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H. V. MacKINNON, Managing Editor. ALFRED E. McGINLEY, Editor.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1915.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE KAISER A PARANOIAC?

"I should designate his trouble as PARANOIA, which I consider a better name than MONOMANIA."—New York Tribune, December 1, 1891.

A western exchange, in commenting upon the conduct of the German Emperor, declares, in all seriousness, that it has been more than hinted that the throne of the mighty German Empire is occupied by a Paranoiac. While the terms sounds sinister it appears to be especially appropriate to the case of the blood-lustful war lord of Berlin. The new Standard dictionary defines Paranoia as "chronic mental unsoundness, hereditary or acquired; sometimes monomania; dementia with delusions." It comes from the Greek Paranoia and occurs in the writings of Plato and Euripides where it signifies to be deranged, to go mad, etc.

Newspaper readers were made more or less familiar with it in connection with the notorious case against Harry K. Thaw where it was frequently used and where its valued assistance was invoked to save the life of the unfortunate Pittsburg millionaire. As in that case the term was taken to mean a chronic form of insanity in which for many years the intellect of the patient remains apparently unimpaired, though systematically dominated by a recurring delusion. It was then held by the alienists on the side of the defence that persons suffering from this form of insanity are suspicious, prone to consider themselves slighted, imagine the constant existence of a combination against them, are extremely egotistical and subject to delusions of a religious, patriotic or amorous nature.

Whatever ultimately may be held to have dominated the German Emperor in his mad career, close scrutiny of his life and conduct will supply more than one unmistakable symptom of the inmate of the insane asylum. In his own opinion Wilhelm II. is the sole representative on earth of the Almighty; obsessed with the idea that he is the one superman of Gott. This is borne in upon us if we recollect that, addressing the German troops recently, he delivered himself of the following remarkable statement:

"Remember that the German people are the chosen of God and on me, as German Emperor, the Spirit of God has descended. I am His weapon, His sword and His vice regent." One of the most frequent delusions of such an obsession is that the subject imagines he hears supernatural, unearthly voices which he invests with all the authority of a real message from Heaven. A corresponding symptom is to be found in the occupant of the German throne. Recently there have appeared reports of speeches delivered by the Kaiser at various times. A quotation from one of his utterances in 1898, which is being widely published now, is as follows:

"I have meditated long and deeply on this subject. The fact that it preoccupies me so much convinces me that I am inspired to take action in the matter. It is like one of the voices that Socrates had about with him which whispers in my ear that this is my mission. It daily urges me on and I think than this no better augury of success could be desired. I shall not die until my ends are attained. Death otherwise would find a void in my existence and I feel within me that I have not been born in vain."

Whatever may be the final judgment of history upon Wilhelm II., whether it be recorded that he was insane or simply "cussed," they will not go far astray who have found in his mistaken opinions the hallucinations of a Paranoiac. Such being the case civilization must decide now and for all time whether in any nation, ever again, it shall be permitted for such great power to be held by any one man no matter how distinguished or illustrious his family and lineage may have been. As is wisely said by the western paper referred to, "a crowded street and a sixty horse-power motor car in charge of a lunatic, a battleship with a maniac in the powder magazine, these are suppositions of terror. But not one of them approaches in horror the death and torture dealing possibilities of an obsessed autocrat breaking the speed limit with a Juggernaut of War."

THE WAR SITUATION.

The Russian forces, despite the strenuous opposition provided by the finest troops in the German and Austrian armies, are once more making progress in their invasion of Germany's eastern provinces, and are reported to have assumed a vigorous offensive in East Prussia. Meanwhile the fight in the vicinity of Warsaw continues with unabated vigor. It is difficult, however, to obtain accurate news from that quarter, as both sides claim to have gained advantage. German news bureaus report that the attack on the Polish city is gradually being pressed to a satisfactory conclusion, while from Petrograd comes assurance, equally as definite, that the Czar's soldiers, instead of being unable to withstand the Germans have been diverting a portion of their force to prosecute offensive movements elsewhere. In the Carpathians the Russians are contending against the Germans and Austrians as well as heavy snow storms. For this reason the rapid movement of troops is difficult, if not impossible, and consequently the development of the campaign in that area has been delayed.

Fighting on the Western front appears to be almost at a standstill. The Allied forces are making use of the breathing spell to push more and more men to the fighting lines. Spring in France and Flanders comes at least a fortnight earlier than in this country, and it will be but a comparatively short time now before the projected offensive empaign, promised for the spring months is ready for launching. It is probably in preparation for this that so many fresh troops have crossed the Channel and are gradually moving to positions within easy striking distance of the battle front.

With the inception of the offensive campaign on the part of the Allies will commence the fourth, and what is expected to be the last stage of the great war. First came the German advance on Paris, and the many days of hard fighting following the retreat. Then the gradual driving of the Kaiser's forces back along the road they had pursued in their original advance. That, in turn, was succeeded by the German attempt to get to the ports of the English Channel, which led to the fighting with which the past five or six weeks have been filled. Today finds the German armies quite close to their own frontier, weakened and desperate and faced by a determined foe which daily increases in strength. The British navy, potent as ever, has proven itself fully equal to the task of protecting the transport of British troops from England to the debarkation ports in France and, according to the despatches of the past week, there has been a steady stream of troop ships passing across that much travelled water. It is said that the First Canadian Contingent is already in France and will participate in the advance with the other units in "Kitchener's New Army." With hundreds of thousands of such splendidly organized, well equipped and competent troops to join the veterans of the British service which have already done such good work in the trenches, there can be no reasonable doubt that when the word is passed for the commencement of the final driving movement, that day will see the disappearance of Germany's last hope.

Without question there will be desperate fighting after the Kaiser's men have been driven to their own country, but once started the invasion will continue until, unable to longer stand the terrible pressure resulting from the armed enemies without and the starving disaffected population within, Germany will collapse from sheer exhaustion. There can be no other ending.

It is regrettable to note that the contributions to the patriotic funds have fallen off. While the amount subscribed during the first few months of the war was large, it should not be forgotten that the demand on the funds will be heavy and much will be required. Those for whose benefit the funds have been provided have made a sacrifice which cannot be estimated in mere money. Citizens to whom the war has meant no tangible loss or misfortune cannot afford not to respond to the appeals already made nad which will be made in the future.

In the retirement of Dr. George F. Matthew, the Canadian Customs Department loses an official who gave ever faithful and capable service. In public and private life Dr. Matthew has made very many friends who will unite in the hope that he may long be spared to enjoy the leisure and repose he so richly merits.

Beck's Weekly, Montreal, says "the unkindest thing of all about the gentleman who blew up the bridge over the St. Croix River was his impertinent assumption of the name of Van Horn, even allowing for the fact that he does not spell it correctly."

The school board is to take legal action against the civic authorities as the result of the pruning of the school estimates. This promises to be a momentous year for the civic rulers of St. John.

It is said that among the newest New York styles in millinery is the "torpedo boat hat." It will probably succeed in blowing a hole in the fattest pocketbooks.

Marshall P. Wilder, the professional humorist who died the other day, left an estate of $250,000. Another evidence that the world is willing to pay for its smiles.

LID GOES ON POKER GAMES

Police Chief has quietly announced that gambling must stop.

The young men who have been enjoying the game of poker are now more careful than ever before for the word has leaked out that the police are about to make a campaign and will gather in all parties found gambling. In fact, some of the places about the city where it is known that the game has been played for stiff stakes have closed, and the gamblers state there is nothing doing as they would rather stop playing than get into the hands of the police.

It is not the innocent game of a one or two cent limit that has caused the authorities to take notice, but the big game of "Stud" poker which is said to have caused considerable talk about town. It has been mentioned that as much as a thousand dollars was lost by one business man at one sitting recently, and for a pot of four hundred dollars was raked in with a hand of three kings is also said to have happened. Men who have their business to look after are said to have neglected the business,, taking for it the old adage, "If pleasure interferes with your business, give up the business." While nothing is said about the matter around police headquarters, the poker players, and especially some men who do hardly anything else for a living, are taking the hint and the lid is on strong.

SCOTSMEN AT FRONT GET HOSE TOPS

Interesting acknowledgement of sum contributed here for Highlanders.

Miss Martin, chief librarian of the St. John Public Library, who has been taking kindly interest in collecting donations for hose tops for Highlanders at the front has recently received an acknowledgement from the Marchioness of Tullibardine of £10 subscribed by St. John people. The acknowledgement which was delayed by unavoidable causes is in the following terms:

Dear Madam—I beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, receipt of your kind donation of ten pounds (£10) towards the provision of hose tops for the men of the Highland regiments now serving abroad.

Yours faithfully,
K. M. TULLIBARDINE.

In sending the recipt to Miss Martin the Marchioness says: "Please excuse the long delay in sending the receipt, and believe how very much I appreciate the help given me by you and other Scottish people in St. John. It was delightful to know that so many in New Brunswick had been wanting to join in providing these hose tops for the Highland regiments. I have, among many others, supplied one battalion of Canadian Highlanders, and am sending supplies to two more. Many orders were given to fisher girls. With very many thanks to you and your friends. There are five Highland regiments at the front without the Highland regiment from Australia, New Zealand, the Cape and Canada." Miss Martin explains, with reference to the orders given to fisher girls, that part of the money paid to them was for knitting and other work.

"ISHMAEL" AT THE OPERA HOUSE WAS WELL PRODUCED

Young - Adams Company Opens Fourth Week with an Excellent Bill.

Claudie Merlin .... Marjorie Adams
Beatrice Merlin .... Marie Le Clair
Faustina .... Hazel Stevenson
Maid .... Eva La Reane
Judge Merlin ..... Harry W. Lyon
Ben Burghe ..... John J. Greggory
Viscount Vincent .... Clyde C. Cole
Reilly .... Harry La Reane
Ralph Walsh .... Wm. Loker
Ishmael .... H. Wilmot Young

Synopsis of Scenes

Act. I.—Judge Merlin's Garden, Washington.
Act. II.—The Merlin's Drawing Room.
Act. III.—The same next evening.
Act. IV.—One week later.

Inclement weather never seems to dampen the ardor of local theatregoers while so popular an attraction as the Young-Adams Company is holding forth at the Opera House, for a large audience was present last night to help the company make an auspicious start on the fourth week of their stay here. The play, a dramatization of Mrs. Southworth's famous story, "Ishmael," undoubtedly was an attraction for many, for most everybody has read the book at some time in their lives and are curious to see just how it would appeal to them as presented in play form. "Ishmael" has been a very popular story with the feminine sex for at least two generations and no doubt many of the mothers of the present—possibly some grandmothers—can remember when they smuggled the book up into their bed chamber and devoured chapter after chapter while mother and fatfler were peacefully slumbering in the next room. Love stories usually make interesting plays and "Ishmael," in the dramatic form as presented by Young-Adams Company, is no exception to the rule. At any rate, the audience in the Opera House last night seemed to thoroughly enjoy it and followed the hero in his trials and vicissitudes with much interest and fervor. The story of the play is too well known to require a synopsis here.

The leading roles in the hands of Miss Adams and H. Wilmot Young, were, as is usual with these two popular players, well handled and both were finished characterizations. The other parts were well portrayed, Hazel Stevenson and Clyde C. Cole in particular being especially good in their respective roles. A good word should be said for the scenic settings, one scene shown being fully on a par with any stage setting that has been seen on the local stage for a long time. Careful attention to detail of stage presentation has a lot to do with the success of any production and this is a matter that never seems to be overlooked by this company. Some clever vaudeville acts were presented between acts, the comedy sketch by the two La Reanes last night being about the best of the kind they have offered during their stay here. It seemed as though the audience could not get enough of it.

"Ishmael" will be repeated for tonight, also for two performances on Wednesday. It is well worth while. Go and see it.

PERSONAL.

A. E. O'Leary, chief game warden for the province, was at the Victoria yesterday.

A. R. Wetmore, provincial engineer, was at the Dufferin yesterday.

James Robinson, of Miramichi, is at the Royal.

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

We had appel tarts for dizzert last nite for suppir, me beeing aloud to have 2, and wen suppir was ovir thare was still a hole lot of them awn a plate in the middel of the tabil, and I went out and sum of the fellos was standing erroun dthe lamp post in frunt of our house wateing for me, and I stood thare tawking to them a wile, and then I sed, I'll be out in a minit, and I went back into the house agen and wawked throo the dining room, and the tarts was still thare, and I went back in the kitchin and got a drink of wattir and awn my way out agen I took a tart awf of the plate and ate it awn my way to the frunt doar agen.

Wats you chewing awn, sed Puds Simkins.

Nuthing speshil, I sed.

And I stood thare a littel wile lawngir, and then I sed, Ill be back in a minit. And I went back in the kitchin and got anuthir glass of wattir and drank it.

You seam to have an orfill thirst awn you tonite, sed Nora. Nora beeing the naim of our cook. Wich I dident say enything, and awn my way out throo the dining room I took anuthir appel tart awf of the plate and ate it befoar I got to the frunt doar, and aftir I had bin out anuthir littel wile I sed to the fellos, Ill be back in a minit. And I went back in the kitchin for anuthir drink of wattir.

Well for the luv of hevvin, a boddy mite think you had bin out in the desert of Sahara 7 months without wattir, life a camel, sed Nora.

Im thersty, I sed. And I drank the wattir and took anuthir appel tart awn my way out, and aftir a wile I told the fellos I wood be back in a minit, and I went in agen, and jest befoar I got to the dining room I herd sumboddy tawking, and who was thare but ma, saying, Well for mersey sakes, wats happened to that plate of tarts.

Ah hah, sed Nora, he caim in aftir wattir, did he, ah hah, he had a terribil therst awn him, did he, ah hah.

G, I thawt, maybe thare tawking about me. And I quick snuck out to the street agen and got up a gaim of hare and hounds so I woodent haff to be so neer the house for a wile.

ONLY FOUR BRITISH RESIDENTS IN BERLIN HOTELS LAST MONTH

Berlin, Feb 8—(By Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—According to Berlin statitstics during January there were 74,343 foreigners in Berlin hotels and boarding houses as against 104,287 in January, 1914. Among them were 157 Americans, 103 Russians, four British, 28 Belgians and 494 Swedes.

Violated Traffic Laws.

The police have reported Morris Guss of 42 Acadia street for violating the street traffic law by obstructing the passage of other vehicles on Brussels street yesterday.

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50c to $1.00 a pair off all $4.50, $400 and $3.50 articles.

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