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#### THE GAZETTE, MONTREAL,

able extravagance so far as the Canadian Pacific Railway was concerned and exemplified an unwillingness to co-operate on the part of that company. It seems quite clear that the commission in this respect has been led to an altogether erroneous conclusion, and it is important that the error be corrected, since it forms part of the basis upon which the commission has founded a recommendation which, if carried into effect, would deprive the proprietors of the Canadian Pacific of the right to control their own property.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL.

The Federation of Catholic Charities is a combination for a high object as the name implies, charity being the best-complexioned thing in the world. The need for a larger charity today needs no emphasis. The Catholic Charities campaign that has been inaugurated and will be continued in Montreal throughout this week is one to raise \$175,000 to finance the twenty agencies comprising the federation, so that their beneficent work shall not be impeded, but shall be adequate to increased and more insistent demands for relief. Because needs are greater and more compelling this year, a larger fund is essential, but, as the Mayor, the Hon. Fernand Rinfret, states in his appeal to the citizens, "despite an enormous "increase in the work undertaken by the agencies in the last year, and a very sub-"stantial extension in the work of the federa-"tion as a whole, the budget is only approxi-"mately twenty-five per cent. more than the "total subscribed last year."

The appeal is to all classes; it has the sympathy of all classes, as evidenced by the plea of the Rev. Dr. G. H. Donald, pastor of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, for support in the current campaign, and it may be believed that the aggregate response of all classes will uphold Montreal's reputation for benevolence. Extraordinary times and extraordinary circumstances make the test of duty greater, but, to again quote the Mayor, it is inconceivable that the average man and woman who still have retained the means of an easy or luxurious life, will not think of the thousands who are helpless, or would be helpless but for organizations of this kind. The campaign merits a success commensurate with the

worthiness of its purpose.

#### HITLER AND THE CHANCELLORSHIP.

From Berlin comes the report that Adolf Hitler stands in a fair way of being appointed Chancellor of Germany in succession to von Papen. President von Hindenburg invited the leader of the Nazis into consultation on Saturday last, and although the meeting is declared to have in no wise indicated that the President had changed his mind sufficiently about his adversary in the presidential campaign to share with him responsibility for Germany's destiny, it is declared that a beginning has been made in achieving a better understanding between these two leaders, who will meet again tomorrow for another conference. In spite of their losses in the Reichstag elections on November 6, the Hitlerites headed the list of polling returns and they are about to count in excess of eleven million votes. They thus still represent the largest single party in the State, and if a concentration Cabinet is to be formed in Germany, it is obvious that the strength and pressure of the Hitlerite forces cannot be ignored. That there are great risks in giving them the eminent right of way can hardly be denied. But given such safeguards as no doubt will be stipulated by President Hindenburg in connection with Hitler's appointment to the chancellorship, the view taken is that a check might be thus placed upon the obstructionist tactics of the Communists and their allies, and the way opened for the Centrists and Nazis, the moderates of all parties to get together and unitedly form a workable coalition government. This, of course, remains to be seen. Meanwhile, the Hitlerites are jubilant. They appear to be persuaded that their grand opportunity has arrived.

#### DISARMAMENT PLANS. The alacrity with which the advocates of

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disarmament at Geneva don regimentals and stride across the stage with swords that clink and clatter at each step might well invite the jibe of a satirist; it presents as grotesque a spectacle of profession contradicted by practice as ever threw international councils into painful bewilderment. Browning tells of an Eastern satrap who, aboard his galley, is decked in a colorful vest of silkiest texture and dyed with Tyrian purple. He lets it fall into the sea and the salt water eats out the tincture throwing cloud after cloud as of impenetrable mist on the water. And this seems to be what is happening in the disarmament negotiations. There is no more fatuous, illusive and hurtful stroke of policy than the wrongful handling of a right cause. The cooperative idea of disarmament is conspicuous by its absence. It has become choked up and vitiated by a sort of competitive struggle. The posts hammered down as a protection against the recurrence of war are being strung with barbed wire. In the United States there is a disposition

on the part of some prominent officials to pit the question of disarmament against that of the war debts, and to set the reduction of arms foremost on the score that until some arrangement has been made about lowering the cost of armaments it is futile to expect the economic situation to improve; and when this has been done, it is argued that the debtor nations will be able to discharge their war debts obligations. Again, Germany has come forward with a proposition that the prior consideration must be given to her own claim for arms equality, and that until this matter, which is considered crucial to her future standing and welfare amongst nations, has been satisfactorily settled, her statesmen will hold themselves aloof from the League. France has brought forward a disarmament plan concerning which the hope is expressed that it is capable of combining the advantages of the American arms reduction recipe with those of the sort of security for which France has consistently stood. scheme puts security first and disarmament second, and is based upon the thesis that nations can only reduce their arms quotas in proportion as the guarantee of security is given and the proper machinery assembled for making security certain. The concert

Europe is bound up with the League Councils

and the key to European peace is in Geneva. The thing asked in the French scheme is that there shall be organized and maintained a regimental force sufficient to police the nations of Europe, or ready to be called out at any time against a possible aggressor counted guilty of making a breach in the covenantal pledge; and that somewhere there shall be kept and reserved a stack of arms sufficient to enforce the mandate of the League and to apply military "sanctions," or, in other words, punishment, to the offending power. It makes no practical difference that this proposal is labelled regional assistance, nor that the reserved force is to be called out only in some emergency instead of the steady upkeep of forces by each separate nation concerned. Stripped of mere verbiage, the scheme that finds favor at Paris means that the interests of law and order in Europe shall be preserved by an armed force under the aegis and control of the League of Nations and in which all the signatories to the League Covenant shall have a share of responsibility. It brings back all the old-time difficulties connected with the proposition of making the League a sort of super-state in Europe. At Berlin the opinion prevails that the handling of the League scheme so laid down is being manipulated against German interests and in fear of another upheaval of Germanic militant power. An old proposal trimmed up in a new dress, is, the way the officials at the Wilhelmstrasse interpret the French plan. Such disarmament proposals may continue to vex the European political arena for a long time to come. But they can hardly be expected to promote the interests of world peace.

### THE U.S.S.R. A HARD TASKMASTER.

Russia under Soviet rule is about the most exacting taskmaster in the world and the iron hand of government is being pressed more firmly upon the people. Only the other day Moscow gave notice that some tens of thousands of civil service employees would be removed from their places and transferred to farms and workshops, in order that the production standard be maintained, or at least prevented from declining. There is no appeal from such a drastic order, and anyone who questions the authority of the edict is severely punished. Two of the most important leaders have been expelled of late for merely questioning the advisability of certain practices. So the civil servants concerned must perforce take up the shovel and the hoe instead of the pen. Perhaps they will have the sympathy of those prodigals among the workers who have been absenting themselves from their allotted tasks one day a month without valid reason, such as going to a grandmother's funeral, or other such sorry social duty. It may be that these idlers have been making a practice of engaging in a combat with that fiery antagonist, vodka. If so, their return to work after one day's joust with the bottle would seem to be testimony to their endurance and devotion to the job. But the U.S.S.R. does not look at the lapse in this light; rather does it regard the day's forgetfulness of the claims of duty as a very serious crime. Hence the latest order, which is to discharge all workers who loaf one day a month, and, what is worse, deprive them of food cards and lodgings. Drastic treatment this for a "free and enlightened" people. Russia evidently is no place for an "easy" worker or man who likes to speak his mind in public. The Ogpu is on the watch.

the driver of an automobile to pay the full amount of the claim, \$12,000, to a man he struck and injured when the latter had stepped from a street car on Sherbrooke street. The condemnation should serve as a warning to numerous motorists who persist in speeding by when a tramways car has almost come to a stop. The offence is particularly noticeable at night, when it is most dangerous. Knowledge that it may prove tremendously costly should prompt the offenders to mend their ways. If they are careless as to what happens to others. they should at least have regard for their own welfare. On the very day that Sir John Simon gave

Chief Justice Greenshields has condemned

an outline in the Commons of Britain's disarmament proposals, German newspapers arrived in London containing full-page advertisements of British firms setting forth the advantages of their war tanks and field guns. Evidently the enterprising companies are convinced that there is a greater chance of Germany being permitted to practice equality of armament than of the presently well-armed powers being compelled to limit their engines of destruction to any great extent. At least the British armament firms are getting their say in first in a perfectly open way. In Italy, where unemployment is beginning

to be seriously felt, women engaged in clerical work are to be replaced by men as soon as possible, and preference is to be given to members of the Fascist party and to ex-service men with families. The development proves that even Mussolini has his limitations when it comes to industrial problems, and also that he is not fearful of feminine wrath. Fire hose was employed against a mob at

Geneva with such telling effect that the disturbers were routed in quick order. The resort to the hose instead of machine guns, as on a former occasion, indicates that civilian methods are considered sufficiently effective for the situation. They should have been employed in the first instance. Geneva is the international peace centre.

A new traffic regulation is proposed forbidding motorists to stop within the boundaries of a street intersection, thus blocking the movement across the street. This interference is frequently experienced on such thoroughfares as St. Catherine street in the centre of the city. If the police can get motorists to observe this regulation it will mean a big improvement in the most congested centres.

Game fish and four-legged game are reported to be abundant throughout Canada this year, which condition, as respects the latter especially, should make it unnecessary for

hunters to pot at each other or at unoffending

farmers with their customary misguided vim.

There is less excuse now for the mistaken

sportsmen, at any rate.

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#### Capital.

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# On The South Shore.

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