

Public Opinion

PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED?

(Canadian Churchmen.)

Laborers wanted to dig drains, \$4.50 a day. No English required. Apply Toronto Contractor. For the ministry of the Church, \$3 a day. Good education essential. College men preferred.

PERTINENT QUESTION.

(Boston Transcript.)

Would the tender-hearted people who say the Allies should do unto Germany as they would be done by, have the jury free every murderer because the jurymen themselves would not like to be hanged or go to jail for life?

TIME TO BE OPTIMISTIC.

(Peterborough Review.)

This is no time for the chronic grouch. Something better is expected of the Canadian people than a resort to the petty party politics of former days, to the creed and social jealousies and bickerings that have hung like a pall over the nation for generations, and while it retarded its growth has served to fatten some who made a vocation of breeding mischief in the community. Grouchers never accomplish anything, never help their nation over rough places or to turn the sharp corners. Looking for the best is the only way to attain the ideals. It was the visions of Columbus that brought him safely to the shores of a new world, not the dark mutterings of his superstitious sailors.

THE GREAT ASSIGNMENT.

(Editor and Publisher.)

The Peace Conference is a Congress of Mankind. To have prophesied such an event but a few short years ago would have been merely to earn laurels as a dreamer. Yet so fast does the Moving Finger write that a mere phantasy has become a fact—the rebirth of the world a reality.

We shall see the creation of new nations, the resurrection and rehabilitation of almost forgotten ones. We shall see a new regime of law established in the nations of the world—see measures taken to curb and control for the future both these elements which would make war without the approval of mankind, and those which would destroy ordered society for selfish ends.

They will write a new charter at Versailles. It will be the basis for Governments now existing and to come. It will settle some of the things out of which the great wars have come. It will, let us hope, make great wars impossible in the future.

Newspaper men from every section of our country will "cover" the Versailles assignment. They will write history in the making—and, through interpreting to the people the steps taken at the Conference it may be that they will serve as a restraining force on the delegates, holding them to the larger vision of their momentous task.

SEA FEVER.

(John Masfield.)

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the seagulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

A FITTING PUNISHMENT.

(Toronto Globe.)

The worst punishment that could befall Germans would be a civil war in which they treated one another as they treated other peoples.

A BAD ACTOR.

(Toronto Globe.)

Max Harden says the ex-Kaiser was a great showman. It is a role that requires high lights and appropriate stage settings. These have gone and the All Highest is seen as the shabby figure he really is and has been.

ANCESTRY.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Subsequent events have proved conclusively the truth of the assertion of Turkey's new sultan that it entered "unwisely" into the war; but when he adds that it was "an accident," it creates a strong suspicion that he is a descendant of Ananias as well as Mahomet.

A HEAVY TASK.

(Manitoba Free Press.)

Moving for an impartial committee to investigate charges that Germany has violated international law, Professor Hans Delbruck explained that the purpose of such action was to enable the German people to "clear its conscience." If they succeed in this they will have made that job of cleaning the Augean stables look like any other ordinary morning chores.

WORK.

(East and West.)

Work is our common lot, and half the happiness of life hinges on the spirit in which we do it. Getting a real interest in it, keeping an eye on the bright side, and conscientiously putting our best into it, will go a long way to redeem it from exhausting drudgery—whatever it may be.

PREPARED POISON GAS IN 1908.

(Scientific American.)

Prof. Richard Norton, who organized the American Volunteer Motor Ambulance corps and whose death in Paris has been recently announced, disclosed the fact in the Champagne battle in October, 1915, that the German gas apparatus captured at that time dated as far back as 1908. Evidently these delectable people were at work on their barbarous devices six long years before the war broke out.

NO PLACE FOR BOLSHEVISM HERE.

(New York Herald.)

There is no "proletariat," in the European sense, in this country. The people are the governing power. America would not have gone to war had not the masses of the people demanded it. They were bent on fighting for their ideals and for freedom for all men. Bolshevism has been well described as a philosophy of failure. It has no place in this land of opportunity.

SENSE OF HUMOR.

It is said that Ellis O. Jones, who signed the "proclamation" stating that the "Bolshevik Reign" was to commence on Friday in the United States was highly incensed when it was suggested that he was playing a practical joke. It is the same lack of a sense of humor in the German people that made the war possible. No other nation than the Germans could have taken a mad actor like William Hozenzollern and his clownish son seriously, and had they not done so there would have been no war.

ORIGIN OF KHAKI.

(From Capper's Weekly.)

Several years ago, in India, a company of English troops grew weary of exposing themselves in white cotton uniforms to the fire of the enemy snipers. So they adopted nature's good old law of protective coloring and daubed their uniforms with mud from the banks of one of sluggish streams.

Those who directed the affairs of the army in India heard of this camouflage and proceeded to make some interesting experiments. What they discovered evidently pleased them, for eventually a uniform of this color as a standard was adopted for all the troops in active service in the East. Khaki, the name given the color of the new uniforms, is the Hindu word for muddy. While the original khaki was cotton, the soldiers campaigning in France wear wool of this muddy gray-brown color.

GERMAN OUTLOOK.

(Toronto Globe.)

If Germany could persuade the coming Peace Conference to demand that Great Britain should reduce its navy there would be as much rejoicing in Berlin as there was the day the Lusitania was sunk.

FAIRY TALES.

(Toronto Globe.)

The scenery through which British troops passed en route to the Rhine reminds a correspondent of Grimm's Fairy Tale. A prophecy five years ago that British troops would march to the Rhine would have been regarded as a fairy tale.

SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY.

(Manitoba Free Press.)

If one may judge by the discussion of compulsory military training in some of the Allied nations it would appear that when some people talked of making the world safe for democracy they had in mind a world in which the democracies could have a war of their own without the risk of interference from any of the autocracies.

A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

(St. John Telegraph.)

The resignation of the United States fuel controller just as winter sets in is a reminder that the business of keeping "the home fires burning" is going to be an uncommonly serious one in the United States and Canada during the next three or four months.

THE CAUTIOUS DUTCH.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

Holland is keen, now that U-boat dangers are past, to get into the shipping game again. Compared to courageous Norway, Holland has passed a safe four years on the water. Which will be likelier to get the carrying business?

WHAT DOES HE THINK NOW.

(Hamilton Herald.)

What Houston Chamberlain, the Germanized Englishman, thinks of it all is not yet recorded. Houston has written several scholarly books to prove that the German race is the world's super race, destined to exercise universal sway. It looks as if he must now be content with reflected glory as the son-in-law of the composer Richard Wagner.

A JOB FOR UNCLE SAM.

(Toronto Globe.)

The Greeks are putting in their claim for Constantinople. But could the modern Greek hold what the Greeks of Byzantium lost were another wave of Moslem fanaticism to sweep over the world? Keeper of Constantinople and guardian of St. Sophia would be a man's size job for our Uncle Samuel now that the little squabble in the family is forgotten.

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS.

(Canadian Farm.)

The Victory Loan scheme in its most democratic form is put before Canadians with the issue of War Savings Stamps. The Bringing out of these stamps after war is over, should help to educate the public as to the vital importance of finance during the reconstruction period.

War Savings Stamps can be bought by purchasing thrift stamps, costing 25 cents. They are on sale at post offices, banks and other authorized agencies.

Four dollars buys a War Savings Stamp and secures a War Savings certificate. Ten War Savings Stamps, kept until January 1, 1924, are worth \$50.00.

Canada is late in starting the War Savings Stamp plan, but it is well worth while. Even children can understand it.

A BRIEF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

Since the British navy persisted so long in hiding its light under a bushel, Admiral Sims, the American representative in naval affairs abroad, felt justified in giving credit where due. In London recently he declared:

"It is a pity that the truth about the astonishing efforts made by Great Britain in the war has not been published in America yet."

The English navy, he says, may be silent, but it has been the foundation stone of the Allied cause. And another thing worth mentioning is that the English and American navies worked together in complete harmony and with an ever growing mutual respect.