with God and do it mighty quick. That's the way to talk to them.

President Wilson is growing optimistic. At the opening of the Naval Service School at Washington yesterday he pronounced the apprehended citizens rallying round the flag of the United States in case of war.

"A Dandy Ninth" man sends an Edinburgh paper the following, which he assures it, he actually overheard: Scene, the trenches; "drumming-up" time. First Tommy, emerging from his "dug-out," to his mate, cleaning his rifle:

Los Angeles business men are discussing a highway to the top of Mount Whitney, the highest peak in the United States. The mountain is 14,502 feet in the clouds, or about 400 feet higher than Pike's Peak in Colorado.

She said, when I left her protection, For the world I was longing to learn; As our lips met in parting affection, "I shall always await your return!"

How oft in my dreams I'm returning Through the long, weary miles and the years, And my soul fills with infinite yearning, As my brow becomes moist with her tears!

Once again in your arms you enfold me, And I see your sweet care-furrowed face; Once again, mother darling, you hold me In that heart-breaking farewell embrace.

Gentle mother, your face is beside me And before me, wherever I roam, And I know that, whatever betide me, You'll be waiting for me to come home.

On the hitherward side of the portal That divideth the sinless from sin, I shall wait for you, Mother Immortal, Till the Angel of Death lets me in.

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caused by the bite of the anopheles mosquito and in 1906, out of every thousand of canal employees 826 were at one time or another reported ill of malaria. The sanitary corps went energetically after the cause and in one year the number of patients was cut nearly fifty per cent.

A pathetic scene was witnessed at Liverpool landing stage a few days ago. Among the 500 passengers arriving by the Allan liner Pretorian were about 300 women and young people, most of whom were the wives and children of Canadian soldiers at the front, though there were among them some widows of men killed in action.

Patrick Harmon, of San Francisco, who is walking backward from San Francisco to New York, passed through Washington the other day. Harmon is steering his way by means of a mirror at the end of an iron rod. He is walking on a wager of \$5,000, and if he backs into New York before June 15th he will win.

M. Stephen Pichon, writing in the Petit Journal says: "Little by little the old-time misunderstandings which have caused so much pain between Great Britain and France are completely disappearing."

THE CRITIC. Dad reads about the wedding and he snorts like all git out; He reads the social doin's with a most derisive snout.

He says they make the papers for the wimmin folks alone; He'll read about the parties and he'll fume and fret and groan.

He says of information it does not contain a crumb, But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.

He's always first to grab it and he reads it plumb clear through; He doesn't miss an item or a want ad—that is true.

He says: "They don't know what we want them darn newspaper guys, I'm going to take a day some time and go and put 'em wise."

It sometimes seems as though they must be deaf and blind and dumb. You ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.

MOTHER IMMORTAL. She said, when I left her protection, For the world I was longing to learn; As our lips met in parting affection, "I shall always await your return!"

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MURRAY CHARGE FAILS

Witness Caused Commotion By Her Answers in Court.

The case of Mrs. Murray against James Murray, her husband, for alleged assault failed this morning. Magistrate Masson occupied the bench and heard the story of the defendant, accepting it in preference to that told by his wife. The wife claimed that he had thrown some articles at her, including a lamp, but Murray explained how the mishaps with these articles occurred.

One of the crown witnesses, Miss Ann Carleton, an elderly lady caused a commotion in court by her determination to read notes of the alleged trouble on Saturday evening last, saying her memory was poor. This evidence could not be admitted and she had to be told to step down out of the box. Later she was called back in rebuttal and caused some laughter by her reference to lawyers' faces, which no one could read. The Lord Himself, she said, had made a pronouncement against the lawyers.

Mr. Carnew appeared for the crown and Mr. W. C. Mikel, K.C., for the accused.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.

Body Found Suspended From A Beam in the Storehouse.

A most distressing affair took place at Bancroft on Wednesday morning when Mrs. Wm. Wilcox committed suicide by hanging herself.

About eight o'clock she went into the storehouse adjoining the residence to procure a hat for her husband. Not returning promptly Mr. Wilcox went out to see what was detaining her. He found the door fastened on the inside, and looking in through a window was horrified to see her hanging from a beam.

She was not absent from the house more than ten minutes. The suicide was most elaborate. She stood on a chair, and after fastening the rope around her neck, stepped off and strangled to death.

The deceased was of a most cheerful disposition, and no reason, other than that she had been in poor health for some time, can be assigned for the terrible deed.

She is survived by a husband and one son, who, needless to say, have the heartfelt sympathy of every citizen in their bereavement. —Bancroft Times.

REPORT IS CONFIRMED.

Lieut. A. Lucas, Formerly of St. Alban's School, Was Killed in Ireland.

Corroboration of the report that Lieut. Algernon Lucas formerly member of the teaching staff of St. Alban's School, Brockville, had been killed in action during the riots in Ireland, has been received through a Herbert Yule, Montreal, a relative of Lieut. Lucas.

The cablegram gave no details beyond the fact that Lieut. Lucas had been killed in Ireland, but as he was on duty at the Curragh, from whence troops were ordered in Dublin last week to quell the revolt there, the presumption is that he met his death in the course of the sanguinary fighting in the streets of the Irish capital.

Shortly after the outbreak of the war, Lieut. Lucas went to England and received a commission in the King Edward Horse, a corps composed of men from various overseas dominions, most of them having had previous military experience. He was wounded in France about six months ago and after spending about four months convalescing in England, was detailed for duty at the Curragh in December of 1914. Lieut. Lucas was real, the Miss. Gale Yule, of Montreal, in Ireland.

MILITARY NOTES.

There was a large attendance at the Stirling performance of the 155th Minstrels last night.

The 155th band go to Madoc for a promenade dance tonight.

Col. Adams is going to Frankford and Trenton this afternoon on military business.

The 155th are getting at Zwick's Island these days.

Major Allen, Capt. Gilmore and Capt. Doyle have returned from a tour of inspection of the various northern centers of the 155th.

A Board of Officers, composed as under will assemble at Belleville on the 6th instant for the purpose of conducting examination in equitation: President, Lt-Col. W. J. Brown, G. S. O., Military District No. 3; Member, Lt-Col. C. J. Burritt, C.R.E.M.M.D. No. 3.

ESTABLISHED PLAN... GERMANS AG... TURKS... REACHED... TIME P... COLONIA... LONDON... HUGHES... PRO... LONDON... allowing two... escape milit... ATT... PARIS... tacked Dead... ades; the el... There... Meuse part... T... PETRO... have been... Amara to... PRI... NBW... tarlo arriv... Barbadoes... LOND... dlers have... correspond... The G... id of a G... sea and... TO TA... ST. JO... successful... legislature... terminat... RUSSIA... PETT... sued today... "Caud... commenda... Diabear... Rivandou... a procl... Our caval... WE... LOND... stamped... to \$5 per... of \$9.841.