

The Toronto World

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SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 8

Compulsion for Slackers

There will be the usual differences of opinion about the action of the British Government in passing a measure to bring the "slackers" up to the mark in the matter of national service. It is inconceivable that any citizen with his heart in the welfare of his nation and of his fellow-citizens would stand aside at a crisis when not only his nation is in peril, but in the view of all responsible people, his own liberty, the liberty and honor of his women and children, and the traditions and national ideals for which many previous generations have spent their lives and energies stand at hazard.

These objectors to making the "slacker" stand up to his duty apparently regard the principle of being free not to fight as of more importance than the preservation of the only great national organism that has ever approximated to that principle. And the question must surely arise for even these objectors, what good will the assertion of the principle do when the means of assertion and the nation that makes the assertion are swallowed up in slavery? Then would be demonstrated to the world that the principle of compulsion was a better working principle than the principle of freedom, and this would commend the principle of freedom to the next generation. All this, however, is chewing the wind when the vital issues remain at stake.

We confess to some sense of disappointment if not discouragement over the opposition of the labor unions to this attempt to get the remnant of the eligible fighting men into line. These men who will not fight for the nation would certainly never fight for labor, nor for the rights and the principles of labor. This touches the spot.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc in his book, "The Servile Nation," has suggested that there is an element of weakness in the national constitution which must be developed into strength or eliminated if it is not to remain as a menace to the national life. He points out the operation of this element in the demand for a minimum wage regulation. The man who desires to have a minimum wage merely or only, and is satisfied to plod along towards his grave as long as he has his stomach filled and his bed to sleep on, should not be the man to set the pace for the rest of the community. If he is to rule then good-bye to progress.

We have faith that while this element exists it is a minority element and will never be permitted to dictate to the rest of the nation. It does not follow that minorities are always right any more than that majorities are never wrong.

There is a nobler ideal ahead of the working man than a mere minimum wage, but we may be certain that unless Great Britain and her allies win this war that ideal will be set back for another millennium.

The situation is the more unfortunate as it almost inevitably will bring the labor man who has fought in the trenches and faced the German bullets, into clash with the man for whom he has fought and who has refused to help or allow help to be given. These are the tough and stubborn facts of the case, and if workmen have not faced them as facts rather than as theories they should sit down and think them all over again.

If not mere servility as wage-earners is to be the future of the working class, what is it or can it be as long as the working classes refuse to share the dangers and perils of the game of life? The poisonous element of selfishness, whether of the individual or the class, creeps into the vein of the nation, and the result is certain death, slowly realized at first, in slackening pulses and falling energy, but death undoubted.

This poison is in all classes potentially, and the landowner and the capitalist, the manufacturer and the employer are not more free from it than the man who depends on his daily toil and his daily wage for his daily bread. The man who shirks his taxes and renders a false account of his assessment has nothing to say to the man who refuses to enlist or who

threatens to strike in the coal mine if he does not get his own way.

We recognize the immense difficulty in harmonizing the interests of all classes, but unless there be a willingness among all classes to be harmonized there can be no hope for any solution. The experiences of the war, as war has ever proved in the past, have had a harmonizing effect upon the British people beyond anything that would have been thought possible three years ago. We do not despair that the present problem may be solved, as even greater ones have been since the Kaiser drew the sword.

The New Chairman's Opportunity

In the election of Mr. William Houston to the chairmanship of the board of education his fellow-members have gratified a laudable ambition, as well as rewarded a long term of service with the best recognition that the man of action can have, the opportunity for larger labors. We believe that Mr. Houston has many excellent ideas about the operation of the schools in Toronto, and his plan for synthetic organization should receive careful attention from the authorities.

Every citizen who has examined the question desires that all the courses of the educational opportunities of our schools and colleges should be so arranged that they will carry a pupil as far as he desires to go without landing him in a dead end, or compelling him to climb walls which he had not bargained for when he began, or which he may find set up around him when he has had occasion to change his course.

It should not be impossible so to arrange the school course that when a boy or girl wishes either to go on or to drop out he could do so without having lost anything essential in what he has had. It should be possible also to get the technical courses a little more in touch with the general courses, and it should not be possible for such arbitrary distinctions to exist as prevent manual training being carried on where it is convenient and desirable without the intervention of the authorities.

There is no doubt at all that the practice of the department of education has been responsible to a large degree for robbing the teachers of initiative. This in turn deprives the pupils of originality, and we are breeding a generation of youths who are all molded in the same pattern as like each other as a crate of forcibly-fed chickens dressed for the market. This may be infinitely pleasing to the inspector's eye, and the department may boast over results, but it is disastrous to the eminent cause of citizenship.

We do not know how far Mr. Houston's views go in this direction, but we trust he has an open mind and that his windows are wide. There has been a thorough examination made recently of the whole school system of the city by the Bureau of Municipal Research, and those who had the good fortune to hear Dr. Brittain explain his views on the question have been glad to reinforce themselves with the facts he has placed at their disposal in the four pamphlets so far issued. We expect to have more to say about these reports, but in the meantime we trust Mr. Houston will have made a study of them and that his chairmanship will show fruit in assisting the realization of some at least of Dr. Brittain's suggestions.

Woman's Place in the War

An excellent spirit is manifested by the proposals at the meeting of women at the parliament buildings yesterday with the object of following the example set in Great Britain, and as far as possible by filling the places of men who are eligible for more active service to set these free for that purpose. The meeting was nominally for the purpose of assisting the recruiting movement, but this definite and practical turn was given to the general plan.

The women of the district, it is thought, might be organized to take the places of men who could then fill positions of greater efficacy either at the front or on lines of communication or elsewhere. While the women are busy at this there is room also for the men over age to consider the same problem. Many men either over age or not capable of full service at the front, might be capable of taking the places of men now engaged on lighter work at home; who could thus be relieved for active service. There is no end to the application of the principle, if the men who are able show themselves willing to go forward, and the men or women who can take their places agree to do so.

In Great Britain, as in the allied countries generally, the principle is in general use, and the women in France and elsewhere are doing work every where that the men may go to the trenches. There is no complaint; for what people are brought up to is not regarded as compulsory. It is no more compulsory than the payment of taxes or of statute labor, at which we believe the average Canadian preferred, while he had the option, to give his labor rather than his money. We have not

GRATEFUL WARMTH



A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

LUCK AND PLUCK.

(Copyrighted, 1916).
T WIDET Luck and Pluck
Lies but a letter.
Right good is Luck,
But Pluck is better.
For Luck you sit
And wait his wooing,
But Pluck means Grit,
And Something Doing.

ASKS FOR WINDING UP OF STOCK AND BICKLE

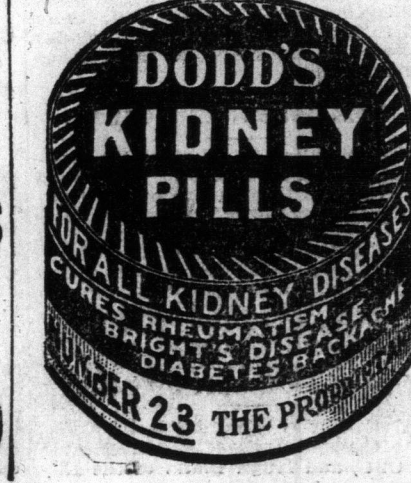
Creditor Files Petition Before Mr. Justice Middleton, Which is Adjudged Sine Die.

WARD SIX TO PRESENT ANOTHER AMBULANCE

Vice-President of Conservative Association Receives Good News of One Sent.

Word has just been received by James Palmer, vice-president of Ward Six Conservative Association, that the motor ambulance sent over last fall is doing such good work that the association has decided to go ahead and raise money for another ambulance. Dr. Palmer writes from Shorncliffe: "The Ward Six Conservative Association ambulance is attached to our hospital and is doing great work. It is going steady about twelve hours a day and is a fine looking car and easy running. I try to get it because I feel it is more from home than the others. I can tell you it is mighty nice for those boys that are badly wounded to get in the easy running cars. I always look over the cases and put the badly wounded in the best cars, for when these boys are moved five or six miles to the hospital you can easily see how painful the fractured ends of a bone rubbing together would be over that distance. Why, I've heard these boys curse the driver the whole way to the hospital they were in such pain, and the driver would only be crawling along. And when I saw that car I was glad I was a member of Ward Six Conservative Association."

The campaign for the new ambulance will start at once. The ward has been divided according to subdivisions and the members of the association will be asked to make a small donation to be distributed over a number of months, and in this way the cost of the car will be financed.



MICHIE'S BEAURICH CIGARS

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MICHIE & CO., LIMITED

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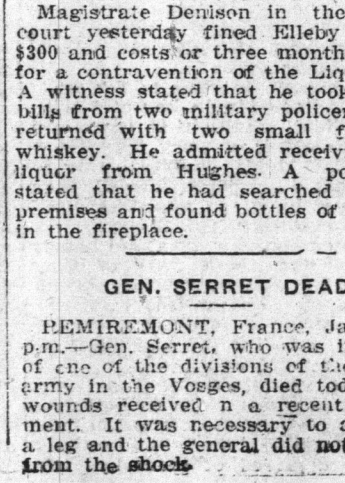
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EXTRA BIG PROGRAM AT FIVE SUNDAY MEETINGS

Loew's Theatre Will Be Scene of Biggest Recruiting Rally Since War Started.

AFTERNOON AND NIGHT

Boston Orator, Mme. Petrova, Russian Actress, and R. R. Gagey, Among Speakers.

ASKS FOR WINDING UP OF STOCK AND BICKLE

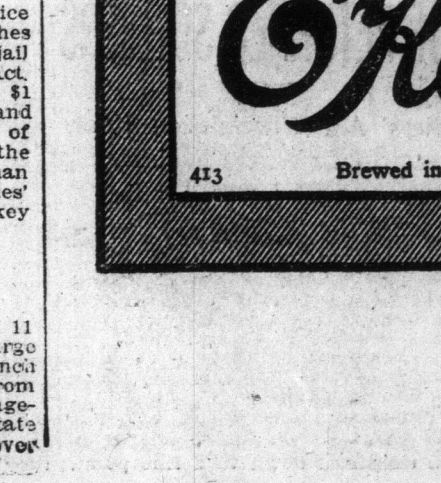
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"FRUIT-A-TIVES" THE MARVELLOUS FRUIT MEDICINE

Has Relieved More Cases of Stomach, Liver, Blood, Kidney and Skin Trouble Than Any Other Medicine.

THOUSANDS OWE THEIR GOOD HEALTH TO IT

Made From the Juices of Apples, Oranges, Figs and Prunes Combined With Tonics and Antiseptics.

"Fruit-a-tives" means health. In years to come, people will look back to the discovery of "Fruit-a-tives" and wonder how they ever managed to get along without these wonderful tablets, made from fruit juices.

"Fruit-a-tives" is excellent for Indigestion, Dyspepsia and Sour Stomach. "Fruit-a-tives" is the only certain remedy that will correct chronic Constipation and Liver trouble.

"Fruit-a-tives" is the greatest Kidney Remedy in the world and many people have testified to its value in severe cases of Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Pain in the Back, Impure Blood, Headaches, Neuralgia, Pimples, Blotches and other Skin Troubles.

"Fruit-a-tives" has been one of the great successes of the century and the sales are enormous, both in Canada and the United States. 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers, or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

REVOLUTION IN CHINA CAUSES APPREHENSION

Rebels in Yunnan Number Fifty Thousand—Missionaries May Be Imperiled.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—Advices from China today indicate that a revolution of a serious character has broken out. From Peking comes word that practically the entire Province of Yunnan is now in revolt. Communication with Yunnan has been entirely interrupted for two days. The rebels are reported to number near 50,000.

Canton, China, reports that one hundred armed men at midday yesterday attacked and looted the Chinese customs house on the boundary of Kowloon. The marauders posted proclamations describing themselves as revolutionaries. Further trouble is expected here at any time, as it is believed the rebels have corrupted the government troops.

Advices from Shanghai are that the authorities of the Province of Szechuan have been advised of the withdrawal of Christian missionaries from interior stations.

BRITISH TRADE FIGURES SHOW GAIN ALL ROUND

Both Imports and Exports for December Increased by Millions.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The board of trade figures of December show an increase of £3,621,000 in imports and £2,685,000 in exports.

The principal increases in imports were in grain, flour and metals. Dutiable imports of food, drink and tobacco increased by £4,000,000, the increase in exports being principally in cotton, iron and manufactured steel. For the year 1915 imports increased £157,121,000. Exports decreased £246,076,000.

SLACKERS ARE WARNED OF SEVERE PENALTIES

False Statements Will Lead to Imprisonment and Fines.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The text of the military service bill was made public today. The publication shows that the only provision of the measure not amply outlined in Premier Asquith's speech regarding it is one for a penalty of imprisonment not exceeding six months for persons making false statements in order to obtain exemption certificates and a fine of £50 for failure to notify the authorities should there be change in the circumstances upon which the certificate was granted.

LIQUOR SELLER PUNISHED.

Magistrate Denison in the police court yesterday fined Elsie Hughes \$300 and costs or three months in jail for a contravention of the Liquor Act. A witness stated that he took two \$1 bills from two military policemen and returned with two small flasks of whiskey. He admitted receiving the liquor from Hughes. A policeman stated that he had searched Hughes' premises and found bottles of whiskey in the fireplace.

GEN. SERRET DEAD.

PEMIREMONT, France, Jan. 6, 11 p.m.—Gen. Serret, who was in charge of one of the divisions of the French army in the Vosges, died today from wounds received in a recent engagement. It was necessary to amputate his leg and the general did not recover from the shock.

H. K. CASKEY RESIGNS TO GO TO NEW YORK

General Secretary of Laymen's Missionary Movement Joins International Committee.

LEAVES THIS MONTH

Has Been Connected With Dominion Organisation Since Convention Seven Years Ago.

H. K. Caskey, the general secretary of the Laymen's Missionary Movement in Canada, has resigned that position, and will join the force of the international committee in New York City.

A series of conventions is being conducted in all the large cities of the United States at present, and this will culminate in a final national convention Easter week in the City of Washington, and Mr. Caskey will for the next three months give his attention almost entirely to the Washington meeting.

Before the national missionary congress was held in Mussey Hall in March, 1909, Mr. Caskey came to Toronto to look after the executive work, and after the congress was held in Toronto, he was elected secretary, and in becoming the national secretary, he gave his entire attention to the international work in this country. Each province of the Dominion has been visited repeatedly by delegations representing the different churches operating, and practically every city and town in Canada, with a population of 700 or more, has heard the message of the laymen's movement from business and professional men, returned missionaries and secretaries.

Organized Campaigns.
Mr. Caskey's chief business has been the organizing of these campaigns and securing the local co-operation necessary to the success of any meeting, and yet he has spoken in hundreds of places throughout the country, and probably no one man in the Dominion has a wider or more pleasant acquaintance with the clergy and laymen of all the different communions.

The national committee in accepting the resignation passed a resolution of deep appreciation of the service rendered by Mr. Caskey, and he says he feels that he leaves more friends in Canada than any one man can rightfully claim. The national committee have asked him to remain until April 1, but he feels that the condition of the work does not actually demand it, and the American work is in great need of the most energetic pushing, and he has asked to be released at the close of the present month. The secretaries of the laymen's movement in the different churches will be an executive committee to look after the work for the present, and it is probable that no regular secretary will be employed until after the close of the war.

BRITISH SUB. IS LOST OFF HOLLAND'S COAST

Entire Crew Rescued by Dutch Cruiser and Taken Into Port.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The sinking of a British submarine off the coast of Holland was officially announced this morning. The crew were saved. The admiralty statement says that the submarine, the name of which is not given, was sunk yesterday off the island of Texel, the largest and most south-westerly of the Frisian group. The entire crew, numbering 23, was rescued by the Dutch cruiser Noord Brabant, and brought in the Dutch port of Helder.

A despatch from The Hague, Netherlands, says the ministry of marine has announced that a British submarine which was flying signals of distress was encountered by the Dutch cruiser Noord Brabant outside of Dutch territorial waters.

SUBMARINE RAN AGROUND.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 7, via London. 5 p.m.—The accident to the British submarine was due to the fact that it grounded and sprang a leak, having taken the wrong course off Noordwijk. The crew has been interned in the naval barracks.

A Brew for every taste: Special Extra Mild Ale—Pilsener Lager—Special Extra Mild Stout—Old Stock Ale, and every brew the best of its kind, pure and healthful.

Why not have a case of each and suit the taste of all your friends?

O'Keefe's

Brewed in Canada for over 50 years.

