

The Toronto World

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Lloyd George and Ireland.

If home rule had been granted twenty years ago to Ireland, or had the home rule act signed by the king in 1914 been put into operation, a great deal of trouble would have been avoided. The delay has only aggravated the situation, but it is not now anything like so bad as some people imagine. While an Irish republic is demanded by some, the majority of even the hottest Sinn Feiners would be satisfied with a measure of Canadian home rule.

The only difficulty regarding this is that Scotland, Wales and England would each need to be placed on a similar basis if justice to the whole British islands were to be done. The Isle of Man already has its own government, and the Channel Islands are on an independent basis.

If the Irish question could be considered as dispassionately as the Belgian question, or the Armenian question, or the Jugo-Slav question, or the Czechoslovak question some settlement could soon be arrived at. The religious difficulty is not nearly so complicated as in the Balkan States or farther east. In Belgium there is no bitterness on this score. When Mahometans and three or four kinds of Christians can settle down together in the east it should be possible for Ireland to find a common ground for secular government.

Premier Lloyd George signified during his campaign that since Ireland had failed to settle the question for herself he would feel free to try his plans there. It is unquestionably the thorniest problem with which he has to deal, and if he succeeds in calming this storm of centuries, he can make no finer contribution to the peace of the world.

Regret will be felt that Ald. Gibbons' municipal career has been interrupted. He ran fifth in the controllers race. Dr. Risk is replaced by Mr. Winnett in Ward Two, Mr. McGridge has been successful in Ward Three. Mr. Maher is another acquisition from Ward Seven, and Ward Eight sends a new contingent in Messrs. Williamson, Miskelly and Baker.

The labor vote, as in other years, was found wanting, not only in failing to support Mr. Gibbons for the board of control, but also in neglecting the claims of Walter Brown and J. H. H. Ballantyne.

Mr. O'Neill's Campaign. Apart from factors which are inseparable from a Toronto municipal mayoralty campaign, what injured Controller O'Neill most in his contest was his stand on the housing question. He advocated the construction of three-story apartment houses, or the reconstruction of existing dwellings in this fashion, in a limited downtown area. Experience elsewhere shows that such a policy is a first step towards creating slums. There is ample provision at present made for reconstruction of dwellings where no objection is made by neighbors, and it is better that all such cases should be considered on their merits.

What the people really want is cheap and rapid transportation to suburban areas of low-priced land. If Mr. O'Neill had met this need in his campaign he would have met a more popular response.

Night Cars for North Toronto. North Toronto has endured for two years the delays and procrastination resulting from the attempt to buy out the Metropolitan Railway. The residents of North Toronto have not been considered as a factor in the problem at all. They have been relegated to the position the public usually occupies when corporations have their own interests to consider.

It is altogether useless to state one aspect of the affairs of the residents which might be considered in the interest of the Metropolitan Railway as well as of the residents? The profits of the line certainly depend on population, and population depends on the convenience of residential opportunities. One of the drawbacks to North Toronto, and is the inaccessibility of the district at night. There is a night service which was moderately good some years ago, but its limitations set a distinct limit on the district.

We believe a slight modification in the schedule would attract a large number of residents who are now scared away by the fear of being night-bound in the city and by the extortionate charges of taxicab drivers. What is proposed is an addition of two extra night runs.

At present the last day car leaves Farnham avenue for stop 26 at eight minutes past midnight. The next car is a night car at 12.30, and there is another car at 1 and 1.30.

What is needed is another car to meet the Yonge street car leaving King and Yonge at 2 o'clock and 3 o'clock. These cars connect with the cross-town cars at Queen, College and Bloor streets and link up the whole city, except North Toronto. If the

London, Jan. 1.—Leta Robinson, one of the best-known members of the Royal Flying Corps, died last night at Harrow following an attack of influenza. Robinson, who was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1916 for bringing down a zeppelin which the Germans had captured in 1916 and returned to England on Dec. 14.

During his imprisonment, Robinson attempted several times to escape, but was recaptured. The Germans placed him in solitary confinement in a small cell. It is said, since returning to England, he has suffered severely from the hardships he endured while a captive.

A PAIR OF CROOKS



THE WIFE

Ruth is happy in reviewing Brian's Letter. CHAPTER CXXVII. Brian had said he would fight all the better, all the harder, because of the baby. That meant to Ruth that he would be in still more danger. But she also had said that now he must be extra careful of himself because of his desire to come back to her and the baby. How she was to reconcile his going, running for the home, with his care for himself, she didn't quite understand. Yet, in a way, she was more than a little thrilled at the thought that Brian was not only fighting for his country, but for her and Brian Jr.—the boy the father never had seen.

Ruth knew there were many such babies—babies born after the father had gone "over there" to do his utmost to save the world from the frightful evil that was then triumphant. Her heart went out in sympathy to the mothers of those babies, and the wives of the absent soldiers, and she determined to search some of them out and see if she could not help them in some way.

"They must need help—some of them," she said to her aunt. "Of course. A great many of them are poor. It will be hard for them to get along on a soldier's pay. Especially those with very young babies. We will see what can be done about looking after a few of them, at least."

Ruth was happier than she had been in a long time. Brian knew about the baby, and had not blamed her for hiding from him her coming motherhood. Yet before she slept, that night, after she had read again the letter which had so comforted her, she thought of Mollie King.

Brian had taken his joy directly to the advance, the said he HAD to tell someone—some woman. That the woman happened to be Mollie was bitter to Ruth. She wondered why she had shared his news with her had the effect, in some way, of making them seem nearer together than ever.

"You had better wonder what Brian would tell her, that he wouldn't want the censor to read, and blushed in the dark. He had said he was happy, he had said he was 'little mother' and wished he might see her. Surely it was to tell her he loved her—and she was foolishly making herself unhappy about Mollie King."

"Oh, dear! Why couldn't she have stayed at home?" Ruth said aloud, then turned over and went to sleep. The advance of Mr. Mandel's war work; knew that he was interested in anything pertaining to it. So she had no hesitancy in speaking of her plan to him—the plan to help the mothers of babies born after their soldier-fathers had gone overseas.

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WAS NO LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION

Director of Special Intelligence Pays Tribute to His Subordinates.

London, Jan. 1.—Brigadier-General Geo. K. Cockeril, the retiring director of special intelligence at the war office, in his farewell message today to his associates in that department, calls attention to the fact that, although many persons in Great Britain knew of the preparations for the counter-offensives which led to the downfall of the German armies, the construction of tanks and other military secrets, not one word reached the enemy.

It is possible that if more troops are sent to Lemberg, the expedition against Vilna, reported in Bolshevik papers, will be embarrassed. There are not men enough for both operations. The Polish chief of staff has been unable to maintain communication with the allies because of the use of the wireless telegraph by the Germans. He is also unable to use the telegraph, and in addition has no code for use in laying the situation before the allied commanders.

Former soldiers and prisoners called on Premier Morawski this morning and informed him they were ready to fight if they were given their back pay, so that they might care for their families. In spite of the tense situation, the city was quiet today and nothing was heard from the revolutionists. At any moment they may break out again, at any moment the revolutionists are well equipped with rifles, motor cars and machine guns, but it is not believed they will succeed in seizing the government if Brigadier-General Joseph Pilsudski, the Polish dictator, remains firm.

Difference in views is palpably acute. London, Jan. 1.—President Wilson returned to France yesterday. It was time, says The Manchester Guardian, in commenting on the speeches of Premier Clemenceau and Foreign Minister Pichon and the difference in the views expressed by the French statesmen and President Wilson.

"The difference in views," it continues, "is palpably acute and cannot be glossed over. It is better not to gloss it over, but to face it and to have our differences." Declaring that the allies had accepted President Wilson's 14 points in the armistice terms and that these were the policy of America and Great Britain, The Guardian concludes: "If our friends among the allies reject it well, they will have to make their own peace and dispense with our assistance."

Two Die in Peterboro Of Alcoholic Poisoning. Peterboro, Dec. 31.—An inquest was opened today in connection with the death of Pte. Walter Irwin, whose death is believed to have resulted from alcoholic poisoning. This is the second death in Peterboro from the same cause during the past 24 hours. The other death was that of Omer Thourgon, who passed away yesterday in the hospital after a few hours' illness. A third man is in the hospital in a critical condition. Coroner Dr. Greer has ordered an inquest.

Woodstock Nominations. Woodstock, Jan. 1.—The following have qualified and will contest the municipal elections: For mayor, Ald. A. J. Gahagan and ex-Mayor Clifford Kemp and W. D. Hobson. For aldermen, Robert Murray and Ald. S. W. Ward were returned as aldermen by acclamation. Other nominees: Mack Paul, M. G. G. McBeath, Wm. Smith, E. S. Coppins, Reg. Capt. Spencer, Geo. Parker, Wm. Shaw, A. T. McNeill, Geo. Davison, Jas. Mitchell.

Carib Reaches Port. Halifax, N.S., Jan. 1.—The American steamer Carib, New York, Dec. 25, for the S.O.S. call, her deck being broken away and her steering gear being disabled, arrived here yesterday. Her own steam, Capt. H. T. Rowland, master of the steamer, said today that shortly after he sent out wireless calls for help the weather moderated, enabling temporary repairs to be made.

Greetings to Poincare. Paris, Jan. 1.—The members of the government and the presidents of the senate and the chamber went to the Palace of the Elisee today to present their New Year's greetings to President Poincare.

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The Berlin Tageblatt says that during the fighting at Posen on Sunday, Jews fired upon Poles from the synagogue, whereupon the Poles directed artillery fire at the edifice, which was filled with worshippers. Berlin papers print long stories detailing incidents of the fighting in Posen, and it is alleged, among other things, that Germans were attacked and homes in the city were plundered and their houses and shops were plundered.

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GERMAN SOLDIERS HELD RESPONSIBLE

Formed Counter Parade to That Which Welcomed Paderewski at Posen.

Warsaw, Dec. 30.—German soldiers are blamed by Polish leaders for the fatal rioting at Posen last Thursday. In a statement given out tonight setting forth the Polish version of the trouble there.

It is said that at five o'clock Thursday afternoon German soldiers, recruited in Posen, engaged at the reception given to Ignace Paderewski by shouting "Posen is a German town."

The Poles resented this and street fighting ensued. Herr Dorfanti, a Polish member of the German Reichstag, addressed the Poles in city hall square and induced many of them to go to the homes of the Poles.

A short time later, it is said, German soldiers, headed by an officer, appeared with machine guns and fired into the crowds remaining in the square. Forty-seven persons were killed, the statement says.

The trouble has delayed the departure of Paderewski for Warsaw. Groener Regarded Head of Counter-Revolution.

London, Jan. 1.—Richard Barth, secretary of the German Independent Socialist party, regards General Groener, the successor of General Ludendorff, as the head of a counter-revolutionary movement to the Express, which prints an interview its Berlin correspondent secured with Barth.

General Groener, it is said in the interview, is thought to have been given orders by the military leaders with the intention to restore the monarchy, but Barth could say whether, after the former emperor's "cowardly flight," it would aim at restoring the Hohenzollerns to power.

Asked by the correspondent whether the people were likely to support a monarchist government, Barth is quoted as saying: "The German Michael is a strange individual. He adores today what he detested yesterday."

M. W. SAXON DEAD. Topeka, Kansas, Jan. 1.—Manford W. Saxon of Topeka, major-general commanding the Modern Woodmen of America Fraternity, died at his home here yesterday after a protracted illness.

Head of Mission to Berlin Says He Will Welcome French Occupation. Berlin, Dec. 30.—A feature of the congress of the Spartacus group today was a speech by M. Radetzki, head of the Bolshevik mission to Germany, who launched a long defence of Bolshevism and a long defence of the Russian Revolution. He said he would welcome the prospect of French occupation of Germany for the same reason.

Starting from the village of Kalovangia, early Saturday morning, American forces took the village of Priluki, where there is a large monastery. They continued the advance in hot fighting Sunday, having had not yet been halted up to late Monday. Sleighs are being used to transport the allied soldiers.

The advance of the allied forces of the winter, was carried out under semi-arctic conditions, and in the few hours of daylight which obtain, the progress is slow. The village of Gogol is approximately 30 miles south of the town of Omsk and about 40 miles west of the frozen swamp which forms the allied front along the Volga railroad. The positions along the allied advance are in the general direction of Volgograd and across the railway line at an important strategic centre, from which the Bolsheviks have been operating.

The allied forces, which have been trained by American and British officers, are now engaged in the fighting along the Volga. The Polish troops who participated in the fighting along the Volga, and the Poles and Russians are filled with hatred for the Bolsheviks, and neither ask nor give quarter in combat.

GERMANY APOLOGIZES FOR BOLSHEVIK ACTIONS. Paris, Jan. 1.—The Journal publishes a letter from Petrograd announcing that the Russian government has issued a statement protesting against the allied intervention in Russia. It says that the Russian government is a poor, civilized country, and apologizes for the summary execution of the fighting against Bolshevism, but declares that the intervention is solid in the hands of Lenin.

Ald. J. M. Elson Elected Mayor of St. Catharines. St. Catharines, Ont., Jan. 1.—Mayor James A. Wiley, after a one-year term, was today defeated by Ald. J. M. Elson, who was elected alderman by one vote, and elected mayor. Elson also voted to abolish the office of the mayor, and to establish a council of education. Aldermen elected were: Nash, H. E. Rose, John McDowell, J. Westwood, Jacob Smith, William Hill and D. V. West.

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