

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1918.

A DEPARTED CITY OF ROMANCE

There is bad news from Bagdad. The city is now described as a "bustling hive of humanity." Streets are paved and lighted, the people are dodging motor cars; there are electric lights, a fire department, training schools for children, sanitary regulations. Mosques, have been repaired. The water supply has been improved. Sad news for the sentimental arm-chair and veranda travellers; also for the lovers of "The Thousand Nights and a Night," whether they read the wondrous tales in the old translation of Galland's version, the stilted volumes of Lane, or in the English of Burton or Payne. The romance of Bagdad is gone. Civilization has done its disillusioning, deadly work. In vain is the sentimentalist reminded that Bagdad before the occupation of the English was nothing like the city of Harun al Rashid and the Barmecides. When Masrour, the sword, served the Caliph as secret service man and executioner; when Caliph and Vizier and sword listened to the strange adventures of the three one-eyed Kalandars; the Bagdad of music and mirth and terror, of amorous and knavish intrigues, of jewels and poetry and girdle-girls, a city not visited by jinn and afreet; the city described by Marco Polo as famous for silks wrought in gold, damasks, velvets, ornamented with the figures of birds and beasts, of pearls brought from India to be bored; the city where magic, physics, astronomy, geomancy, physiognomy and the Mohammedan law were studied; the city where the pious shoemaker, a Christian, in the reign of the indolent and voluptuous Mutassem Billah, moved by faith a mountain; the noblest, and most extensive city to be found in this part of the world. For there are cities that, never visited by the sentimentalist, Bagdad, Damascus, Ispahan, Caraccas, Toledo, are nearer and more familiar to him than Toronto or Kingston. He sees in the streets of Bagdad the shops where old women serving jealousy guarded beauties bid young merchants to go with them to wild feasting and horrible death; where Harun at night, disguised, sees the false caliph lording it superbly on the Tigris, or hears the sound of lutes and passionate voices. What to the sated traveller are electric lights, pavements, sanitary plumbing? He would not exchange Solomon's carpet for a garage full of motor cars. A uniformed policeman is a sorry replacer of Masrour. To this traveller there is no modern, improved Bagdad. The city that he knew has vanished with Ys, Iram and Atlantis; with the Paris pictured by Gustave Dore in the droll stories of Balzac.

"THE POOR LITTLE AMERICAN ARMY."

Although the French form naturally the great bulk of the armies engaged in the present fighting between the Aisne and the Marne, yet nevertheless and deservedly so, much interest is directed towards the Americans. Why? Because as in the case of the contemptible "little English army," so too the Germans hug the delusion that the Americans would not fight, and then they referred in characteristic sneering tones to the "poor little American army." That army at the present moment overseas consists of no less than 1,200,000 men and within two months will reach one million and a half. As with the English, so with the Americans, the German war lords disposed of their war possibilities by claiming that they were not good fighting material. Napoleon, in the days when he lost his mental balance, also referred to the English people as a nation of shop-keepers and the Germans described the Americans as too busily engaged in chasing the almighty dollar ever to enter in to a world-war. It has never been noticed, however, that the German aristocracy objected to wedding with the American almighty dollar whenever there was a possibility. The German people were told by their war lords that the Americans could not cross the sea because ships were lacking. They had no uniforms and above all they had no rifles. Fur-

ther than that there were no leaders in the United States and above all no generals. In a sympathetic mood, these Hun military leaders declared that if there was any sense left in the Allied capitals, the governments there must see that all prospect of America saving the situation had disappeared. The Germans, however, found it much easier to sneer at the Americans than to fight them along the banks of the Marne. The men, the rifles, the military geniuses, the pluck and the energy were with the Americans just as the Germans found them with the Canadians, but the limitations of Germany's discoveries in this respect have been by no means finally reached.

AN IDOL OF CLAY OR WORSE.

According to the recently published report of the death of Field Marshal von Hindenburg in a newspaper at The Hague his death was due to apoplexy, following a stormy interview with the Kaiser. It has been said that his face had a purple tinge which suggested apoplexy. But, according to the Countess Turczynowicz of Poland, a former resident of Ontario, it was not apoplexy, but temper and alcohol which gave his face its purple tinge.

The Countess knew from her own experience the horrors of war as waged by von Hindenburg. She had been compelled to act as his hostess, and had seen so many horrible things that, according to her own statement, she could not bear to look at him. "A great brute—so ruthless and so terrible"—summed up her description of him. And this "great brute" became the idol of Germany. He was for a time the chief power in Germany. For a time he seemed to be the embodiment of the spirit of Germany, an incarnation of the German war god—merciless, bestial, thorough-going, capable.

He seems to be alive yet, confirmation of his death not having been received, though shorn of his power. His place has, however, been given over to Ludendorff, who has the full position of military dictator.

LOCK THE DOOR, LARISTON!

"Lock the door, Lariston, lion of Liddesdale; Lock the door, Lariston, Lowther comes on; The Armstrongs are flying, The widows are crying, The Castletown's burning, and Oliver's gone!"

"Lock the door, Lariston—high on the weather-bleam, See how the Saxon plumes bob on the sky— Yeoman and Carbineer, Billman and haliberdier, Pierce is the foray and far is the cry!"

"Beware! brandishes high his broad scimitar Ridley is riding his feet-footed grey; Ridley and Howard there, Wandale and Windermere; Lock the door, Lariston; hold them at bay."

"Why dost thou smile, noble Eliot of Lariston? Why does the joy-candle gleam in thine eye? Thou bold Border ranger, Beware of thy danger; Thy foes are relentless, determined and nigh."

Jack Eliot raised up his steel helmet and looked, His hand grasped the sword with a nervous embrace.

"Ah, welcome, brave foemen, On earth there are no men More gallant to meet in the foray or chase!"

"Little know you of the hearts I have hidden here; Little know ye of our moss-troopers' might— Linhope and Soble true, Sundhope and Milburn, too, Gentle in manner, but lions in fight!"

"I have Mangerton, Ogilvie, Raeburn, and Netherbie, Old Sim of Whitram, and all his array; Come all Northumberland, Teesdale and Cumberland, Here at the Brecken tower, end shall the fray!"

Scowled the broad sun o'er the links of green Liddesdale, Red as the beacon-light tipped he the wold; Many a bold martial eye Mirror'd that morning sky, Never more oped on his orbit of gold.

Shrill was the bugle's note, dreadful the war-rrior's shout, Lances and halberds in splinters were borne; Helmet and hauberk then Braved the claymore in vain; Buckler and armor shivers were shorn.

See how they wane—the proud files of Windermere! Howard! Ah, woe to thy hopes of the day! Hear the wild welkin rend, While the Scots shouts ascend— "Eliot of Lariston, Eliot for aye!"

—James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd.

Other Editor's Opinions.

FIXING PRICES

Once more the food controller tells us that it is impossible to fix the prices of edible commodities because the result would be to restrict production. Statements like this are what convince a great many long-suffering people, who, of course, are ignorant, and do not know any better, that the Food Control Department is in league with the middleman. But surely the food controller has discovered—or has the point not interested him?—that the producer does not get the high prices. In the matter of fruit, for example, about which the food controller has just expressed himself, does the fruit grower get anything like a fair proportion of the tremendous increase in prices? The food controller applies the principle of high prices encouraging production to the fruit grower. Well, is there any more fruit? Do the apples and the plums and the cherries multiply themselves on the trees and more abundantly, or the peaches respond more blearily to the enticements of the market? We believe not. It is just possible that if a special high price were guaranteed for strawberries and raspberries next year growers would set out more plants and canes, but with higher prices this year fruit is scarcer than ever.

The food controller continues to bark up the wrong tree. It is not the producer who is making the exorbitant prices and forcing the rates beyond the reach of the average, modest, thrifty citizen with a limited income. Citizens with motor cars and some others with more primitive conveyances have gone in to the country in recent weeks and been able to buy fruit and vegetables and fowl and butter and eggs, almost as cheap as for years ago, and the farmers were glad to sell at the price. Where then does the need for price fixing come in? Obviously where the middleman boosts the price beyond reasonable limits. And this, we submit, is where the food controller falls down.

Our old friend, the law of supply and demand, is invoked at every corner and turn of the handling and sale of food products, but anyone who has studied the matter knows very well that the law of supply and demand is an artificial condition manipulated for their own benefit by the big operators, the stockmen, the cold storage men, the commission agents, and the whole troop of parasites who pass things along at their own pleasure and profit from producer to consumer. We do not wish to be understood as meaning anything very obvious by the epithet parasite, but the man who produces nothing is necessarily a parasite, although he may be and usually is the victim of the system of which he is a part. What is needed, however, is to make sure that he does not get more than a fair proportion of the results of the labor of the producer.

This is the radical and essential business of the case. Labor as a whole—farmer, factoryman, artisan, mechanic—the producer, gets an unfair undershare of this product. The parasite gets an unfair overshare of the product. The result is a disturbance of the balance of exchange of products which is constantly seeking regulation in fluctuations of wages and in other ways. It is more accentuated at present than in so-called normal times, because we have a condition in which the parasites have taken advantage of their position—Toronto World.

PLENTY OF PROOF

When prohibition had been in force for a few months there was no difficulty in obtaining testimony from business men as to its success. There never was much doubt as to the success of the measure from the moral view-point, but from the economic side thousands of our business men were dubious.

They are not dubious now. Statements have from time to time been published in the Pioneer that show what an enthusiasm prevails amongst business men, manufacturers, etc., in regard to the success of the new measure. For instance, out of 399 members of Toronto Board of Trade, 372 gave opinions entirely favorable. This is the strongest testimony along economic lines that Ontario has to offer, and it ought surely to be satisfactory.

Just now there is a great campaign in progress in New Zealand for national prohibition. Several Canadians have gone to help in the good work at the request of the prohibition Alliance of that country. They take with them many facts to show that Canada is gratified at the suc-

cess of the measure of prohibition she enjoys.

An added testimony has just within the past few days come from the West, where a vote was taken in a meeting of the Calgary Forum, which resulted as follows: Favorable to prohibition, 194; unfavorable, 2.

There is abundance of proof to show that prohibition is a success. With proper enforcement it will become daily more popular.—Pioneer.

Hamiltonian Fined

A. VAN VOLKENBURG SENTENCED FOR MAKING SEDITIONOUS REMARK

Ashton Van Volkenburg, of Hamilton, who for some months has been employed by the Canadian Crocker-Wheeler Company, in St. Catharines, on munitions making, was fined \$100 yesterday when found guilty on a charge of making seditious utterances. A verbal notice of appeal was immediately filed by the defendant's solicitor, Mr. J. McCarron, and bail was renewed at \$200, the Machinists' Union furnishing security.

The statement alleged was to the effect that he would like to see the company that could put him in khaki, that he could shoot her as well as in France.

Serving His King at 80

An airplane crossed from France to England a few days ago carrying as a passenger a king's messenger, aged 80 years, one of the oldest veterans serving his country in the present war. This was Lord Ruthven, eighth baron of his historic line. He had fought with gallantry in the Crimean war, played a part worthy of his fighting race in the Indian Mutiny, and won further military distinction in fighting against the Boers. But when Old England called her sons to the colors, he answered once again. Hurrying to London he offered his services, and though then 76 years old, his offer was accepted. Since then, as an assistant provost marshal in London and an extra king's messenger, he has placed another splendid record of service at his credit. Hale and hearty, tall and straight, the baron is a fine and soldierly figure, who walks and looks as if he had just turned fifty. It is such men as he who have made England great. They are ready to place their all on their country's altar. They fought her battles valiantly and knew not what it was to admit defeat. Lord Ruthven, at the age of eighty, once more doing his "bit" for the flag and the great cause it represents, is a shining example of a man who recognizes the obligations and duties of citizenship in a free country. We in Canada have need to take to heart the lesson he teaches.

Look Cheerful

No longer can one justifiably use the term of "man's war." Women have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that not only are they not negligible quantities, but that they are very potent factors in the waging of this conflict.

Expression

But none the less "soldiers" are the multitudes of women who are working with the Red Cross, serving canteens, binding up the "broken" in the body and healing the wounded in heart, putting their shoulders to the wheel of commerce or working waste and the high cost of living over the kitchen stove.

Indifference to present day conditions is impossible, and it is only a poor patriot who could achieve it, but every woman among us can, but must, keep her self-poise, not alone for her own sake, but for the good of those with whom she comes in contact.

Beware of that wartime expression. Eyes and mouth are the two most expressive features of the face and we may do well to study ours in the mirror.

If our mouth drops we are sure to look peevish and discontented, while if its corners are tightly drawn we seem disapproving if not actually disagreeable.

A pleasant expression of the eyes may be called into being in the same way.

There is nothing better than a good humorous story to relieve the tension of the mind that is so often the result of strenuous duty or a sad one, and when one feels almost at the "end of the rope" a cup of tea often proves cheerfully refreshing.

Face Reflects Mind

The face reflects the mind far

more than many of us realize, and in the matter of looks no one can afford to be disagreeable.

Unselfishness, thoughtfulness and cheerfulness do much to make a plain face beautiful and years do not detract from its charm.

Marriage

PITCHER-MCCOY.

A quiet wedding took place yesterday, July 31st, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John McCoy, Hillside street, when their second daughter, Vera Blanche, was united in marriage to Herbert Randolph Pitcher of Rossmore. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. M. Hubby of Emmanuel Church. The immediate relatives of the young couple were present and enjoyed a well arranged and sumptuous wedding feast. Mr. and Mrs. Pitcher left on the afternoon train for their future home, Duff Sask. Many friends were at the station to bid farewell to these two worthy young people. Vera is one of beautiful Belleville's much beloved daughters, and an esteemed member of Emmanuel church.

GREEN POINT

Mr. and Mrs. J. Parks and Mr. and Mrs. H. Thompson visited with friends at Big Island on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Parks and Mr. and Mrs. G. Parks spent Sunday at Mr. Ezra Anderson's.

Mr. and Mrs. Hackett and family of Texas, who have been visiting the former's sister, Mrs. D. Cole, motored to Kingston on Monday, and from there they will proceed to Ottawa and then on to their home, the trip being made by automobile.

Mr. and Mrs. Bongor of Waupoos, spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Percy Lyons.

Miss Emma Anderson is spending a few weeks with friends at Frankford.

Picked Up Around Town

We were last night startled by the police from the women of the town known as "Wendy" who was picked up in West Belleville early in Wednesday morning.

Red Raspberries were held at the market at 25 cents per box today and huckleberries at 25 cents per quart.

St. Andrew's choir took advantage of the half holiday yesterday to hold their picnic. This year they went to 12 O'Clock Point, 2 buses carrying the party to the park. The afternoon was spent in games and races and a general good time and a number enjoyed bathing in the canal. The picnicers arrived home at ten o'clock in the evening.

Zwick's Island was the scene of a happy gathering yesterday, the annual picnic of the Women's League of the Salvation Army. The women whose husbands are overseas, gathered in goodly numbers with their families at this spot, and spent a most enjoyable day, attractions of many varieties being enjoyed. The excursionists returned at six o'clock to the city.

A baseball fan desires to know who is the manager of a baseball team in town who had a Cobourg team visit Belleville yesterday and then refused to put on a game with them.

Aeroplane No. 269, from Camp Mohawk, Deseronto, fell this morning "one mile west" of Shannonville C.P.R. depot and the two occupants of the machine were injured. Cadet Forrest was in charge. The news of the mishap was sent to Camp and the truck and ambulance were sent to the scene.

The local police last night arrested a youth, Edward Snider, charged with stealing a horse, buggy and harness, the property of Mr. Frank Cooney. This morning the case was enlarged by Magistrate Masson until tomorrow W. Carnew for the crown; Col W. N. Ponton for the accused. This charge arises out of Snider's securing a horse and outfit the day before from Mr. Cooney.

Mrs. E. R. Hinchey has just received word from her husband, Lt. Hinchey, that one of the generals in France had written him commending the excellent playing of the band of which Lt. Hinchey is the leader. This band went overseas in May 1917 with the 254th battalion. They have been in France about a year. On Dominion day they won first place in a play-

ing competition among the regimental bands in active service at the front. This applied both to playing whiffs on the march and while standing. Nearly all the members of the 254th band were well known Belleville boys and nearly everyone here will learn of their fine attainment with pride and satisfaction. Leader Hinchey has amply earned the great compliment he has received.

The Right Hon. Sir Gilbert Parker Bart. writes to Col. Ponton stating that he had heard Premier Borden speak in London when he delighted everyone with his address. Sir Gilbert adds: "The Canadians have covered themselves with glory both on the battlefield and the field of public life." He has changed his address from 20 Carlton House Terrace to 24 Portneau Square, London W. I.

Following is the resolution forwarded to Principal MacLaurin by the Board of Education on the occasion of the death of Mrs. MacLaurin:—"That this Board of Education of the City of Belleville do unite in the heartfelt expression of the deepest sympathy with Mr. P. C. MacLaurin, principal of our High School, in the sad bereavement which he has suffered in the loss of his most estimable wife, whose good deeds and gentle words, philanthropic and devoted service to every meritorious cause during her residence in Belleville, will never be forgotten."

A baseball match has been arranged for civic holiday afternoon (next Wednesday) at the fair grounds between the T.N.T. team of the Chemical plant at Trenton and Belleville. Freddie Goyer, who pitched for the Ontarios for some years, is the Trenton pitcher.

The Vimy's and Park Nine's play a scheduled baseball match this evening at the fair grounds. A good game is expected.

Expression of Sympathy

The following letter has been received by Mrs. S. M. Townsend, from the Militia Department, in reference to the death of her husband, Private Edward James T. Townsend, who gave his life for the cause:

Minister's Office, Ottawa, July 29, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Townsend:—I desire to express to you my very sincere sympathy in the recent death of your husband, No. 536034, Private Edward James T. Townsend, C.E.F., who in sacrificing his life at the front in action with the enemy, has rendered the highest services of a worthy citizen.

The heavy loss which you and the nation have sustained would indeed be depressing were it not redeemed by the knowledge that the brave comrade for whom we mourn performed his duties fearlessly and well as became a good soldier, and gave his life for the great cause of human liberty and the defence of the Empire.

Again extending to you in your bereavement my condolence and heartfelt sympathy, I am,

Yours faithfully,
M. Burrell,
Acting Minister of Militia.

Fool Talk

How would it do to arrest Gordon Waldron and let him try a nabes corpus to get himself out of quod? Why should a lawyer under pretence of legal proceedings be allowed to attempt to obstruct the war effort of Canada and escape consequences where another man would not?—Ottawa Journal Press.

Had His Hands Burned

Kingston.—M. P. Patton, Princess Street, had his hands badly burned on Friday night when some of the gasoline in his motorboat took fire on his return to the city from Garden Island. He managed to smother the fire before much damage was done to the boat. His wife accompanied him, but she was uninjured.

Girls! Wake Up!

The Canadian soldiers caught on in England. We read that Sir George Perley is asking the Admiralty to give leave for 20 young Englishwomen to come to Canada to fulfil engagements at the altar to Canadian soldiers now discharged from the service.

Rev. Dr. Biagrawe, Mrs. Biagrawe and Master Douglas Biagrawe have left for three weeks' vacation at Lake.

Father M. Asks For Inven

Toronto, July 29.—Father M. Chan, the well known social worker, was that an order cancelling the ex-dents who entered tober 13, expressed urday as strongly investigation of t

No Evidence of N

Charge Against Employee of at Trenton

Henri Paul French Canadian with negligence his duties at the Company's Plant appeared before M in that town yesterday will be remembered weeks ago a young E. Rankin, of the vessel at the chequette had certain form, among them a tap. At the hearing Holley's evidence, steps taken by Pa rect under certain an act might be ment, but certain Mr. Goodacre, an evidence.

Mr. W. Carnew crown and Mr. A. tendant.

Brand N

It has happened that ships which discarded as failing have come to a end. The Great doomed to inforti

Inevitably by the size of the ship, for the Great East being the only task of laying the and what greater pened than the is cable?

Few ships can with the Vindict builders looked up more than a se. Even her name was than a "hand-u years ago, when t building, it was lect a ship's nam book. They simp which had alrea warship of com date. And so the with her rather p which no one ey would measure u but not able to f four-inch guns at the-later of which replaced by 6-inch she was not a suc sent to the Docky Chatham. From t to Lord Fisher's made up of ships or other causes w

The Navy forgot one short hour sh mortal and no pr er be given any tish Navy. The brugs made the ons that she was shown on the Tha head, for charity. Navy, unintention of sentiment in history and crow all the glory tha possibly support. to "think it over" scheme was men was that the Vind to complete the g menced on St. G which lacked just the end which the Navy desired.

Instead of send up the Thames fo peded her with e over to Vice-A Keyes who, in t Commodore Hub and, once more, s behind a smoke s