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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY, LIMITED.

London, Ont., Tuesday, May 8.

## UNION AND INITIATIVE.

IT IS REFRESHING, in these times of doubt regarding Russia, to note the wonderful accord with which the British and French armies are working on the western front. There is no longer the bits here and nibble there by one force or another, with no apparent connection, but a sustained and tremendous movement by both armies, working in union, and with every step mapped out by the Allied leaders, whose success gives promise of victory, even though it means smashing right through to Berlin.

On Saturday and Sunday the French forces, in addition to capturing several thousand prisoners, gained positions which give them domination of the main German defensive line in the south, and this is a direct continuation of the British advance in the north, near Arras. The former depended on the success of the latter, and this being assured, the French victory was won with clocklike precision.

Nothing could offer more positive proof that the initiative is now wholly in the hands of the Allies. They have not to alter their plans to deal with movements initiated by the enemy, but are simply going forward according to intention, pressing the foe so hard that he has no time to even attempt to change the issue.

AND, IN FOLLOWING UP THEIR PLANS, THE ALLIES ARE SAID TO BE TWO WEEKS AHEAD OF THEIR SCHEDULE. This means that they have reached their objectives more quickly and with less loss than was anticipated. Terrible as has been the struggle, the leaders were prepared for worse and more prolonged, and were ready to pay the price to attain their goals.

We can afford to laugh at the German statements that all is going in accordance with the desires of the Teuton higher command. Were it so, thousands of lives would not be sacrificed vainly daily, to prevent it going in this direction. The events of the last few weeks have been dictated by Gens. Haig and Nivelle, working together as one, and the enemy is being forced to accept their decisions.

## JOFFRE AT CHICAGO.

THE VISIT of the French commander-in-chief to Chicago has been a rousing success. Crowds went wild over "Papa" Joffre, Col. Fabry ("the blue devil of France"), Marquis Chamberlain, the descendant of Lafayette, and Viviani. The whole city broke out in bunting and acclamation. Fabulous prices were paid for seats at the Auditorium, where addresses were delivered.

At last the time has come when the United States can do something to repay France for its assistance long ago in the War of Independence. American historians have recognized that that war could not have succeeded for their country but for the French alliance. Everywhere in the American Republic the memory of Lafayette, the young French leader who came to aid Washington, has been honored by statues and by streets, squares, parks, theatres, hotels or colleges named after him. It is true that the very success of the American Republic contributed to the overthrow of tyranny in France itself, and the establishment thereof of a free democracy, which is a light to Europe. Thus already has the United States in a way repaid French generosity with benefit. But there has still remained a debt of debt, and now the American democracy springs to make up the long arrears.

So hearty were the demonstrations of Chicago's respect and affection that tears rolled down old Joffre's face. Having no gift of English, he expresses himself perhaps the more in smiles and tears, and in the case of one lady who told him of her love for France, he kissed her hand in France's behalf "a dozen times." Not only French sentiment and gallantry, but French wit was in evidence. Col. Fabry, stalking on his wooden leg, remarked that he was "half an American, as his leg was made in the United States."

It is a pleasure to read of this grand triumph. Democracy is united to punish militarist crime. America is under great obligations to an old brother-in-arms, and greatly she recognizes and reciprocates.

## FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT.

FORMER PRESIDENT W. H. TAFT is to deliver an address to the citizens of London in the Winter Garden next Wednesday night. This will be the privilege of Londoners to hear one of the most capable presidents the United States ever had. He has been a lawyer, judge, statesman and president, and his natural commonsense has been strengthened by his experiences. He belongs to the best class of American statesmen today in and out of the Senate and House of Representatives. The three living presidents, Taft, Roosevelt and Wilson, have thousands of splendid men behind them, such as Elihu Root, Chauncey M. Depew, Joseph H. Choate, Lyman Abbott, Speaker Clark and John P. Morgan. There has been a decided improvement among the leading men of

the United States in recent years. They desire the brotherhood of man. They seek the best for their own land and rejoice at the prosperity of every other land.

President Taft will be long remembered gratefully in Canada for two great acts; first, his effort to make a reciprocity treaty with Canada, and second, his offer to negotiate a treaty with Great Britain which would refer all questions, whether involving the honor of the nation or not, to arbitration. One of his best addresses on the latter was delivered out West, in which he drew the parallel between the absurd and dissuaded duel and the more absurd practice of war.

An Advertiser representative had the privilege of hearing the former president, Taft and Roosevelt, at the Auditorium in the Jersey City High School, Mr. Taft on the 23rd and Mr. Roosevelt on the 24th of May preceding the first election of President Wilson. It was an excellent opportunity to compare the two men. President Taft was the more pleasing and polished speaker. On a more recent occasion, at the Astor House, New York, he delivered a short, good-natured, genial speech, full of points that confirmed the first impression.

Americans still look to Great Britain for their highest ideals in everything. Americans who become ambassadors to Great Britain always return to America lovers of Great Britain, like Joseph H. Choate. Today the United States and Great Britain have clasped hands across young Canada and across the Atlantic Ocean. That grasp must endure for ages. Each holds in its hand all that life holds dear, freedom, justice, humanity, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Each entered the war in response to the golden rule, and each is fighting to have that rule established as an international law. Richelieu said of Englishmen: "No mongrel boys, these island mastiffs." Surely the Canadian boys have proved their breed, and side by side with Canada, from this side of the ocean, will soon be marching under the Stars and Stripes the boys from every state in the Union, and whether at one time or grey, it will be the world's best color—khaki. The war will soon end in a victorious peace, and we believe with the American poet Whittier:

"Life shall on and upward go;  
Th' eternal step of progress beats  
To that great anthem, calm and slow,  
Which God repeats."

Take heart—the Master builds again—  
A changed life, a goodness hath;  
The tares may perish—but the grain  
Is not for death.

God works in all things; all obey  
His first propulsion from the night;  
Wake, thou, and watch! The world  
With morning light!

## PRAISEWORTHY.

MOST commendable is the offer of two London firms to extend the period of annual vacation with full pay to all employees who agree to spend their holidays on the land for the purpose of increasing production. By their example these concerns are almost certain to inspire others, and to stimulate the movement for greater cultivation. They are also bringing the matter prominently before their employees, and making a contribution to the wealth and welfare of the community.

There can be no doubt that the yeast is at work in London. It is difficult to enumerate results derived from all the hard work and publicity that those who have contributed to the cause at heart have contributed. Certainly no movement has had more free advertising, as The Advertiser can most heartily testify—and at the same time let it be said that no movement has been more deserving of co-operation on the part of influential bodies. The skeptic says that nothing much comes of it all. Ask the man who sells seeds. Ask the man who sells garden supplies of any kind. Lastly, take a walk around the city, or call up those who have put their shoulder to the wheel, and you will find that there is a great deal of unspectacular effort here, too, to the greater production movement. London, at least, has organized and got busy. The offer of the London firms is the latest evidence of the results attained. Let others help the good work along.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

No more Dutch-caught fish for the Germans. Let them use their submarines for fishing boats.

Let us hope that Russian sympathy announced in Petrograd will now follow the conductor's baton.

Sunday was the crown prince's birthday. All Canadians join in wishing he may receive all he deserves.

Joint American and Canadian action to control food prices is promised by Sir George E. Foster. But when?

Are the nations going to wait till famine is perched on their shoulders before they stop the drink traffic?

When Canada gets into line at last on food control, the rationalist movement will have become world-wide.

Funny, isn't it, to know that the Australian Nationalist policy is "Win the War," and then think of the Canadian Nationalists?

If presence at Sunday evening recruiting meetings shows anything it is that women are more interested than eligible men.

More strategic retreats by the enemy, together with loss of prisoners. And the people will be commanded to look upon them as victories.

It's not as bad in Canada at war as Sweden in peace. There they fight for potatoes and bread, while here we only struggle to get the price.

Hasn't Canada enough to attend to at present without taking over all the railways? And would we really like to see Bob's hand on the throttle?

Germany is worrying because she believes she is to be allowed no colonies in the future if the Allies won. Nonsense! She can keep all she holds at the end of the war.

## The Advertiser's Hint for City Gardeners.

Information As to Preparation, Planting and Care of Plants That May Be Grown in Backyards.

### THE LAWN.

There are so few beautiful lawns in Canada, and the reason is that the people imagine that any grass will grow anywhere without any attention whatsoever, save frequent cuttings. This idea is most erroneous. Grass to be in good condition needs feeding as well as the rest of the members of the vegetable world, and yet the gardener carefully fertilizes his lawn with a fertilizer which he removes the cut grass, which falls at the roots.

This year we hope that lawns will decrease in size, making way for the more patriotic vegetables, but where there is a tiny stretch, this however, is to be kept in the best order possible. Then, too, the citizen seeing his sod overturned, wondering what is going on, and yet the gardener carefully fertilizes his lawn with a fertilizer which he removes the cut grass, which falls at the roots.

There are two ways of making a new lawn. One is by sodding and the other by seeding. Either can be done, and the sods should be removed. It must then be raked and leveled, any depressions being filled with soil, so that the lawn will be uniform. The sods should be removed from the surface, and the whole should be as free from weeds as possible, each piece being about three feet long and one foot broad. Lay the sods with their edges just touching. It is not a luxury to wedge them out. If any sods seem looser than others they should be packed underneath with loose soil, and the spaces between should be filled up with soil of the same kind. The sods should then be packed down with the roller, and a time or two rolled frequently and plentifully watered. If it is used in a rainy season, if possible, it will be done only a few times in the season, and again a few times in the autumn.

### THE GRASS WITH THE HOPE.

The particular soil should be prepared and sown on well-prepared ground. Do not make the mistake of using the mower too soon on young grass, loosening the soil and making the roots in the process. If this is done the grass which appears quite green at mowing time, will soon begin to turn brown. The grass, where the young grass is dying. The cutting should not be made until the grass is four inches high, and then it should be cut with a sharp scythe. The grass should be cut in the morning, and at all subsequent mowings, 1½ inches from the ground. When the grass is still young and the weather seems very hot, the cut grass should be allowed to lie on the lawn as a protection to the roots.

The constant carrying away of the grass from the lawn, leaves the soil with no nourishment and this must be supplied to them in some other way. Manure, mainly be applied to the lawn, allowed to remain on the lawn until the good from it has been washed into the soil by the rain. This however, is objectionable on account of its unsightly appearance. A law is supposed to be a thing of beauty, and the lawn should be given to blacken the surface of the lawn. This is repeated once or twice during the spring, and a commercial fertilizer of some kind is the best thing in this country.

The lawn should be kept clear of weeds by digging them out with a fork. In the spring the whole lawn should be swept over, so that all weeds should be removed, and the mower can operate easily. See that the mower machine cuts evenly, and if it does not, adjust the knife so that it will. Rolling should be done only a few times in the season, and again a few times in the autumn.

men wouldn't rise over them roughshod." "But, protested Anne, 'we always thought Bobby was rather generous—that is—' She didn't finish, for there was war in Angela's eye. "Well—the fact is," she asserted. "Don't think it!"

There were some things she wanted to get after lunch. She was glad now that she had decided to stay over a few hours, for in the first heat of her wrath she had forgotten her intended shopping. An hour or two more or less wouldn't matter, and she could get the cat any time before 5, when Bobby came home.

All it was not in the sun parlor. Having had no lunch, he had gone foraging. So Angela hunted him up. But he was not in the parlor, he was in the kitchen. It was Irish. "How many are you laying places for, Thomas, at the party?" "Mrs. Carter told me ten, Nora. It's mighty hard findin' them in a strange house."

"That it is! The whole business is queer! Givin' a party in a person's house the minute he's been told to leave—that's done and it's the prettiest thing I ever seen. But what did it all mean? Nanette Carter's cook and butler, and her maid, and her birthday party? Who's birthday was it? Then it flashed on her suddenly that it was Bobby's."

So Bobby had decided to celebrate in her absence and to call in his friends. She was taking her departure from his house and home. Well—she'd show him that she was still mistress in her own house and she'd been told in the colonies. Just how she didn't know, but she didn't propose to have the reins taken out of her hand in this manner. Suddenly she heard voices coming from the library and she hastily retreated into her room under the stairs, as they approached. Nanette Carter herself and Anne Forsythe, to whom she had been talking in the colonies. "Well, it wasn't my idea," Mrs. Carter was protesting. "Dick wanted to have something on Bobby's birthday all along. They were always friends until Bobby and Angela were married, you know."

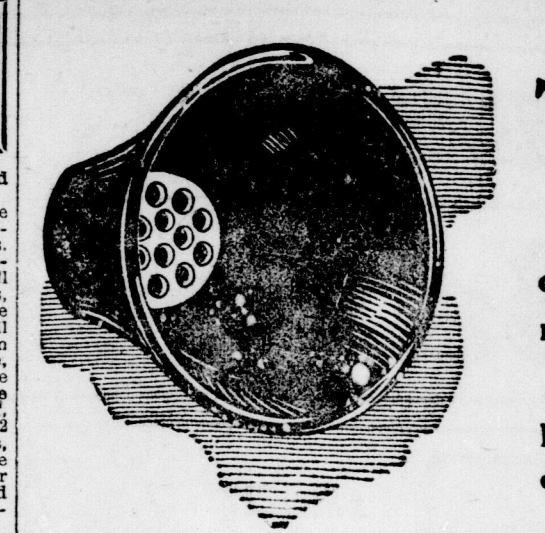
"But it doesn't seem right with Angela hundreds of miles away by this time. It's almost ghastly if she does as she says and never comes back." "Oh, don't fool yourself. I told Bobby what she told you and he just hied himself back in two days," he said. "Bobby is too good a thing to let go. Why, he's given her everything in the world, support and love, and he's got my front teeth and ten years of my life for it."

Angela gasped. So this was Nanette's honest-to-goodness opinion of her? Her first impulse was to rush and tell them once in his life. It's a shame the way he's had to give up a decent time for once in his life. It's a shame the way he's had to give up anything. He does everything she wants, but I've never known her to do a blessed thing for him. In the summer if he wants to go to Canada she picks the seashore, and in the winter if he wants to go to the theatre she goes to the opera. I've never even remembered that this was his birthday. In our house it's the eleventh commandment next to ten to give and someone to help eat it. And speak a woman's movement in Germany."

One of the big problems which is demanding the attention of the authorities today is what shall be done with those nine and a half million women workers when the soldiers return. The labor problem will be one of the biggest of the future in Germany, because many of these women who are doing the most important work in the world, and who are doing it so well, may be solved by the reconstruction of the German race, being industrious, may find work enough for all these women as well as for the returning soldiers.

The cook had heard the rumour, and seeing Mrs. Bobby pack had given notice. This gave the cue to the others, from Salie, the upstairs girl, to Adam, the clerk, and what they left bag and baggage, and what Bobby was to do when he came home that night—she was getting ahead of it so fast.

The general exodus had taken place in the morning. Angela, still furious over the way things had turned out, she had expected Bobby to give in as he usually did and come up with the price of two new evening dresses, which she had not as far as the Grand Central station before she thought of it. Asleep at that minute in the sun parlor.



## The Mouthpiece.

Science and the experience of years have combined to fix the shape, the size and the material of the telephone mouthpiece.

It is designed to gather the sound waves from lips that are about half an inch from its rim and directly in front of it.

When you speak from an angle or from a foot or more away transmission cannot be first class.

You can help to safeguard the quality of your service by always speaking distinctly, directly into the mouthpiece.

## The Bell Telephone Co. of Canada

"Good service...our true intent."

An advertisement by The Bell Telephone Co. of Canada.

Will you please read it and let others of the series to follow?

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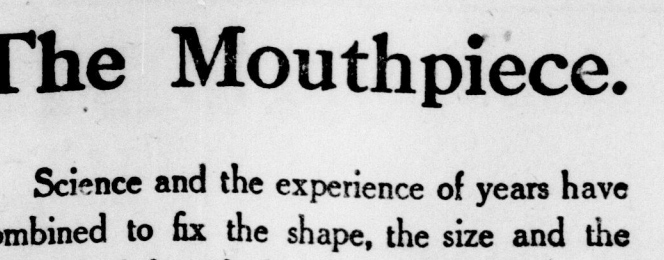
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Bobby never had liked cats, and with the girls, the poor thing would be starved. She must go back into the kitchen. So she checked her belongings and took a taxi, but, reflecting that someone looking at the largest shell, she was more attracted than on a dining car. These women were so big and efficient that they were called "Big Berthas" of Essen. Officials of the company declared that the women workers were as capable as the men.

Zimmerstrasse, in Berlin, where a great many uniforms for soldiers were made. There are women taxi drivers, women hotel clerks, women porters, women postmen, women clerks, women

## HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSIONS



MAY 8th TO OCTOBER 30th

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Your Future is in the West

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## Traction Company

Reduced fares effective May 1 as follows

Between London and St. Thomas. 25c one way, 40c single, 50c return unlimited, 30c return same day. Books 20 rides \$1.50, 50 rides \$8. Children under 12 years half fare.

Between London, Union and Port Stanley. 40c single, 50c return unlimited, 30c return same day. Books 20 rides \$1.50, 50 rides \$8. Children under 12 years half fare.

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