

## The News Record

(Established in 1878)

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### EDITORIAL

The Military Gazette The editor of the On The Riot Canadian Military Gazette, Col. A. T.

Thompson, has sent us for publication the following article, which appears in this week's issue of the Gazette as the leading editorial. We have added nothing and have left nothing out. Even the capitalization is exactly as in the original article.

Col. Thompson was himself overseas, together with his two sons, one of whom was so severely wounded as to make his complete recovery doubtful. The article follows:

#### THE RIOTING AT KITCHENER.

(Canadian Military Gazette.)

It is always a mistake to be too dogmatic about events the knowledge of which we derive only from newspaper reports, but the fact seems undisputed that the citizens of Kitchener, or rather some of the citizens of Kitchener, have been guilty of conduct about as un-British as anything well could be.

We can understand the indignation which would be aroused by the attempt to change the name of Kitchener back to Berlin. In that populous centre there must be hundreds of families who mourn dead and crippled, as a result of German brutality in forcing the great war upon the world, and such a move would certainly excite them to the hysterical condition which breeds mobs, with all their attendant horrors.

But to say that the promoters of the campaign to change the name of Kitchener were almost criminally foolish, is by no means to excuse the disgraceful acts of violence which followed upon it.

We have the honour of personal acquaintance with Mr. W. D. Euler, M.P. We believe him to be a man of kindly disposition, and of moderate views, and we know him to be an exceptionally good speaker, a Member of Parliament well above the average for industry and ability, and one who enjoys the respect of his fellow-members in a very high degree. This man was dragged from his club, taken over to the G.W.V.A. rooms, asked to kiss the Union Jack, and beaten into insensibility for refusing to do so. This, at least, we are told in the press report, and no doubt the facts are as alleged. WHAT A PROSTITUTION OF THE UNION JACK.

That grand old flag has stood for law and order, through the centuries, for trial of men by their peers, for all that British justice typifies. And a roaring mob take the duly elected member of a parliamentary constituency and command him to kiss this emblem.

What would any man of dignity and courage do under such circumstances? What would any Englishman do? What would any Canadian, or any other gentleman? He would resent the awful insult, and stand the consequences, and that is what Euler did.

And then this collection of men masquerading as Britishers, scores of them, no doubt, strike down a single man who had the courage to preserve his manhood under these dangerous circumstances.

**BRITISHERS? SAVE THE MARK.** When did Britishers learn the rotten methods of Judge Lynch? When did Britishers fight in hordes against one defenceless man?

The fact that Euler is of German extraction is no excuse. He is a Canadian, and there are some three hundred thousand more of his blood in Canada, most of them law-abiding Canadians.

But WORST OF ALL the mob desecrated the precincts of the G.W.V.A. hall to perpetrate their dastardly outrage. Canadian soldiers fought nobly in the war. The G.W.V.A. is their brotherhood. The unthinking all over Canada, and they are many, will now associate them in this attack of the many against the one. No doubt there were returned men in the mob, but that the average G.W.V.A. member would associate himself with such a dirty outrage is unthinkable.

When the Courts of the land have become feeble and corrupt, when the British ideals of fair-play have become but a memory, when the Union Jack has sunk to be a rag, and not the proudest flag that floats, THEN, AND THEN ONLY, let us have a repetition of the riots of Kitchener.

A. T. T.

Col. Thompson concludes his personal letter as follows: "I think I have expressed the views of the good fellows of the G.W.V.A., and they are in the vast majority."

### COMMENT

Toronto will have Labor candidates for Mayor, Board of Control and Aldermen.

If your friends need constant cultivating, the crop will be hardly worth while.

Visitors to Pittsburg, the soft coal city, are now enabled to wear white collars.

You can lead a striking miners to the coal mine, but you can't make him pick.

A Montreal man broke his toe while doing bathing stunts. That's the worst of hard water.

Globe motto: "The subject who is truly loyal will neither advise nor submit to arbitrary measures."

If a man looks at you with an air of vacancy when you are telling him a funny story, you may be sure he has heard it before.

At a banquet of New York hotel proprietors, the tables were lighted by candles stuck in empty champagne bottles. And then they sang that pathetic song entitled "Memories."

The Council of Peterboro proposes to collect a poll tax from unmarried women over twenty-one. As if unmarried women are not intent enough upon getting married already!

When a boy is worthless, the neighbors find it out first. Later his brothers and sisters realize the fact. After a while, the father can no longer shut his eyes to the truth, but the mother never finds it out.

The government of Ottawa has received \$25 conscience money from a Victoria citizen. If all the people who have skinned the government at one time or another would listen to their consciences it might save the need of another Victory Loan.

Ice cream sodas have gone up in price. With some liquids prohibited by law and others by economic barriers one might paraphrase the mariner of tradition and exclaim "bottles, bottles everywhere and not one drop to drink."

### WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Leavens Beyond the Sea.  
(Ottawa Citizen.)

The good people who are afraid of new ideas and who imagine that it is only labor "agitators" and advocates of public ownership who indulge in them would be shocked to read what happens in British universities. The Oxford Union, out of which has come a heavy proportion of the Elder Statesmen of the empire, has just carried a motion that it would be good for the country if the Liberal party superseded the Lloyd George coalition — a coalition in which the chancellor of Oxford University is house of lords leader. The debate report says the form of the resolution embarrassed the members of the Labor party, the Labor party represented by undergraduates in the Oxford Union!!

The Cambridge Union about the same time debated the suggested levy on capital to meet the war debt. The advocates of a levy were in a minority of only a dozen on a vote of nearly 300. During the five months' incubation of the Union government at Ottawa apostles of that change were besought in high quarters to discourage—what do you think? An income tax in Canada because capital wouldn't like it.

A Six-hour Day.  
(Ottawa Journal.)

A despatch from Toronto reporting Lord Leverhulme, the great English manufacturer, as saying "the ten-hour day is practicable; the eight-hour day is impracticable" may be misunderstood. Lord Leverhulme has admitted that a shift of ten hours "is too great a strain on the flesh and blood; men and women could not stand it." The eight-hour day, he holds, is impracticable "because the machinery does not produce sufficient for the cost that is involved." He advocates two six-hour shifts in industries where the charges for interest on investment in the plant and all other overhead costs, salaries, bank interest and so on are at least equal in amount to the weekly wage. Lord Leverhulme does not contend, as some do, that a shorter single-shift day than eight hours would not decrease production. He takes the contrary view, and that is why he suggests the "sweating" of the machinery and not of the workers.

Lord Leverhulme thinks there will be no solution of the problem "until trades unionists see that anything that increases output, increases wages." What he means is that increased production means cheaper production and lower prices, and that the purchasing value of the workers' wages will be raised automatically thereby. Increased production is surely the only remedy for the vicious circle that continues to inflate the world's currency—to make, in other words, the already high cost of living still higher.

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