

The Weekly Ontario

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1916.

LIQUOR MEN WANT PROHIBITION.

One of the strangest results of the present agitation for prohibition of the liquor traffic in Ontario is that a large and influential section of the liquor dealers of the Province now favor the passage of a prohibitory law without a referendum to the people.

In arriving at this conclusion they have displayed more than their usual wisdom. They know perfectly well that if the matter were to come to a vote now they would suffer a defeat that would be even more crushing than that lately experienced by their brethren in Manitoba. On the other hand if a vote is deferred until after the war they have hopes that public sentiment will not be so strong against them as it is now.

The temperance forces are also favorable to the enactment of a prohibitory law without a popular vote. They have no fear as to what the result would be but they prefer if possible to avoid the bitterness of a conflict over this highly controversial subject during the war.

The temperance people will have to face the probability of a systematic campaign to discredit prohibition if a vote is assured after the war. It is expecting too much of human nature to look for those whose financial interest in the traffic is great, to make smooth the way of prohibition. Every known device to bring the law into disrepute will unquestionably be employed by its opponents.

We therefore hold that the taking of a vote after the war should depend upon a well proved and established popular demand, such for instance as a bona fide petition signed by one-third of the voters of the province. A vote should be granted after the war, or at any later period if public opinion demands it, but only upon that condition.

GERMANY'S FORESIGHT.

A well known American surgeon who spent several months in the first year of the war in observing the methods of dealing with the wounded in France and Germany, has published some interesting impressions in a leading American surgical journal. What impressed him most, an English reviewer says in the Manchester Guardian, was what he calls the "interior organization" for dealing with the wounded, and especially with the permanently disabled soldiers, in Germany. Everything was ready to make those who were of no further use for military work of some value to the State and to turn them into occupied wage-earners, instead of allowing them to become unemployed pensioners. They were to be dealt with as they came along, and not to be allowed to collect in big numbers, "like a log-jam," for attention after the war.

The surgeon describes the organization from what he saw in Heidelberg. Within seven days of the declaration of war the tramway lines in the town had been extended to the goods yard of the railway, and a series of receiving wards and shelter huts, manned by civilian organization, sprang up. The hospital trains were met by ambulance tram cars, and the wounded were distributed according to the seriousness of their injuries amongst the various hospital units in the town.

When the final result of the injury which prevented further military service was seen the cases were sorted, and those of similar nature were sent to one or other of twenty-six training schools in various parts of the country. In these schools the training was highly specialized to suit the different infirmities. Men who had lost a limb were taught very soon to harden the stump of the limb by usage, so that no time should be lost in acquiring toleration for the wearing of artificial limbs, and they were all taught trades suitable for their new conditions of life. In one town a number of men who had lost the use of the right arm received instruction from a similarly afflicted teacher. They were taught how to feed and dress themselves, then how to write with the left hand, and finally shorthand and typewriting. An illustration of the national economy thus effected was the case

of a farm laborer who had lost his right arm. Being an intelligent man he received the clerical training, and in six weeks after entering his school obtained employment as a stenographer at twice the wages he had previously earned.

The various factories and industries were catalogued, showing how many of a particular type of disabled men they could find employment for, and in April of last year one electric company had already received eleven out of twenty-five one-legged men they had agreed to employ. The less severely injured convalescents were also looked after, and were given instruction in arithmetic, geography, conversational French, and German grammar, and practical teaching in the dividing of potatoes for planting and multitudinous other activities. Special schools for the blind were established when need first arose.

The surgeon's conclusions were that it took the surgically best prepared nation about two weeks to bring order out of the first chaos of war, and the least prepared about half a year. For the chronic stage of wound repair only one nation impressed him as having become thoroughly organized and efficient in detail in the first half year.

ANOTHER "J'ACCUSE"

That there are some Germans courageous enough to speak out against the policy which has precipitated this horrible slaughter in Europe, and has made the name of Germany vile among the nations of the world, is evidenced by the recent publication of a book on the origin of the war, written by a German, domiciled at Zurich, named Hermann Fernau. The author adopts the view contained in the famous book "J'Accuse," but declines to hide his identity. He demands from the German government answer to the following questions:

"Why the bullying tone of the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia?"

"Why the brutal refusal of Austria to the demand for delay made by the Triple Entente?"

"Why was the Serbian reply, whose humility astonished Europe, nevertheless rejected?"

"Why did Germany declare (vide White Book) Austria could not be cited before a European Tribunal?"

"Why did Austria declare that she was obliged to decline the British proposal?" (vide White Book)

"Why did Germany talk so much about localisation of the conflict when (as her diplomatic documents show) she knew Russia was bound to intervene?"

Copies of this new "J'Accuse" have been seized by the police in various German cities. It could hardly be popular with the Junkers. It is however a symptom of the feeling in the Fatherland.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT.

A thing which war-critics, military as well as lay, are apt to leave out of account is the human element. Yet it is now as ever the most important of all. Guns have their uses, but it is the man behind the gun who tells in the end. Munitions count for much, but morale for more. The Germans should have had the French and British forces beaten in August, 1914. The French and British snatched from Germany's supposed triumph the great victory of the Marne. It was men that won the battle of the Marne. But for Britain's "contemptible little army" it never would have been won. The Germans would have been in Paris, within another week. What might have followed that can only be conjectured.

It is true that the generalship which won the battle of the Marne was worthy of Napoleon at his best. But even consummate generalship would have failed but for the two army corps of British soldiers which drew the Germans on into the carefully laid trap which proved their undoing. No troops in the world but those which Britain furnished could have endured the test of that brilliant but terrible retreat from Mons. Outclassed in artillery and ammunition, they maintained an unbroken line while fighting and retreating at the rate of twenty-five miles a day.

When the Germans had at last been drawn into the net prepared, those British soldiers were able to turn on their heels and present a solid advancing front to their late pursuers. They were able to do their full share in winning the battle which their exceptional ability had made possible. The Britons were no enforced, short-service troops. The Germans called them "hiredlings." They were in every sense of the word, volunteers. They were free men, not officer-selected and driven serfs. They had had long and uninterrupted training under officers whom they knew and respected, and who knew and could depend upon them. It was the human element, and the human element alone, which won the great victory of the Marne.

At a later date, when Germany had rolled back her front and summoned all her reserves, she announced that she had been recruited for the British. The British Government notified General Dey on March 14.

Not munitions for the Germans sent over an indefinite number of shells for every one which the British could return. Not numbers, for the Germans had vast supports and reinforcements to draw upon while the British had their last man in the front trenches. But the Germans failed to break through to Calais, with every advantage, except the human element in their favor.

Now, once again, they are withstood by the same element at Verdun. For months they prepared their assault on that part of the French line. They massed men in hundreds of thousands in readiness to be sacrificed by their officers to almost any extent to secure victory. They placed guns wherever there was room for them to stand. They heaped up shells and deadly explosives in mountainous accumulations. They scamed the adjacent country with railways to facilitate the movements of their troops. They summoned to their aid all the resources of their murderous science. Their greatest generals planned the attack. The Kaiser was there in person to oversee the carrying out of the plans, and to inspire his armies by his presence.

General Joffre and his men knew what was on foot against them. They were neither excited nor dismayed. They were prepared for the worst, but had the most serene confidence in their ability to hold their own. No considerable drafts were made on their main reserves. They faced the coming attack with their ordinary supports. Their confidence in themselves was fully justified by the event. The Germans came on with all their guns, all their shells all their poisonous devices. The French met them man to man, fought them to a standstill and thrust them back. For a few miles of comparatively unimportant territory won, the Germans lost almost as many soldiers as there are square yards in the ground which they were able to take and hold for the time being. The human element clashing with the machine at Verdun as on the Marne and at Ypres, once again came off more than conqueror.

Thus it has ever been; thus must it ever be, while men who are fighting for honor and righteousness are opposed by those who are actuated solely by desire for booty and military "glory." Important as has heretofore been the human element in this war, it is destined to play a still more important part hereafter. The morale of the Allied troops has been constantly improving. It stands higher at present than ever. That of the Germans has been steadily on the wane. They have learned that machines, human or mechanical, however, "frightful" are no match for men such as they are facing. When the Allied time comes, there will be a sweeping and irresistible advance.

ENTERPRISE SYMBOLISED.

The splendid new building to be opened tomorrow by the local branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce is symbolic of the enterprise and progressiveness that have placed that well known financial institution at the very forefront of the Canadian business world. This palatial home will not only be an object lesson and an inspiration to our citizens in matters architectural, but an illustration as well of the resultant prosperity that ensues where the proverbial conservatism of finance is tinged with optimism and vision.

Mr. C. M. Stork, the veteran manager, is to be congratulated and complimented upon his success in using his influence in such a manner as to bring this much appreciated addition to our business homes in Belleville. Mr. Stork holds the universal respect and esteem of the financial public of this city and the district surrounding. His customers meet him without the repulsive intervention of red-tape, and with the assurance of unflinching courtesy and equitable treatment.

The same courtesy and freedom from awful dignity seems to animate and govern the entire staff, all of whom are deservedly popular with the business-transacting public.

The Ontario joins in extending to all its best wishes for the extended prosperity and usefulness of the Bank of Commerce in its new home.

Now comes the report that straw will be higher in price because the manufacturers can not get the peroxide from Europe to bleach them with. Between the butcher, the tanner and the baker the honest Canadian is feeling the heavy hand of war at both extremes; as well as in the middle.

A somewhat unusual political meeting was held in London recently. So many members of the United Irish League of Great Britain have joined the forces that a call has had to be made to Irishwomen in the Old Country to fill up their places so as to maintain the efficiency of the organization, and a ladies' central branch was formed at a meeting, over which Mr. T. O'Connor presided. Some very distinguished Irishwomen were present, notably Dr. Sophie Bryant and Mrs. J. R. Green. An appeal was made to the members of the new branch to help the Irish Boy on March 14.

he announced that he had been recruited for the British. The British Government notified General Dey on March 14.

made this timely remark: "Let us not trust too much to the sacredness of the British cause, to the valor of British arms, or the might of the British Fleet, but let us believe in one thing, and that is doing our duty. If we do our duty unflinchingly at any sacrifice, then, and then only, may we look forward to the victory which I hope we will have."

We trust we will not be considered unduly alarmist when we suggest to the local military authorities the propriety and necessity for having guards stationed at all hours about the local armories. An alien enemy would have no difficulty in carrying into the building and concealing a sufficient quantity of high explosive to cause serious damage to the structure or the collapse of the roof. At certain hours of the day such an event would be attended with great loss of life. Killing soldiers in Belleville answers the same purpose as the killing of soldiers in France. The series of fires and attempted outrages at Windsor and elsewhere demonstrate plainly that all our enemies are not in Europe.

"We shall never be able to prolong human life beyond 150 years." That much is settled, for there is official authority for it. So proclaims Dr. George W. Goler, health officer of Rochester, in a recent report. An even one hundred years is within reason, one hundred and twenty-five not impossible, and even one hundred and fifty is imaginable. But beyond a century and a half—never! Dr. Goler points out that as a result of the work now under way the death rate in Rochester has been reduced from over half the mortality in 1861 to less than one-fifth at present. More people now live to be over seventy years than there are children dying under five years old, and Dr. Goler says that the effective work along this line is now only in its infancy.

Enormous increases in food prices in European capitals, particularly those of the Teutonic allies, are shown in a comparative statement compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. All food is cheaper in the allied countries than in Germany and Austria, but there have been sharp rises in prices also in England and France. Vienna has suffered most of all. Meat that sold a year ago at twenty-five cents a pound is selling now at seventy-four cents. Many other foods have gone up in proportion. Bread prices are not given. In Berlin beef rose from twenty-two to thirty-four; veal from twenty-two to thirty-eight; and pork from twenty to thirty. Bacon is selling at sixty-four cents, twice as much as a year ago, and ham has risen to fifty-eight cents. Lard has doubled in price. Eggs at eighty cents a dozen are twice as high as a year ago. Prices in Great Britain are given as forty-four per cent. more than a year ago. The rise in France has been about twenty-three per cent. In Italy prices have gone upward very slowly for the last twelve months. Meats alone showed an appreciable increase. Prices in the Netherlands, the only neutral European country shown, have risen steadily within the year, but not so rapidly as in the belligerent countries.

SOMEWHERE IN FLANDERS.

Somewhere in Flanders, oh! could we but know, Just where our brave boys are facing the foe, From Somewhere, the call comes over the sea, They're pleading for help, from you and from me.

They're fighting for us, our homes and our all, They're dying for us, shall we heed their call? Come! don the khaki, the uniform grace, Answer the summons, take some hero's place.

Somewhere in Flanders, their thoughts oft will roam,

To dear ones they left in each boyhood home, Have we done our best to lighten their care? Have we striven hard their burdens to share?

Somewhere in Flanders—these words send a thrill,

To lone anxious hearts they're bodings of ill, From there come the news of each soldier boy, The messages sent, are greeted with joy.

What part shall we take in this awful hour? Our Empire in peril, oh! had we the power

To waken each soul, ere it is too late, To drive back the Huns with their songs of hate.

Somewhere in Flanders, the brave boys will sing "God Save our Country" and "God Save our King,"

May He share their griefs, their sorrows and joys,

Somewhere in Flanders, oh! God Save our Boys

—S. E. Faulkner, Stirling, Ont.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC AND PERSONAL LIBERTY

Liberty! How you blaspheme! Liberty! To damn and scheme To lose the sane man from his mind, And cram the prisons with his kind!

Liberty! To feed the source of mother's tears, And narrow life with haunting fears— To fill with shame the passing years And sap from life all that endears!

Liberty! To steal the soldiers from the King! To blight the child in life's sweet Spring And bark into his home to bring The ghost of many a happier thing!

Oh, Liberty! What dost thou will?

E. Lois Wilson

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson XIII.—First Quarter, For March 26, 1916.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Rev. vii, 9-17. Quarterly Review—Golden Text, Rev. vii, 16, 17.—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Lesson I.—The Ascending Lord, Acts 1:1-4. Golden Text, Eph. iv, 8. "When He ascended on high He led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men." During the forty days after His resurrection, when He showed himself alive many times to His disciples, He always spoke of the Kingdom of God which He will surely set up on earth with Israel as a center when He shall come again in His glory. Now we are to witness to Him by the Holy Spirit.

Lesson II.—The Coming of the Holy Spirit, Acts ii, 1-13. Golden Text, 1 Cor. iii, 16. "Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" He said that when He reached home He would send the Holy Spirit, who would bring to their remembrance all that He had ever said to them and take of His things and show them unto them and then bring them to come and guide them into all truth.

Lesson III.—Peter's sermon at Pentecost, Acts ii, 14-47. Golden Text, Acts ii, 21. "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." While we wait for the coming of the kingdom which was postponed because rejected, the Spirit has come to testify of a risen living Christ at God's right hand and to gather unto Him all the "whosoever" who are willing to receive Him, follow Him and suffer with Him.

Lesson IV.—The Spirit of Life, Rom. viii, 19-20. Golden Text, Rom. viii, 14. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God these are sons of God." This is the great Spirit chapter indorsing the necessity of the new birth and teaching that all such are children and heirs of God and can never be separated from His love—that the Father, Son and Spirit are all for us, and that in Christ all things are freely ours.

Lesson V.—The Lamb Who Slayeth, Acts iii, 1-12. Golden Text, Acts iii, 6. "Peter said, Silver and gold have I none, but what I have, that give I thee, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." This man, over forty years of age, who had never walked a step in all his life, is seen, by all who knew him to be incurable, walking and leaping and praising God, and Peter testified that this was the work of the unseen living Christ.

Lesson VI.—The Boldness of Peter and John, Acts iv, 8-21. Golden Text, 1 Cor. xvi, 13. "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." Peter and John, after a night in prison, being brought before the high priest, and the council to answer for the healing of this man, do not hesitate to say before the council what they said before the people in the temple that it was the work of Jesus Christ, whom they crucified, who is alive.

Lesson VII.—Humbled and Exalted, Phil. ii, 1-11. Golden Text, Phil. ii, 9. "Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor." Despised and rejected of men, but chosen of God and precious, the only Saviour, willing to save proud Pharisees as well as confessed sinners if they would only come to Him.

Lesson VIII.—The Brotherhood at Jerusalem, Acts ii, 32-45. Golden Text, 1 Pet. i, 22. "Love one another from the heart fervently." The power of the risen Christ drew the believers close to Him and to each other, at least some of them, and for a time, but soon deceit and murmuring became manifest, and we have still to wait to see a company of believers, however few, continuing with one accord. Whole-hearted surrender to God is rare!

Lesson IX.—The seven helpers, Acts vi, 1-6. Golden Text, Gal. vi, 2. "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." The apostles might continue in prayer and the ministry of the Word a committee of seven spirit-filled men was chosen to attend to murmurers and to see that no one was neglected.

Lesson X.—The death of Stephen, Acts vii, 54-60. Golden Text, Rev. ii, 10. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life." Being filled with the Spirit produces different results in the case of Peter 3,000 souls from one sermon with persecutions; in the case of Stephen not such manifest results, in soul saving and persecuted to death, but he saw heaven opened and Jesus in glory!

Lesson XI.—Heroes and martyrs of faith, Heb. xi, 1-14. Golden Text, Heb. xii, 1, 2. "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus." The end of chapter xii set before us the great need of faith and patience; then in chapter xi we have this great list of those who were notable illustrations of faith and patience, all dying in faith and still waiting for the kingdom.

Lesson XII.—Philip and the Ethiopian, Acts viii, 34-40. Golden Text, Acts viii, 30. "Understandest thou what thou readest?" Persecution sent out preachers of the Word, and many were born and believed, and there was joy on earth and in heaven. The Lord saw the hungry and thirsty seeking, and by an angel sent the Holy Spirit and a willing and obedient man. He brought him near and sent him on his way, rejoicing.

GERMAN ENEMY AUS

SIR SAM REE

LONDON, Hughes receive Hotel today in Perley, Sir Haken.

FIRE BROKE

AMSTERDAM says the bomb lasted for seven was observed that point.

RUSSIA

ROME, M ing to advices Turkish Block ing siege to it, ing Trebizond

SINN FEIN

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LONDON Herbert Asquith the Globe was ing to judge

PROPOSAL

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