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ADVERTISERS, NOTE  
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London, Ont., Tuesday, Feb. 8.

DETROIT'S LABOR SITUATION.

The tremendous growth of the  
automobile industry carried Detroit,  
between 1910 and 1920, into the  
place of fourth largest city in the  
United States. From the whole of  
the United States, from Canada,  
from Europe, from all parts of the  
world, men were drawn to the plants  
and mills of the great Detroit in-  
dustries, with the result that con-  
ditions arose which were not found  
anywhere else on the continent. The  
wages paid were advertised the  
world over, but were scarcely more  
than were paid elsewhere in the city  
for work of like character. There  
were many who believed that De-  
troit must be an industrial paradise.

A writer in the Journal of Political  
Economy, who worked for months  
in various plants and investigated  
all phases of the industry, has a  
different story to tell.

The outstanding feature of Detroit  
industry, he finds, is the complete  
lack of organization. "Every indi-  
vidual goes it alone," he writes. "He  
is a lone hand," he is hired as an  
individual at a wage agreed upon  
with the foreman, and which he is  
futilely warned not to disclose to  
any fellow-workman. The result is  
that "collective bargaining" has no  
place in Detroit industry, and "at  
the same bench may be found men  
doing identically the same work  
for an equally inefficient man-  
ner for wages that differ  
as much as 25 cents per hour."

Also, since there are no group inter-  
ests, and no group morality, plain  
thieving and deliberate though un-  
systematic sabotage goes on con-  
stantly.

"Men earning wages around \$2,000  
a year have no scruples against  
taking away from the shop tools,  
parts supplies, even tires, by any  
means by which they think they can  
escape detection. This is not con-  
fined to occasional miscreants. It  
is a common practice."

Unions among the automobile  
workers count for little. The pay-  
roll of one plant is four times as  
large as the whole membership of  
the United Automobile, Aircraft  
and Vehicle Workers of America, the  
membership of which is scattered  
through a dozen or more plants.

Three reasons are given by the  
writer in the Journal of Political  
Economy for the lack of union or  
organization. The first of these is  
the character of the industry itself,  
a new industry, rapidly expanding,  
drawing young men to its ranks  
rather than the old, fluctuating to  
some extent since prosperity is de-  
pendent upon general conditions,  
and having a large labor turnover.

The second factor in retarding  
unionism is the character of the  
work, the perfection of the "machine  
process," nothing done by hand,  
measured by the eye or fitted by  
"trial and error."

"Though the work is mechanical  
it is not specialized. There are  
mechanical jobs, but no jobs for  
mechanics. Broadly speaking, any  
man can run any machine, after a  
short period of instruction, which  
by no means approaches an appren-  
ticeship. The accuracy of the  
operation depends upon the machine;  
the man is a mere tender. He starts  
and stops the operation. He does  
not control it. " "Automobile  
workers have no pride in their work,  
long to the proletariat of the labor  
world, always recognized as hard  
organizing and too numerous to be  
the special concern of the business  
unions making up the American  
Federation of Labor."

The third factor stated is the at-  
titude of the employers, which is  
silently opposed to unions. The  
wages have always been high, which  
helps to explain the absence of any  
general and deep-seated discon-  
tent. Nevertheless, dissatisfaction  
is stated to be well-nigh universal.  
The men have been attracted to the  
industry, and are held there by the

high pay, but their heart is not in  
their work. There is no loyalty as a  
rule to the business, and men pick  
up at a moment's notice and go else-  
where. Not even in their dress are  
they in any way distinctive as work-  
men.

"No longer do the blue jeans or  
khaki overalls or visorless cap mark  
the manual worker. A stiff  
straw or Panama hat, a collar and  
necktie, a light-colored shirt, occa-  
sionally of silk, dark suit, occa-  
sionally of silk, and polished shoes  
these are the rule and not the  
exception for the young fellows who  
flock to the machines and benches  
in the automobile shops. They are  
proud—but not of their work."

Such in brief are the conditions  
as they were found by a trained in-  
vestigator. They are not healthy  
signs in industry and industrial re-  
lations, not likely to lead to anything  
better. The employers are described  
as "playing safe." The physical wel-  
fare of the employees is provided  
for, both within the factories and  
outside of them, but the schemes  
are "without exception paternalisti-  
cally conceived and autocratically  
administered." Democratization of  
industry is evidently as yet un-  
known in Detroit.

FREE LOVE VS. MARRIAGE.

The tendency of many plays and  
novels in these times to promote the  
idea of free love is unmistakable.  
One reason for the easy divorce  
propaganda is the sneaking belief  
of many that free love is better than  
fixed marriage.

A well-known novelist, Ellen Key,  
writes of "all the impurity that the  
sexual life shuts up within the  
white sepulchre of legal marriage."

But what about the impurity in a  
life of free love? Even H. G. Wells  
seems to express regret at times for  
the sacrifice of romantic excite-  
ment, passionate abandon, and vari-  
ety of experience that marriage en-  
tails. But there is no scheme of  
human existence that does not im-  
pose limitations, and the most  
cramping of all is a schemeless,  
planless, formless sort of life. Law  
and rule are essential to wider free-  
dom, curious as it may seem. Con-  
sider what the free love method, or  
want of method, involves, repetition  
of romantic excitement till perhaps  
it stales, variety of superficial ex-  
perience in place of the practical,  
substantial and thorough under-  
standing that becomes a second  
nature between the great majority  
of couples in fixed marriage. Byron  
once laughed cynically that going  
here and there in love is a "height-  
ening of the beat ideal." This is  
simply untrue in any solid sense.  
Burns' beau ideal was no more  
heightened than Brown's or  
Napoleon's than Gen. Gordon's. The  
sacrifices which marriage is accused  
of bringing upon its "victims," es-  
pecially the wives, are often the very  
path of triumphal virtue and of a  
passion quite beyond the free  
amoralist.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Toronto has a population of 600,  
000. It sounds like a Tommy Church  
majority.

Bavaria absolutely refuses to pay  
its share of the Allies' indemnity  
terms.—News dispatch. Page Mr.  
Foch!

The trouble with a lot of people  
is that they are too much concerned  
in doing the "proper" thing than  
they are in doing the right thing.

The London Daily News main-  
tains that withdrawal of troops from  
Ireland would mean the immediate  
reduction of Sinn Fein outrages. But  
it was Sinn Fein outrages that  
brought an army to Ireland in the  
first place. There is no guarantee  
that the murder gang would cease  
murdering if troops were withdrawn.  
On the records it is quite likely the  
abominable assassinations would  
increase.

BRITAIN STILL RULES THE WAVES  
[Toronto Telegram.]

Lloyd's Register reports that Great  
Britain is now building more ships than  
all the rest of the world combined.

In spite of Britain's appalling losses  
during the war, she made a more rapid  
recovery than any other nation.

A power which can recuperate so  
rapidly does not appear to be in any  
immediate danger of disintegration.  
Britain's supremacy as Mistress of  
the Seas is still unchallenged.

ELM AND LOCUST.  
[Dorothy Leonard.]

Elm and locust bowed together  
On a night of windy weather.  
Spoke the groaning locust bode:  
"Brother, now is bitter dole!"  
Are this wreck and anguish sent  
Over us for punishment?

This account, unrequited wind  
For that you and I have sinned?  
I remember me last Spring—  
Full of foolish birds that sing.  
When I waded in Summer breeze,  
Yest I saw in elm and locust tree  
I am punished for that pride,  
Brother, would that we had died!"

Spoke the elm: "O Brother Tree,  
I am scorned and wrung like thee.  
Crack and strain and quake at heart  
Till my inmost shivers start.  
Not for pride is all our pain.  
I was but content, not vain;  
I loved my orioles and leaves.  
Singing morns and golden eves.  
Beauty is our heritage.  
Not to sin in tree or shrub.  
We were spotted with decay;  
See what storm hath flung away!"

"Then an oak who overheard  
Gave the groaning tree his word:  
"Who are we to seek a cause?  
Winter hath his cruel law;  
Sundered steel and stinging hail;  
Wind to winnow, wind to flail;  
We are hurt, but not by sin.  
If our roots are deep and sure,  
Till the hurricane's amen  
We shall live and last again."

## OTHERS' VIEWS

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

"Gilbert Chesterton is asking what's  
the matter with the world. Well, if he  
doesn't know, nobody does."—London  
Advertiser.

Don't worry. He was not asking the  
question in order to get an answer. He  
was asking the question of himself in  
order to draw out the intelligent answer  
which he had prepared for the occasion.

He isn't going to propound such a ques-  
tion as that and leave us in the lurch  
for an answer.

If G. K. Chesterton has a good reply  
to his question, if he can explain what's  
the matter with the world, and how  
things may be made right, his present  
lecture tour in the United States and  
Canada will be a blessing.

Something seems to have gone wrong  
with the spirit of give and take—people  
seem disposed to give nothing but  
knocks and take nothing but bouquets.

Even street car conductors relate to  
a passenger if given half a chance.  
Members of the civic board of control  
consider how to stretch out the hand  
to the poor fellow who is in the lurch.

The West Peterborough election is more  
a matter than a foot race. The popula-  
tion of the town is 7,000. The popula-  
tion of New France was 70,000.

Edmonton was made a city seven-  
teen years ago.

TODAY'S QUESTIONS.

1—Where is Lake Nipissing?  
2—How long was a luxury tax fixed  
upon certain Canadian merchan-  
dise?

3—Where is the University of Sas-  
katchewan?  
4—What was the name of Ontario?

5—Who sent out Sir Martin Frobisher  
on his voyage of discovery?  
6—How much has Canada's fish-  
ing industry increased in the last six years?

7—When was the first Dominion ex-  
hibition held?  
8—When did the first Scotch settlers  
come to Cape Breton and New  
Brunswick?

9—Who is the author of "Literary  
Lapses"?  
10—Who was the first governor of Prince  
Edward Island?

CHILDREN AND DAY-DREAMS.  
[London Daily Telegraph.]

There are some children who  
are born to live a separate life of  
the imagination in spite of the best pos-  
sible educational conditions, but in the  
majority of cases, no doubt, the child's  
day-dreaming does represent "good  
material going to waste."

It is the child's progress of educa-  
tional science may help us to eliminate  
altogether. It is certainly the fact that  
the child today knows nothing of the  
depths of fruitless boredom which  
must be suffered in days when unscien-  
tific and uninspiring methods of teach-  
ing are misnamed "education" in our  
schools.

THE DIFFERENCE.  
[Ed. Howe's Monthly of Indignation  
and Information.]

The Manchester Guardian, a famous  
English publication, says that in Great  
Britain every man has the right to do  
as he pleases, so long as he does not  
encroach on the rights of others.

I have observed that when an Ameri-  
can goes to a baseball game, he does  
not care for singing hymns, but at once  
joins a chorus to prohibit ball games  
on Sunday, and to the everyone who  
does not sing hymns.

THE CRAZE FOR SLOGANS.  
[Egyptian Mail.]

Never was the world so saturated  
with phrases as today, and never were  
the printing presses so busy. In abun-  
dant supply we have in abundance,  
and most determined students can get  
at the books they want through one  
source or another, but the spoken word  
is equally important; it brings mind  
quickly in touch with mind, stimulates  
questions, and provokes criticism. It  
is a very real defect in books that they  
cannot answer questions. Lecturers  
can at least try to do so.

THE GODDESS OF FASHION.  
[London Daily Express.]

A woman, and no less a woman than  
an English peeress, has had the mis-  
fortune to attack Fashion. This goddess,  
whose sway in feminine affairs has  
hitherto been all-powerful and ques-  
tioned, is described as a tyrant  
whose wayward decrees empty her  
pockets, undermine the health, and  
mar the beauty of their devotees. For  
this, our peeress urges, let her altars  
be thrown down! and let a standing  
national committee be set up to make  
the laws of dress. A mere man, able to  
approach this question without bias,  
and with respect, submit that the  
impeached deity is not so black as she  
is painted. Has she not given our  
women-folk clothes that do violence  
to Nature's handiwork and leave them  
free to use their limbs.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF TODAY.  
[Calgary Alberta.]

A man was released a few days ago  
who spent a quarter century in Charle-  
ston state prison.

He had heard and read of outside  
changes during his imprisonment. But  
that was not like seeing for himself.  
He comes back to life as a modern  
Rip Van Winkle.

That gives his observations a pecu-  
liar interest. Particularly his observa-  
tions of young people. For the young  
have been the object of much change  
for their freedom of manner, disregard  
for advice of elders, and for many other  
changes for which they are compared  
unfavorably to the young people of 1895.

But that is not the way they appear  
to the new Rip Van Winkle.  
He was amused by the short skirts  
worn by girls, and he said they ap-  
peared "as if on stilts."

"You people today appear to be  
much more intelligent. They've got  
a go-ahead look that only one in a  
hundred used to have."

THE KITCHEN MARATHON.  
[Calgary Alberta.]

The average housewife walks two  
miles a day while she is preparing  
meals for her family. The Confer-  
ence of Vocational Workers of the  
South, in Montgomery, Ala., became  
interested in home labor-saving de-  
vices.

A pedometer was attached to  
a student in a model kitchen, where  
breakfast, lunch and dinner were  
prepared. Two miles over the stove-  
sink-pantry-table route, 728  
miles a year.

Add to that the miles she travels  
weeping, dusting, answering door-  
bells, the telephone and the other  
few thousand duties and one esti-  
mates that mother crosses the con-  
tinent each year without crossing her  
threshold.

The answer is, of course, stop-sweep-  
ing, stop-dusting, stop answering  
Non-used rooms, kitchens too large or  
poorly arranged, will have to go. The  
efficient housewife will cut out un-  
necessary steps. This will not be done  
so much to avoid walking two, or even  
five miles a day, for health experts in-  
sist that five miles a day spells health.  
The hike, though, should be outdoors.  
Not in the kitchen. That's the never-  
kiss; fewer steps indoors, more outside.

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CANADA?

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUESTIONS.

1—The Hayes river system of North-  
ern Manitoba empties into Hudson  
Bay at York Factory.

2—John Cabot made his first voyage  
of discovery to America in 1497.

3—St. Paul's Church, Halifax, founded  
1769, is the oldest Anglican church  
in Canada.

4—The Lachine rapids, near Montreal,  
are the most turbulent of the eight  
groups of rapids on the St. Law-  
rence river.

5—The struggle for responsible govern-  
ment began in New Brunswick  
almost immediately after the or-  
ganizing of the province in 1793.

6—During 1920 the British pound  
sterling dropped to \$3.19 in the  
United States.

7—The first national conference on  
character education was held in  
Brimley, Ontario, 1919.

8—Ontario and New Brunswick origi-  
nally were settled almost entirely  
by United Empire Loyalists.

9—The population of Nova Scotia at  
the time of Wolfe's capture of  
Quebec was 8,000. The population  
of New France was 70,000.

10—Edmonton was made a city seven-  
teen years ago.

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EVERYTHING

IN THE HEBRIDES.  
[Lauchlin Currie, M.P., in the  
Edinburgh Scotsman.]

I live in a woe house, with stars in its  
walls, and a hell in its heart. When  
night sinks over me I miss a ray of  
sunlight.

Lone wanderer, I wander, I wander,  
Morn comes there lingeringly—leaves  
o'er the mountains.

Melting snow, silver the snow,  
Sometimes a ship sails by proud in the  
fjord.

Gathering tangle, or bait for the fishing  
folk.  
Old men and women creep, stooping and  
crouching, under the eaves of the  
like birds from afar floats the laugh-  
ter of children.

From the quiet creek waters through  
I push my white boat, and pull away  
seaward.  
Waiting, listening, watching and  
dreaming.

Then in the gloaming row home through  
the wonder of the Hebrides.  
West of the Hebrides, while past the  
oat-beds,  
Flash the sea-people all jewel-  
be-spangled.

Lambent and languishing, low o'er the  
crouching  
And sigh of the waters, the broad  
By glow of my peat-fire I yield to her  
glance.

Sages come seeking me, tugging my  
sail, straining  
Sea-folk, far-faring, call from the  
brave world we have in abundance,  
and most determined students can get  
at the books they want through one  
source or another, but the spoken word  
is equally important; it brings mind  
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## LAVERGNE OBJECTS TO CERTAIN IMMIGRANTS FROM BRITISH ISLES

Kingston, Feb. 7.—Speaking to the  
members of the Newman Club of  
Queen's University on Sunday after-  
noon, Mr. Armand Lavergne, the  
French-Canadian leader, stated that he  
was not in favor of the immigration  
of British immigrants from Europe.  
"We have never ceased to keep a  
watchful eye," said Mr. Lavergne, "and  
we are not willing that the Canada of  
the future will be filled up with the  
English and the British Isles, or  
rather the English and the British  
Isles."

"We will go on denouncing the bring-  
ing of these people to the Canadian  
continent," he said, "because it is the  
greatest danger for the future of the  
Canadian nation, for they have noth-  
ing of the Canadian ideal in their  
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Refers to Riots.  
Mr. Lavergne referred to the riots in  
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the future will be filled up with the  
English and the British Isles, or  
rather the English and the British  
Isles."

"We will go on denouncing the bring-  
ing of these people to the Canadian  
continent," he said, "because it is the  
greatest danger for the future of the  
Canadian nation, for they have noth-  
ing of the Canadian ideal in their  
souls."

Refers to Riots.  
Mr. Lavergne referred to the riots in  
Quebec during the war, and stated that  
they were the result of the immigration  
of British immigrants from Europe.  
"We have never ceased to keep a  
watchful eye," said Mr. Lavergne, "and  
we are not willing that the Canada of  
the future will be filled up with the  
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