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THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 10.

The Key to Our Prosperity.

Whether peace should be possible in a few weeks or not the operations incidental to peace and the securing of peace guarantees will require an extended period and demobilization alone is a long and expensive process. So whether the war be long or short, money—much money—will be needed, and the minister of finance, in asking for half a billion dollars on Tuesday at Winnipeg, went directly to the heart of the whole situation.

The war has undoubtedly been a source of profit to Canada. At first there was a disposition to take a contrary view of its effect. The stimulus both to agriculture and manufactures has been very notable, and private funds have increased to a wholly unexpected extent. All this good fortune has flowed from the unwonted activity of all classes in the Dominion. Their labors have turned to gold. To maintain this era of prosperity the same means must be adopted that have already proved so successful.

It would have been impossible to have secured the orders that have educed all this prosperity had we not been able as a nation to supply credit to those who wished to purchase. Britain, our chief customer, could not afford to buy from us unless we lent her the money to pay. This is the reason for the Victory loans. The money we lend does not leave the country, but is paid back to us for our own products. The more we lend the better our credit, the more active the demand for our wares, the more satisfactory our whole condition as a nation.

It is not only a privilege to assist the great cause for which we are fighting by subscribing to the great Victory Loan, but it is also a distinct advantage to every person in the nation to have the loan swelled to the utmost dimensions. The terms are so favorable as to be almost beyond rivalry, and no man can do better for himself or his nation than by putting all he can afford into these Victory bonds.

The Roads Will Not Be Unscrambled.

A despatch from Washington announces that the railway administration hereafter will lend railroads funds at six per cent. to meet maturing bonds, when they find it impracticable to get money elsewhere "at a rate of interest which the director-general may feel warranted in approving." The government, of course, will be subrogated to the rights and liens of the creditors thus paid off. Eventually the government will become largely the banker and creditor of the roads.

All this is a gradual, but natural evolution. The government takes possession of the roads, rebuilds them, equips them, and introduces economies in management. Then as debts fall due and mortgages fall in, the government becomes a creditor and lien holder. Bondholders will be anxious to exchange their bonds for the obligations of the government, and after awhile the equity of redemption outstanding in most of the roads will be of comparatively little value.

In short the government gradually will acquire the ownership as well as the possession of the American railroads. No practical railway man on this continent doubts that America is headed for complete railway nationalization. The omelet is almost completed, and the eggs can never be unscrambled now.

More Assessment Enormities.

Another bulletin has been issued on the operation of the Provincial Assessment Act by the bureau of municipal research. It contains further confirmation of our frequent assertion that the act is not observed at all by the assessors. Examples are given from 20 municipalities, 11 under 15,000 population, and nine with more, and the variations are indicative of a practical disregard of the terms of the act altogether. One is inclined to think that better results would be obtained by letting each municipality adopt its own method of assessment. Then, at least, the people would be compelled to take a direct interest in what was being done, and the probabilities are that a more equitable levy would be secured.

Under the present system of passing a law and making no effort to enforce it the most extraordinary disparities and anomalies are found. In the cities over 15,000 the per capita assessment varies from $586.08 to $1056.34, while in those under 15,000 it varies from $404.17 to $1130.54. It can be seen how unfairly the one per cent. war tax imposed by the provincial government is collected.

The percentages of assessment on land, on buildings, on income, and on business vary with corresponding inequity. The business tax varies from 2.9 per cent. to 11.8 per cent. in the one class and from 6 per cent. to 11.7 per cent. in the other. Land assessment varies from 20.9 per cent. to 50.6 per cent. in one class, and from 27.8 per cent. to 48.4 per cent. in the other. Buildings vary from 35.8 per cent. to 62.8 per cent. and from 39 per cent. to 58.6 per cent. These figures are representative of an atrociously unjust and inequitable system or want of system of assessment that prevails over the whole province. The provincial government declines to have its own law enforced.

There is a stringent law against bonusing which the legislature has frequently refused to modify for special occasions, but what is to be said of this wholesale method of bonusing both locally and comparatively by means of manipulating the assessment rolls?

The Fury of the Front.

Fighting at the front has been going on with "unceasing fury." Ever our troops have been gaining and ever the Germans are falling back with frightful losses. The German high command and many pro-Germans as well had utterly misjudged the strength of the entente alliance. Marshal Foch has made no similar error in underestimating the enemy.

Opinion is very much divided on the probable endurance of the Germans. It is not wholly a question of endurance, however. The entirely incalculable factor of morale enters into the situation. It was against this that President Wilson directed his reply to the peace proposal of Chancellor Maximilian. The result of that reply is to induce the sickening reflection for the kaiser that he is not only outgeneraled but outmanoeuvred in diplomacy also.

Turkey is ready to quit, and may have her submission on the way to Paris or London or Washington when this appears. The new caliph has probably leanings. Tewfik Pasha, who is the new grand vizier on the retirement of the German Enver and Talaat, is pro-British, and he would undoubtedly prefer our justice to Germany's favor.

We must never forget what was said long ago, that it will be the last hundred thousand that will win the war. It must be our part to see that nothing we can do shall be omitted to have them on the spot where they are wanted, ready, equipped, strong, with the invincibility of a devoted nation of cordial admirers behind them.

COLOUR.

Colour, the English art magazine, has issued a special Canadian war memorials number, which inspires the desire to possess it on sight. The colored illustrations are a score in number with an additional front page portrait of the Princess Patricia, charmingly done by Charles Shannon, A.R.A. There are other illustrations in black and white. A very full account of the Canadian war memorials scheme is supplied by P. G. Konody, and the pictures reproduce part of the memorial collection. Among these is C. R. W. Nevinson's rendering of the air fight in which Lieut.-Col. Bishop won his V.C., and there are portraits of Sir George Perley, Lady Drummond, Lieut. F. M. W. Harvey, V.C., Gen. Lipsett, Joseph Brant the Mohawk, General A. H. Macdonell, D.S.O., and Lieut. W. Douglas, now in charge of the official Canadian artists at the front.

BELGIUM PROTESTS AGAINST OUTRAGES

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—According to a cable received here by the consul-general for Belgium, the Belgian Government has been, for several weeks, in touch with the other allied governments on the subject of the steps to be taken on account of the systematic destruction and plundering by the enemy in the territory he is forced to evacuate. The cable continues:

"Since the beginning of this long war, Belgium has been suffering from the first outrages of the German armies. At the very moment when the new German chancellor announces his anxious care for the happiness of the people, and his intention to work for the deliverence of mankind, word comes to the Belgian Government of abuses committed in occupied Belgium by the German soldiery. From the west to beyond Bruges, the entire male population from 15 to 45 years of age are being dragged from their homes, subjected to most brutal treatment, and compelled to perform work of a military character for the enemy. An indignant protest would be raised by the whole world were the Germans in leaving Belgium to repeat with an increased cruelty the abuses committed during the invasion, and complete the country's ruin by plunder, fire and wholesale deportations."

DUTIES OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—Details of the order-in-council providing for the establishment of a public safety branch of the department of justice made available today show that Mr. C. H. Cahan, director of public safety, will have charge of the administration of the laws and regulations for preserving public order within the Dominion. Under the authority of the War Measures Act, it will be the duty of the director to administer regulations respecting aliens, unlawful publications and associations, assemblies or meetings, and orders or regulations designed to suppress or extirpate enemy, revolutionary or seditious propaganda, espionage or malevolent activity. Provision is made for the appointment of the necessary staff, the expense to be charged to the war appropriation. The organization of the new department will be commenced without delay.

ENVER PASHA QUITS.

London, Oct. 9.—Enver Pasha and Talaat Pasha have resigned from their positions in the Turkish Government. Tejik Pasha has been appointed grand vizier.

NO HANDCLASP WITH THE BLOODSTAINED MURDERER

IDA WRITES ABOUT SPANISH INFLUENZA

BY IDA L. WEBSTER.

In these days of sneezes the war is forced to take rather a back seat while the citizens in general discuss at great length the Spanish influenza raid. In fact it is hardly possible to ride on a street car without hearing from three to four dozen remedies, but they all come from private individuals who have either had some relative down with it, or who are contemplating an attack upon themselves.

Many people have made the supreme sacrifice, and yet it goes on, with, so far as can be learned, no official means of stopping it, or for that matter, even checking it. True, Dr. Hastings has scattered all sorts of hand bills around, but his instructions, tho they may possibly be of the best, are not exactly what this city needs.

In the first place, if the disease is to be checked, or, we should say, stopped completely, then surely now is the time to start something, and not wait until the casualty list has touched every home in the town. People, or rather the general run of citizens, do not pay any more attention to the bulletins from the board of health, than they do to the ravings of some of our public men. It is simply something to be endured, and what is the use of raising an argument about it?

Street cars are one of the surest ways to contract the disease, or so we are told. But citizens must ride, and as we all do not own our own cars, there is nothing else to do but use those of the Toronto Street Railway Company. Very well, you get on one, and every man, woman and child within a radius of 12 feet of you is coughing, and in numbers of cases, they are not careful enough to cover their mouths with a "hanky." This is absolutely disastrous, not only that, but it is gross negligence, which might quite easily result in the death of half a dozen persons in the car.

Few citizens are deliberately unclean, and yet, when they cough in a public place and forget to cover their mouths, they are the very essence of uncleanness, providing there is such a thing. However, in most instances it is merely a case of forgetfulness, and if the attention of the citizen was called to it, there is every reason to believe that he, or she, would be aghast at the mere thought of what they had done.

It seems to us that there must be some manner in which the City of Toronto could take hold of this thing and work it out to a successful finish, but if the controllers, or aldermen, or whoever should do that sort of thing, refuse to take the matter into their own hands, then there is only one thing for the people of the city to do, and that is try in their own little way to stamp it out. This idea of having meetings, where everyone gets into a rage and calls names by the hour, is too childish for words and it also proves most conclusively that the people in question are not one whit interested in the general health of the public.

At a moment when honest citizens are dropping dead like flies, surely those men might have had the ordinary common decency which their offices should endow them with, to cut out all the personal ill feeling which may possibly exist and get right down to facts. Combine what brains may be in the crowd in trying to work out a feasible method of ridding this city of influenza. So far as can be learned, nothing at all happened, but the throwing of verbal bouquets, and they were some bouquets at that.

Today should be the day for the controllers and aldermen to meet and discuss in a normal, sensible manner this terrible plague, and stay at it until they do manage to reach a conclusion. If the city officials and the military ones cannot agree, then let them work in their separate ways, but at all events, do something. Anything is better than sitting down like a lot of official mourners, who are afraid of disturbing the sleep of the deceased. Get busy and find a way to save the folks who are dying and who are not able to help themselves.

Heaven knows the citizens have paid for the upkeep of a health department long enough to be able to call upon it in just such a crisis as this. If there is not a doctor in this city who understands it well enough to produce a cure then send outside and get someone who does. Money is being spent for everything else under the sun, and it is high time that some was spent in an effort to save the people. Right this minute is the accepted time to make a stab at stopping it, even tho it is an unsuccessful one, but in the words of the poet, die trying.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

HOARDED LIGHT.

I'm saving all my sunshine up
For use on rainy days,
And maybe glid some bitter cup
That lurks along my ways.
I keep it stored in heart and mind,
And since I've had it there
I've found, no matter what their kind,
All days are sweet and fair.

REPLY OF PRESIDENT CLEVER AND LOGICAL

London Diplomatic Circles Believe Answer Will Severely Test German Good Faith.

London, Oct. 9.—In diplomatic circles here President Wilson's reply to the peace proposals of Prince Maximilian, the imperial German chancellor, is regarded as clever and logical.

It is felt in these circles that the president was wise in refraining from a flat rejection. The president, however, it is considered, displays the same attitude of skepticism as do British and continental statesmen concerning the good faith of the German Government, and desires satisfaction on this point before taking further steps.

It is believed that a satisfactory answer to President Wilson's questions will severely test Germany's good faith, while an affirmative reply will mean the acknowledgment of a German defeat.

The acumen and logic of the American executive in framing the reply is regarded by the diplomatists as characteristic of him.

OPEN HUNTING SEASON IN THE HIGHLANDS NEAR, AND PROSPECTS GOOD.

Probably the best hunting districts in America are located in the Highlands of Ontario, and that section of the province opened up by the Transcontinental Railway. This immense virgin area offers unlimited opportunities to the hunter for moose and deer. The open season for the Highlands of Ontario district is from November 1 to November 15, both days inclusive. In some of the northern districts of Ontario, including Timiskaming, Timagami and the territory north and south of the Canadian Government Railway in Ontario, the open season has been extended, and is from October 1 to November 30, both days inclusive. A synopsis of the game laws is contained in the G. T. R. publication, "Playgrounds." Full information on application to agents Grand Trunk Railway System or Mr. C. E. Horning, district passenger agent, Union Station, Toronto.

ST. THOMAS MAYOR LOSES SON IN BATTLE

St. Thomas, Oct. 9.—Mayor Horton was officially notified today that his son, Lieut. Andrew A. Horton, had been killed in action on Oct. 1. Lieut. Horton was born in St. Thomas 24 years ago, and was captain and instructor of the Collegiate Institute cadets in his student days, and was a third-year university man. He enlisted and went overseas in charge of D Company of the 91st Battalion. Later, in England, he was transferred to the 1st Battalion and he had been thru much hard fighting during the past two years. The young hero was very popular in his home town. He is survived by his parents, two sisters and one brother.

THIRD INSTALMENT OF TAXES DUE 15th OCTOBER. MAIL CHEQUE TODAY.

THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

Brian Shows Jealousy, Which Puts Ruth's Fears at Rest.

CHAPTER LVIII.

Ruth noticed that Brian was listening.

"I think Mr. Beckly was very good to ask us. It isn't every young man who wants an old married couple with him when he asks a young lady to dinner even tho the man does happen to be the young lady's lawyer."

"She's game, all right," Brian said to himself as he sat down, and there was a feeling of pride that, in spite of himself, found expression in his voice as he added:

"Not much of a lawyer yet, Ruth."

"Enough of one, I guess, to attend to any business Mollie can have." Claude Beckly's sarcasm was not lost upon Ruth.

Mollie King, tactful as she was, blushed at the implication, but, quickly recovering herself, said brightly:

"Is this your first visit here, Mrs. Hackett? If it is, we must point out our celebrities to you."

"I never have been here before," Ruth replied. "Please tell me all I should know!"

"Claude is about as famous a character as we have," Mollie said with a mischievous glance at Beckly. "He both writes and paints."

"How interesting!" murmured Ruth, thinking if he didn't write more sensibly than he talked, it might account in part for his frayed appearance.

"Yes, you must get him to write some poetry not for you, but to you," Mollie added, her eyes twinkling.

Evidently she sees thru his pretence as well as I, Ruth thought, and was rather pleased that the woman whom her husband admired was not dense. It would be impossible to be at all at her ease with a stupid woman. She would not know what to say to her.

The only time she had seen Mollie she had thought her very pretty and bright. It had been at the dinner Mrs. Curtis gave. But now she was more critical. She wanted to know well this woman whom Brian seemed to like so much. Not that she wished for any intimacy; that was farthest from her thoughts. She wanted to understand her character—her point of view.

So as Mollie told her of the different people dining, she watched the while she listened. Mollie's speech, while in a way refined and showing education, was plentifully sprinkled with a gay, innocuous sort of slang that gave it point. She occasionally told a story about some one of whom she was speaking, and told it well. Ruth had to acknowledge, even before the dinner was scarcely commenced, that Mollie King was an interesting talker and would prove a delightful companion to any man if she was so inclined.

Yes, she must not underrate Mollie, she thought as she turned to reply to some remark of her host.

"It's jolly, having you here!" she heard Brian say as soon as her attention was obviously taken by Beckly.

"Claude is terribly hit with Mrs. Hackett. He raved before you came."

"Fool!"

"Not sauce for the goose, eh, Brian?"

"Not on yours life!"

Brian's answer was so emphatic Mollie laughed gayly. But Ruth felt comforted. She had heard every word. If Brian loved her well enough to be so jealous of her, he would hesitate long before he did anything really wrong. The thought made her happier than she had been since Beckly had joined them on the Roof Garden the night before. Brian was silly, of course, to be jealous of anyone; but of a man like Claude Beckly—it was really ridiculous.

Then came the thought. If I am attractive to others, perhaps he will care for me more as I want him to; hesitate to leave me or to take the risk of making me angry by being so much with Mollie. So she commenced to talk brightly with Beckly, simply laughing at his extravagant compliments, and leaving Mollie and Brian to entertain each other.

With a little smile, she saw Brian getting restless. Occasionally he would break into the conversation with some impatient remark when Beckly had been particularly fulsome. Finally he said:

"Here, you two! This dinner is a foursome. Suppose we talk about something in which we are all interested."

"Or suppose we finish our dinner, and then dance?" Mollie broke in.

"Oh, do!" Ruth agreed at once. She knew she was a good dancer, and she loved to dance. To tell the truth, she was becoming tired of Beckly's compliments.

"Thank the gods I can dance!" Beckly said so fervently they all laughed. Ruth danced first with him, then with Brian. When it came time to go, acting on the spur of the moment, she invited both Beckly and Mollie King to dine with them a week from that night.

"We'll be there, won't we, Mollie?" Claude asked.

"Indeed we will, and thank you," Mollie said graciously, but with a look that Ruth could not fathom; a look directed at her.

Tomorrow—Happy Days Follow the Dinner in the Village.

WILSON BIDES OCCASION TO REPLY TO ENEMY

Washington, Oct. 9.—Military men are vastly pleased over the president's refusal even to discuss an armistice while German soldiers remain on invaded soil anywhere, thus very flatly replying to that phase of Prince Maximilian's overtures, altho the note despatched yesterday was in the form of an enquiry.

The president is known to be ready to act without delay when the German chancellor has answered the pointed questions asked in that note—whether the chancellor in asking for peace negotiations accepts unequivocally the terms of peace already laid down, and whether he speaks for the German people themselves or only for their military masters.

Officials said today that the president has no thought of entering into a series of unfruitful diplomatic exchanges with the Germans.

The war-tax has practically doubled the price of the best grades of matches, and has *more* than doubled the price of the cheaper kinds.

And the tax adds nothing to the value of the match. You can't light your pipe with the tax, yet you pay as much on a poor match as on a good one.

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B1

INDIVIDUAL HEROISM RAMPANT IN BATTLE

Sergeant Takes Command of Disabled Tank, and Defeats Germans.

With the Anglo-American Armies Near St. Quentin, Oct. 9.—Individual heroism was rampant during the successful British and American attack Tuesday and several incidents stand out from the others.

A sergeant found himself in command of a tank, the officer having become a casualty. In an isolated position the machine temporarily became disabled. The sergeant led the crew of six men to a strong point some distance away and resisted for nearly an hour strong German units that tried to reach them. Meanwhile the abandoned tank was occupied by the Germans. The sergeant led his men back and drove the enemy out, after which he retained possession of the tank until relieved.

At another point a tank was put out of action and the officer ordered the crew to remain inactive. The enemy seeing the monster apparently helpless, approached in considerable numbers shouting for it to surrender.

Meanwhile, the officer succeeded in fixing the trifling mechanical difficulty and swung his tank around in the midst of the astonished enemy. He then ordered the crew to give the Germans a broadside. The tank suddenly opened fire on the Germans and drove them back in great disorder.

A staff officer saw the British attack at one point being held up by heavy enemy fire from a number of machine gun posts. He obtained the services of a few tanks, entered one and directed the attack on the hostile position. Altho wounded by machine gun bullets, he continued to direct the attack until the enemy machine guns had been wiped out, thus enabling the British to gain the ground ahead of them with trifling loss.

SUBSCRIBERS STILL LAG FOR U. S. LIBERTY LOAN

Washington, Oct. 9.—The treasury department today openly admitted that the slow progress of the fourth Liberty Loan toward its six billion dollar goal is a matter of serious concern. With the three weeks' subscription period half gone, the loan is only 30 per cent. subscribed. The total reported to the treasury up to tonight is $1,791,463,200.

"There is no use in denying or attempting to camouflage the fact that the Liberty Loan committees thruout the country are confronted with a serious situation," said the treasury statement reviewing the campaign reports. "If the loan is to be subscribed, a daily average of $467,000,000 must be raised between now and Oct. 19.

Report That More Draftees Will Be Called to Kingston

Kingston, Oct. 9. — That some 500 men will soon be called under the Military Service Act to the military units in this district, is the information secured from reliable sources. These men will for the most part be those just coming within the age limit.

COVERED POTATO LOSS FROM CONTRACT PROFITS

Railway Contractor Testifies in Enquiry Into Government Purchase of Tubers.

St. John, N.B., Oct. 9.—Enquiries into a purchase of potatoes by a former government of New Brunswick as a gift to the motherless and Belgian refugees, and into allegations that vastly more potatoes than needed were bought, the surplus being disposed at a loss of $32,861, Commissioner McQueen today took the evidence of W. B. Tennant, St. John. It has been stated in evidence that rather than admit the loss, the government decided to make good the amount, and Mr. Tennant testified that he had contributed the money to cover the deficit. He said he had been approached by the late Premier Clark, who had asked if he, with others, would contribute to make good the loss. He had refused, but when he interviewed the premier regarding a pending contract for the Valley Railway, he told Hon. Mr. Clark that if he got the contract he would contribute from his profits enough to cover the potato loss. The premier finally agreed to this, and informed Mr. Tennant that George B. Jones, M.L.A. of Apohaqui, would let him know the amount needed.

Mr. Tennant swore that Mr. Jones had instructed him that the amount he was to pay was $61,500, and he handed over this sum to Mr. Jones. He did not know what happened to the balance. He had thought that he was paying for nothing but the potato loss.

It came out at a previous inquiry, Mr. Jones had received $100,000 advance profits about that time, on the railway contract.

Rev. J. B. Daggett, the former secretary for agriculture, told of a loss of $3000 incurred by a broker in Cuba on a consignment of potatoes sent to him, which had spoiled before they could be sold. Rather than see the broker, who was a young man from this province, go into bankruptcy, Mr. Daggett swore that he gave him money out of his own pocket, and that he had not got it back from railway contractors or anyone else. He was still out that much. Under a grilling examination, he admitted that he raised the money by borrowing it. After some hesitation, he admitted that he borrowed it from a member of the government, Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, and that he has not yet repaid it.

CONSERVATION OF GAS.

Ontario Railway Board Considering the Question at Brantford.

Brantford, Oct. 9. — The railway and municipal board sat here to consider the three big questions of the natural gas supply from the Tilbury fields. D. M. McIntyre, chairman of the board, presided at the sitting, and A. M. Harley represented the Beaver Oil and Gas Company, and Mr. Kerr represented the Town of Wheatley.

The primary questions to be settled are the sufficiency of the distributing system over the whole area and the adjustment of rates. A third investigation will be made in regard to the conservation of the supply of natural gas. The general superintendent was called to give evidence. The hearing was adjourned sine die.

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