

The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 29.

They Do Not Understand.

Mr. Samuel Gompers, like the great labor leaders of Great Britain, is heart and soul with those who want to win the war. "The man who does not contribute his service in this great cause of freedom and democracy," he said, "does not understand the spirit of the times."

There could not be a more practical or more philosophic summing up of the situation. It is lack of understanding that divides those who above all others should support the cause of democracy in this struggle. We can see the result written large in Russia of this lack of understanding, yielding to prejudice, pushing of a temporary class interest to the detriment of permanent public interests.

The great cause of freedom and democracy rests squarely at present on the shoulders of those who are fighting the supporters of autocracy and tyranny, and every stroke aimed against the friends of the army, the supporters of the democracy, for whatever reason or excuse, however plausible, is a stroke against democracy and liberty.

The forces of autocracy are so strong that every effort that democracy can muster is needed not only to win, but to shorten the conflict that is draining the life-blood of the nation, and spending its treasure at a rate that must increase the burden to the extent that the war is prolonged. While we are quarrelling about thousands in profiteering or untaxed incomes we are spending millions in the delay our quarrelling imposes. We can quarrel to our heart's content after the war is over; but of all the foolish things, the things dictated by lack of understanding, it is to see a great nation prolonging the daily expenditure of millions while peace policies are being threshed out for the benefit of doctrinaires and theorists. It is like stopping to argue who will pay for the water while the house is burning down.

There is more than money involved. There are all the precious lives of which every day added to the war by our obstinate holding back and refusal to co-operate to our fullest extent, robs the country. All this is due to lack of understanding, to the want of a sense of proportion. It is the same fatal weakness that lost Esau, his inheritance for a mess of pottage. Those who would sell the fate of humanity, the liberties of the race, the cause of democracy, for a temporary personal gain are worse than Esau, for they are in no such extremity.

There are many very worthy people who are resolved to vote against the Union government for one reason or another, not one of which reasons can be set up for a moment against the treasure and the lives that are spent in the prolongation of the war that their opposition entails, or would entail if it were successful. They do not think; they do not reason about this tremendous responsibility. They put the consideration aside. They profess they want to win the war, and that they are only taking their course as a protest against errors and mistakes. It is a fine protest to make to have a few more thousands of our brave fellows slaughtered, a few more billions added to our national debt.

Mr. Gompers sums up their whole difficulty in a sentence. They do not understand the spirit of the times. The things they fear will never come to pass, for the delay they cause may double the sum of our sacrifice in blood and treasure we shall see the victory if it takes all we have. The cause of democracy is greater than the cause of any party, or any class, or any theory, for it is the cause of the people and of all the people. When all the people stand on an equal footing internationally they can settle the questions that affect them nationally. But first things should come first, and the war is the big first thing over which there should be no division, and for which individuals and minorities might enoble themselves by accepting the soldier's example of self-effacement in battle.

Insuring the Nation.

Toronto has \$25,000,000 to subscribe to the Victory Loan before Saturday night at 12 o'clock. Good judges say it can be done easily. It can be done, that is to say, if those who have the money are willing to lend it. Those who can, and are unwilling, either do not understand their opportunity—and it is a highly profitable opportunity—and their privilege—and it is a great and patriotic privilege—or else they wish to assist the Germans and weaken our Dominion national strength.

It is reported that a man in Kitchener warned his friends not to buy the bonds, because if the Germans won they would be worthless. And he managed to convey the impression that the Germans would win, for his words prevented the purchase of bonds.

This is just the point. He and men like him want the Germans to win, and one of the ways of helping them to win is to cut off supplies from the Canadian armies and all the other allied armies so that the Germans may have an easy battle. If the Germans win the bonds would be of no value—but why?

Because Germany would enter into possession of Canada, confiscate all wealth as an indemnity, and there would be nothing left of value in the country, neither mortgages, nor bank accounts, nor title deeds, nor land, nor houses, nor anything else. A victorious Germany in the spirit of Prussia would make us hewers of wood and drawers of water for generations to come, and Belgium and Serbia would be paralleled in Quebec and Ontario if any resistance were offered to the German occupation.

There are hundreds of thousands of Canadians who do not yet apparently know what this war is fought for, and who are slack in military service and slack in monetary service because they do not understand. They must be reached and taught what this Victory Loan means. It is more to them and their safety and the security of their possessions than their fire insurance premiums. And yet this premium is

not lost, for what they lend to Canada is still theirs on the highest security of the whole nation, and at such interest as they can obtain on no similar security.

Keep the Farmers on the Land.

Many of the most sincere advocates of Union government and its policy of reinforcing our boys at the front have been disturbed by reports from various sections of the province that the local tribunals are not exempting young men sorely needed upon the land. Some of these tribunals seem to have utterly disregarded the plain provisions of the act. They have proceeded upon the theory that every able-bodied man between 20 and 34 should be in the trenches. They have forgotten that the army must be fed, as must the people at home engaged in maintaining that army at the front. They have also forgotten that in this war we not only have to feed our civil population and our soldiers at the front, but we are also required to supply great quantities of food to the mother country and to the allied nations.

In some cases we learn that officers representing the militia department have made a house-to-house canvass for the purpose of discouraging men entitled to exemption from making proper application to the local tribunals. In other cases the tribunals have exempted men entitled to exemption, but at the same time have lectured them for asserting their rights. In still other sections exemptions have been improvidently refused.

The man who produces food is just as necessary for the winning of the war as the man who fights in the trenches. He may not be performing as high or dangerous a duty, but he is performing a duty no less essential. The country today needs more production as badly as it needs more men. The government recognizes this, and proposes to curb the misguided zeal of the local tribunals. Anyone engaged in farming as an occupation who has been refused exemption may have his case reheard on appeal by applying to the minister of justice. Not only this, but the minister of militia has promised to honorably discharge and return to the land any farmer's son who is needed on the land. Speaking on this subject at Dundas last Saturday General Mewburn said:

"Farmers' sons who are honestly engaged in the production of food will be exempt from military service, and if I continue to be minister of militia I will give you my word that if farmers' sons who are honestly engaged in farm work and the production of foodstuffs—if they are not exempted by the tribunals and are called up for military service—I will have them honorably discharged from the Canadian expeditionary force, provided they go back to the farms, because it is very important that we should increase our production of foodstuffs."

General Mewburn stands by this statement. It will be his policy as long as he is minister of militia, and the prime minister says it will be the policy of the Union government. The farmers of Canada may therefore take it for granted that the land is not to be stripped of labor; that agricultural production is not to be curtailed, and that young men from the farms who have been improperly conscripted will be speedily restored to the land.

The War Goes Well.

Our expectations as expressed after the first German rush into Italy are being confirmed, and the resistance of the Italian army has risen to such a point that the offensive was taken and made progress in breaking the German first and second lines. General Maurice, of the British staff, gives the Italians full credit for having done this entirely themselves, and he is confident that the German onset is stemmed.

The heavy weather which the Germans have experienced in the mountains, blizzards holding up their transports and heavy guns, is what they might have expected, and is further evidence that the Italian expedition was a desperate exploit undertaken in the hope of gaining enough ground to make a peace bargain on. General Maurice believes that the German impact is now broken, and, as we surmised, this leaves the central nations notably weaker as the result of their attack. They have suffered severely at Cambrai, also, and the war in Flanders is altogether against them.

The resolve of the British to pursue the campaign thru the winter will do more to inspire our own soldiers and dishearten the enemy than anything else could. With a good firm frost the mud will disappear. Roads will be in splendid order, and sleighing may even be possible. Any sort of movement in bracing, cold weather is to be preferred to freezing in the trenches; and open fighting under such conditions will be the choice of British, and especially Canadian troops, while the Germans, driven into the open, will be loath to abandon their defences, which they will be unable to duplicate in frozen ground. Snow and ice barricades may be attempted, but they could only be very temporary shelters.

If Germany had the material with which to fight she would be fighting now at Cambrai as she once fought at Verdun, and she would fight at Passchendaele as she once fought at Ypres. But she is short of her strength. The virtue is gone out of her. Hence her surprise attack in Italy, skillfully planned, and with a chance of success, but without sufficient force to overwhelm an alert, skilful and a determined leader like the Italian general. Hence also her attempt to debauch Russia with fair words and some gold. Hence her inability to support her Turkish allies in Palestine or in Mesopotamia.

These things are significant of the fact that the tide of war has turned or is on the turn. The tide-rip shows clearly on the several fronts, and all that we have to do is to strengthen our forces and carry on until the enemy capitulates. It may be a year, it may be more, but we are not on the losing side.

And He is Dead.

He had the plowman's strength.
In the grasp of his hand,
He could see a crow
Three miles away
And the iron beneath the stone.
He could hear the green oats growing,
And the southwest making rain;
And the wheel upon the hill
When it left the level road.
He could make a gate, and dig a pit,
And plow as straight as stone can fall,
And he is dead—R. R. in The Nation.

CANADA'S GREAT DAY OF DESTINY.

From The Christian Guardian (Methodist), November 28.

There isn't any doubt that Canada today faces one of the great days of her history. Comparisons may be out of place, but the man who would say that what our Dominion does within the next few weeks will not tell vitally upon her character and history for the next hundred years fails utterly to understand the situation in which we find ourselves.

There has never been an election in Canada in which the questions at issue were quite so momentous, or so pregnant with future possibilities, as those which confront us at this time. We make no apology for coming back again and again to a discussion of this question. It is a question on which every honest man must speak out with the earnestness he is capable of. It is a question on which the church as such has a perfect right, and a stern duty, to express her conviction. That either individual or church should be unconcerned or silent is unthinkable.

And most of all a Methodist individual or the Methodist Church. As a church we have never hesitated to express our convictions when any great moral issue was before the community, and there can be no doubt that the great moral issue of the day is the question of the conservation of the Dominion. In other cases the tribunals have exempted men entitled to exemption, but at the same time have lectured them for asserting their rights. In still other sections exemptions have been improvidently refused.

With over 400 of our provinces in the hands of the enemy, and with a growing list of wounded and dead heroes, surely our people should speak out with all honesty and earnestness. With over 400 of our provinces in the hands of the enemy, and with a growing list of wounded and dead heroes, surely our people should speak out with all honesty and earnestness. With over 400 of our provinces in the hands of the enemy, and with a growing list of wounded and dead heroes, surely our people should speak out with all honesty and earnestness.

Last week the figures showed that the longer we delayed the necessity of preaching the doctrine of conservation in general terms. The whole world has been taught the necessity for conservation of the kinds of resources by the inexorable necessity of preserving the means of subsistence. It cannot be said, however, that in Canada we have yet arrived at a proper conception of the economic utilization of our resources. We still persist in a great degree in the crude and wasteful methods of utilizing our resources.

In his opening remarks the chairman said that it was a matter of regret to members of the commission that Hon. Dr. Boland, one of its members, is still a prisoner in the hands of the Germans.

"We are," said the chairman, "no longer under the necessity of preaching the doctrine of conservation in general terms. The whole world has been taught the necessity for conservation of the kinds of resources by the inexorable necessity of preserving the means of subsistence. It cannot be said, however, that in Canada we have yet arrived at a proper conception of the economic utilization of our resources. We still persist in a great degree in the crude and wasteful methods of utilizing our resources."

Patronage in Forestry. The chairman of the conservation commission, Sir Clifford Sifton, addressed the annual meeting of the commission at Ottawa. Sir Clifford Sifton, probably the most outstanding recommendation made by the chairman was one in regard to water power development. He suggested that an international commission should be named as a means of guaranteeing the best and most economical development and division of power between the United States and Canada.

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WILL EXCLUDE ALIENS FROM TWO-MILE ZONE

United States Authorities Adopt Means for Protecting New York Waterfront.

New York, Nov. 28.—Extension for almost two miles of the enemy alien barred zone along the East River waterfront was put in operation today by United States Marshal McCarthy. He announced that the zone had been taken because a great quantity of food for the enemy allies is prepared in slaughter houses in that section of the city. The marshal estimated that about 5000 alien enemies either employed or live in that restricted zone.

PATRONAGE HURTS FORESTRY WORK

Sir Clifford Sifton Addresses Conservation Commission at Ottawa.

WASTAGE PROCEEDS

Canadian Public Has Not Conceived Proper Utilization of Resources.

Ottawa, Nov. 27.—The feature of the opening sifting of the annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation here this morning was the annual address of the chairman, Sir Clifford Sifton. Probably the most outstanding recommendation made by the chairman was one in regard to water power development. He suggested that an international commission should be named as a means of guaranteeing the best and most economical development and division of power between the United States and Canada.

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fulfillment of its pledges in this respect.

"The principle is now definitely established in British Columbia. A beginning has been made in Ontario. A good beginning has also been made in Quebec. If, now, the principle be definitely established in the Dominion service we may hope very soon that the last vestige of political management in the forest service will be eliminated in every portion of Canada."

Railway Fires. Referring to the railway fire situation Sir Clifford Sifton pointed out that there are still over four thousand miles of Dominion Government railways and 350 miles of provincially chartered railways in Alberta not subject to regulation by the railway commission. He expressed regret that the minister of railways has so far declined to adopt the regulations of the railway board, and said that he hoped this would soon be done.

Sir Clifford dealt briefly with the question of the greater utilization of the lignite of the west as fuel in the form of briquettes, a matter to which some consideration has been given by the advisory council for scientific and industrial research. He said that no more valuable conservation work could be done than the establishment of a briquette making industry, and added: "The chairman of our mining committee, a considerable time ago, after studying the question, made the appointment of an inspector of mines in western Canada. Instead of consulting Dr. Adams and the committee on mines in making the appointment the government made an appointment which it can only be said was entirely inadequate and unsatisfactory. It is a fact that wasteful methods of mining are permitted throughout western Canada."

Sir Clifford dealt at some length with the water power situation, both national and international. After remarking that both the Dominion and United States Governments desire a fair division of available power, he said: "A thorough study of the whole question inevitably leads to the conclusion that there is only one sound and satisfactory method of developing these powers, and that is by an international commission, under which the greatest and best use of the powers will be made, the most economical development will be effected, a just and equitable division of the power will take place, and the governments concerned will be able to administer the power of Niagara for the benefit of the people who are directly concerned in its use. This bold and aggressive policy, if adopted by the governments of Canada, will undoubtedly command the support of our people."

CATHOLIC HOSPITAL DESTROYED BY FIRE

The Thousand Inmates Were Rescued, Chief of Police Lost His Life.

St. Hyacinthe, Que., Nov. 28.—The \$600,000 Hotel Dieu Hospital here was completely destroyed by fire this morning, and Chief of Police Poley lost his life while assisting in the task of removing the thousand inmates of the hospital.

The thermometer was down to zero, and after being got out of the hospital, the inmates, who included patients, orphaned children and aged folk, had a hard time until accommodation in houses throughout the town was found for them.

The institution, like similar hospitals, dotted all over Quebec, was managed by the Grey Nuns. It consisted of three stone buildings, one of which was completely destroyed by fire. Chief of Police Poley dropped dead from exhaustion and exposure just as the work of removing the inmates was being completed. Fire Chief Bourgeois had one foot seriously injured while Fireman Brunet sustained a broken arm.

The Montreal fire brigade sent down an engine and 20 men who put out the fire in the ruins of the building.

GUN LACERATED HIS HAND.

Special to The Toronto World. Belleville, Ont., Nov. 28.—Peter Thompson, a young man residing at Rossmore, Prince Edward County, was yesterday examining a loaded gun when it exploded, lacerating his right hand. He was brought to the hospital here where it was necessary to amputate two of his fingers.

AMERICAN INHERITS ESTATE.

New York, Nov. 28.—By the death of Sir Horace Cooper, the baronetcy and the family estate in England, valued at \$500,000, are inherited by Frank C. Cooper, chief of the information bureau in the office of District Attorney Swann, it became known today when Cooper received a letter from the attorneys in England.

WILL SET PAPER PRICES THRU UNITED STATES

American Government Proceeds to Regulate Supply on Canadian Model.

Washington, Nov. 28.—Readjustment of paper prices and distribution of stocks was turned over today to the federal trade commission by the department of justice, commissioner B. C. Colver and Dr. E. O. Merchant, who were in charge of the investigation of the industry, immediately began preparations to carry out the agreement reached with indicted manufacturers at New York several days ago.

While the Canadian prices have been considered by the commission at recent conferences here with Herbert Pringle, the Dominion's paper commissioner, who possesses distasteful powers as to price, probably will be considered by Commissioner Colver, who by an agreement now has virtually the same powers as the Canadian minister.

While the Canadian prices have been set at \$2.50 per 100 pounds, the American market prices have averaged \$3.25 and higher, attracting great quantities of paper here, and creating protests from the Canadian publishers.

The price fixed for the American paper is \$3 and the Canadian manufacturers have protested the Canadian price is too low.

NEGLIGENCE ONLY

Crown Withdraws Charge of Manslaughter at Trial in Cornwall.

Special to The Toronto World. Cornwall, Nov. 28.—The fact announced here this court of Ontario case in the superior court, after a two days' sitting before Mr. Justice Macdonald. The only criminal case before the court was the case of the accused, J. P. Stephenson of Avonmore, who was struck by an auto driven by Dan McDonald on Sept. 19 last. There were two counts against the accused, the first of manslaughter and the second of causing bodily harm by negligent driving. After hearing the evidence of six witnesses the judge instructed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty on the first count, and the jury brought in the first count of not guilty on the first count, and the second count of causing bodily harm by negligent driving. The judge instructed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty on the first count, and the jury brought in the first count of not guilty on the first count, and the second count of causing bodily harm by negligent driving.

HALF MILLION OF TRIBES MASSACRED BY CZAR

Rebellion Against Military Service Leads to Fierce Retaliation.

London, Nov. 28.—Half a million members of the Kirghiz tribes were massacred by agents of the Russian Empire in 1916, according to a correspondent of The Manchester Guardian, who has been traveling in Central Russia. This was punishment for a rebellion against military service by the Central Asian Muslims. Two million Nomads, who have gradually been forced eastward by the occupation of the grazing lands by the empire's ministers and officers, who filled the lands with Ukrainian peasants, took part in the rebellion. Civil war is still proceeding between Nomads and the Russian peasants, according to the correspondent.

TRAIN STRUCK AUTOBUS

Trenton Woman Killed on Way to Visit a Sick Relative.

Special to The Toronto World. Belleville, Ont., Nov. 28.—At an early hour this morning an auto bus was struck by a C. N. R. train near Trenton, with the result that Mrs. Henry of that town was killed and the driver seriously injured. The victim of the accident was being taken to the train to visit a relative who is ill in Port Hope.

KINGSTON ON HOME STRETCH.

Special to The Toronto World. Kingston, Nov. 28.—Kingston is on the home stretch to secure \$5,000,000 for the Victory Loan. Already \$1,700,000 has been subscribed, \$250,000 from the Canadian Locomotive works today, and the rest of the works will subscribe \$100,000.

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