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Special Articles

Financing British Purchases of Canadian Shells.
By H. M. P. Eckardt.

Some Features of Progress in Australia.
By Ernest H. Godfrey, F.S.S.

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Sport As Usual

THE Laurentian Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire at Ottawa have issued a statement calling attention to the "Disgrace of patronizing professional hockey games in times such as these." The good ladies go on to point out that these professional hockey players are all able bodied young men, and that they would be far better engaged in chasing the Huns than in chasing the puck. In England the professional actors, or at least those of military age, have been driven from the stage as a result of indignant protests from an aroused public.

We would like to see some such attitude adopted in Canada. The Ottawa ladies are perfectly right in protesting against able-bodied young men carrying on "business as usual," and earning their living as professional sports, while the Empire is fighting for its very existence. The ladies might have gone further and protested against the thousands of young men who are attending hockey matches, the movies, bowling alleys and similar attractions. This is not the time to patronize these institutions. There is something far more serious for us to do.

The daily papers throughout the country have a good deal of blame attached to them for giving so much prominence to the proceedings of hockey players, the results of race track meets and other professional sporting organizations. There is no excuse in the world for the ordinary city daily giving one or two pages to chronicle the doings of a lot of able-bodied men who are shirking their duty. On the other hand they could do a great deal of good by pointing out to these professional players and to the thousands who follow their every move, that the war is not going to be won by singing "Tipperary" at hockey matches, which is as near participation in the war as most of these young men ever get.

One of the most insidious and unfortunate phrases ever coined was "Business as Usual," a phrase which sprang into use at the outbreak of the war. It was soon shown that the war was so serious a matter that business as usual could not be carried on, but that the country's first and chief business was to win the war, and anything that interfered with the active prosecution of this important enterprise must be tabooed. Far worse than "Business as Usual" is "Sport as Usual," which seems to be the unwritten law of too many of the young men of this country. We hope that an aroused public conscience will so impress itself upon the sporting fraternity throughout the land, that the professional player will find himself ostracized and forced either to shoulder a rifle and "do his bit," or to engage in some other occupation in keeping with the spirit of the times.

der a rifle and "do his bit," or to engage in some other occupation in keeping with the spirit of the times.

Labor and Conscription

IT is gratifying to find that the attitude of the Labor party in England respecting the very limited conscription measure of the Government was modified so far as to warrant Mr. Henderson in withdrawing his resignation as a member of the Cabinet, and his two Labor colleagues, Messrs. Braze and Roberts, in taking a similar course respecting their contemplated retirement from the less prominent places they have held in the Ministry. The difficulty that has been encountered in the Labor position in the case of such a moderate measure as that which the Government adopted should suggest to those who for many months have been advocating conscription how serious the situation would have been if their views had prevailed. Even now, in the presence of a very mild measure of compulsion, which has received the reluctant assent of many who have hitherto had strong objections to conscription, Labor is largely dissatisfied. If the more comprehensive schemes of compulsion had been adopted at the call of the enthusiastic advocates of such legislation, it is certain that there would have been resistance to a degree that would have been fraught with the greatest danger. The question is now presented in a form which receives the cordial support of many influential Labor leaders, and there is reason to hope that their example will have the effect of at least preventing organized resistance to the Government's bill.

Burned Bank Notes

The Edmonton Bulletin says:

"The difference between bank notes and city bonds is that if the notes are burned the bank does not have to pay, while if the bonds are drowned the city does."

If evidence could be given proving beyond question the destruction of bank notes of specified dates and numbers, no doubt arrangements could be made for the issue of new notes, and there need be no loss to anybody. If no such proof could be given the bank and the public would have to assume that the notes were still in existence, forming a part of the bank's liabilities. But while in such a case, if the notes were really burned, the bank never could be called upon to pay them, the uncertainty would prevent the bank reaping any advantage from their loss. The notes would continue to be treated as a part of the bank's liabilities to the public and to the ex-