

# The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 15.

## At the Tribunals.

There are some pathetic cases before the tribunals these days, but those who are following the work of these bodies are inclined to admire them for their impartiality and general fairness. It is not any more difficult for the parents whose son is drafted into the army than for the parents of the son who volunteered. The volunteer's parents suffered just as much in parting with their only son, in the long suspense of warfare, often the agony that comes with the fatal message. Those parents who fancy that they only suffer whose sons are drafted take an exceedingly limited and even selfish view of our national affairs.

It is a question of rights and privileges in the view of some. But what rights and privileges has any family or individual in a democracy over others? If we are in a democracy and desire to do our duty, there should be an end of talking about rights and privileges. Our greatest right and privilege is to serve. Some would confine that service to self. A truer view dedicates our service to others, to the state.

According to our capacity we should expect to be served. According to our capacity we should expect to give service. The tender ties of the family are no more sacred for one group than for another. This is where most of the difficulty arises. When it is carefully thought over it will be seen that there is no reason for the well-to-do to suppose that a good position in life should be an excuse for failure in character. It is a tremendous failure in character to be willing that others should bear all the burdens and suffer all the pains for us without taking our share of the load. The parents who can take any satisfaction out of saving their offspring by the sacrifice of others have a great deal to learn yet about the touch of nature that makes the whole world kin.

## The Farmers Under Fire.

The one man whose loyalty is never questioned is the farmer, because he is more than anyone else has a stake in the country. Yet the National Nonpartisan League, composed of farmers in the American northwest, is under attack, and even suspicion, as not being wholeheartedly behind the government in the prosecution of the war. This is a serious charge, because the league controls the entire state government of North Dakota and holds the balance of power in neighboring states.

The farmers claim that the big interests are hypocritically using the war cry to thwart the league's policy of economic reforms, which include state ownership and operation of grain elevators, flour mills and packing houses. Unfortunately the league derived undesirable notoriety from the fact that it was at one of its conventions that Senator La Follette delivered his scathing St. Paul speech. Then the farmer governor of North Dakota was accused of siding with the I. W. W., the in his proclamation he went no further than did President Wilson in his remonstrance against the somewhat drastic procedure of the Arizona State Government and the various mob law outbreaks against the I. W. W.

In the same way injustice seems to have been done the league by the eastern papers which so savagely denounced John M. Baer, the Dakota congressman, as a "foreign farmer" before he had taken his seat in the house of representatives. Mr. Baer turned out to be by occupation a cartoonist, to be of colonial stock rooted in American soil for seven generations, and represented in every way in which the United States took part from 1776 to 1917, both inclusive. Mr. Baer instead of being a pacifist had tried to enlist in the navy, but had been rejected on account of defective eyesight. He did, however, most emphatically preach the doctrine that it was not necessary for the winning of the war to cheat the western farmers by false weights, excessive dockage and manipulation of grain prices.

In short the Dakota farmers say that graft and dishonesty is no less objectionable in war than in peace. Perhaps they have gone too far in accusing their old enemies, the millers, the packers and the grain buyers, of wanting the war to continue indefinitely so that their profits may increase indefinitely. The profiteering going on in war time is generally due to the fact that the state is at the mercy of private corporations.

Public ownership and operation of public utilities, not a premature peace, is what the farmers should strive to bring about. It is the toll taken by the middleman which makes conditions unjust, to the producer and intolerable to the consumer. Nobody grudges the farmer the money he makes now and then, for most of the time he has all he can do to make ends meet. When the farmer has money the town is prosperous. On the other hand, the farmer, who is also a large consumer, will never pillage the public. It is the middleman who robs the farmer and the consumer alike; and therefore as far as possible the middleman should be the state, which will be just and fair to the producer and the consumer alike.

## A Representative Zionist.

A notable visitor to the city yesterday was Dr. S. Levine, a leading member of the "inner action" committee, which controls the entire activities all over the world today of the Zionist movement, having as its object the installation of the Jewish people in Palestine as an independent nation. Dr. Levine rejoices in the prospect, which he considers has been furthered by the war; and he admires Great Britain on account of the stand she has taken in favor of Jewish aspirations, about which he is enthusiastic. He believes that there is an element in the British people's character that specially fits them to handle the nations of the east. The Jews are eastern, Semitic; and it is because the British know the Old Testament so well that they are able, he thinks, to get along so well with the Jews. It is this admixture of orientalism in the British character that enables Britain so successfully to carry on the government of India. Dr. Levine

thinks no other nation could approach them in this respect. He spoke of the remarkable success of the British in India in particular.

His views on the east generally are of deep interest. The engineer who went from Egypt to Mesopotamia reported that the latter was a better land to live in than Egypt, and with proper cultivation and irrigation could easily support a population of 25,000,000, even of 50,000,000. Great Britain with 200,000,000 Moslems under her rule would find no embarrassing problems with the Arabs. The various tribes of Armenians, Nestorians, and the descendants of the ancient Assyrians and Chaldeans preserved their ancient language and preserved the seeds of their ancient nationalities. All they wanted was to be allowed to dwell in peace.

He thought it was much the same in Russia. He explained the antipathy of certain sections of the Jews in New York, Philadelphia and elsewhere as arising not from hostility to Great Britain herself, but to dislike, in the opening of the war, of Britain's alliance with Russia, who was then only known as an oppressor of the Jews and a tyrant politically. Since the Russian revolution opinion is veering round, and if Russia continues to promote democracy and carries on the republic there will be no reason for any Jew to fear the alliance of England with Russia. The freeing of the Jews was one of the first acts of the Russian Republic.

Dr. Levine said it was a tradition among many of the Jews that the British were not of the Goyim or Gentiles, but kin to the Jews, and in many Russian villages it was believed that the British were the lost tribes. At any rate the feeling was very friendly, and the action of the British Government in declaring that the Jews should find their inheritance in Palestine had aroused much enthusiasm.

Dr. Levine's idea of a Jewish nation in Palestine was republican in form. The patriarchal conceptions of the nation easily fitted into this form. He did not think a theocracy was practicable, and preferred a free church as being the best thing for the church as well as the people.

The invasion of Palestine by General Allenby had interested Dr. Levine very much, as he knows the country well. They should remember, he suggested, that the contention in the Old Testament was between the gods of the hill and those of the valley. The British had been in the valley and were now going into the hill country beyond Hebron, where more care was necessary. He has no doubt of the ultimate success of the allied arms, and regards as settled the Jewish Palestine plan. No Jew feels at home anywhere but in his native land of Palestine. Elsewhere he is a stranger, some one else, not himself. In Palestine he is not only at home, but he finds there the real man which he is. There must be nationality and freedom, which will bring international co-operation.

## War Suffrage and Prohibition.

The New Republic points out a natural disposition on the part of everyone who favors this or that policy to connect up his argument in some way with the winning of the war. Thus the advocates of equal suffrage say with a great deal of force that now is the time of all others when votes for women should be granted. Their opponents, on the other hand, say that we should not stop in the midst of a great war to contend over a domestic problem like the suffrage. In Canada both party leaders are practically pledged to grant equal suffrage in the near future, but in the United States the battle is still being fought out in a number of campaigns. The liquor traffic naturally opposes women voting in state elections; and therefore in Ohio the ladies can vote for the president of the United States, but are debarred from taking any part in the selection of a county coroner or a village pound keeper.

So with prohibition. Already the president has prohibited by executive order the manufacture and importation of distilled spirits. Congress has made the District of Columbia dry, and there are many prohibition states. The temperance people naturally say, Why not conserve all our resources for the winning of the war by enacting national prohibition? On the other hand, their opponents say, Why stop in the middle of the war to discuss a local economic issue?

In the United States it must be admitted, however, that national interference in certain problems, except under the necessity of war, is open to objection. The southern states, with their serious race problem, may well oppose a federal constitutional amendment enfranchising all the women of the country. On the other hand, states containing big cities with a large foreign population may find the liquor problem more difficult than rural communities, where practically all the people are native born. Still on the whole it must be admitted that the war has given a great impetus in all countries to equal suffrage and prohibition alike.

## News From the Front.

A very fine compliment was paid to Mr. Stewart Lyon by the National Club, which tendered him a banquet on Tuesday evening on the occasion of his return from the front, where he had spent some eight months as special correspondent for the Canadian Press. Mr. Gourlay, who presided, said that the club took pleasure from time to time in recognizing, irrespective of party ties, those who had contributed in marked degree to character building in Canada, and he regarded the occasion as a splendid climax to thirty years of exemplary work.

Mr. Lyon favored the club with a vivid two-hours' account of proceedings at the front on the understanding that what was said would be treated as in camera. Those who heard him might not be so inclined to object to the reforms proposed by Premier Lloyd George as those who were blind to all the conditions. Mr. Lyon was, however, most optimistic in regard to the success of the allied cause. The Germans know well what the British objectives are upon the Belgian coast, and there is no doubt that they will be attained in due course.

The crow family, to which the rook belongs, is placed by ornithologists at the head of the bird-world, as being more highly organized than any other. Linnacus gave the post of honor to the eagles because of their kingly quality of rapacity. The eagles were then dethroned in favor of the thrushes by reason of the higher development of their vocal organs; but two great authorities on ornithology, Prof. Parker and Prof. Newton, agreed in assigning the highest place to the Corvidae, on account of their "wit and wisdom," their development of social habits, their "sublimity" and their possession of "larger brains in proportion to the weight of the body than those of any other birds."

## THE TORONTO WORLD

### THE QUESTION OF ALSACE-LORRAINE

BY EMILE BOUTROUX.

There has been much talk recently of Alsace-Lorraine and people have, with justice, insisted that since these provinces were violently torn from France in 1871, their return to the mother country would be in no sense an annexation, but really a restitution, a reintegration, a dis-annexation.

More specifically it has been well said that it would be absurd to demand a plebiscite on this question after the war, for such a suggestion signifies that, in the opinion of the proposers, the double plebiscite of 1871, at Bordeaux and at Berlin, which confirmed the sentiments of Alsace-Lorraine in the most striking fashion, is null and void. And it is illogical to dismiss with scorn the plebiscites of 1871 and to attribute any value to a plebiscite in the future.

Certainly Alsace is French at heart and French by tradition, the more so because it did not cease being a pure geographical unit, to acquire a moral personality and to develop its own character after it was united to France.

All these are proper and significant considerations; they touch, however, but one side of the question. They allow the supposition that the question is one purely between France and Alsace-Lorraine and that in restoring Alsace-Lorraine to France we will simply be yielding to the wishes of both populations.

In reality the question of Alsace-Lorraine has an entirely different significance, as all are convinced who have consulted not only the opinions of France and of Alsace-Lorraine on the matter, but the opinion of Germany as well.

It is necessary to go back at least to the years 1815-1819, in order to grasp the whole question of Alsace-Lorraine. The pretensions of Prussia at the Congress of Vienna are well known. To become the preponderant power in Germany she demanded nothing less than the whole of Saxony. To become the dominating power in Europe she insisted on demanding that Alsace and Lorraine should be handed over to her. The idea of a balance of power in Europe existed then. France, Austria and England forbade. And the second treaty of Paris, signed after Waterloo, rejected the pretensions of Prussia to rule over Alsace-Lorraine.

From that moment the question of Alsace-Lorraine took on, in the eyes of Europe, a value not merely military but symbolic. The continuance of these provinces as French territory was the sign and symbol of the superiority in Europe of the will of Europe over the will of Prussia. And at that time, the very conscious ambition of Prussia was to play that role in Germany and in Europe to which Austria had once aspired, i.e., to rule unrivaled over with 1819 Prussia.

That is why, left off contesting the right of France to possess Alsace-Lorraine, Germany has been obliged to resort to political and strategic sophisms in order to justify her claims.

The wrong of 1815 must be righted. German literature of the period 1819-1870 is full of testimonies to this claim. Here is a remarkable example (reproduced in the *Journal des Debats* of May 2, 1917): "The importance which foreign nations attached to the pretensions of Prussia, during the years 1819-1870, was not without effect."

On the 8th of February, 1871, at Chateau de Versailles, the Comte de Turin, French chargé d'affaires at Turin, had a conversation with the Comte de La Tour, minister of foreign affairs of King Charles-Albert, in the course of which the latter said: "We were undecided at the time of the revolution as to whether to declare war on France. The opposition prevailed."

And as the conversation led M. de Chateaux to use the words "dissemination of France," M. de La Tour replied: "Ah, on that point I am in agreement with you. We have need of a powerful France. . . . Lacking that there would be no equilibrium in Europe. What would become of the smaller states? . . . And the Comte de La Tour added with these words, "Remember that if there is ever a question of taking Alsace-Lorraine away from you, we are on your side. And so you can see an eventual alliance between us."

In 1844, Heinrich Heine wrote to his comrade in his preface to "Deutschland": "Personally I am unable to incorporate Alsace and Lorraine into the empire as easily as you do."

Under the influence of Russia the two provinces penetrated deeper and deeper into the life of Germany. When, in 1869, I went to Heidelberg, to take a course under Ed. Zeller and to study the university system of Germany, the first student to whom I spoke began the conversation with these words: "We are going to have a war with you."

"Why?"

"Well, aren't you holding back Alsace and Lorraine?"

Not in France, but in Germany, did I realize what the German claim signified. Europe—the world—are compelled at last to occupy themselves with the question of Alsace-Lorraine. Our eyes will be opened on the day when we realize that this is not a French question, but a world-question and that we have to decide whether we shall leave in the hands of Prussia-Germany a conquest to which it attributes such a moral significance that it becomes the symbol of the supremacy which Germany arrogates to herself, not only in Europe, but in the world.

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## DUNGANNON RESIDENT DEAD.

Belleville, Nov. 14.—Robert Lancaster, a well-known resident of Dungannon Township, has passed away after being ill for some time. Deceased, who was about 65 years of age, had resided in the northern part of Hastings County for the greater portion of his life. For a number of years Mr. Lancaster was reeve of Dungannon Township, and for one year was warden of the county. These positions he filled with marked ability and credit to the municipality and county alike.

## CALLED TO BELLEVILLE CHURCH

Special to The Toronto World.  
Belleville, Ont., Nov. 14.—Rev. D. C. Ramsay, M.A., of Kingston, who has been supplying the pulpit of John Street Presbyterian Church in this city for a few Sundays, has been tendered a unanimous call to become pastor of the church. The reverend gentleman has been in the west for some years, but of recent date has been residing at Kingston.

THURSDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 15 1917

## THE VOTER WHO WILL WIN THIS ELECTION



## BRITISH PREMIER FACES BIG CRISIS

(Continued from Page 1).

government of each of the great powers whose armies are fighting on that front, the extension of the scope of the council to other fronts to be reserved for discussion with the other great powers.

"Third: The supreme war council has for its mission to watch over the general conduct of the war. It prepares recommendations for the execution of the military operations, and keeps itself informed of their execution and reports thereon to the respective governments."

"Fourth: General war plans drawn by competent military authorities are submitted to the supreme war council, which under its high authority of government insures its co-ordination, and submits, if need be, any necessary changes."

"Fifth: Each power delegates to the supreme war council one permanent representative whose exclusive function is to act as technical adviser to the council."

"Sixth: Military representatives receive from the government and the competent military authorities of their country all proposals, information and documents relating to the conduct of the war."

"Seventh: The military representatives watch day by day the situation of the forces and the means of all in questions being asked are whether armies dispose."

"Eighth: The supreme war council meets normally at Versailles, where the permanent military representatives and staffs are established; they may meet at other places according to circumstances. Meetings of the supreme war council take place at least once a month."

"Has No Executive Power."

The premier went into a further explanation, saying:

"From the foregoing it will be clear that the council will have no executive power and that final decisions in the matter of strategy and the distribution and movements of the various

armies in the field will rest with the several governments of the allies. There will, therefore, be no operations department attached to the council. The permanent military representatives will derive from the existing intelligence departments of the allies all information necessary in order to enable them to submit advice to the supreme allied council."

"The object of the allies has been to set up a central body charged with the duty of continuously surveying the field of operations as a whole by the light of information derived from all the fronts and from all the governments and staffs, and of co-ordinating the plans prepared by the different general staffs, and, if necessary, of making proposals of their own for the better conduct of the war."

Mr. Lloyd George announced that the government had set aside Monday for the discussion of his Paris speech and the proposed council.

Faces Grave Crisis.  
New York, Nov. 14.—An Associated Press despatch from London, dated Tuesday, November 13, received here this afternoon, says:

Premier Lloyd George, on his return from his hurried trip to consult and hear Great Britain's ally, Italy, finds himself faced by the sharpest crisis of his career as prime minister. The crisis is one which may quite possibly result in a vote of want of confidence by the parliament, which would be followed automatically by his resignation.

No action taken by any British government since the beginning of the war has caused such a maelstrom of criticism, speculation, and symptoms of uneasiness as the announcement of the formation of an international war council composed of cabinet ministers of Great Britain, France and Italy, with a military committee representing the three nations, which latter is to be in constant session at Versailles. The questions being asked are whether such a vital change is necessary, whether it will bring effective control of the campaign, and particularly how far the new military trinity will supersede or overlap the management of British operations by the general staff of the army.

## KITCHENER LIBRARIAN RESIGNS.

Kitchener, Ont., Nov. 14.—The Kitchener Library Board this evening accepted with regret the resignation of Assistant Librarian Miss Foreman, tendered on account of ill-health. Miss Foreman has had charge of the children's department since its organization two years ago.

## DONATE FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR BUILDING

Ladies' Auxiliary of Kitchener and Waterloo Hospitals for Year Elected.

Kitchener, Ont., Nov. 14.—The ladies' auxiliary to the Kitchener and Waterloo Hospitals at their annual meeting decided to donate \$500 toward the building of a nurses' room. The financial statement showed an expenditure of \$185, and a balance in the treasury of \$315.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are: Hon. presidents, Mrs. Geo. Russell, Mrs. Geo. C. H. Lang, Mrs. Geo. Wagoner, Mrs. A. J. Gabel, and Miss L. Oelschlaeger; honorary vice-presidents, Mrs. W. H. Bowby and Mrs. J. B. Snyder; president, Mrs. E. Bricker; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. C. H. Doerry; 3rd vice-president, Mrs. C. W. Schaefer; secretary, Mrs. C. R. Raby; assistant secretary, Mrs. F. Doering; recording secretary, Mrs. R. G. Dobbin; treasurer, Mrs. R. O. Henry; assistant treasurer, Mrs. E. D. Hart; house committee, Mrs. J. B. Weaver and Mrs. B. O. Henry.

## DIED OF WOUNDS

Lieut. Geddes Victim—Private J. A. Payne Killed in Action.

Special to The Toronto World.  
St. Thomas, Ont., Nov. 14.—Official word was received in St. Thomas today that Lieut. J. R. Geddes, who left here for overseas with the 51st Battalion, has died from the effects of wounds received on the battlefield. Lieut. Geddes was born in Port Elgin and was a Normal school graduate.

Mrs. W. Thomas Smith, president of the Women's Civic Association, was today notified that her nephew, Pte. John Alexander Payne, had been killed in action at Bellwood, Oct. 25. Pte. Payne went overseas with the 50th Canadian.

No less than seven men from St. Thomas and district are reported wounded today, including Lieut. Ralph Babbitt of this city, who has been in France for the past two months with the R. C. E. He was admitted to Canadian General Hospital No. 4 at Etaples, on Nov. 13.

## Y.M.C.A. CONTRIBUTIONS.

New York, Nov. 14.—The grand total of contributions at the end of business today in the nationwide campaign of the Young Men's Christian Association, to raise \$35,000,000 for the war work fund was \$11,435,504, according to an announcement from headquarters here.

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Imperial Stout is excellent for convalescents. The healthful principles of hops and malt are embodied in this O'Keefe brew, making a delicious beverage for the table or the sick room.

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