

MEN OR MICE?

At the recent meeting of the Dominion Grange at Toronto the report of the Committee on Education contained the following paragraph relative to military training in schools:

However harmless or beneficial this drill may be in itself, we fear that there is behind it a well matured plan to make Canada a recruiting ground for the Imperial army and navy. Already we have essentially sacrificed control over our own forces both on land and sea, and unless there is strong opposition to those who now have this matter in hand, we shall soon awake to find a worse condition than conscription, namely, half-men ordered away to fight the battles of the empire, without our having any say in the matter. There is no need to adopt military drill to teach meanness, punctuality, obedience, alertness, and to impress the value of unity of action and co-operation in effort.

We confess to having read this with a good deal of concern. If the opinions of the members of the Grange went no further than the proceedings of their own body, they might be passed by without serious comment, but as they are likely to be given effect some day at the polls, it is a somewhat serious thing for Canada that such mistaken ideas are abroad as those contained in the extract quoted, and that there is such a spirit in the country as inspired the reference to the relations of Canada to the Empire. When we see such views held by a representative body of Ontario farmers, and opinions similar thereto finding a place in Quebec, one may be pardoned for thinking that an issue is being forced upon the people of Canada that will supplant all other considerations and compel all, who favor the performance by the Dominion of its duty to herself and the Empire into alliance in order to prevent the growth of ideas that will make for national dismemberment. The issue is: Are Canadians going to be men or mice? Are we to be a self-respecting people, or are we to be a nation of slaves? The position we claim as a self-governing people, or shall we be a nondescript among the nations, fair and flabby without a spark of real manhood left in us. Surely Canada is too great to wish to hide behind its mother's petticoats. Surely no one can really be so absolutely ignorant of British policy, British traditions and the principles of British institutions as to believe the bald dash above quoted about the imaginary evils of imaginary militarism.

Japan has declared her intention to have a navy equal to that of any other nation in the world. We are reminded of Tennyson's lines on Napoleon III: "It is true that we have a friendly ally, but only the Devil knows what he means."

It appears that Mr. Bourassa did say that in fifteen years the Maritime Provinces would be French and Roman Catholic, and not in fifty, as we supposed he must have said. Mr. Bourassa must be troubled with mental indigestion. There were, in the year 1901, 2,975,911 people resident in the Maritime Provinces. Of these 238,111 were French origin, and 245,830 were Roman Catholic. The 259,688 Roman Catholics, not of French origin, could not be counted upon as standing ready to co-operate with the people of French origin. Mr. Bourassa's prophecy breaks down as soon as it is analyzed.

In one of his speeches delivered during the campaign that has just closed, Sir Edward Grey, Foreign Minister, said that the Liberal programme in respect to the House of Lords was the curtailment of the veto pending the reconstruction of the hereditary chamber. It is proposed to do away wholly with the number of members of the Upper House to 200, to make them elective by large constituencies, to give the new body equal powers in respect to legislation, excluding a money bill, as are enjoyed by the Commons and in the event of a disagreement between them to provide for a joint session at which the vote of the majority shall prevail.

Collier's notes that during the debate on the naval question, Sir William Laurier's supporters left the burden of the defence upon his shoulders. This is indicative of the trend of modern parliamentary discussion and is the outcome of custom rule. There was a time when every member of the House felt that he ought to take some part in the debate of important questions, but it has come about that nearly everything is left to a few leaders on both sides, although there is very naturally greater latitude on the part of the Opposition than on the part of the Gov-

ernment. We are not now speaking of the House of Commons only. The same rule holds in the provincial legislatures. The free expression of opinion is not encouraged. Perhaps it is not discouraged, but the result is much as if it were. We do not believe the new condition works for the public benefit.

The following which we take from the special London correspondence of the Toronto Star and Ottawa Citizen will be read with interest, as everything is that bears even remotely upon the political situation in the Mother Country: "Lloyd George's budget, which is now accepted in its essentials by all parties, has produced a revenue more buoyant than its sanguine advocates expected, even though the land taxes have not yet become effective, owing to the delay in getting valuations through. So freely is money accumulating, that the super-tax on large incomes has been delayed in operation for a year, and a reduction in the taxes on the poor man's tobacco is projected for next year, as well as an immediate launching of a pretentious insurance scheme. One might expect the heavy breakfast table taxes on tea, coffee, and sugar would be the first to be cut, but cynics observe that tobacco duties are now so high as to be beyond the maximum revenue-producing point. It is also rumored that to put customs taxes on the luxuries of the rich, such as motor cars and yachts, simultaneously asking the manufacturers, who will be protected in consequence, to pay an excise corresponding to the amount of their protection into the insurance scheme fund." This may or may not be the actual state of the case, but it will serve to some extent to keep readers in touch with the progress of events and the varied expressions of opinion.

A head-line in the St. John Telegraph describes Mayor Evans, of Winnipeg, as "the candidate of legalized vice." Presumably the Telegraph does not know Mr. Evans, or it would not apply such an epithet to him. We do not make this reference to defend Mr. Evans personally, but to protest against the mistaken notion that because a person stands for the living of vice, he necessarily favors it. There was a time some years ago in St. John when a zealous Chief of Police thought he was doing a wise act in breaking up the restricted district there. The result was the vice was scattered broadcast throughout the city. There were two large houses of ill-repute close to public schools in the very heart of the city. The Telegraph was urged by prominent citizens to demand the closing of these places, and the driving of their inmates back to the locality from which the police had ejected them. It did so, and they were driven back. Now may we ask our contemporary if it was then chargeable with being the advocate of legalized vice because it sought to remove pernicious influence from under the eyes of school children. We have had a woman in Victoria of the so-called moral variety. Before it occurred a lady and even a young girl could go almost anywhere in the city at any hour without being subject to being accosted by strangers or followed by some one. Since this spasm of frequent reports of such things have reached the Colonist of ladies being spoken to or followed. If we should demand the living of the vicious element in this city, as the Telegraph successfully demanded it on the coast mentioned, would we be open to the charge that we favor the legalizing of vice? As well charge the city with favoring fifth because it provides a safe place.

BOLD BANDIT, THIS

Believed to be the individual who for the past few weeks has been striking terror into the hearts of more than one resident of Spanish James Clark was arrested last night in a cabin off the Burrhead road, just into the city limits, and brought into the city police station. He is charged with being a beggar, but it is believed that more serious offences have been committed by him.

Recently several residents of the rural municipality have been stopped after dark by an unknown who held them up by a gesture which indicated that he possessed firearms, and demanded their valuables. The bandit was not a very bold one and no money was taken. On Tuesday he was stopped at the Burrhead road, but did not get anything. The robber's method of procedure was to stop his intended victim and demand his money by his watch and chain. If the latter pleaded that he possessed nothing, not even a piece of tobacco, the highwayman would order him to proceed with the threat that the next time the impudent victim was found without anything valuable upon him, he would have a hole put through him. Clarke, who was arrested by Municipal Constable Little, stated that he is an American by birth, having come to Canada about eighteen months ago from Illinois and has been on the Burrhead road for some time. He was identified by Mr. Campbell as the individual who attempted to hold up the latter on the Burrhead road. When arrested no trace of a revolver was found and it is thought he did not use one in his weak attempts at robbery.

SALT SPRING BRANCH OF THE NAVY LEAGUE

Large And Enthusiastic Audience at Annual Christmas Meeting Hears Victoria Speakers

The Salt Spring Island branch of the Navy League held its annual Christmas meeting and concert at the Mahon Hall, Victoria, on Thursday, 16th December.

By the large and very enthusiastic gathering there present, Salt Spring Island once more justified its reputation in Navy League matters as being second to none, not even to New Zealand. In the spirit manifested by its inhabitants, although the weather was far from propitious, the hall was well filled, and the different speeches and musical numbers were listened to with the greatest interest and attention.

The energetic president, Mr. Ernest Crofton, was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. W. H. Langley, of Victoria, as the speaker of the evening. While the line of thought propounded by Mr. Langley was not the most favorable for practical effect, it was considered of vital importance to the promoters and friends of the league. The speaker largely devoted himself to the fact that party politics did not enter into the organization of the league. When in the course of the address Mr. Langley stated that while he was a pronounced Liberal in politics yet he stood on the same platform with Mr. Clive Phillips-Wolley, a leading Conservative, as an enthusiastic supporter of the Navy League, the audience responded to the force of the argument, as they recalled the very fair presentation of the same subject given by Mr. Welby at the last league meeting.

As a native son, Mr. Langley spoke of the loyalty of the early settlers who, sailing up the Pacific coast and Victoria the only place flying the British flag at that time, and thought such a spot to be good enough for them, and remained there.

Speaking briefly of the arrival of H. M. C. S. Rainbow, Mr. Langley referred to the interest and enthusiasm of the officers in the new Canadian navy, and also of the need of young men to enter into training for the service.

Mr. Langley was warmly applauded as he concluded his brief but interesting address. Mr. Deane, now a resident of the island, in an eloquent and convincing address, and from the point of view of an Ontario man, dwelt upon the question from an imperial point of view. Mr. Deane's speech, which was punctuated with stirring instances of the part that the forefathers of Canadians had played in the great struggle of the empire, and later of the place of honor that the Canadian born had won in the nation's campaigns, was an exceptionally able and clear enunciation of the spirit of the empire as it appealed to Canadians. This it struck a very sympathetic and responsive chord in the hearts of the audience who knew beyond all doubt by the hearty and repeated burst of applause with which it was greeted. It may truly be said that the subject was treated by Mr. Deane in a most interesting and masterly manner, and it is fortunate indeed for the supporters of the movement on the island that such a man is one of their number.

Major Barnes, the president of the Dunsmuir branch of the league, treated the subject only as a man who is a soldier, and knows what war means, can treat it. The major, who is a veteran of the Boer war, but the matter before the people in a light in which it is rarely presented, he inspired upon his hearers the absolute necessity for taking measures for the defence of the country, their homes and everything that they loved best in the world. "It was not," said the speaker, "for the defence of Great Britain that we were to build a navy, but for the defence of Canada. As I have said within the empire we should be big enough and strong enough to look after our own interests and not make a beginning in that direction, and though if the time ever came when the mother country should need it, our assistance would be at once wholeheartedly forthcoming, yet the very root and foundation of the navy league policy in Canada was the defence of Canada."

The stage was carefully decorated with flags, evergreens and flowers by Mrs. Frank Scott and willing lady helpers. During the evening a selection of songs were rendered by various ladies and gentlemen. The accompaniment and overture were charmingly played by Mrs. Palmer.

Miss Deane, Miss Brock and Mrs. Horrell delighted the audience by their singing.

Dr. Houghton was in good voice, and Mr. George Hally brought down the house with his Harry Lauder songs in Highland costume.

The presence of Miss McLean, who possesses a magnificent voice, was sorely missed as a cold preventing her from taking her part in the programme.

After the meeting the annual Christmas party was held, which proved to be a most successful and enjoyable affair. The dancing being kept up till a late hour.

Mr. Palmer, Mr. Asbot, Mr. Howard, Mr. Deane and Mr. H. Mansell kindly volunteered their services and rendered delightful music.

Mr. H. Woods acted as floor manager. The refreshments were kindly provided by the ladies.

J. R. Kennedy has been appointed police court prosecutor for Vancouver.

1910-DECEMBER-1910
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Great Christmas Eve Values—

There Is Always a Rush at Our Store on Christmas Eve—Do Your Shopping Early—Look Over These Lists for the Last Time.

Gifts for Her

- Nut Crackers
- Toilet Sets
- Vases
- Cake Stand
- Work Table
- Art China
- Cheese Stands
- Foot Warmers
- Cradle
- China Tea Sets
- Hand Bells
- Reed Chair
- Tea Table
- Cushions
- Bookcase
- Music Cabinet
- Tabourette
- Writing Desk
- Lace Curtains
- Piano Lamp
- Candelabra
- Manicure Sets
- Epergnes
- Tea Sets
- Hanging Lamps
- Draught Screens
- Parlor Chair or Suite
- Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet

Gifts for Him

- Arm Chair
- Rocker
- Office Chair
- Den Chair
- Hall Rack
- Wardrobe
- Book Rack
- Couch or Lounge
- Card Table
- Umbrella Stands
- Water Bottles
- Hunting Jugs
- Pictures for Den
- Foot Warmers
- Reading Lamps
- Water Filters
- Military Brushes
- Tobacco Jars
- Shaving Mirrors
- Ash Trays
- Shaving Mugs
- Ink Stands
- Wine Coolers
- Tie Racks
- Toast Racks
- Pipe Racks
- Sponge Basket
- Cigarette Boxes
- Monstache Cup and Saucer
- Lemon Squeezers
- Deaks for Home or Office
- Billiard Table
- Liquor Bottles in Oak Frames
- Cork Pullers
- Whiskey Jugs
- Decanters
- Biscuit Jars
- Oak Trays
- Match Box Holders

Gifts for the Children

- High Chair
- Rocker
- Child's Set—3 pieces
- Crib or Child's Bed
- Doll's Bed
- Silver Mugs
- China Mugs
- Napkin Rings
- Knife, Fork and Spoon Sets
- Indian Clubs

Useful Gifts for Everybody

- Furniture
- Rugs
- Silverware
- China
- Enamel Ware
- Wooden Ware
- Tinware
- Kitchen Utensils
- Brushes
- Bedding

Most Gracious of All Gifts "Libbey" Cut Glass

THE CHIEF CHARM OF HER TABLE—IDEAL FOR A CORNER IN HIS DEN

In thousands of homes throughout the country the loveliest gift of all will be Libbey's Cut Glass. Could you conceive of a Christmas remembrance more satisfying in every respect—is it not this you are seeking?

There are two kinds of cut glass—Libbey's Cut Glass and the other makes. Libbey's is the standard by which other makes are measured. There is nothing lovelier, nothing that even pretends to be so fine.

We are sole Victoria agents, and invite you to inspect our stock in our Special Cut Glass Room.

Here are a few offerings:

Berry Bowls, \$4.00 to	\$7.50	Water Jugs, \$15.00 to	\$10.00
Nappies, \$18.00 to	\$5.00	Covered Butter Dishes, \$20.00 to	\$18.00
Oil Bottles, \$8.00 to	\$5.00	Card Receivers	\$12.00
Whiskey Jugs, \$20.00 to	\$12.00	Footed Comforts, \$12.00 to	\$7.50
Water Bottles, \$15.00 to	\$7.50	Celery Trays, \$12.00 to	\$5.00
Sugars and Creams, per pair, \$15.00 to	\$8.00	Cologne Bottles, \$7.00 to	\$5.00
Vases, \$35.00 to	\$3.50	Mayonnaise Dish, each with plate	\$10.00
Small Punch Bowls	\$30.00	Liquor Glasses, per dozen	\$22.00
Bon Bon Dishes, \$10.00 to	\$5.00	Sherry Glasses, per dozen	\$25.00
Uncovered Butter Dishes, \$10.00 to	\$5.00	Claret Glasses, per dozen	\$25.00
Ice-Cream Plates, \$4.00 to	\$12.00	Champagne Glasses, per dozen	\$30.00
Candlesticks, Colonial designs, \$7.50 to	\$6.00	Whiskey Tumblers, per dozen	\$16.00
Claret Jugs, \$18.00 to	\$12.00	Champagne Tumblers, per dozen	\$20.00
Sugar Holders, Colonial cut, \$15.00 to	\$12.00	Custard Cups, per dozen	\$30.00

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