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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1919

The Evening Times and Star

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THE POINTING FINGER.

"We have been living in a sheltered valley for generations. We have been too comfortable and too indulgent; many, perhaps, too selfish; and the stern hand of Fate has scourged us to an elevation where we can see the everlasting things that matter for a nation—the great peaks we had forgotten, of Honor, Duty, Patriotism; and, clad in glittering white, the towering pinnacle of Sacrifice, pointing like a rugged finger to heaven."

Thus Lloyd George, in one of the great crises of the war, revealed the British people to themselves. Does not the simile still apply, and to the people of Canada? How much of the present social and industrial unrest is due to selfishness, disregard of duty and indifference to sacrifice? The stern hand of Fate knows no favorites. Each nation must rise by its virtues, or sink through its moral defects and its failure to see the pointing finger that indicates the onward and the upward way.

The people of Canada need to be shaken out of that mood of indifference which disregards the signs of the times. A new era, with infinite possibilities, opens up before this nation. Universal education, promotion of child welfare and public health, social service, the removal of social disabilities—above all the recognition of high moral standards in every field of human relationship—these must be wrought into the very fibre of our national life.

The right of the individual to exploit his fellows for his personal aggrandizement is challenged by events that have shaken the world. That challenge comes to every man, be he rich or poor. The word service appears in the letters above the portal of every avenue of human activity, and he who needs it not has failed to catch the spirit of the new era.

Our systems of education have placed too much emphasis upon what the well-equipped student may be able to do for himself in a world of soulless competition, and not enough upon what he may do for humanity in a world of co-operation in human service. Too many miss the glow of inspiration and the exaltation that are born of community service.

Opposing interests ruled by selfishness are too much in evidence. The sneering query of Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" is heard in the market place. But what a wonderful opportunity is now offered for leadership. The whole nation is stirred, and even the most thoughtless realizes that important changes affecting social and industrial relations are imminent. Is there a Canadian Lloyd George? The hour has struck, and Canada awaits the man or woman who has the courage and the wisdom requisite for leadership in the great adventure of national reconstruction, along lines that will produce results worthy of a great commonwealth that has been tried as by fire.

THE WOMEN WIN.

Both houses of the United States Congress have adopted a resolution for the submission of a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution to the state legislatures. It is declared that this ensures the ratification of the amendment within two years by the necessary two-thirds of the states. Discussing the vote in the house of representatives, where the resolution was adopted by a vote of 304 to 89, the Halifax Chronicle says:

"The gain of suffrage since the last previous vote in the house of representatives in January, 1918, in which the same resolution was adopted by exactly the requisite number of votes, is of forty-two votes, and the change is coincident with, and said to be a result of the success of the Republican party in the last congressional election. The opposition to the amendment was distinctly Democratic opposition, both in the vote recorded—seventy of the eighty-nine negative votes being of Democrats—and in the attempts to qualify the result by amendments. Of the seventy Democrats voting in the negative, sixty-five were from the southern states, while the Republicans recorded in the negative were principally from New England, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; and they represent what may be called the old conservative sentiment on this subject."

Of the Republican members of the house, only nineteen voted against the amendment, to 200 recorded in its favor. This clearly makes the amendment a Republican party measure, and ensures its final adoption."

It is recalled as an interesting bit of American history that Lincoln was a believer in woman suffrage. The Christian Science Monitor says:

"The passage of the suffrage constitutional amendment has reminded somebody of a bit of history which, oddly, seems to have been overlooked in previous discussion of this much-studied question. Abraham Lincoln, it appears, spoke for feminine suffrage several years before the first woman suffrage convention in the United States was held at Seneca Falls, New York. The convention met in July, 1848. In 1860 Lincoln was a candidate for the Illinois house of representatives, and declared in his platform, 'I go for all sharing the privileges of government who assist in bearing its burdens. Consequently I go for admitting all whites to the right of suffrage who pay taxes or bear arms, by no means excluding females.' Lin-

coln thus declared himself a pioneer in the movement which now virtually achieves its end in the action of the national legislature."

The fight for woman suffrage has been a long one but the war has hastened action in all countries because of the magnificent service rendered by the women. Lincoln's view was the right one, and the women, whose interests are affected by all laws, cannot much longer in any country be denied the right to have a voice in framing those laws. In the United States the advocates of woman suffrage won state after state, and now they have won national recognition. The constitutional amendment is as good as adopted.

TOWN AND COUNTRY.

"The most important problem that we have to solve is that of establishing an equilibrium between the rural and city populations. There are too many workers and too little work in the cities, and there is so much work and so few workers in the country. It is necessary that we take to the land those who belong there, and make agriculture more productive and more paying."

The above extract from a speech by Sir Lomer Gouin, premier of Quebec, indicates a policy that is perhaps more essential in some other provinces than in Quebec. If the equilibrium were properly restored there would be a reduction in the cost of living with benefit to everybody. Production would be increased and the problem of the city household made easier of solution.

There are in every city and town families who would be much better off in the country, but they cling to the neighborhood of the white lights and the allurements of populous centres. The government may not be able to change the point of view of all of them, but by an enlightened and progressive agricultural policy it may lessen the drift from the rural districts to the urban centres.

Christian Science Monitor—"With the growing conviction, both in England and in America, that the best solution of the housing problem is for the greatest possible number of citizens to own their homes, a great deal of interest attaches to what has been done already in Baltimore, Maryland. It is said that this city, more than any other in the United States, has developed citizen ownership. The movement was started in 1904, and in ten years more than 80,000 dwellings were built, chiefly two-story houses, thoroughly modern in their construction, and in many cases purchased by men of moderate incomes through building associations. The cost of these dwellings was reduced by wholesale buying of land and material and corresponding economy in construction. Baltimore, moreover, passed a law which requires that every dwelling shall have a bathroom, an idea in municipal legislation which many other cities might well copy."

The sinking of the captured German war vessels in the Scapa Flow is a breach of the armistice made while the Huns are begging for easier terms from their conquerors. Later news received today was that German warships at Kiel and elsewhere, which had not been surrendered, had been sunk. If this proves true, it means that a well worked plot has been carried to a successful issue. The Germans evidently have not yet learned the lessons of the war and it may be that the Allies have not fully sounded the depth of German unreliability.

It would be of interest to know what the former Kaiser thinks about the sinking of the German prisoner fleet at Scapa Flow.

Today's cables carry an official announcement that Germany will sign the peace treaty. Paris reports a request for extension of time being flatly refused.

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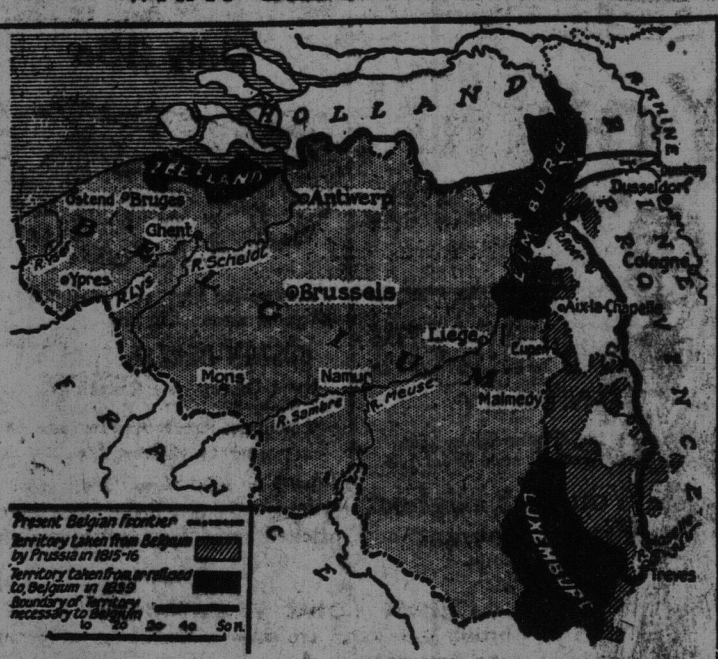
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Mrs. Walter Greives, Apsley, Ont., writes: "I had been run down, and doctors told me I was anemic but did not help me with their medicines. I could not sleep nights, my heart palpitated so, and I could count every beat."

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WHAT BELGIUM WANTS



Belgian territorial demands at the Peace Conference are shown by the key to this map which has been largely circulated in Belgium—London Daily Life.

PUBLIC HEALTH NOTES

"SUMMER DISEASE OF INFANTS"

Seasons and climate have long been held responsible for exerting an immense influence, either for good or evil upon health. Modern science, however, has demonstrated that such an influence is not so great as it was formerly supposed to be. For instance, climate has little to do in a direct way, with malaria, or "fever" and "ague" as it is commonly called. Many of the hottest places in the world are free from malaria, and many quite temperate climates are, or used to be, veritable culture beds of this disease. It is not so very long ago that

"bad air" was discovered to have nothing to do with malaria, but that the disease was wholly due to the bite of a species of mosquito which bred in swampy places and in stagnant water. Similar examples might be adduced of quite a number of other diseases at one time thought to be almost wholly due to season or climate, but they know we have little or no connection with heat or cold.

Season, however, has still preponderant influence upon the diseases of young children, more especially as respects those diseases which attack the lungs and bowels. Cold and dampness accompanied as a result by chills are a frequent disposing cause of bronchitis and pneumonia in the very young during the late winter and early spring, and nothing has been more widely observed than that it is during the latter part of our summer that intestinal disease in young children, commonly known as cholera infantum, tends to become prevalent. Much the larger number of cases occur in infants under a year old, that is to say in those children who are wholly dependent upon milk for food.

It is evident, therefore, that a very close connection exists between this disease and milk. Now milk, for the young infant, has two possible sources, from its mother, and, failing that, from the cow. The one is generally known as the natural source, the other the artificial one. A whole world of difference exists as regards the baby's chance of life whether he is fed from the one source or the other. Three years ago, for instance, the writer made a somewhat intensive study of an outbreak of cholera infantum in a provincial city, and out of twenty-two infants who died under one year of age, sixteen had been fed on cow's milk, and six on mother's milk, and the others had been breast-fed, the others having been nourished by cow's milk from a bottle.

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Even the one exception had not been wholly confined to the natural source for its food, having occasionally had the bottle.

This is no new experience, but one that has been observed the world over during the last half century. The lesson that it carries is so plain that it scarcely needs pointing out. If a bottle-fed baby has only one chance out of twenty-two for life as compared with a breast-fed one during the summer time, then it is evident that the more largely natural feeding prevails to the complete exclusion of the bottle, more especially in summer, so much the more largely will the infantile death rate be cut down and young infants survive.

It is true, however, that bottle feeding, because of various circumstances or accidents, is unavoidable in many instances. In these cases very much indeed may be done to prevent cholera infantum as a consequence of artificial feeding. Cleanliness is the very first requisite. This not only applies to the bottle itself and its adjuncts but to the infant itself, the mother or nurse, the whole house and its premises. Of all these, the bottle, while it is the most important, is at the same time often the most neglected. Never mind the question of cleanliness. It is the mother or nurse, the whole house and its premises, that should be kept clean. In the sense that from it cholera infantum cannot originate. Several bottles, therefore, should always be employed, those not in immediate use being boiled for half an hour and so made ready to take the place of the one in use.

The milk fed to a young baby from a bottle should not be relied upon in hot weather in its raw state, no matter how high an opinion the mother may have of its purity and cleanliness. The purest milk in the world may easily become contaminated in a very short time if brought into contact with contaminating substances or permitted to stand in a heated room exposed to dust and flies.

All milk for the infant's use in bottles should be pasteurized, especially during June, July, August and September. This is a simple thing to do, quite within the power of any housekeeper. Pasteurization means bringing the milk to a temperature of about 145 degrees, and keeping it at that heat for about twenty minutes. The degree of heat mentioned is about half-way between the body or blood heat and the boiling point, which is 212 degrees. A little practice will enable one quite accurately to judge of the correct temperature by placing the hand upon the container or into the water surrounding it, but never the finger into the milk. Place the container in a vessel of water deep enough nearly, but not quite, to cover the container, raise the water to the required heat, and no higher, and the operation is accomplished in the time just noted. A thermometer made for the purpose is most useful and will last a lifetime if taken care of.

A regular household pasteurizer may be obtained, specially made for the purpose, but the principle is capable of being put into practice in every kitchen in the whole community without special apparatus.

(This subject may be further pursued in a future note.)

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

English troops stationed at Sutton Camp, Surrey, Eng., have refused to obey orders and other soldiers have been sent to the camp to maintain discipline. Four hundred of them have been arrested and eight hundred sent to other camps.

Two hundred persons were killed by a tornado at Fergus Falls, Minn., yesterday.

On the hospital ship Essequibo arriving at Portland, Me., on Saturday were 296 wounded or invalid Canadians.

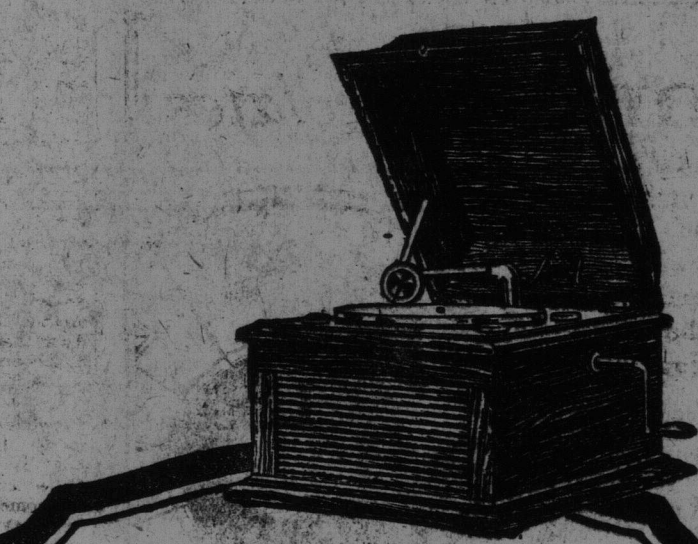
Nursing Sisters Smith and Lockhart of St. John and Lieut. G. B. Wooten of Andover were on board.

GRAHAM'S SECOND FLIGHT

In another seaplane of the same design as the last in which he visited the city, Lieut. Stuart Graham, accompanied by his wife as navigator, and Walter Kabre as mechanic, arrived in the city last Saturday afternoon and left again about 7.30 for Quebec. He got as far as Woodstock but had to descend owing to a coming storm. He left Woodstock yesterday about 12.30 p.m. Graham made fast time from Halifax beating out a message sent by telegraph by about thirty minutes.

\$10 MINIMUM FOR SARDINES

The weir owners of St. John and Charlotte counties have fixed a minimum price of \$10 per hoghead for sardines after today. The packers have agreed to cooperate with the weirmen in maintaining this standard.



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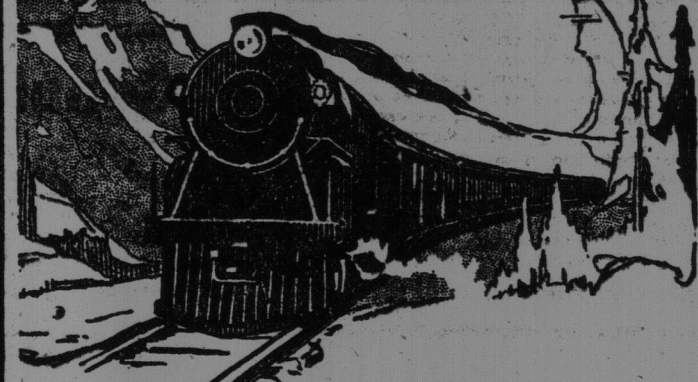
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