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ADVERTISERS, NOTE.  
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London, Ont., Monday, May 2.

FRANCE IS JUSTIFIED.

Comment is frequently heard upon  
the consistency with which France  
demands full reparation from Ger-  
many for the tremendous damages  
to her territory during the war.

German propaganda frequently pic-  
tures France as a robber not will-  
ing to be satisfied with fair settle-  
ment for her losses. This is un-  
just. France has not forgotten and  
never will forget the wilful and de-  
liberate manner in which the in-  
vaders ruthlessly destroyed property  
which could easily have been spared.

The destruction of roads, railways  
and factory buildings was bad  
enough, but when thousands of trees  
were deliberately cut through and  
gardens and vineyards devastated  
wantonly, there was no excuse for  
the conduct of the Hun. He knew  
he was destroying things that could  
not be replaced in years, things  
which were vital to the country  
from an economic standpoint, and  
there is little doubt he meant to  
cripple France permanently if pos-  
sible. Germany will get little sym-  
pathy in her efforts to misrepresent  
France and construe righteous in-  
dignation into avarice.

France is taking a firm stand,  
and she is prepared to back her  
contentions. The great problem of  
France is financial. The morale of  
her people is admirable, but the  
fiscal difficulty implied by her  
national debt of nearly three hun-  
dred billion francs is tremendous.  
Hence, it is easy to comprehend the  
somewhat heated impatience with  
which she greets suggestions that  
the vanquished German nation shall  
escape relatively too lightly from  
the burdens that the war has im-  
posed upon every country. The re-  
paration which Germany is to make  
to France is too vital a factor in  
the latter's interest to make it pos-  
sible for her to accept anything less  
than the fullest possible payment  
that Germany can be compelled to  
make.

A FORTUNATE POSITION.

May Day in London and Western  
Ontario found this district enjoy-  
ing conditions in striking contrast  
to those which prevail in many other  
parts of the world. London is es-  
sentially a city of workers and be-  
hind it is one of the richest agri-  
cultural sections in the Dominion.  
That both city workers and farmers  
are going right along with their  
usual occupations might well be con-  
sidered extreme good fortune. One  
does not always realize this until  
conditions at other points are un-  
derstood. Travelers who have spent  
weeks and months in various parts  
of Canada have the most favorable  
comments to make when they visit  
London and district. Newcomers  
who are arriving here from England,  
Ireland and various parts of Europe  
look upon this district as a welcome  
haven, and tell of experiences that  
show clearly what is happening  
overseas.

A survey of general conditions  
abroad at the present time discloses,  
in practically every foreign country,  
financial, economic and social dif-  
ficulties which are everywhere sim-  
ilar in kind, if not in degree. In  
whatever direction one turns there  
are to be seen legging industries  
and depreciated exchange, the finan-  
cial distress of governments, heavy  
taxes, much unemployment, political  
and social unrest, and a seriously  
hampered movement of commodi-  
ties in international trade.

Almost two and one-half years  
have now passed since the armistice,  
yet a return to anything like normal  
pre-war conditions is still delayed,  
and no satisfactory solution of many  
of the problems of reconstruction  
is yet forthcoming. This view may  
be taken, perhaps, that the very in-  
security and uncertainty of present  
conditions throughout the world will

finally arouse in every class the will  
to overcome them and will thus  
hasten ultimate recovery.

As a matter of fact, there is to-  
day in almost every country the ur-  
gent problem of combating the  
economic fallacies which have been  
instilled into the minds of labor for  
a long time by leaders who have  
felt that their own interests were  
furthered by spreading class antag-  
onisms. During the war many gov-  
ernments apparently lacked the  
courage to rely upon the patriotism  
of labor—which, if wisely advised,  
might have responded with the  
necessary effort and self-denial as  
loyally as any other class—and in-  
stead in many industries wage  
scales out of relation to permanent  
economic possibilities. The high  
wages paid were practically bribes  
which were collected by taxing the  
general public.

The advantages of high wages  
are apparent enough to labor, but  
that wages can be continuously  
paid only out of production is an  
economic fact not yet so clear in  
the minds of the majority of work-  
ers. Taxation to maintain wages  
of certain classes at rates beyond  
those made possible by the return  
that can be secured under existing  
business conditions cannot be ac-  
cepted as a permanent basis for a  
sound social democracy.

TOO WIDE A SPREAD.

In the news columns a dispatch  
from a nearby town tells of thou-  
sands of bushels of potatoes being  
shipped to the cities at an average  
price to the farmers of only 45 cents.  
Potatoes are selling in London today  
at 80 to 90 cents a bag. In Toronto  
they are quoted at 80 to 85 cents.  
There are two points of particular  
interest in these figures. One is the  
wide spread between the money the  
producer receives and the price the  
consumer pays. The other is that  
after paying freight to Toronto and  
any other charges that may be neces-  
sary, Toronto people can buy their  
potatoes cheaper than London people  
can. There is a situation in both  
of these cases that needs reme-  
dying. Someone is getting paid for  
work he does not do and for risks he  
does not take. Someone between the  
producer and the ultimate consumer  
is adding to the costs almost as  
much as the farmer gets. As long  
as conditions of this kind obtain  
there is going to be complaints on  
the part of the buying public, and  
it would appear that there is some  
reason for dissatisfaction. What is  
true of potatoes is equally true of  
many other lines today, and the  
results are too obvious to require  
comment.

BRITISH LABOR AND REPARA-  
TIONS.

It is interesting that British Labor  
pronounces largely against any coer-  
cion of Germany. Their point of view  
seems to be that the enforcement of  
huge reparations will mean the  
grinding of German workingmen.

Mr. Lloyd George has pointed out  
the flagrant fact that the people of  
means in Germany are taxed to noth-  
ing like the extent of those in Great  
Britain or other Allied countries.  
The "socialist republic" of Germany  
is a sham, and lately must seem a  
joke to any Hun with a sense of  
humor. Quite openly not only does  
the Junker-capitalist combination  
still rule the country, but the Hohen-  
zollern idea is kept up, big sums are  
paid to the exiles, and their pictures  
displayed and featured. What the  
socialist investigator, Kautsky,  
proved and published, the war-  
guilt of the Kaiser and his set, the  
responsibility of the old regime for  
the war, the present Berlin Govern-  
ment refuses to admit. Naturally,  
then, British Labor contends that  
the enforcement of the reparations  
will, under the conditions now pre-  
vailing in Germany, mean simply  
that the workingmen of that country  
must pay.

Especially, perhaps, the forcible  
collection by the Allies of export  
and import duties in Germany, in  
place of taxes on the rich which  
the German Government itself will  
not levy, must bear on the average  
German consumer. Nothing hits the  
worker and consumer so hard and  
unfairly as the tariff tax. We see  
that in Canada. The British work-  
ingman, generally a free trader, ex-  
presses indignant sympathy for his  
German brother mulcted to pay the  
bondholders of the world. No doubt  
Fritz's meannesses in war-time are  
not forgotten, but the cause of Labor  
straddles national boundaries, and its  
British leaders protest against tariff  
taxes on the Rhine that will result  
in reduction of German wages, if  
Germany is to live, as she must, by  
foreign trade.

Perhaps British Labor would not  
be so opposed to the full exaction  
of reparation if means could be found  
to get them out of the German rich.  
But the present prospects of this  
are not the most encouraging in the  
world. The public hears of the un-  
bridled luxury of the German  
profiteers. The German Govern-  
ment offers workingmen to help in  
restoration work, while the Allies  
collect duties on German manufac-  
tures. British Labor is agreeable to  
neither of these schemes. But how  
else are Germany's debts to be paid?

## OTHERS' VIEWS

LORD SHAUGHNESSY'S PLAN.  
[Financial Post.]

The weak feature of the Shaughnessy  
plan as it stands is that the guarantee  
of a dividend, although that dividend  
is not excessive, would remove that  
incentive to efficiency which is the re-  
flection of profit-making. The situation  
would not greatly differ from the ad-  
ministration of the National system,  
which is governed by a board nominally  
independent of political influence, and  
which has not made a satisfactory  
showing, although the management it-  
self can hardly be blamed. Besides,  
without assured efficiency there is no  
guarantee that the losses to the govern-  
ment and the people would not eventu-  
ally be even greater than at present.  
A ten-year arrangement has been sug-  
gested, but experience with similar  
term-agreements should be a lesson in  
this connection.

It is generally accepted that the present  
situation as regards the National  
Railways cannot be continued. Lord  
Shaughnessy's plan, therefore, provides  
a basis from which some plan to im-  
prove conditions may be worked out.  
What the shippers and businessmen  
generally will chiefly demand is that  
any scheme looking to amalgamation  
of National and C. P. R. systems will in-  
sure a continuation of C. P. R. efficiency  
and to that end experience has shown  
that competition on the incentive to  
make profits is essential, and that there  
do not obtain under government domi-  
nation.

Whatever may be the outcome of  
the proposal of Lord Shaughnessy,  
in connection with the solution of the  
national transportation problem, the  
people of Canada are indebted to him  
for a remarkably frank and candid  
presentation of the situation, and the  
project which he has submitted to  
Ottawa provides possibilities for a more  
practical solution than has been in  
prospect up to the present.

A NEW TYPE OF NURSE NOW.

[Washington Star.]

There is only one type of girl who  
makes a good nurse, according to Miss  
Carol Martin, executive secretary of  
the central council of nursing educa-  
tion, attending the nursing education  
convention here. Namely, a girl who  
has had a splendid home training, good  
education in the secondary schools, and  
a vision of broad social service.

The old idea that a nurse was a  
woman in a pretty cap, carrying a tray  
of Dresden china to a convalescent  
patient, is entirely out of date. The  
nursing profession, through the eight-  
hour system, is giving girls a profes-  
sional education. The student nurse  
works only to the point of efficiency, not  
to the limit of drudgery.

"That old idea that the nurse's life  
is one of self-sacrifice has to go, too,"  
insists Miss Martin. "A nurse's work  
is professional service, like the physi-  
cian or the lawyer. Increased de-  
mands for nurses come from every part  
of the world. If a girl wishes to be a  
teacher of nursing, there is a call for  
women to open schools of nursing in  
Japan, Siberia, China and Egypt. The  
public health service requires com-  
munity leaders. City, county and rural  
nursing and all divisions of industrial  
and child welfare are based on the  
service of the highest type of nurse."

A FINE BALANCE.

[London Spectator.]

There is only one more thing to note,  
and that is the easy way in which the  
Prince of Wales managed to keep his  
foothold on the razor-edge of personal  
dignity. He always appears to have  
made just enough display of dignity to  
avoid being made a fool of, and never so  
much as to make people think he was  
either priggish, or arrogant, or what  
would have been worse, cold in tempera-  
ment. This balance is exactly what is  
wanted of royalty in a democratic coun-  
try. The prince was evidently born  
with it, which is much better than pain-  
fully acquiring the gift.

REVISION OF WAGES ESSENTIAL.

[The Guaranty Survey.]

Any broad readjustment of commodity  
prices necessarily involves changes in  
wages also. There are exceptions, of  
course, and the readjustments in direct-  
ly related prices and wages are fre-  
quently not simultaneous. As in the  
case of prices, some wage scales now  
remain at the high levels reached in the  
boom period. On the whole, however,  
wages are being reduced, without ex-  
treme opposition on the part of the  
workers; but the process of revision has  
not been completed.

The necessity for initial or further  
wage reductions is quite generally rec-  
ognized. Wage agreements, some cov-  
ering protracted periods, have obstructed  
the inevitable readjustment in transpor-  
tation, mining, building, and other in-  
dustries.

The lagging of living costs in relation  
to wholesale prices in the downward  
revision adds to the continuing complex-  
ity of the industrial problem as a whole.  
Many retail prices have only very tardily  
reflected the decline in wholesale prices.  
Nevertheless, it is apparent that sig-  
nificant wage reductions must precede  
the establishment of any durable  
equilibrium in industry.

THE FRENCH HAD BETTER WATCH  
OUT.

[Kansas City Star.]

The French, having learned from their  
British allies to eat cold beef and  
pickles, this other information that now  
reaches us by way of the London  
papers, is less startling than it other-  
wise might have been, but still is sur-  
prisingly amazing. It is that the French  
actually have beaten the Scotch at  
rugby football, and came within four  
points of tying the score with an Eng-  
lish team. Coming on top of their  
other troubles, this rude stroke has  
quite staggered the English. That the  
shock of it was great is evidenced by  
the public attitude mirrored in the  
press. The papers admit the result  
of the games, which were played in  
France, was all but a defeat for the  
British. They praise the play of the  
French, commend the rapid progress  
they have made in the mastery of this  
sport, and call upon the British to give  
their opponents three cheers. That is  
British sportsmanship.

STATE OWNERSHIP NOT IN FAVOR.

[Financial Post.]

Although the propaganda of state  
ownership in the United States has  
based their campaign largely upon the  
same lavish statements in connection  
with the Ontario Hydro-Electric as are  
being heard on this side of the border,  
the legislators show a disposition to fol-  
low the suggestions of their expert  
advisers and experienced power engineers,  
paying little attention to the activities of  
the politicians. The latter have, thus  
far failed to manipulate public opinion  
as Sir Adam Beck has so successfully  
done.

Public ownership enthusiasts of On-  
tario will, of course, declare that they  
have not yet "seen the light" in the  
United States, that the corporations con-  
trol the law makers, etc. That is their  
way of dealing with such a situation. As  
a matter of fact the course against  
state ownership is being taken after full  
inquiry regarding what is being done in  
Ontario and on the advice of experts in  
a better position to get at the real facts  
than are the people of Ontario who ac-  
cept all that Sir Adam Beck tells them.

## EVERYTHING

"MY SONG IS AS A WATER-FIND."  
[Joseph Campbell.]

My song is as a water-find—  
That bubbles from the hollow earth.  
A shell the sea has left behind.  
A burning faggot on the hearth.  
A vagrant garden air that blows  
Sweet with perfume of stock or rose.

I know no more of why I sing  
Than does the chaffinch in the tree;  
I am an elemental thing.  
Folded about with mystery.  
God-begotten, born of the great dust,  
I sing my song because I must.

WHEN WE SANG IN THE OLD  
CHURCH.

[Lowell Otis Rees.]

The world was young in those days of  
ours,  
The world was so young and new.  
All builded of birds and of sweet spring  
flowers.  
And tomorrow fresh wonders grew;  
But the world rolled back and Love  
reigned instead.

And smote on a magic lyre—  
For someone sat in the seat ahead  
When we sang in the old church choir.

Someone with eyes of the brownest  
brown,  
And lips that were wondrous rare;  
Dark waves of glory that tumbled down  
From the crimson "tarn" get there  
At a rakish slant. Oh, that pure  
delight!

Life! grant me but one desire—  
To see and feel as I felt that night  
When we sang in the old church choir.

The Preacher prayed with a will. And  
when  
He prayed for "those near and dear,"  
The deacons shouted a loud "Amen!"  
And I felt that the Lord was near.  
The Preacher preached of the bleeding  
Lamb.

And his words were as words of fire;  
But I worshipped the girl with the crim-  
son tam  
When we sang in the old church choir.

The church is gone, and the preacher  
long  
In the land that he loved so well.  
Hark! out of the new church, deep  
and strong.

Hear the great pipes joyous swell!  
I sit and dream and contented am.  
For someone is by my fire,  
Sweet as in the days of the crimson  
tam.

When we sang in the old church  
choir.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW  
ABOUT CANADA?

ANSWERS TO SATURDAY'S  
QUESTIONS.

1—Canada has over 100 free public  
employment offices.

2—Dr. R. Bruce Taylor is principal of  
Queen's University, Kingston.

3—Joseph Howe (1804-1873) was a  
prominent Nova Scotia statesman,  
and an eloquent opponent of the  
Family Compact.

4—The area of British Columbia is  
365,855 square miles.

5—The title of "honorable" is given  
to the judges of the court of appeal  
of British Columbia.

6—The total subsidy allowances grant-  
ed by the Dominion Government to  
Nova Scotia since confederation is  
\$25,000,722 (1919).

7—The sparrow, the ptarmigan and the  
crow frequent the Arctic regions.

8—Eduard Belin, the French explorer  
of the beginning of the seventeenth  
century, was the first white man to  
visit the copper minths of Lake  
Superior.

9—The title "K. G." means Knight of  
the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

10—The first European dwelling erected  
in Ontario was the cabin of Father  
Joseph le Caron, Recollet mission-  
ary, in a Huron village of Carha-  
gouha, somewhere south of Thunder  
Bay. It was built about 1615.

TODAY'S QUESTIONS.

1—How many vessels for the British  
navy, begun during the war, are be-  
ing completed at the present time?

2—Who is British viceroy in Ireland?

3—Who is principal of McGill Univer-  
sity?

4—How much larger is British Colum-  
bia than Switzerland?

5—Where were telephones first used  
commercially in Canada?

6—What title is given to the judges  
of the court of king's bench of  
Manitoba?

7—What name did Jacques Cartier  
give to Isle d'Orléans?

8—Why are the Indians so called?

9—Who was the first white man to  
gaze on the rapids at Sault Ste.  
Marie?

10—What badge designates the D.S.O.?

WOMEN SLEUTHS  
NAB CRIMINALS

LONDON, May 2. — The stalwart  
"woman in blue" who frowns on the  
frivolous "flapper" and moves on the  
male flirt who encourages such queer  
female animals, is known to everyone  
who has visited London within the last  
year or so. But no one recognizes the  
latest product of the police headquar-  
ters of Scotland Yard—the unobtrusive  
matron in quiet dress who has added a  
new terror to the life of the professional  
criminal.

She is the plain-clothes woman de-  
tective who is now an integral part of  
London's 22,000 police. This is not the  
first time that feminine sleuths have  
been used by Scotland Yard, but it is an  
innovation in the sense that never be-  
fore have they had official status.

Endowment Starts Service.  
"Anonymous, \$15,000."

This simple line in the latest sub-  
scription list of the Women Police  
service, the pioneer organization in the  
phase of the feminist movement in  
Great Britain, hides a tragic but inap-  
prising story. Untold until now, it is the  
tale of how a bereaved mother faith-  
fully carried out the humanitarian  
wishes of her two officer sons, killed  
during the war.

It was the desire of these two young  
men that if anything happened to them  
their fortunes should be applied to the  
best work being done for the women and  
children of this country. The mother,  
herself a life-long supporter of social  
service, has given effect to their wishes,  
and it is due to her that the Women  
Police service is in being today.

Though it is unofficial and voluntary,  
started under romantic circumstances  
during the war, it has now led to the  
employment of women in many towns in  
the provinces and in the metropolitan  
police force as officers of the law. To-  
day as a result of its work there are  
over 100 policewomen in London alone,  
while the total number in the country  
is said to be 400. One county has a con-

plete detective service "manned" by  
women, and London now has women de-  
tectives attached to Scotland Yard. The  
Women's Police service is chiefly en-  
gaged in training women for provincial  
forces and already has supplied 45 towns  
with policewomen.

In a famous murder case, the killing  
of a London girl at Eastbourne by two  
men who have since paid the extreme  
penalty for their crime, the local police  
employed a girl 12 years old to watch  
the movements of the suspects. Her re-  
ports enabled the officers of the law to  
complete the web of evidence which led  
to their conviction.

The Lancashire County police have  
a complete women's detective force  
which is declared to be a great success.

Sir Neville Macready, until lately  
head of the Metropolitan police, in evi-  
dence given before a House of Commons  
committee on the question of women  
police, said he wanted to have women he  
could put into evening dress "with some  
diamonds or whatever they wear" as  
well as recruits from the other end of  
the social scale. So he asked for real  
"lady detectives."

Now the force has got them. In the  
blue book, just issued in which Sir  
Neville's evidence is given, there is told,  
in the dry way of an official "minute of  
evidence," a great human story of the  
efforts of a devoted band of women to  
meet the social evils of the day from  
the standpoint of their own sex.

Began With War.

The origin of the women police is  
one of the romances of the feminist  
movement. The late Miss Damer Daw-  
son, after months of work fighting the  
white slave traffic on the continent, be-  
gan when the war started to deal with  
the refugees who were coming in crowds  
to London from all parts of Europe.

With ten helpers she met the girls and  
took them in automobiles to safe rooms.  
At times she lost some of the pret-  
tier girls. One evening two Belgians  
disappeared. A woman of a type which  
scandalous trade was suspected and  
watched. Suspicions were confirmed  
when it was found that in one night she  
changed her dress and the color of her  
hair three times. It was impossible for  
Miss Dawson's organization, as then  
constituted, to interfere with such  
harpies. So the Women's Police service  
came into being.

See Cheap Electricity.  
The Rhone plan would make avail-  
able between 400 and 500 kilometers of  
that river, would reclaim 650,000 acres  
of ground now useless, and probably  
place at the door of Paris electricity  
at a price within the reach of every-  
one.

The Government plans to make the  
Rhone as well as all the other projects  
a "creation of the people" through the  
issuance of 6 per cent non-taxable  
bonds, the proceeds to be used in con-  
struction. The finance committee of  
the senate now has the matter before  
it, but because of the financial de-  
pression and the already great burdens  
on the French treasury, the actual con-  
struction probably will not begin for  
several years.

The majority of the plants for hydro-  
electric development concern the Riv-  
ers Rhone, Garonne, Rhine and Loire.

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See Cheap Electricity.  
The Rhone plan would make avail-  
able between 400 and 500 kilometers of  
that river, would reclaim 650,000 acres  
of ground now useless, and probably  
place at the door of Paris electricity  
at a price within the reach of every-  
one.

The Government plans to make the  
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a "creation of the people" through the  
issuance of 6 per cent non-taxable  
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