

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO,

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1916.

A CITY WITHOUT MODERN IMPROVEMENTS

Asuncion is the capital and largest city of Paraguay, South America. It has a population of 60,000, but has neither a water service nor sewer system. The people are dependent for their water supply upon wells, from which water is pumped into tanks for distribution to the houses, by means of windmills, handpumps, motor-pumps and hot air pumps. Some of the more modern buildings in the business section have private sewer lines running into the river, which is near. In the greater number of houses sewage is conducted into wells dug on the premises and is allowed to seep into the ground.

United States Consul Wiley, stationed at Asuncion, says: "A concession was granted some years ago for the installation of a water and sewer system. No steps were taken to establish it, however, and the concession has lapsed."

Asuncion has had no telephones for about three years. A system was installed by a company under a concession, but about three years ago the central office was destroyed by fire and has never been rebuilt. It is said that an English company will endeavor to obtain a concession to install telephones.

There is no steam or other mechanical laundry in Asuncion. The laundry work is done by women, generally, on the river banks. The clothes are cleaned by beating them on stones, a process which interferes to a considerable extent with the durability of the garments. Some local business men had the installation of a steam laundry under consideration about one and a half years ago, but the matter was dropped.

Asuncion is the terminal point of four steamship lines and one railway line. It is a tropical country, where wash garments are worn nearly all the year round. "Taking these facts into consideration, it would seem that it should be a good point to install a small steam laundry," remarks the consul, and indeed that would seem to be true.

WHY ROME FELL—DISEASE, NOT WAR DESTROYS NATIONS.

Some times the question is raised: "Why all this talk of health and the prevention of diseases? We never used to worry about such things."

No, and for that very reason disease has written more pages of our history than all the wars and all the great men that ever lived.

The decline of Greece was brought about by malaria after all other nations had yielded to the Grecian rule. Malaria killed countless thousands of the Athenian soldiers and citizens and fairly rotted the Grecian civilization.

Was it the Goths that caused the downfall of Rome? No, it was typhoid, malaria, typhus and the social disease. These may be truly blamed for the fall of the greatest power on earth. Romans in the state of health that was theirs before Christ, could have remained supreme indefinitely. It was disease which tore down a civilization that took centuries to build. Again the Goths and Goths, savages, but men, assumed the patronage of the world. But they were not long to hold sway. Disease infected their ranks and for three centuries civilization hung by a thread.

And it is to prevent another period such as the dark ages that the modern hue and cry against preventable disease has been raised.

WHY NOT PLAY A LITTLE WHILE TODAY.

Play is as essential to health as is work. A man needs to be shaken up occasionally. He needs to have his heart beat faster and his face flushed at times.

He needs often to breathe deeply and to exert himself to the utmost.

Play does all of these things. Furthermore, play takes one out into the open air and the sunshine. It takes a man away from his work and his worry. It trains mind along with muscle. It develops judgment and will power and makes a bigger, better, longer, happier life.

Why not play a little while today? Do not look upon a play spell as a life preserver, something to be seized only in sudden breaking up of the health.

DOES NOT PROVE ANYTHING.

Announcement by the educational department of the Ford Motor Company shows that after three years operation of the profit-sharing plan, the smallest bank deposits are to the credit of those of American birth and those from Western Europe, and largest to the credit of those from Eastern Europe and Asia Minor. However, this does not necessarily prove that the latter group is the more thrifty.

In the first place the standard of living of the first group is higher and no one can say that money spent in providing home comfort is wasted. While the latter group has put its money in the savings banks the former group may have sought better ways of investment which bring in more return than bank deposits, or they may

have bought houses and taken out life insurance. The only way that savings bank deposits can be used as a true index of thrift is when the habits and ways of living of all are put on the same basis. When they are so widely different, as in this case, many things must be taken into consideration.

THE AUTOMOBILE IN WAR.

Mr. Howard C. Felton contributes to the Munsey's Magazine some interesting particulars about the automobile in the present war. In August, 1914, there were more motor-cars of all sizes in use in England than in all the other warring nations combined. Germany and Austria together showed a census of about 115,000 cars of all kinds. France had in the neighborhood of 90,000 and Russia about 10,000. Great Britain had 250,000 in daily use. In 1913 France paid out nearly 750,000 dollars in subsidies to the owners of motor-trucks, and Austria about 500,000 dollars. Germany's outlay in that direction is not known. Like other military information, the figures were closely guarded. But to the owner of every car in Germany, there was given a registered number, together with instructions to bring his vehicle to a certain point at the instant required.

France and Germany, we are told, both had an advantage over England in that they had had time to develop great fleets of standardized trucks and cars of lighter types. They had thousands that were identical in the important matters of power, speed, size, road clearance, and principal parts. It is said that in Germany the body of any car of the standard classes can be transferred to another chassis in a few minutes thus converting an ambulance into a commissary car, or a repair-shop into a general's limousine. England gave preference to fast trucks, some of them capable of making twenty miles an hour. When Sir John French's troops were marching and countermarching in France, the heavier vehicles, it is said, did their sixty or eighty miles a day as regularly as clockwork, and those which served the cavalry frequently rolled up a much greater mileage.

WHEN IS A PERSON DEAD?

When is a person dead? We used to suppose that a person died definitely at a particular moment, and that was the end of him.

But physicians at Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore are experimenting with a serum which appears to restore life in persons who, by all the ordinary tests would be pronounced dead from asphyxiation or drowning.

So far they have experimented only with animals, but they are satisfied that the serum would work similarly on human beings.

One case reported is that of a dog that had been drowned four hours before the treatment began. The dead dog was brought back to life by an injection of the serum. It died later, however, of blood-pressure—a dangerous after-effect which the doctors are trying to guard against.

HENRY CLEWS' REVIEW.

Henry Clews, in his Weekly Review, says: "Outside of war influences the crop situation is the most unsatisfactory feature. No serious damage is reported in any section, but the Spring has been cold and wet, consequently most of the cereal crops are backward and less promising than a year ago. On the other hand all fruit crops are far above the average in condition; peaches, which promise a poor crop yield being the only exception. Cotton is about two weeks backward, but condition is good and acreage, according to the National Grainers' Association estimate, is nearly thirteen per cent. larger than a year ago. A few warm days will compensate for all present drawbacks. Bank clearings, though still running over forty per cent. ahead of last year, are not showing such big gains as in the first three or four months of the current year. Railroad earnings show excellent results; gross results reported in April thus far being more than twenty per cent. ahead of last year. April net returns are also very satisfactory if the latest reports of Union Pacific and Atchison are any criterion. Traffic on some of the Western lines has been remarkably heavy, which doubtless will be a factor favorable to an easier adjustment of the railroad labor problem. The net earnings of American railroads for the nine months ended March 31st were \$899,000,000, compared with \$650,000,000 the same time last year, an increase of nearly \$250,000,000. Prosperity such as this, if sustained, should mean not only better wages to railroad labor, but better returns to stockholders. The noticeable public hostility to railroads is also disappearing, and these favorable developments would undoubtedly have been reflected in a more general advance in the stock market had it not been for the pressure of foreign holdings of American stocks. The proposal of the British Government for an additional tax of ten per cent. upon American stocks will stimulate foreign sales and tend to weaken this market."

THE BRIDEGROOM'S FURNACE.

The brides aren't the only ones who ought to be trained by their parents for the profession

of making home happy is the contention of a writer in the Woman's Home Companion.

The father in the story suddenly found that his engaged son didn't even know where the electric meter was and had no idea how to read it. He didn't know how to run a furnace. He couldn't put in a pane of glass. He didn't know how to turn off the house water supply. He just didn't know anything about the mechanics of a house. So the parents began to educate him.

Henry finally realized his ignorance, and asked for a list of what he ought to know, so Genevieve wouldn't be justified in divorcing him within a year. (Genevieve was a competent person whose skill in the feminine household arts was in sharp contrast to Henry's vast mental blankness in regard to the masculine ones).

Whereupon the father, gratified by the son's humility, made the list. It's a good one for prospective bridegrooms to contemplate before June ends. Why, after all, should the brides have all the making-home-happy responsibility? Here it is:

He should be able to heat the house; know enough about plumbing to be beyond the mercy of the ignorant and dishonest plumber; be able to replace a caster or put on the pull of a dresser drawer.

He should be able to paint floors or woodwork; replace panes of glass; put up shelves; read meters; screen doors and windows; keep shades in order; keep door locks in order; keep knives sharp.

He must know enough about building material to advise a carpenter, must know how to carve; how to make tea, coffee, and toast; how to broil a steak in an emergency, so he won't be utterly helpless if wife is ill.

And he must teach her to help him in his duties in case of the opposite emergency.

POCKETS BY ALL MENAS.

Encouraged by the sane and comfortable short, full skirt, emboldened by the useful and attractive "sport" clothes that are gaining favor for everyday wear, women seem to be on the verge of rising to demand pockets—regular, usable pockets.

Pockets of a sort they have had in all shapes and sizes. But they were purely ornamental. Often they were merely simulated, and offered shelter for not so much as a car ticket. Deceptive buttons and tailored flaps looked well. But their wearers meekly stowed fountain pen, glasses case, purse, handkerchief and countless other articles in that long-suffering receptacle known as the handbag.

But the worm is turning. Genuine pockets are demanded. Not a dozen or so at first. That might achieve too quickly the comfort and convenience of man's much-pocketed attire. A modest two or three would do to begin with, one apiece for handkerchief, car fare and memorandum.

And as pockets become numerous and spacious enough to hold all the odds and ends formerly crowded into the burdened and burdensome handbag, the civilized world will sigh in relief. It has suffered enough from lost handbags to welcome any substitute firmly attached to feminine clothing.

No one will begrudge the ladies this innovation in their apparel. If they have become wise enough to appreciate real pockets they are welcome to them.

THE CHARGES PROVED.

The purpose of the Meredith-Duff investigation into the charges brought by Mr. George W. Kye, M.P., is for the purpose of ascertaining the truth or falsity of alleged agreements produced indicating that Hon. Colonel J. Wesley Allison benefitted financially in a large way through contracts let by the Canadian Shell Committee to American firms at a time when it was understood by Premier Borden and declared by Sir Sam Hughes that Col. Allison was receiving no remuneration whatsoever for his services. Col. Allison under oath has admitted that he did accept commissions and that he was out to "make whatever money he could."

The people of Canada were assured by Sir Sam Hughes that Col. Allison was not receiving one cent for his services and suggested in the House of Commons that he should be reimbursed after the war.

On one occasion, in introducing a letter which he said Col. Allison always sent to munition contractors, Sir Sam Hughes said:

"I may say further concerning Col. Allison . . . that in all his dealings with business firms in the United States he has in each instance, so I am informed and believe, given those with whom he dealt the following letter or one similar: Sir Sam then read to the House the following letter:

Confirming my verbal statements to you of yesterday, and in order that there cannot be any room for misunderstanding, I now reaffirm in writing my position in connection with the fuse question. I have been and am doing my very best to secure the lowest prices possible for the Government, and above all things wish to do whatever I can to aid them in procuring the best workmanship, lowest prices and largest de-

liveries possible, and if you are bidding for the manufacture of this fuse for the Shell Committee or the Canadian Government I want it distinctly understood that I do not want any profit added to the price under any conditions, with the intention of providing a commission for me, as I would not under any circumstances accept a commission of any kind from anybody, in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. WESLEY ALLISON.

On the witness stand Col. Allison declared that he had written this letter to only one firm. Later he admitted that he had written to another (after the second letter was produced in court). He could not explain satisfactorily just what he meant by "I would not under any circumstances accept a commission of any kind from anybody, in connection with this matter."

Sir Sam said that he understood that Col. Allison sent this letter to all United States firms with which the latter did business. Sir Sam has been sadly deceived or kept in the dark by his friend. The honorary colonel also says that he neglected to tell Sir Sam about the commission on the fuse contract. Such a trivial thing. Yet he was out "to make whatever he could." What gross deception of his admirer and patron! Sir Sam was going to reward him after the war, so he thought it just as well to collect from the other side of the bargain before the war was over.

By the admission of Col. Allison and the statements of Mr. Yoakum, the charges of Mr. Kye are proved. The country, as the London Advertiser says, has seen the inside of the Allison philanthropy.

"Every time we think of Mexico, we thank God for Canada," says the Boston Transcript. Our American friends have learned to appreciate the blessing of good neighbors. And we have equal cause for gratitude.

Agricultural explorers are conducting their search particularly in the remoter regions of the earth. Probably few of their discoveries will be of direct usefulness, but many of them are valuable for experiments in hybridization and may give an entirely new characteristic to some familiar varieties.

Evidence just published shows the existence of a horror cell in the Manitoba jail at Winnipeg where prisoners were confined below ground in darkness, and sometimes with hands chained to the wall at the level of their shoulders. For breaches of the prison rules, unfortunate prisoners, against whom the guards had a spite, appear to have been thrown into this cell for five days on a diet of bread and water. In one case this was made 10 days, but regular meals were given, to avoid the rules. Men awaiting trial have been cast into the cell. Some prisoners were prevented from playing checkers because there was nothing in the rules allowing it. Others were allowed to do so. Attorney-General Hudson has ordered the use of the horror cell discontinued.

FAREWELL.

Farewell, ye hills and dells around,
Ye stately trees so grand,
Farewell, ye fields where flow'rs abound
Profusely o'er the land.
Ye rivers, streams and lakes so fair,
And glorious, sunny sky;
Ye rich fruitlands beyond compare,
Good-bye, dear land, good-bye.

I leave you, Canada, fair land,
Where all is peace and rest,
Leave lov'd ones, friends, to take my stand
Where seem'st, my country, best.
For thy dear sake, oh land o' mine!
Thy freedom to secure;
That liberty be ever thine
We'll fight, and we'll endure.

I'll find my pleasure in my pain,
My rest in weariness,
Joy in a tortured, fevered brain,
If this preserve thy peace.
Dear country, 'tis for thee I go,
The ocean broad to sail,
The war's cursed battlefield to know,
All hail, my home, all hail!

Farewell, oh Canada, farewell,
And best of friends, adieu.
Dear loving hearts, who wish me well,
No better can you do than pray
"God's will be done"
Throughout the coming strife.
Preserve me for thy sake alone,
Or proudly yield my life.

I ask no more for what I do,
No thanks or words of praise,
It is enough that 'tis for you
The British flag we raise.
Protecting home and lov'd ones dear,
In peace 'neath sunny sky—
And this alone my heart will cheer,
Good-bye loved land, good-bye.
—Bandmaster H. R. Bonphron, 74th Batt.
—C.E.F., England.

Other Editors' Opinions

RUSSIA AFTER THE WAR

The New York Tribune prints an interesting interview with Professor Paul Milukoff, leader of the Constitutional Democratic Party in the Russian Duma, and one of the Russian delegation now in London, conferring with the British authorities. Although word came from Petrograd that the Russian forces advancing southward from Trebizond and Erzerum through Kurdistan purpose to take Bagdad and lay conquest to the entire region of Mesopotamia, Professor Milukoff refers to Mesopotamia as one of the prizes that will go to Great Britain at the termination of the conflict. In fact, he regards this as the most important advance to be scored for the British Empire, securing profitable Asiatic connections with Egypt and establishing a bulwark against future attempts of Germany to connect Bagdad with Berlin and thereby present a menace to Great Britain in India. He says, however, that Russia expects to occupy and retain possession of Constantinople, anticipating no objection from her allies on that score. Premier Asquith intimated, it seems, that Great Britain would be content at such disposition of the Golden Horn, and so did Sir Edward Grey in a speech in Parliament more than a year ago. Of special interest to American business men is the statement of Professor Milukoff that Americans can do an unprecedented business with Russia as soon as the war is over, our manufacturers and merchants having unlimited opportunities in that direction. This expression is in accord with opinions that have been given by several Americans closely in touch with Russian affairs. There is every reason to believe that Russia will emerge from the war not only with gains that will be of great commercial value to her, but with an added vigor that will be felt in all lines of activity.—Springfield Union.

THE THIRD HARVARD UNIT.

Another Harvard Surgical Unit, the third that has gone from the university's medical school to the succor of wounded soldiers in France, puts out from New York tomorrow. The doctors, young and old, go as a unit and as a unit they will serve in the Twenty-Second General Hospital, of the British Expeditionary Force, in France where their predecessors have labored. Yet what a legion of individual experiences awaits each separate member! To the younger men in the formative time of their lives the scenes and deeds of their six months' service will often be enough to determine and shape the whole future course of their careers and their personalities. Even the seasoned members of the party find in the rapid succession of incidents at the front, in the quick sharp battles, they fight for life against death, in the human heroism laid bare before them, an understanding of men and of the eternal verities more plain than they ever had in the ordinary course of service at home. There is a great good unselfishly conferred, by the men and women who comprise the American units in the hospitals of the war, but even as they confer it, they gain in return a staunchness, a breadth of understanding, a priceless store of human experience, which, if they possess it worthily, will make them great.—Boston Transcript.

UNITED IN PATRIOTISM.

The firm stand taken by Premier Hearst on the prohibition question, and the cordial co-operation of the Opposition leader, Mr. N. W. Rowell, must be exceedingly gratifying to every patriotic citizen, no matter what his race, creed, color or political complexion. It shows that in this moment of national peril the leading public men of this great Province do not hesitate to put country before party. They realize, as every thoughtful citizen realizes that the liquor curse is a greater menace to civilization than Prussian militarism, and that in order to deal successfully with the latter they must first get rid of the former. Conservative and Liberal legislators in the Ontario Parliament have made the year 1916 the highest and best in the history of the Banner Province of Canada.—Burk's Falls Arrow.

SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTED.

David E. McMillan, latterly of Lindsay, has been appointed to succeed the late Hugh F. Coyle as superintendent of the G.T.R. here.

France has declined to modify the embargo against the Canadian lobster. Theorore Essex, one of the oldest residents of Sarnia, is dead. He was for many years railway clerk. Edward Lovely, a well known steamboat engineer of Sarnia, took a dose of muriatic acid, and may die.

ONLY SIX TO FEED

Cats, Horses and Before T Surren

MILLSTONES F Provided Mean Grain Could For

ILLNESS SW

Fruit Grown Dropped by Stayed

Chicago, June 7, prints the followi Bombay:

"Wounded and native troops are el-Amara, having an equal number ers. They bring a Townsend's galla potamia's great str are mere youngste others were sold. "All are frightn are veritable skele of their starvation. The absolute exha cipated the ca General Townshend dared nearly the have died of starva "Ammunition was sufficient to co indefinitely, but al ed before the surr native sick and w white troops hav Tigris River. The ing 2,000 white so troops and 3,000 have proceeded to "The Turkish G provided a river e exchanged badly w marching overlan wasted condition o marches were lim day.

Soldiers New

"Until the last was excellent; the to resist until the was gone and the When the captiv only six miles we a garrison and civ nearly 20,000 per "General Tow small motor boat, and proceeded ac Turkish headquar not surprised, bu as human endur more. The same af issued statements units forecasting "Before the su ahead ordered everything of mil three projectiles bores of the canno and triple o were rammed ho being fired burst. they resembled ex The shells were destroyed and the ri a huge bonfire ma from the nearest "In the whole position the Turk 100 rifles. Leathe into shreds, tran burned and the v and telephone app ed. When Khalil place to accept sword, which, how allowed to keep, e destroyed except the men and the

\$20 For Fir

"The diary of wholly concerned ger and disease. the Arab traders biscuits and canne prices. The stores ed and all were f upon the army co dead officer's kit y Eighty dollars wa of twenty-five cig American cigaret "In February pound of barley pound and a quar fish. In March t duced to half a pound of fish. I ounces of bread a fish, which was live at the time The food proble fault by the Ind cause of their re flesh, fearing the rules of their cas "When ordina minished a sacrific the British troop Indians, whose was increased w fish was decrea among the horse shot and buried. and horse feed shooting of near