THE COURIER

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Friday, February 20, 1914

WAR AND HUMAN NATURE

Norman Angell's peace movement is based on the belief that men will not go to war against their financial interests. It is merely a revival of one of the tenets of the Manchester School of Political Economists. Charles Dickens more than once expressed his opinion of laissez-faire and of all the other doctrines of this special group. In one of his letters he wrote: "The Manchester school deserves all the schooling it can get touching its reduction to the grossest absurdity of the supply and demand dogmatism, and its pig-headed reliance on men not going to war against their interest; as if the vices and passions of men had not been running counter to their interests since th ecreation of the world."

REFORMING JERUSALEM.

It is not strange that the Jew wandering to America gravitates to the cities. He seems to belong by ancient tradition to a city. The Jews came first from Jerusalem the old home-place of the race," as the Jewish philanthropist, Nathan Straus, calls it.

Retired from active business, Mr. Straus is out with a scheme for modernizing that "old home-place." Visiting Jerusalem last year, he was horrified by the insanitary conditions, due largely to the want of any public waterworks, and by the general prevalence of disease and starvation, though the site of the city is so fair upon a hill.

Water is a scarce article in Jerusalem, what is drunk being kept in cisterns under lock and key. Pumping stations are to be provided, if Mr Straus' plans work out, to raise the water from its plentiful sources in the region around. He has already established a board of health, and soup kitchens which feed over 300 people daily and has in view a social survey for bringing Jerusalem up to date.

What a wail should go up from mediaeval enthusiasts like Mr. Chesterton over the modernizing of Jerusalem. It might seem like the end of all things to clean the beggars off the streets, substitute hospitals for the pool of Siloam, vaccinate against typhoid and war against malarial mosquitoes. But the world moves on, even in the Turkish Empire.

THE UNEMPLOYED AND JOBS

The need of a national system of labor bureaus to bring work and workers into touch grows daily more apparent. At Georgetown, 30 miles from Toronto, a strong and prosperous church was without a regular janitor for many weeks. The billet offered at least the foundation of a living for a man and his wife. Yet a few miles away the Queen City was trying to care for hundreds of men who should and probably would have been glad of such a job.

A correspondent writes to the New York Times that he and other farmers take no stock in stories concerning the unemployed, for he and the other farmers he knows would like to get help, but are unable to do so. "I have been for months," he says, "trying to get a man to take care of my small barn and its appurtenances—clean my horse, wash my carriage, beat the rugs in the house and attend the furnace. I myself can do all that I require done in five hours of labor, at a comfortable rate of progress. I pay $26 per month and give my employee a clean, comfortable bed in a stove heated room in the barn. His food is exactly what my family eats from day to day."

And he adds: "We have many farmers here who raise celery, lettuce spinach and truck of that sort. These farmers unanimously complain that they cannot get good men who will work on their farms for from $30 to $40 per month, good board and lodging additional. You can get like testimony from hundreds of New Jersey and Long Island market men. Without doubt 10,000 or more men and women could immediately get steady employment on farms within twenty miles of the city."

During the present serious state of unemployment unfilled positions awaited many men on the farms of Ontario. Of course a great proportion of those out of work know nothing of farm life and have no agricultural skill. A still greater number dislike the country and cleave to the city out of sheer love of city life even in the face of most distressing odds. This passion of the multitude for urban existence has become universal. It is even more marked in free trade Britain than in protectionist America. Rural life has to be made more attractive. Meantime let us have some efficent machinery for getting the unemployed of one locality into the jobs awaiting them in other parts of the country.

BLESSING OR CURSE?

The attempt of the United States to stem the tide of foreign immigration somewhat by including an elementary literary test in the regulations under which men are admitted to the country will be followed with interest by Canadians. Of 1,387,318 aliens admitted to the United States last year no less than 322,381 could not read nor write at the time of their admission.

Opposition to the proposed test would be more pronounced than it is if the people were assured that it is not a kindness to aliens to keep them from swelling the ranks of those in America who cannot obtain employment. While it is very easy to attack this immigration restriction upon sentimental grounds, it may be possible also to defend it upon humanitarian grounds. The flood of immigration is great and increasing, and a proposal to make the restrictions more drastic is worth serious consideration. If we admit that the unemployed problem is somewhat pressing in America, and the lack of education is a handicap to the man seeking work, it follows that a test of the kind proposed in the United States, and which the House of Representatives has approved by a huge majority, may be much more of a blessing than a curse to the foreigner coming to America.

BRITISH COLONIZATION.

In the recent book by Mr. Cory on "The Rise of South Africa" (Longmans), an account is given of the early British settlers in that country. Though the English took the land from the Dutch in 1806, it was not till 1820 that anybody came from Britain outside of the official establishments.

The reason why 4,000 settlers suddenly went to the Cape in 1820 lay in the distress of the English masses after the Napoleonic wars. Heavy taxation, the corn laws, the general introduction of machinery and the factory system had combined to spread suffering and even starvation over England. Agitation and rioting arose in various cities as well as in rural districts. The British Parliament, accordingly, voted £50,000 to assist settlers to go to South Africa, which seemed to be a pleasant, unoccupied country, with an easy climate. Each man being promised a grant of 100 acres on easy terms, eventually a motley crowd was landed in South Africa, about one-third consisting of respectable persons, two-thirds rather otherwise, "low in morals or desperate in circumstances." Naturally, it took this crude assortment some time to settle into order and prosperity, though they were well placed on good land.

An interesting thing about this original colonization of South Africa, is that it was simply forced on the settlers. Much has been said of the British genius for colonization, and certainly Englishmen and Scotchmen have succeeded equally with Irishmen or the Portuguese as colonists. But Britons as well as others love their home and hate to leave it. It took religious persecution to settle the American colonies, starvation set South Africa a-going, and everybody knows how New South Wales got its start. But once driven into foreign parts, the man of Britain or of Erin makes good, holds right on, and persuades his friends to come and join him in success.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It appears that George H. Primrose "the millionaire minstrel" used to be a bell boy in the Tecumseh House, London. Who couldn't get rich by the combination of two such professions?

* * *

A big delegation will go to Ottawa to ask Government aid on behalf of Hydro Electric radial roads. And by the same token many other demands at the Capital are also of a raidial nature.

* * *

The Guelph Police Magistrate, in the case of erring boys orders a good old home treatment by the police. In that burg these days, when yells are heard coming from the station, they are classified as indications of a spanking breeze.

* * *

In the Old Land the Unionists have captured the West Division of Bethnal Green by 24 votes. Last time the seat went Liberal by 184. The result is all the more significant as the Asquith candidate Masterman was seeking re-election because he had just been given a seat in the Cabinet. The voting took place from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in order to give workers time to cast their ballots. This is an excellent idea and might well be adopted in Canada to the advantage of industrial communities.

* * *

The local Grit organ is so annoyed every time it sees Brantford's fine new public building, that it takes any and every opportunity to jibe at Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P. Now it basse its criticism on the use of "Yankee" stone secured because the Georgetown variety could not be secured for the job in less than two years. Meanwhile, had the Expositor's friends remained in office, there wouldn't have been any sign of a structure; the employes in the post office and customs departments would have still been treading on each others toes for an indefinite period. Mr. Cockshutt obtained what Messrs. Heyd and Harris couldn't. That's where the shoe pinches.

Birthdays of Note

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY TWENTIETH

James L. Hughes, former inspector of schools in Toronto and one of the best known educationists on the American continent, is sixty-eight years old to-day. He has been associated with educational work all his life and is now devoting his attention to lecturing and writing. A man of great energy and self-confidence he has pushed himself to the front and taken a leading part in every movement with which he has allied himself. In his younger days he was very fond of sport and was a first-class lacrosse player. He has since shown his interest in the national game by taking office in various athletic organizations which have sought to promote its welfare. Dr. Hughes made himself very popular among the teachers of Toronto and was favorably known in educational circles not only in Canada but in the United States. He is a brother of Colonel Sam Hughes and possesses most of the latter's characteristics.

Uncle Walt

The Poet Philosopher

SUPERSTITION.

Last night, to my intense despair,
a black dog howled beneath my casement;
and at his head I threw a chair,
and all the stovewood in the basement.
And still he howled to raise the dead,
as though his soul were torn by devils,
while I kept throwing at his head
old hammers, planes and spirit levels.
This is a sign, as all men know,
that evil luck is coming, surely,
and morning found me full of woe
and sick at heart, and feeling poorly.
"When howling bandogs are abroad,"
I said, "there's dire misfortune due me;
all things will travel wapper-jawed,
and I shall harvest prunes, beshrew me!"
Then I went down to get my mail,
and found four checks from eastern journals,
and also sundry chunks of kale
from Matthew Georges and other colonels.
Then dire forebodings flew away
like mists before a zipping zephyr,
and I sent up a roundelay,
and kicked my heels like any heifer.
And nearly all our dread and fears
of coming evil are as baseless;
joy cometh to the man who cheers,
whose cheeks are of the briny traceless.

WALT MASON.

The Meanest Thief Robbed Blind Man

Threatened to Beat Him if He Did Not Hand Over Fifty Dollars

COBALT, Feb. 20—One of the meanest thefts ever perpetrated in the North Country was brought to the attention of the Cobalt police yesterday when Adolphus Meloche, a blind man considerably over middle age and totally unable to defend himself against attack, reported to Chief Burke that an unknown person, supposed to be a French-Canadian, had lured him out to a lonely spot beyond the Hudson Bay Camp and there held him up and robbed him of $50, leaving him to get back to town as best he could. The thief asked the blind man to buy a watch, but the latter refused, saying he had no money. The thief then told him to hand over $50 or he would beat him up, and Meloche did so.

The big water tank under construction by the C.P.R. at Agincourt, was burned down last evening. The loss is estimated at $15,000.

GREAT BIKE TRADE

(Continued from Page 1)

would not share his coal with Braddick and then arose a business split, and the latter as retaliation took the wheel mentioned to the police and gave it up, saying he thought it was stolen and that he had bought it for $4.50 from Smick.

Standing in the box in a defiant attitude, Braddick answered the Crown Attorney without flinching and incriminated Smick at every turn. He admitted enamelling the new wheels of a bike, but Smick had told him to do so. He could not read or write and on that score excused statement made at the police station which conflicted with his present evidence. His knowledge of receipts was similarly limited.

Mrs. Braddick gave evidence favoring her husband and from her statements it would appear that Braddick was a pawn in the hand of Smick.

Ray Codd of 23 Sheridan street, testified that his wheel had been stolen during December. He identified a saddle and mud guards as his from peculiar marks upon them and renewals.

Another charge of theft was preferred against Braddick. John Muradian lost his machine on April 27, 1912, and he identified it although it was changed. Braddick is said to have stolen this bike as it was found among his stock. He said he paid $4.50 for this wheel also, although when he bought it the frame of the machine was broken. The substituted frame was obtained at the scrap yard.

The cases against defendants were adjourned until Monday.

HOLMEDALE CASE

(Continued from Page 1)

ants believed that public feeling was such in Brantford that a fair trial would be out of the question, so they obtained a change of venue to Norfolk. Judgment went against them, but on appeal the judgment was set aside, but Miss Meredith was given leave to sue the defendants individually. This she is doing.

At a meeting of the Toronto Board of Education last night, Trustee Vokes charged that the masonry work in the new $2,000,000 technical school had been skimped. It is probable that an enquiry will be conducted.

POPE AGREES TO RISE AT 6 A. M.

His Doctors Insist That He Cease Rising as Early as 4.30 a. m.

ROME, Feb. 20.—The frequent reports that the Pope is indisposed have induced a correspondent to make an inquiry as to what the real condition and present mode of life of His Holiness. He will be 80 years of age on June 2, 1915, and he is nearly eleven years older than when he was elected Pope. Therefore his intimates and doctors have insisted on his taking care of himself and using certain precautions, which are quite justifiable for a man even 20 years younger. He has yielded to their reasonable suggestions, and so he does not now get up at 4.30 in the morning, as he had always done in the summer, but stays in bed until "late," as he calls it, rising from 5.30 to 6.

Dresses Himself.

Contrary to the custom observed with his aged predecessor, he requires no assistance in dressing, and shortly after rising celebrates mass in his private chapel, and hears another celebrated by one of his secretaries, generally Mgr. Brassan

Breakfast follows, not as light as in the past, when he used to have nothing but a cup of black coffee, he having consented to add to it the yolk of an egg beaten up with sugar, and a roll.

After this His Holiness leaves his private apartment, and without using the elevator, descends to the library, where he receives first Cardinal Merry del Val, who makes a report on the political affairs of the Holy See, which he is warned by the doctors to make as short as possible. These instructions he finds difficult to follow, as Pius X. wishes to know the least detail of every subject.

The Secretary of State is followed by one cardinal, sometimes two, and by some great personage or Italian or foreign bishop.

Has Audiences

This year there were frequently American cardinals, as the five years in which they have to pay their visit "ad Limina," expire in 1915. For this purpose there are now in Rome Mgr Beavon, bishop of Springfield, Mass; Mgr. Rice, bishop of Burlington, Vt., and Mgr Walsh, bishop of Portland Me., all belonging to the province of Boston.

The Pope has consented to cut down the time of his audiences also and now Mgr. Ranuzzi, his chamberlain, only grants private audiences to special persons and on important questions.

His Holiness grants numerous large collective audiences during which, according to circumstances he either simply appears, imparting the apostolic benediction or delivers a short address, or even goes about giving his hand to be kissed by each person.

By the time this is over it is half-past 12 or 1 o'clock, when the aged head of the church takes luncheon which has also undergone some changes in the substance and quantity of the ingredients according to the suggestion of Prof. Marchiafava, who also abolished the wine which all Italians drink at meal times.

In the early afternoon the Pope indulges in a little rest, and later resumes audiences with leading ecclesiastics. The evening meal is very simple, and he retires at between 9 and 10.

How many men can boast of so full a life at nearly 80 years?

Two lives were claimed and damage estimated at from $500,000 to $1,000,000 was wrought by the storm which sent a record rain to six Southern California counties during the last two days.

The Miner's Tact

A miner got killed and a tactful associate to break the news to the widow.

So the tactful fellow called at the house and said.

"With your golden hair, blue eyes and pink-and white complexion ma'am, you'd break every heart in town if you wore widow's weeds."

The young woman laughed and blushed for pleasure.

"O, go on," she said.

"And you are a widow, too," said the tactful miner quickly seizing his chance. "Bill's legs and arms were just blown off in an explosion. Lord by Jimminy ma'am, ain't you going to look good in black, though?'—Philadelphia Record.

Can't Fool Albert.

Young Albert was a practical youth and everything that he learned at school he endeavored to apply in his daily life and work.

The lad had recently become very friendly with a little boy who had lately moved in that vicinity and one afternoon his mother asked him if his little playmate was an only child. Whereupon Albert looked very wise and triumphant.

"He's got just one sister," he said. "He tried to catch me when he came me he had two half sisters, but I guess I know enough about fractions for that.'—Harper's Magazine.

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