

The Weekly Ontario

Morton & Herity, Publishers

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WHEN WEEKLY ONTARIO and Bay of Quinte Chronicle is published every Thursday morning at \$1.00 a year, or \$11.50 a year to the United States.

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IN COMPLETE ACCORD.

It was generally supposed that Mr. J. W. Johnson's remarkable speech in the legislature in defence of the license system must surely have been a bit of post-prandial effervescence, or an erratic outbreak of Hibernian impetuosity. It was not deemed possible that his colleagues and the government could be in sympathy with his singularly frank argument in behalf of the licensed bar.

It would now seem however, as if Mr. Johnson was merely voicing the sentiments held by the provincial secretary, the premier and every member of the cabinet. A significant fact, at the time Mr. Johnson delivered his oration, was that he was warmly congratulated at its conclusion by the members on his side of the House.

The amendments to the License Act brought down by Mr. W. J. Hanna have everywhere been hailed with the liveliest satisfaction in the camp of the liquor men. They had been expecting a drastic curtailment of the hours of sale and the abolition of the Three-Fifths clause. But if the license holders themselves had been framing amendments calculated to bluff temperance advocates, and delay the inevitable advance of reform, they could not have succeeded better than Mr. Hanna has done. To Mr. Hanna must be given credit for having made an artistic attempt to baffle the issue by the creation of a big smoke and a great noise.

That he believes quite as ardently as Mr. Johnson that the bar-room is a grand and beneficent institution, an institution that must be preserved and safeguarded by all the expedients that the government can devise, is now only too apparent.

Thousands of temperance Conservatives stayed and voted with their party last June only because they believed and expected that the government would do something real and tangible in the way of reform. What view they will take in regard to Mr. Hanna's lemon remains to be seen. We know some of them who are doing some very serious thinking.

CRACOW NEXT!

The capture of the Austrian fortress of Przemysl was one of the most brilliant Russian successes of the war. It is important because it sets free a force of over 100,000 men to reinforce the Russian army invading Galicia and opens the way for the advance on Cracow, the ancient capital of Poland. Military writers point out that the Russian front in Galicia will now be straightened, facing the line of the Carpathians, turning north along the line of the Dunajec to where that stream joins the Vistula at about Opatowiec. From here it runs to Petrokow, parallel to the Cracow-Czenstochowa line held by the Austro-German forces; thence along the Pilica, the Bzura-Rawka line, screening Warsaw from the west, and so on northward. Southward the line extends east of Czernowitz almost to the Roumanian frontier in Bukowina.

This being the position, it is expected that a resolute advance on Cracow and Czernowitz will now be begun. Czernowitz, provincial capital of the Bukowina, has already been reported about to surrender, and there are political as well as strategic motives impelling the Russians to vigorous effort here.

Cracow is believed by many strategists to be the key to the gate of the German Empire. The passage over the Silesian frontier can, as the case may be, be covered or threatened from this base, and along the whole eastern border of Germany there is no part so inviting for an inroad as the Silesian frontier. The frontiers of East Prussia and Posen are protected by forest and swamp; the Silesian line is clear. There is a railway direct from Warsaw to Czenczochowa. Warsaw, it has been remarked, is like the hub of a wheel, of which the railways are

the spokes. The rim, however, is held by the Germans, so that a definite penetration into Silesia, cutting the double line of railway which serve Von Hindenburg so well, would be an important gain for the Russians. The Germans have an elaborate series of trenches defending Silesia; but these were rushed during one Russian advance, and may, of course, be rushed again—or may not.

"It is more than ever clear," says the Boston Herald's war reviewer, "that the recent withdrawal of German forces in the north was made mainly for the purpose of strengthening the Austrian resistance in Galicia and the Bukowina. It is probable that fresh German efforts will now be needed to stay the Russian advance. It is not easy to see how these can be made unless new formations are liberally used. The Kaiser's reserve forces must soon be largely drawn on both for the east and west. The German losses have been heavy since the war began, although the French estimate of 3,000,000 seems excessive. This estimate is based on the known losses of certain regiments, these being accepted as an average."

THE TWO FRONTS.

An interesting review of the war operations on the two fronts is given in the Westminster Gazette, and, although the article was written more than a week ago, it is useful as emphasizing what we have been pointing out, namely, the tremendous difficulty of the task yet confronting the Allies. It is necessary, as the writer says, if we wish to get a fair general view of the progress of the war to consider the operations on both fronts as closely related, and take the results as proceeding from the combined efforts of all the armies. Six weeks ago, we were warned by many signs to look out for a tremendous German effort on the East front. Some neutrals described it as the supreme effort of the war, and it is clear that great importance was attributed to it in Berlin.

"The idea prevalent," says the British Eye-Witness, describing the sentiments of the German prisoners taken at Neuve Chapelle, "still is that the Germans are going to finish with Russia first—which will not take long—and then with the whole of their forces will undertake the easy task of crushing France and Britain. They express unbounded admiration for Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, who is a national hero." It will be remembered that in the early stages of the war the dominant German idea was exactly the reverse of this. Then the plan was by hacking a road through Belgium to dispose of France first and afterwards to devote the whole of their forces to the "easy" task of crushing Russia. The events of the autumn and winter required this to be reconsidered. France, it became evident by the end of the year, was not to be disposed of, but the principle of destroying one opponent while the other still survived, and the rush to Warsaw last month was, mutatis mutandis, an exact repetition of the rush on Paris six months earlier.

But after six weeks the second enterprise is no nearer success than the first and its failure has imposed a heavy penalty on the enemy. For at this phase of the war violent movements which entail great loss without producing any decision must be disastrous to those who undertake them, even if at the end they have succeeded in retaining the positions that they had at the beginning. "The evidence is fairly conclusive," says the Westminster Gazette, "that the great raid from the north and east has in this sense been a disaster for Germany. We learnt from German sources on Wednesday that the Russians were again over the East Prussian frontier, and we learn from Russian sources to-day that they are on the road to Memel. The Germans are good judges of soldiery; and, since they express unbounded admiration for Von Hindenburg, we must suppose him to possess great qualities, but to the civilian onlooker he appears always to be employing great forces, and losing a heavy proportion of them, in enterprises in which he just doesn't succeed. His strokes look formidable, but, so far, they have never been carried through to the end, and we see him, like Von Kluck in France, suddenly turned back from his goal, when nothing but its attainment could justify his sacrifice of men and material. His last blow resembled less the punch with the closed fist, to which it is commonly compared, than the push of an outspread hand with separated armies for the different fingers, all of which were liable to attack in detail. Much has been said in praise of the unique system of strategic railways which the Germans have provided behind their own frontier in this region, but, as we watch these enterprises, we are sometimes doubtful whether the temptations which they offer to perpetual restless movements in one direction and another may not be a positive hindrance to concentrated efforts. At all events, this last campaign seems after the first onset in East Prussia to have petered out into a series of spasmodic short rushes at different points in the Russian line."

Since the foregoing was written the Russians have captured the great Austrian stronghold of Przemysl, which has released for service elsewhere a Russian army of probably 200,000 men, and has left Grand Duke Nicholas free to strike at Cracow, and to pursue his operations clearing the Carpathian Passes, where a great battle is now in progress. This was a great achievement of Russian arms, but as the Westminster reviewer says, "the Russians are very sober in the claims which they make for themselves, and we will not presume to boast on their behalf. But an exaggerated estimate of the force and equipment which they had at their disposal at the beginning of the war prevented their neighbors from doing full justice to the dogged courage with which for months together they held their ground against an enemy superior in numbers, and to the brilliant generalship which has enabled them to husband their resources and employ them to the utmost advantage. The Germans were quite right in perceiving it to be an object of supreme importance to deal them a crushing blow before the spring came, before their ports were open, before the Dardanelles were forced. Russia has for all practical purposes an inexhaustible supply of trained men, and her danger point was during the frozen period, when the process of equipping them was bound to be slow. With the failure of the last German rush, we may hope that this danger point has passed. For, unless all the evidence deceives us, Germany has shown her weakness as well as her strength in this enterprise. A large proportion of the troops engaged in it consisted of imperfectly trained new formations which were unequal to the demands made on them. In many districts the guns captured were a scratch collection of defferent patterns and dates. Above all, the power of reinforcing appears sensibly to have diminished on the German side, and it has not been possible to follow up advantages or to retrieve defeats by bringing up fresh troops to the critical points."

"Victory as usual," as Mr. Lloyd George suggests, is a slogan that will appeal to all Britishers. Mr. John Redmond may well be proud of the splendid showing made by his countrymen in the war. The fact that a quarter of a million Irishmen have joined the colors bears testimony to the happy union which Home Rule has consummated.

Said Private McGarvey to the Boot Committee: "Some of the boots were like a sponge in the centre. The uppers were too light for military wear. When the heels gave way the men walked round like flounders. The boots were all right for Sunday." McGarvey is a Scotch cobbler, and knew what he was talking about.

If it were possible for Germany further to outrage the moral sense of the civilized world, it has done so by the latest exploits of its submarine "heroes." Hanging is far too good for the brutes who ruthlessly shelled drowning women and children. The civilized world will thoroughly agree with the demand of the English press that the transgressors must pay the penalty to the full. They are entitled to no mercy.

The London Economist, noting the increase of taxation imposed by the Canadian war budget, makes this comment: "While the Canadian Government is to be commended on its recognition of the necessity for meeting deficit out of revenue, we are strongly of opinion that this addition of 7 1/2 per cent. to the cost of living, in a new country where prices are already very high, will cause much hardship and discontent. Many of these taxes are protective, so that the revenue secured will be much less than the burden imposed on the consumers. But in Canada the manufacturing interests are powerful enough to extract advantage even from the embarrassments and difficulties of the nation."

The French Government has issued some remarkable figures showing the percentage of wounded men who have recovered or are recovering, and are or will be, fit again for service. The figures are taken up to December 1:

	Per cent.
Wounded, but fit for almost immediate return to the front	54.50
Wounded, and on leave	24.50
Wounded, and still in hospital	17.40
Permanently disabled and unfit for further service	1.46
Wounded, and died from wounds	3.48

The enormous proportion of complete recoveries testifies to the "humaneness" of the modern bullet and to the great skill of the surgeons. But there is another point to which the London Spectator directs attention. It is obvious, it says, that in a long war the majority of wounded men will return to the front. When we speak of the casualties of an army we must remember that it would be quite misleading to deduct them bodily from the fighting strength of that army. Casualties nowadays are chiefly temporary casualties.

In the editorial note we published about the sale of the pigeons donated to the Patriotic Campaign Fund by Master Jimmy Gill, we omitted to state that after the four pairs had been duly sold by the auctioneer for \$27.50, that the purchasers very generously handed back all the pigeons to Master James. He thus had the credit of enriching the fund to the extent of the amount stated and retained his pets in the bargain. After the sale a leading barrister of this city, whose team led all the others in the hunt for dollars, called a hack and sent Jimmy and his family of eight all home together, and all feeling triumphant and happy. And it is reasonably probable that this big-hearted barrister extracted more enjoyment out of the episode than did the boy, the pigeons, or the hackman.

A London weekly says: "One hears a good deal about the want of experienced seniors to train the young officers with the new armies. There is a special dearth of good company commanders of the right age, and the consequence is that the 'slacker' is having a fine time of it in the country towns, in and near which most of the new units are stationed. Many of the youngsters now wearing the uniform of officers are excellent raw material, and only want taking in hand by competent seniors to be turned into good company officers. There are others, however, who come from nobody knows where, and some of them are 'undesirables' who ought to be weeded out, for they are doing the new armies no good, and never will."

A MODEEN LULLABY.

Rock-a-bye, baby, upon the bough,
You get your milk from a certified cow.

Before your eugenic young parents were wed
They had decided how you should be fed.

Hush-a-bye, baby, on the tree-top,
If grandmother trots you, you tell her to stop.

Shun the trot-horse that your grandmother rides—
It will work harm to your little insides.

Mamma's scientific—she knows all the laws—
She kisses her darling through carbolic gauze.

Rock-a-by-baby; don't wriggle and squirm;
Nothing is near you that looks like a germ.

—New York Evening Sun.

AS TO YOU.

Mr. Jos. Elliott, managing editor of The Kingston Whig has very kindly sent us the following poem which voices in metrical form a genial and helpful philosophy of life. It was written by J. W. Foley the wellknown American newspaper poet and first appeared in The New York Times.

Did you give him a lift He's a brother of man,
And bearing about all the burdens he can;
Did you give him a smile? He was down cast and blue,
And the smile would have helped him to battle it through

Did you give your hand? He was slipping down hill,
Do you know what it means to be him ill.

Did you give him word? Did you show him the road,
Or did you just let him go on with his load?

Did you help him along? He's a sinner like you,
And the grasp of your hand might have carried him through.

Did you bid him good cheer? Just a word and a smile
Were what he most needed that last weary mile.

Do you know what he bore in that burden of cares,
That's in every man's load, and that sympathy shares?

Did you try to find out what he needed from you,
Or did you just leave him to battle it through?

Do you know what it means to be losing the fight,
When a lift just in time might set everything right?

Do you know what it means—just the clasp of a hand,
When a man's borne about all a man ought to stand?

Did you ask what it was—why the quivering lip,
And the glistening tears down the pale cheek that slip?

Were you brother of his when the time came to be?
Did you offer to help him, or didn't you see?

Do you know what it means to be brother—of man,
To find what the grief is and help when you can?

Did you stop when he asked you to give him a lift,
Or were you so busy you left him to shift?

Oh, I know what you mean—what you say may be true—
But the test of your manhood is—What Did You Do?

Did you reach out a hand? Did you find him the road,
Or did you just let him go on with his load?

Other Editors' Opinions

WANISHING FACES.

In this month's issue we are called upon to chronicle the passing of several of Belleville's well-known citizens. It is the only duty we have which causes us slightest regret. The death list takes in any other item in the issue because that list marks the snapping of links in the chain which connects the present with the past, and, as each link parts, the past feels the wrench most keenly. We grieve at the ending of the lives of those we knew and loved in the long ago. There is some early memory bound up in each one and when the tie, although only filmy, is broken we realize that the shadows are beginning to lengthen behind ourselves. In the silent citizen crowning the shore of old Quinte, the man of Belleville, there lie, many hundreds of the stalwart pioneers of the old home, men and women whose teachings and daily lives had so much to do with shaping the character of the youth of the city. In noting the ripe old age attained by the majority of those who are now passing to their well earned reward, we are reminded of the lives of these staunch old people who trained their thoughts and guided their actions by the rules of Him who knoweth all and keepeth all. They are passing rapidly, the pioneers are, and their like will not be seen again by those who now carry on the work they so splendidly begun and so loyally continued. —Chicago-Belleveille News.

THE DARDANELLES.

On entering the war Turkey was promised much by Germany. She was, however, the recipient of promises as well from Britain and France and the bombardment of the forts of the Dardanelles, now in progress, must make her aware, and she must regret, that it is the promises of the latter countries that she may expect to see fulfilled. With the straits of the Dardanelles open, the way is clear to the seat of the Ottoman government, Constantinople, and with the British and French fleet before Constantinople the Turk may as well pack his kit and bid farewell to Europe, which has submitted to his barbarism for centuries.

The military significance of the attack on the Dardanelles is extremely wide. It means immensely more than the release of the Russian wheat surplus to the Allies in the west. The immediate significance has to do with Turkey. The success of the attack dooms the remnant of her possessions in Europe.

Lloyd George intimated in Parliament the other day that Britain was preparing to give financial aid to countries which were expected to throw in their lot with the Allies. Unless Italy was meant, or even if included, the Balkan states were undoubtedly to Roumania and others of the Balkan kingdoms. Turkey's last hold on Europe lies directly between Constantinople and the Balkan States which are expected to take up arms. With the Turkish capital in possession of the Allies, and with the Allied fleets in control of the Dardanelles and the sea of Marmora, the Balkan armies can work their will with European Turkey, because no assistance can come to their victim from Asia. And when their work in Europe is completed, the Balkan armies can safely cross to Asia and continue the attack.

As for the Turkish sea power, the opening of the Dardanelles and the natural consequences will permit of its destruction. Once through the Dardanelles and in possession of the Sea of Marmora, Constantinople will become the target of the Allied fleet, and with success there, the Bosphorus and the Black Sea will be open. It is on the Black Sea that the Turkish fleet is held up. Not only will this forcing of the passage between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea release the Russian wheat transports but it will free the Russian fleet if its assistance should be needed.

The Strait of Dardanelles is historic in war. Under the classic name of Hellespont it figured in the ancient wars of the Greeks and the Persians. It is only forty-five miles in length and is a narrow waterway, but it serves to separate Europe from Asia. Across its narrowest part, between Sestos and Abydos, Xerxes threw his bridge of boats in 480 B.C., and at the same place Alexander the Great crossed in 334 B.C. It was also the scene of Leander's classic exploit.

The strait is of immense strategic importance as it commands the entrance to Constantinople from the Mediterranean, and Constantinople in turn commands the passage of the Bosphorus to the Black Sea. Both sides are strongly fortified.

In 1807 Admiral D'Almeida, with a British squadron, forced his way through to Constantinople. But since 1841 it has been closed by treaty, no war vessel being allowed to pass it without the consent of Turkey. It is significant, especially to the Turks, that the last time a British fleet passed the Dardanelles was in 1878, when it went through to protect the Turkish capital from Russian attack.—Ottawa Free Press.

Sergeants Elect Officers

The sergeants of the 15th Regiment A.L.I. held their annual meeting last night for the election of officers. The following members were elected: Pres.—Col. Sergt. J. Freeman; Vice Pres.—Col. Sergt. R. G. Brook; Treas.—Pay Master Sergt. H. L. Clow; Sec.—Sgt. Sergt. W. H. Reid; Auditors—Q. M. Sergt. F. Mills and Col. Sergt. J. Turney; Board of Management—Sergts. W. Adamson, H. Holtam and F. Anderson.

OUR daily news letters from this thriving town furnished by The Ontario's special representative.

TRENTON, April 1—"Father," now filling in at the Grand Opera House will appear at the Wells here on Tuesday evening. Mr. Wells informed us ready a large number of been reserved for out of In this company is Miss actress who is reported to dollars as being engaged for the 18th Batt., whose marriage is to be shortly. It is reported the lady while admitting the denied that the wedding. Again we congratulate Mr. on the class of attraction ferred to the patrons of house during the season, punk outfit really succeeding during the opera-house a likely that they will see their seats at once evening.

The R. G. Dun Co. re-assignment to Sherry Morr W. R. White, Liverpool. A well attended meeting forent committee appoint charge of the arrangement I.O.O.F. field day, to be July 7th next, was held rooms last evening. The were marked by much on if the weather man is kidding there seems to be no the success of the under expected that the Daugh bekap will take an artit the arrangements, and tertain the visiting Rebele accompany the subord Bands from several plac ed and a prize of \$100 ed for the best band pl competition. Some \$300 ed for the Canton prizes be expended on cups, shi le prizes in these athletic official sanction will be the C.A.A.U. All Odd Fe district are asked to re date and to assist in mal district field day, a succe time on we want all the notes that our brother G the press in this district "Made in Canada" bo appeal very strongly to public for some time to parliamentary investigati is having results that we pated. If the evidence of is correctly reported, the

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Advertisement for a suit featuring a man in a suit and hat. The text is partially obscured but includes the name 'Loyne' and a logo.