

Hands and Hearts Across the Sea.

At the celebration of "Britain's Day" at a great meeting in the Hippodrome, New York, the Chairman, Hon. Alton P. Parker, read messages from King George, British, French, and American political and military leaders, signifying the valor of Britain and the unity of the English-speaking nations.

Every one rose and stood while this message from King George was read: I am deeply touched by your telegram announcing that Dec. 7 and 8 will be celebrated throughout the United States of America as Britain's Day. The people of the British Empire join with me in thanking you for your efforts in promoting this celebration which will be welcomed as a proof of the true and lasting friendship of the United States. It will be a particular satisfaction to my navy and army to feel that they have won the esteem of the nation which has sent so many gallant men to suffer with them the trials of this great war, and to share in the glories of final victory. In the name of the British Empire, I thank the people of the United States of America, and I pray that the coming era of peace may find our two nations always united as they are to-day.

The message from the French Prime Minister and one from M. Jussier, the French Ambassador, now crossing to France on the George Washington, were read by Consul-General Lebert. I join wholeheartedly in the solemn tribute which the United States render on this day to the Kingdom united by its Grand Fleet, as vigilant as it is intrepid, by the tenacious and strong armies which it has created and maintained. Great Britain has contributed powerfully to the saving of civilization. France, the land of the rights of men and of the citizen, will never lose the remembrance of the splendid effort of the land of habeas corpus. The same ideal of liberty and of right binds together the United States, Great Britain and our country. Therein lies the certain guarantee of a just and durable peace.

CLEMENCEAU.

I am sorry indeed not to be present on this day of triumph when the great deeds of our British friends and allies will be commemorated. My regret is somewhat diminished by the thought that my journey will enable me to congratulate them on the spot for the memorable work done by them in the four elements, earth, air, water, and let us not forget fire.

JUSSIER.

Secretary Lane sent this greeting: The British sacrifice of 650,000 dead and of three times that many wounded was a sacrifice for us, as well as for the rest of the world. Every Canadian boy that went down in those first terrible days of the war, and every Australian and South African gave his life to prove that might was not right; that a soldier with a lust for power was not to be the master of the world; that predatory war would not pay. Britain helped France till America came to the help of both, and now we may continue to live as free nations, abusing each other at times.

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Bolshevism at the City Hall.

IS IT PERSECUTION OR VINDICTIVENESS?

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—At last Thursday's meeting of the City Council appears the following which I take from the Telegram, in the report of the Star the name of Mr. Murdoch appears.

"It was ordered that Mr. Thomson, owner of the Sudbury property, Water Street West, be communicated with and asked for a guarantee of the cost of making roads and laying water and sewerage, and then suggest that he modify his plans of layout of the lots."

If the above is not an antidote of Bolshevism I don't know what is. Is it the intention of the Council to pursue a cantankerous policy of this kind. If so, then the sooner they send in their resignation to the Government the better it will be for the City, and have its affairs administered by the Board of Works.

Mr. Editor, at the outset I wish to be clearly understood, I am only dealing with public men upon a public question that affects the very foundation of the health of this town. I held no brief from either Mr. Thomson or Mr. Murdoch. I have no interest in either, except as a citizen looking on. I consider their treatment by the Council as a gross piece of injustice, impertinence, with plenty of bull dog vindictiveness thrown in. The city should feel proud of a man like Mr. Thomson who is prepared to give whatever land is required to make roads if the Council will build them.

The land belonging to the Sudbury Estate, situated in the West End of the town, is an ideal spot to build over one hundred beautiful houses for our people. The policy lately pursued by the Council is to block every man who wants to build a house, under the old stereotyped guise; no water; no sewerage. If there is none let the Council put it there. It is their duty, the revenue which they derive from the houses built on land belonging to the Sudbury Estate would amount to over \$3,000. Capitalized at 6 per cent. they could spend \$50,000 to make roads, lay water and sewerage in every part of it; the same argument applies to other parts of the municipal boundary.

Mr. Editor why should Mr. Thomson who is giving valuable land to build roads for the general public, be asked to pay out of his own pocket the cost of water and sewerage along Water St. Who paid for the water and sewerage along Gower and Duckworth Streets. Who paid for the water and sewerage on Circular and LeMarchant Roads. Who paid for the water and sewerage in other parts of the town please answer.

In Great Britain to-day the Government, County Councils, Cities, Towns, Villages, Municipalities are co-operating with the people for better homes and suitable land to build. When the boys come back where are we going to put them? I understand some are on the way now, bringing wives from the old land.

Are the people of the West End, or the East End for that matter, to be prevented from building homes for their families because the water and sewerage are not near the land. We have had Mr. Murdoch's explanation of his position. We have had the Mayor's. The next in order for public information is the Mandamus issued by the Supreme Court. The progress and development of the town must go west and east. There are plenty of building sites for workmen's houses. If the Council are not in a position to lay water and sewerage within the limits of the town then we must have a new town or houses with septic tanks. Will the Council try to learn the lesson which is at the present time being taught throughout the British Empire: fraternal brotherhood, concord, co-operation, thrift and common sense are the constructive elements to build a new city. It will be better for our workmen to live in houses with septic tanks than homes not fit for slaughtering hogs, but thought fit to slaughter the innocents. I am glad to note in a despatch dated London, December 14th, that the Government at Auckland would embark upon the greatest housing scheme in history. Winston Churchill addressing electors at Dundee, contended that he would remain no longer responsible for public affairs in any administration of a base or class reactionary character. He did not believe that the spirit of the times would brook such an administration. What was wanted was a re-organization as far as could be of our national life in the same spirit as that in which all classes put up with the inconveniences and deprivations of the Great War.

On behalf of the Great Housing Scheme Committee, we ask Mr. Murdoch to have his Solicitor publish for public information the Mandamus issued by a Judge or Judges of the Supreme Court, as to how the public stand in relation to the Council's refusal to grant a permit to build his house.

A gigantic housing scheme, will not only fill an urgent need, but will accelerate demobilization and reduce unemployment. If a further reason he wanted for a progressive housing policy there is one, more convincing than all others. It is as a bare measure of justice, every man who has given of his best in fighting or working for his country should be regarded as entitled as of right to a decent home in pleasant surroundings. As Mr. Long, when President of the Local Government Board, said in reply to a deputation on Housing After the War:

"It would indeed be a crime—a black crime—if reading as we do the wonderful accounts of the sufferings which our heroes have to undergo in the trenches, . . . we sit still now and did nothing . . . To let them come home from horrible water-logged trenches to something little better than a pigsty here would indeed be a negation of all we have said during the war, that we can never repay these men for what they have done for us."

Or, as Dr. Addison, Minister of Reconstruction puts it: "Those who have suffered the hardships of war and the long bitterness of separation deserved better of us than to have to pass their lives in a slum."

Newfoundland, what are you doing? Newfoundland, are you going to do anything?

Yours truly,

JOHN ANDERSON.

St. John's, Dec. 17, 1918.

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Comedy of Sea-Mine.

An amusing story of the adventures of a mine, which was found by a Boer farmer and his son on the shore near Eland's Bay, South Africa, and which was opened with a tin-opener, is told in an official report to the Admiralty.

When the mine was discovered the farmer and his son first unscrewed a large brass cap, and some pulley wheels. They then rolled the receptacle into the sea, filled it up through the hole with salt water, and screwed back the brass tap. As Mr.—and his son lifted the receptacle into their cart a substance resembling brown tar began to trickle out. (T.N.T. softened by the sun). They lighted the substance with a match, and the result so seriously frightened them that they left the cart in the vicinity and told the policeman. When Constable—came with them at a later date the mechanism of the thing (as he termed it) did not excite his interest, so he rolled it into the bushes and covered it with branches and riet (reeds). It remained there until an officer from the flagship arrived to collect the mine. From the officer's report (the official story proceeds) it is clear that Mr.—and his son had (previously to becoming frightened) thoroughly, if not tactfully dismantled the mine. The primer was apparently opened with a tin-opener. Such portions of the horns of the mine as the officer eventually induced Mr.—and his friends to disgorge proved to have been cut off with a hammer and cold chisel. It also transpired that the flame from the burning T.N.T., rising some 200 feet, frightened the inhabitants on the coast, so that the wiser ones took refuge in the hills, and others sought safety under the beds. Mr.—, after some persuasion, eventually confessed that he had mistaken the thing for a new kind of boiler used in the manufacture of wireless telegraphy.—News of the World.

Items of Interest

GATHERED FROM EVERYWHERE.

Out of 208 sample of patent medicine tested in the laboratory of the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce, 78 are said to be available as alcoholic beverages.

Ingenuous residents of West Philadelphia, disgruntled at the adoption of the trolley skip-stop system, have found a way to make the cars stop where they think they ought. Waiting passengers roll big rocks on the track, and while the car men are rolling the rocks off, the passengers get on board the car.

"Seems tough for a warrior to come back from France, and fight a woman to get his job back," says the Los Angeles Times. "But lots of them will have to do it. The girls who have made good and like it will not want to let go. There are quite a number of little problems in this readjustment business."

What remains of the Jewish legion mobilized at Windsor is being demobilized. In all, some 6,000 young Hebrews from Canada and the United States, mostly the latter, have been in Windsor during the war. Many went from Halifax Overseas in drafts. The first of the remainder, a party of 250, passed through St. John recently on their way to the United States.

The French army of occupation is reported being received everywhere in Rhenish Prussia in an obsequious manner. Correspondents report that shop windows have tricolored cockades, and that in hotels the orchestras play French tunes. The correspondent of the Berlin says he is convinced that this behaviour on the part of the Germans is for the purpose of cajoling the Allies, and is carried out on instructions from the higher authorities.

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The Wounds

By RUTH C.

Who is it says: "Protect me from my friends, I can protect myself from my enemies."

That a sentence came into my mind the other day when I heard two women talking about their belief in equal suffrage. They were part of a group of which I was one.

members were either opposed to suffrage or of uncertain minds as to its desirability.

A Great Way to Convert An Opponent.

Instead of taking this state of mind into account and being tactful in their references to anti-suffragists, the two believers seemed to go out of their way to say ungracious things about the opponents' camp. Not in a straight out manner but with sly dig and innuendos, quotations of foolish things they had heard and so on.

It seemed to me that as they talked, I could see a slight stiffness come into the expression of several of the other women especially of one who has always been on the fence. One could almost feel a sense of antagonism in the air. Now what good did these two women do the cause they believe in? None whatever. On the contrary they probably did it infinite harm.

One Must Give One's Personality As Well As One's Money.

Yet I know that they do love the cause and that one of them (the one who was the most tactless in her speech and manner) has given much time and money to it. She simply does not realize that one must give tact and wisdom as well as time and money to a cause if one wants to do it the highest service.

Another woman whom I know hopelessly antagonized two brothers who were on the fence and might possibly have climbed down on the right side by insisting that suffrage was the most important thing in the world, even in war time. Their inability to make her admit that the most crucial issues of the world war were of as great importance as the fate of her cause embittered them against the whole subject.

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