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FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 18.

Who Put Veronal Into the Coffee of Leader McKenzie?

The Lloyd George government was returned to power after the signing of the armistice and given a mandate to conclude a treaty of peace. Mr. George made specific pledges as to what that treaty would contain, and he said in the house of commons on Wednesday that every pledge he made would be implemented. Yet he was called upon to defend himself in the house and did it so successfully that he returns to Paris with a mandate from the parliament as well as from the people of the United Kingdom. Everyone in the mother country is free to discuss the peace treaty, and more than once the envoys to the peace conference have been recalled to London to hear the views of parliament.

In the congress of the United States there has been constant discussion of the peace terms since President Wilson started upon his strange adventure of a trip to Europe. And be it remembered that whatever treaty President Wilson may sign does not bind the United States unless it is ratified by the senate.

But here in Canada there is no discussion of the peace terms, and the subject seems to be taboo in parliament. The opposition led by D. D. McKenzie makes no inquiry and invites no discussion. Within a few days the treaty may be signed, and we are bound by the treaty of peace, not only because we belong to the British Empire, but also because our prime minister and his colleagues have taken it upon themselves to appear at the conference as delegates from Canada.

If Canada is really a nation in the sense that Mr. Rowell explains her to be, our envoys at Paris are free to sign or refuse to sign the peace treaty. Canada, for example, may insist upon the right to exclusively control her fiscal policy and her policy of immigration. Beyond doubt our power to prohibit immigrants coming into this country will be curtailed by the treaty soon to be signed in Paris. If the gates are ours to open and the gates are ours to close we should notify the mother country and other nations that we are not to be bound by the peace treaty until it is first ratified by the Canadian parliament. At any rate we should give some instructions to or have some report from our prime minister and his colleagues overseas.

Is this important question not to be discussed in parliament? The government naturally is not trying to stir up discussion on any subject, but how about the opposition? Where is that thoughtful student of international law, Ernest Lapointe of Kamouraska? What has happened to our cautious friend, the leader of the opposition? Who has put veronal into the coffee of D. D. McKenzie?

Now for Mount Pleasant.

By the action of the city council this week, there is no immediate sight of any improvement in the transportation problem of North Yonge street. Matters stand as they were prior to the agreement brought down by the two city officials, Messrs. Bradshaw and Harris, and there is a possible opening in the 1917 act.

In connection with North Toronto, however, the problem is present in another phase, in that a very large portion of the people live on the east side of Yonge street and transportation for this section of the city's population can be supplied by building the Mount Pleasant civic car line, which was carried by a vote of the people six years ago. It is true that only $320,000 was requested by the works department for this line and that no provision was made for such bridges as will be needed in completing the proposition.

The World is of the opinion that the amount voted is sufficient if immediate relief is desired for this section of the community. Extension of the St. Clair avenue civic car line across the first ravine, east of Yonge by means of a trestle bridge and thence to and northerly up Mount Pleasant road to the extreme northerly limit of the city. It is not essential to construct permanent roadbeds on a very large portion of this car line. What the people of the district want is transportation and not pavements or permanent road beds. A single track, even, with sufficient turnout north of the bridge on Merton street, would meet all the requirements for the large number of people on the east side of Yonge street for quite a number of years, and the city council should take action in this direction immediately. The money has been voted. Men and supplies could be had without any difficulty and the road can be laid ready for operation in a short period.

Shall We Have Proportional Representation?

Nothing more important has happened in the legislature for many years than Sir William Hearst's intimation that the government would be prepared next session to consider a bill on preferential voting, by which we understand proportional representation to be meant. We have urged the measure for years, but it is in no sense a partisan or party affair. It implies absolute justice for all parties and in Great Britain the great leaders of all shades of politics favor it. A few second raters and the machine politicians have objected, but it is believed that before long the British parliament will adopt for the whole country what has been partially adopted in the universities and in Ireland.

There is no one policy so calculated in its immediate effect to raise the whole tone of parliamentary institutions and maintain them on the highest popular level. The principle has been before the political world for sixty years, and was endorsed by leading men from the first. The opposition has always come from the machine politicians, whose influence it lessens. But what they lose the people gain in the freer expression of their opinions and choice of candidates.

It is a measure to be drafted by mutual consent of all parties in the assembly, and if Sir William Hearst carries out the suggested program it will set the crown on the series of important legislative enactments for which he has been responsible.

Northcliffe and Lloyd George.

If Lord Northcliffe has no better case than The Times made yesterday against Lloyd George, the British premier has surmounted another crisis in his career. The feeling in Great Britain had been growing in feverish intensity, and there was not wanting the fear which had been fostered by interested parties that the government was going to give away in peace what had been gained in war. There is a wide difference, however, between treating Germany with stern justice, and leaving Germany in a position to retaliate, or to organize another raid on civilization. Nothing of this sort exists in the intention of Lloyd George, and his challenge to parallel his pre-election pledges with the terms of the treaty to be divulged next week was not even alluded to by The Times.

On the other hand The Times quibbled about Teschen, and even misquoted the prime minister's words, if the cabled report is correct, to give his allusion a sinister interpretation. It is a small point, but its very pettiness emphasizes the weakness of The Times' position.

Russia has been the main issue in delaying the negotiations, apart from Germany. The Russian problem loses a good deal of its complexity as Lloyd George states it, and it is once more an aggravation of The Times to interpret the prime minister's words as it did with reference to Bolshevism in Russia and bankruptcy in Britain. The context showed that there was no callous or careless feeling in what Mr. Lloyd George said.

There are, and will be till the peace terms are adopted, the strongest efforts on the part of Germany and her friends to make trouble for the allies. Britain is particularly the mark aimed at. We may be sure the trouble in Egypt and India is not without German collusion. There are still millions of Germans laboring under the kaiser delusion. Under the circumstances Lloyd George is more likely to wake them up than Lord Northcliffe. When the Russians fully understand the British policy of non-interference in the domestic affairs of any country, and that the assistance given to Admiral Kolchak is given as to Russian citizens on their own request, and not as by British forces on their own initiative, they may turn from the Bolshevism that is ruining them and reign in their own right as a sovereign people.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

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MY SONG.

Whatever be the depth of woe
Along the paths that I must go,
I'll sing my song—
My song of joy for all the love
That's lavished on us from above,
And count no loss of treasure-trove,
When things go wrong.

I'll sing the sunlight, and the bright,
Soft, smiling stars that gem the night;
For gifts of good
That God hath spread along my way,
The lilt of birds in tuneful play,
The trees in bloom, and flowers gay,
The whole day long
I'll sing my song
Of gratitude!

Galt Labor Party Forwards A Protest to Hydro Commission

Galt, April 17.—The Independent Labor party has forwarded a protest to the Ontario Hydro Commission because that body sent an order for electrical goods to a Cincinnati firm and because it contemplated sending other orders to Sweden. The I. L. P. claims that since work can be done in Canada, orders having been promised Hamilton concerns, Canadian workmen should do the work.

TO ELECTRIFY BELGIAN ROADS.

Brussels, April 17.—The commission appointed by the government to study the question of the electrification of the Belgian state railways has decided to ask Belgian and foreign electrical works to submit proposals to do the work.

THE PET PORCUPINE

"I got some jabs when they commenced to throw things at him."

THE PROMOTER'S WIFE

By JANE PHELPS.

Is Love Blind?

CHAPTER LXII.

As I had decided to go ahead with my plans—simply putting off the time when I should take the public into my confidence, I continued to shop for the things which one always needs after the principal part of what one attempts is finished. I was in a small, exclusive decorator's shop on the avenue. I was trying to match some fringe for a lamp shade I was having made. Several people were in the shop, and I was obliged to wait some little time before I received attention. I wandered about looking at many dainty confections, when my notice was taken by a sibilent whisper:

"Yes, that's his wife! Stunning, isn't she?"

"Yes, what he can see in that Blanche Orton is beyond me. She isn't bad you know, she isn't wholesome enough to really compromise herself. But the way she leads men on is something awful."

"I guess Forbes is willing enough to be led if all I hear is true."

Just then the saleswoman who was attending to them brought some materials for their inspection and the conversation was interrupted. I remained where I was, hoping they would resume it. I was not disappointed.

"My husband says he's got Forbes' number all right. You know what queer expressions men use. He has talked about him a lot, been suspicious all along. He hasn't much use for promoters anyway. He thinks so many of them are crooked."

"But surely they can't all be," the other woman spoke.

"No, but Tom claims they aren't to be trusted either. He says that when they aren't crooked, they are visionary, and—" Then: "Oh, see Sue, this piece is exactly the color we wanted." They bought some of the material and left the shop.

I matched my fringe and went immediately home. I had several other errands on my list, but they would have to wait. I could do no more that day. I was trembling with indignation, and cold with something like fear. Could they all be mistaken? Rough but kindly Mr. Frederick Lorraine, and this woman. I wished I had asked the clerk her name. I wondered if she were socially prominent. She was beautifully gowned, and I had noticed a limousine with two men on the box. Of course it might belong to the other woman. Yet—

I paced feverishly up and down the room upon my return home. I clasped and unclasped my hands, so nervous I could not keep still a moment. Was Neil purely a visionary? Visionary I knew he was to a certain extent; but I always had considered that he had a lot of hard business sense also. When at first he was continually on the verge of making a fortune, I worried a great deal. But now when he had been so successful I had forgotten to worry, to pay much attention, when he talked of "hoping to put this deal thru" and other expressions he used when talking of his financial affairs.

"I know he is not dishonest!" was my constant reiteration as I walked back and forth. "He pays all his bills. And he is so generous—He will lend or give to anyone who asks. Oh, I wish I could make them all see how fine and lovable he is!"

Then came the thought: "They say he is not practical." That was what Mr. Frederick had said. What difference did it make if he won out? It was no sin to be different from the plodding men all around him. It was no sin to talk in thousands instead of small sums. If he made half a million instead of a few thousands it only proved his superiority.

I might have known that when one has to argue oneself into the acceptance of a thought there was something wrong somewhere. But I didn't! I loved my husband intensely. I believed in him to the utmost. I was jealous, at times, principally of Blanche Orton. I hated to stay alone when he remained out with his business friends, yet I do not think there are many women who really cared more, really loved the man they had married more than I did.

They say that "love is blind." That perhaps is some excuse for me.

Tomorrow—Anxious Days.

OSGOODE HALL NEWS

Rex v. Soo Tong—This was a motion to quash the conviction of the police magistrate of Orillia for a breach of the Ontario temperance act.

Chief Justice Falconbridge, finds, disregarding the analysis, there is sufficient evidence that the "extract of lemon" was intoxicating, and affirms the conviction with costs.

Rex v. Spence—An appeal has been taken from the judgment of Mr. Justice Masten, to the appellate court, on the motion for prohibition, and will likely come on for hearing before that court on Tuesday next.

Friday and Monday being holidays, there will be no courts until Tuesday, the 22nd inst.

Read v. Whitney—An appeal in a mechanics lien action from the assistant master in ordinary.

The defendant is a theatre proprietor and desired to rebuild a theatre in Toronto, and employed one Crane, an architect of Detroit, to draw plans and supervise the construction for five per cent. of costs. The plaintiff, a Toronto architect, was employed by Crane to superintend the building and act as assistant architect, the renumeration being fixed at $1500 if the building costs $125,000, and one and one-half per cent. of any excess cost. The building costs $133,000. The plaintiff rendered his bill for $1500 and one and one-half per cent. of excess of $125,000 and for plans and traveling expenses to Detroit, a total of $1840. The defendant, Crane, paid $500, leaving unpaid $1340. Crane, not paying the plaintiff, he filed a claim for a lien for the $1340. The assistant master-in-ordinary allowed the claim, and the defendant appealed. The second appellate court dismissed the appeal with costs.

CATHOLIC PROTESTS ANGLICAN MARRIAGE

Montreal Court Asked for Annulment Order — Ecclesiastical Opinion Being Obtained.

Montreal, April 17.—The local superior court, Mr. Justice Bruneau presiding, once more has the question of the civil validity or invalidity of a marriage contracted by a Catholic before other than a Catholic priest, put squarely before it.

Thomas McDonald, 33, a motorman, Lachine, was born a Catholic, in St. Ann's parish, June 16, 1883, and on March 13, 1917, married Sarah Evans, before the Rev. Dr. Cassidy of the Lachine Anglican Church. A few months later, however, it appears that all did not go well, for the groom entered action before the courts, asking for the annulment of the marriage. He based his action on the allegation that he had not obtained a dispensation, as, he alleges, he was required to do by canon law, that he had failed to have the banns published, and that his marriage was null from the beginning, as, being a Catholic he could not be married before other than a Catholic priest.

Wife Not Present.

When served with the writ of summons ordering her to appear, the wife made no appearance or plea. She was described as being an employe of a local law office.

Mr. Justice Bruneau ordered the whole case to be put over "until such time as competent ecclesiastical authority in this matter shall have pronounced upon the validity of the said marriage from the religious point of view, if there be any cause or ground for such a pronouncement."

EASY TO DO.

The cleverest gardener in the world cannot grow an oak tree out of a rose bush. But the stupidest pipe smoker can make the "ash" grow inside the "briar."

CONDITIONS IN TURKEY AT CRITICAL STAGE

Greeks and Turks Ready for Hostilities, and Bandits Committing Murders.

London, April 17.—It is learned here that the situation in Turkey is causing grave anxiety. Internal disorder is rife, according to reports from Rear-Admiral Webb, R.N., at Constantinople. It is feared there will shortly be outbreaks and massacres of the Armenian population on a large scale.

The situation at Smyrna, where the Turks and Greeks are ready to spring at each other's throats, is typical of the situation thruout Turkey. Bands of brigands are dominating the country, even within a few miles of Constantinople, and committing atrocious murders.

The committee of union and progress, the Young Turk organization, which was driven from power in Constantinople as a result of the allied victory, is reported to be secretly conducting an energetic reorganizing movement.

Further disorders are feared in Egypt. A division of British troops is on the way from the Dobrudja to reinforce the troops of Major-General Allenby, the special high commissioner to Egypt, and to relieve a large number of Australian and New Zealand soldiers who will return home.

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THE HOME BANK OF CANADA

Ida Congratulates Inspector Pogue

BY IDA L. WEBSTER.

The general public must have been glad to read where Inspector Pogue had turned down the offer of Garnet A. Archibald, and rather than take the sum of $200 which that gentleman volunteered to give him for the purpose of paying his fine, he will dig down and make the payment from his own bank account.

As the inspector said in the interview to which we refer, he has nothing to be ashamed of, because he really and truly believed that he was obeying orders from the man higher up when he gave young Mr. Archibald the six bottles of whiskey with which to go on his hunting trip.

Of course, had Mr. Pogue deliberately asked him if he wanted some "licker" for the outing, then he would have been most horribly guilty of a severe breach of the O. T. A., and in that case would have been deserving of severe punishment.

As it was he was rather unfortunate. Because the Inspector McKinney was in the mix up, he was merely censured for having been indiscreet, or something to that effect. And as for the person who asked for the whiskey, and who received it, he is beyond the jurisdiction of the law owing to the fact that the affair is outlawed, sixty days being the limit.

When Inspector Pogue refused to take Archibald's cheque he showed the whole world that he was a man of the very highest principles, and one who is well worthy of his position. You will recall that this has always been the stand taken by The World toward him, and this latest action on his part just goes to prove that once again the "picking" has been correct.

We have been trying rather hard to find out about the remaining four bottles which were not used, but beyond hearing from one source that it was never turned into the department, there does not appear to be any chance of getting any light on the subject.

The day of the investigation by the commissioners we remember quite distinctly that Mr. Archibald offered to hand back the whiskey which had not been used to prevent the hunting party from catching the "flu," and if our memory serves us correctly, Col. Denison made the remark that they did not want the stuff. At the same time, he did not say that it was quite the right thing for the four bottles to remain at the person in question's home.

Of course, there may not be any legal reason why the whiskey should be returned to the government. However, it was not paid for, nor could it be paid for now. And then, on the other hand, when one remembers that Mr. Archibald is not a drinking man, why should it not be sent back? It could then be sent on to the vendors and sold to some thirsty person for a few odd dollars.

But right now the main thing is to congratulate the inspector, and say: "Well done, and more power to you."

LUCAS AMENDS ELECTION ACT

Time Between Nomination and Election May Be Variable.

The bill introduced by Attorney-General Lucas to amend the Ontario election act went thru the legislature finally yesterday. The feature lacking in the bill is that the provincial lists are not referred to and the lieutenant-governor-in-council is vested with power in regard to the holding of elections.

H. H. Dewart—Does the bill mean that the time to elapse between nomination and election may be a variable period to be fixed by the lieutenant-governor-in-council?

Hon. Mr. Lucas—It does. But a proclamation shall be issued.

Allan Studholme—It may be a short period of proclamation, and the people may not be prepared for what you decide.

H. H. Dewart—There is a great deal in what the member for East Hamilton says.

Hon. Mr. Lucas—We will give it consideration.

Allan Studholme—Take my own case. You may say to yourselves "The old man expects to come back without a fight." Then on a short election you may give him a fight.

Mr. Proudfoot—Why not go back to the municipal lists?

Hon. Mr. Lucas—No, no.

H. H. Dewart—It seemed the obvious intention the other day that the vote on the referendum and the general election would take place on the same day. If that is not the intention will my honorable friend give us some declaration of policy?

The declaration requested was not forthcoming.

The committee got back to discussion of the interval between nominations and elections. The Liberals said they wanted the period fixed as one week in cities, and the government promised the matter consideration in issuing the proclamation.

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