## The Weekly Ontario

O. HERITY, Editor-in.Chief

## Thusday, December 25, 1913

## EDITORIALCOMMENT

REIPIVG TiE WHRLWHD
T.The pentulum has already begun to
swing adversely" states Mr. Harrison Watson, Swing adversely states sirsionerison London in his annaal report, "which indicates a marked ing the past year?

The customs revenue for October decreased by nearly $\$ 1,500,000$ as compared with the
same month last year, a dropping off of $\$ 50.000$ a day. During the eight months of the present
the custums revenue aggregaled $\$ 75,001$, 10) as compared with $\$ 76,032,075$ during the given out by the Customs Department, with every possible effort tominimize their signifi-

There is every prosabily that the de. creased rovenue for October wiil be increasingly continued during the winter months, since
the buik of mimportations orctur during the summer navigaion, probable
a derreaso in customs revenue of $\$ 10,00,000$.

The Minister of Finance efs now floating in London a loan of $\$ 20,000,000$. Haif of this
will be used to pay treasury bins - apying
with borrowed money. The rest. will be bsed

 During the tast 12 moaths, Hon; Mr. White hotal of $\$ 45,0000000$. He has had to pay over four per cent sor every dallar of it. The inter.
est on borrowings for this year alone amounts to $\$ 1,80,0,000$. The last 10 an of $\$ 20,000,000$ at nearly $45-8$ per cent, thiterest. Thisis is practic. ally one per cent. higher inferest than Hon. Mr. Fielfing ever had to poty. By the end of the
fiscal year, Candad's debt will be increased by fiscal year, Canda's debt will be increased by
probably $\$ 30,000,000$-with a permanerit add itional charge or London financiers'komment unfavourably and onenly upon the coirtinual raids of Hon.
Mr. White on the British moirey market. The Mornirig Post, an influential English Conser vative paper, friendly to the Canadian Govern-
ment, scathingly criticizes Hor. Mr. Whites' method of borrowing huge sums privately, in "It must be impossiblefor the inyestor to have
any clear idea of the financialy position of the debtor." That is exactly what the Canadian Government wants, to hide its real financial pi-
sition from both the British' who lend and the Canadians who must pay back. gaily announces that eslimates next year may
amount to $\$ 250,000,690$ as against "only" $\$ 200,000,000$ last year. This will mean a total expenditure of probably $\$ 300,000,000$ including
statutory items. The absurd explanation is that the government considers times of financial stress proper season for hage Government ex-
penditures. Such a system applied to any business inslitution would mean speedy bank-
ruptcy.

After two years of Conservative Goverment expoits and imports have declined; Canada's
borrowings have increased ; her crelit abroad borrowings have increased ; her creuit abroad
has suffered; her interest rate on English Jebts has increased; the public debt is growing again; her custom revenue for the first time since the expenditures have about trebled in three It is time that the pendulum turned. It swing is already apparent towards the Liberal policy of sane economical administration which will -reserve Canadian credit at home and which will zive the poor man a chance to live within his income.

A young man in a prison cell said to "They think they are punishing me. They 't. lam tough and can stand it. They are punishing, my poor, old mother ; and she isn't guilty." " That of course, was in one of the brutal an
and That of course, was in one of the brutal and
less worse than useless prison with cells; in a ess worse thant ghostly machine for the hardening of humían nuture.
Such foolish institutions, will soon be no more. Instead, there will be places where mother's boy will be given a fair chance and ureand follies, the kind of man she used to
pray he'd become. Instead of making it im possible, the government will help.
As we near the good will climax of Christmas, much of it unconsciously personal and bird's mother-her sorrow, her loneliness, the way we make her Christmas unhappy by the vindictiveness we continue in our scheme punishment?

A Detroit man, who had contributed a bundle of his cast-off clothing for the reief of the victims of the sufferers the following note
"The committy man giv me amungst ther things what he called a pare of pants, an 'twould make me pant some to war 'em,
found your name and where you live on one'o ound your name and where you live on onede
the pockits. My wife. laffed so when I shode 'em to her that 1 thot she wood have a conip shun fit. She wants to no if there lives and breathes a man who has legs no bigger than that she sed if there was he oter be taken up or vagransy for having no invisible means for so I used' 'em for gun cases. If you have an so I used 'em for gun cases. II ygu have an-
other pare to spare, my wife wond like to get em to haing up by the fireplace to keep the tongs in."

The world's gold production has been in creasing of late at a phenomenal rate. Canad alone last year producec more gold than was country produced nearly double the quantity of the yellow metal that was produced by the en tire wortd in 1701, In the first year of the pres ent century the world's output of gold wa $\$ 254,566,000$, or more than twenty times the Thutput of the first year of the preceding century
The world's output for last year wass $\$ 66,512$ 000 almost double the output of twelve years beforen Africa alone produced nearly $\$ 206$, 000,000 , worth of precious metaldast year, no so very much short of the world's productio welve years before. And Africa's production has only begun. The gold bearing reef of th shows no sign of failure at a depith of 3,000 to 3,500 feet. One authority estimates that there is enough gold deposited in that one place to
supply each individual on earth with $\$ 30,000$ vorth.
Still the new J. P. Morgan is quored by the New York Post as saying that the demand the
capital is in excess of supply. Because of tha condition interests rates have-within a very few years. gone up by one to two pericent. Again on the other hand, because gold has be come so pientiul, the purchasing power-of kold dollar to day is oniy ten per cent of
purchasing power oi the same dollar in IBOC.

I'm specting such a lot of stuff, My stocking won't be big enough, And so before I go to bed
pll just hang mamma's pli just hang mamma's up instead.

## a question

If there isn't any Santa Claus, who is it turn your feet
roward the shop where gitts are smiling as you Who is it sets you thinking, though you're busy as can be, ren's Christmas tree
Though you vow "this Christmas business is a nuisance anyhu
There's an influence
There's an influence at work that clears the The small tin trumpet soundsa blast that wakes
your syul serene
To homage for the doll who is a lady and a
And the once prosaic world where it has been
And the once prosaic worid where your lot to dwell
Is a trealm'lof fascinations 'neath some mystic Is a crealm: of
fairy spell.
If there isn'tany Santa Claus, who is it day by
That turns our thougnts to Christmas, strive to
shun it as we may?
Who somes at this bleak season armed with telepathic arts
And by Fgenerous suiggestion dominates our
minds and hearts?

Despite the militarists who want war an
he pessimists, who believe hat war is unavoi the pessimiss,
able there is reason to believe that the day is approaching, though it may be yetfar distan when its doom will have been sounded.

Militarists may scoff at proposals for international disarmament and arbitration and eart nest advocates of such proposals may yet mee-
with many disappointing rebuffs. The camwith many disappointing rebuffs. The cam-
paign of education, however has now many able advocates and with growing enlightenment will finally bear fruit in the truimph of sanity which will sound the doom of war.

The modern business attitude towards war was fairly well expressed by one at the
meeting of the New York State Bankers' Assomeeting of the New York State Bankers Asso-
ciations the other day when he said that there ciations the other day when he said
is more money to be made by trading with a is more money to be made by than hy killing him or governing him.
man than
One exception may be made to this general rule. There is one business that wo ild dene fit by war, namely the armament industry. Whichever side might win or
might lose, the armament makers would gain. Henze it is not surprising to learn that an impormament makers is the provoking of wars and the creation of war-scares.

Two hundred and eighteen antimilitarist membe is of the French and German Parlia ments recently met, at Berne, Swizerianco, the purpose of considering how. This meeting was, says the American Review of Reviews, hastened by the shameful revel tions recently made as to the manner in which armame
makers create ill-feeling between the two nations in order to increase the sales of munitions of war. At this joint meeting of French and Ger
man parliamentarians, a resolution was unaniman parliamentarians, a resolution was unani
mously adopted repudating "patriotic excit mousty avopter
anility" and demanding a decrease in armaments "no matter what trade may be hurt." The conference also warmly supported the proposal of United Srates Secretary of State Bryan celating to arbitration treaties, and demanded
that alt disputes between France and Germany be submitted to arbitration

When the East India potenate punished nine conspiritors who had plotted his destruct mouths of cation

- Frequently when mobs get erazy and conclude to execure an accused persong they bulin him at the stake
In the middle ages there were ralers who
confined their enemies in solitary dungeons confined their enemies in solitary
and left them to die by slow fortures.
Te satisfy justice in past ages, men have forced by the whip to run in opposite directions, thus tearing the flesh in two.
Modern thought is beginning to understand that such incidents are not, to punish the offender, but to gratify the brutal instinct o
thuse who punish. It is not even to warn thuse who punish. crimes, but to gratify the others age of the ruler, the mob or the exe-
vengeance cutioner.

The penal institutions of to-day are beginn-
to adopt the humanitary idea of reformi in ing to adopt the
siead of torture.

The school room is becoming the scene of kindly discipline instead of an ugly wielding on the rod.

The parent is beginning to learn that he All these reforms are based upon the new idea that pu
vengeance.

## THE CHRISTMAS GUEST

 hoso shall come any way this night By tnoar or hill or shore,Fiom From him the open door, (Oh Mary, this for thy Son's sake,
My hearth is swept my Yule logs burn For ay who may seem in surn For any who may seem in turn
Are warmth and wine and bre (Oh Mary grant my son this nigh
Be housed and comforted!)
Bid, banned or beggared come for guest,
My heart shall share his woes,
nd on his nead my hand shall rest
ad on his head my hand shall re To bless him ere he goes. (Oh, Mary, grant my son this nig
That hlessing and repose!)
This night, for thy one Son's dear sak
Wait light and warmth and wine. Mary we be mothers both ! Take these my tears for sign And this I do for thy sweet Son.
Wilt thou not do for mine?

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