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NEWS TOPICS OF WEEK

Important Events Which Have Occurred During the Week.

The Busy World's Happenings Carefully Compiled and Put into Handy and Attractive Shape for the Readers of Our Paper - A Solid Hour's Enjoyment.

TUESDAY.
An international loan was made to China to improve the Grand Canal. The Belgian troops made further progress in the East African campaign. Premier Asquith paid a short visit to Belfast yesterday, and was loudly cheered by the people. Charles D. Sheldon, who once operated in Montreal, was convicted in Baltimore of conspiracy to defraud. Barrie, Allandale, and other places adjacent to Camp Borden, Simcoe county, may be "dry" this summer. The Government ice-breaker J. D. Hahn, said to be the second largest in the world, was launched at Montreal. The United States will send another protest to Great Britain regarding the seizure and detention of mails. Samuel Beattie of Wingham, 89 years of age, died as a result of a fall, a fractured rib puncturing one of his lungs. Samuel H. Armstrong, M.P.P. for Muskoka, ex-Mayor and ex-Councillor of Bracebridge, died at his home there of heart trouble. The trial of Thos. Kelly, William buildings contractor, at Wainfleet, was enlarged to the Summer Assizes, opening May 31. Seeding of wheat is about finished in central and southern Alberta and in Saskatchewan and Prince Albert districts of Saskatchewan. L. G. Ireland of the Brantford Hydro & Municipal Railway, is appointed manager of the Hydro in central and eastern Ontario. The President of the British Board of Trade said in the House of Commons yesterday that fifteen hundred Canadian woodsmen had come to Britain to cut timber.

WEDNESDAY.
Miss Leyd Hall, a well-known evangelist, is dead at Guelph, at the age of fifty-two. Another sudden death occurred at the General Methodist Conference at Saratoga, N. Y. A Swiss engineer denied the story of coercion to get "torpedo witnesses" in the Sussex case. Major Ewan A. McDougall, commander of the 9th (Toronto) Battery, is reported missing at the front. Major George Vansittart of the 13th Battery is reported killed at the front. He came originally from Barrie. The Chateau Frontenac at Quebec was damaged to the extent of \$25,000 by fire in the kitchen section, in the servants' quarters. General Anderson, in a letter to the Militia Department, criticizes the Ross rifle as inferior to the Lee-Enfield for active service. Legal action against the proposal to take a vote in Berlin on Friday on the question of changing the city's name has been withdrawn. Many imports have been prohibited by France and Italy, especially bulky ones which require too great a ship tonnage for transport. Daniel Bissett, formerly of Stratford, has been decorated in France with the Croix de Guerre for heroic action on the field of battle. Lieut. Milner Mathieson of St. Mary's, with the Canadian Engineers in France, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery. The 86th (Machine Gun) Battalion, Hamilton, was presented with colors by the Marchioness of Aberdeen, on behalf of the donor, Mrs. W. E. Sanford. The Exchange Telegraph Company's Paris correspondent, who yesterday reported that Brigadier-General Marchand of Fashoda fame had been killed in action, reports that his information was incorrect.

THURSDAY.
Eight opponents of conscription were fined in a London court. The Dutch steamer Batavier V. was sunk and an American was drowned. Motor car license reciprocity with three more States is being arranged by Ontario. A new pensions scheme for British soldiers was announced in the House of Commons. Fire caused \$50,000 damage in the factory of Wm. Croft & Sons, Wellington street, Toronto. A "preparedness" campaign to keep Ontario "dry" will shortly be launched by the Ontario Alliance. Charles Mabee, ex-Mayor of Tillsonburg, died as the result of injuries sustained in an accident on the race track. The bye-election at Tewkesbury (Eng.) was carried by the coalition Government candidate, who had an enormous majority. Mr. M. C. Reynolds of Goderich, totally blind and in her eightieth year, has knitted more than 125 pairs of socks for soldiers at the front. Geo. C. Holland, for forty-two years official shorthand reporter of the Canadian Senate, who took his "take" as usual this session, has resigned. Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-chief of the British forces at the front, has been asked by Sir Robert Borden to thoroughly test the Ross and Lee-Enfield rifles. Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, who was severely burned in the Parliament building fire of February 3rd, and who has since been convalescent, returned to his Parliamentary duties yesterday. The funeral of Capt. E. J. Kyle, Adjutant of the 147th Battalion, held at Lindsay, was most impressive, being attended by a large number of university men and representatives of other interests with which he was associated. E. W. Nesbitt's motion in the Commons to strike out the vote of \$4,000,000 for the Quebec & Saguenay Railway was defeated by a vote of 29 to 12, and Senator Bostock's motion in the Senate for the six-months' hoist was defeated by 22 to 8.

FRIDAY.
Lloyds announces that the French steamer Mira has been sunk. The announcement gives no details as to her sinking. Nicholas Romanek, a Bulgarian grocer of Port Weller, was convicted yesterday of keeping a blind pig, and fined \$300. Early yesterday morning fire did damage in the greenhouse of Miss K. L. Wilks at Cruickston Park to the extent of \$1,500. Hugh Proctor, aged forty, was drowned while drying from "The Bluff," an island on which he lived, to the main land, near Brighton. Lieutenants Selwyn and Bateman, military aviators, were killed instantly yesterday at Gosport, in Hampshire, near Portsmouth. Their aeroplane dived and fell. Dr. W. J. Teasdale, a leading London physician and for the last twenty-one years a member of the London Board of Education, died last night after two weeks' illness. Mrs. Annie Jane Cheesman died suddenly in Chatham yesterday morning of heart failure. She told friends Wednesday night and again yesterday morning that she would die yesterday. The members of Parliament were "relieved of their arduous labors," "thanked for their care and devotion," and sent home, by Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, the Deputy Governor-General, yesterday. Percy Kerr, electrical engineer and son of a leading merchant at Merrickville, was killed at the local power house yesterday by being caught in the belting while inspecting the machinery. The Cologne Gazette states that negotiations for an alliance between Germany and Turkey, on a basis of equal rights and mutual assistance in peaceful work of development are practically concluded.

SATURDAY.
Berlin electors carried the by-law to change the name of their city by a vote of 1,568 to 1,488. A. B. Macallum, Ph.D., of Toronto, has been elected President of the Royal Society of Canada. British aeroplanes and seaplanes made a successful attack on an important Turk port east of Suez. Premier Asquith returned from Ireland yesterday after five days of conference on the political situation there. Mr. George Anderson, of Toronto, prominent in business and formerly Trade Commissioner to Japan, died at the age of 71. Premier Borden leaves to-day for a week's holiday in the Gatineau Hills, accompanied by E. N. Rhodes, Deputy Speaker of the Commons. Alex. Farrell was fined \$196 at Brantford for cashing a cheque after having given another man power of attorney over all cheques received. Lake steamships transporting troops to Niagara camp were convoyed by unarmed vessels, the crews of which were on the lookout for German-American mines. David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, last night announced that 131 munitions factories have been added to the establishments under Government control. The total is now 3,577. J. A. Hutcheson, K.C., of Brockville, has been appointed by the Government as counsel to assist Sir Charles Davidson, Commissioner on War Purchases, in succession to Captain John Thompson, resigned. The Military Cross has been granted to Lieut. W. B. McArthur of the Royal Scots, and an official of the Canadian Pacific, who enlisted as a ranker with the London Scottish, gaining a commission at the front.

MONDAY.
Dr. Helfferich was appointed new Vice-Chancellor of Germany, to succeed Dr. Delbrueck. John Boland, 55 years old, was found dead in bed at 324 Richmond street west, Toronto. Lieut.-Colonel W. R. Marshall of the 15th Battalion, formerly of Hamilton, was killed in action. War Office advices indicate that a large number of horses will be required from Canada this summer for military purposes. An inquiry is to be held at Montreal into allegations regarding building materials, some officials and one alderman being implicated. A new record was made for the King's Plate, when Mr. J. E. Seagram's Mandarin, Gala Water, and Gala Day took the first three places. Albert J. Batt of Buffalo, his wife and her mother, Mrs. Sarah Lieber, were drowned in the Niagara River at Bridgeburg when their automobile backed off a ferry. Medals have been awarded two Boy Scouts of Verona (Italy) by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for acts of heroism during an Austrian air raid on that city in November. Miss Annie Forgie has accepted the position of Lady Superintendent of Guelph General Hospital, Miss Reekie, the retiring Superintendent, going to a similar position at Regina. Information has been received from the prisoners' camp at Aachen in Germany that J. J. Smith (423-329) and George Walker (76,041), 29th Battalion, recently reported missing, are prisoners there. Seized German Vessels. ROME, May 22.—Portugal, with the consent of Great Britain, is ready to put at Italy's disposition the German vessels recently seized in Portuguese ports, says the Gazzetta del Popolo. Captain Enriquez Almeida, chief of the Portugal naval mission, the newspaper says, has been called by telegraph to Rome in connection with the plan.

SWAYED BY THE WEATHER.

Some Persons Are Greatly Influenced by Climatic Conditions. Weather influences on man may be roughly divided into two classes—viz, those which are direct and obvious and those which are the more or less indirect and obscure. The influences belonging to the second class have been during the past decade or so the subject of immense research. Some persons are pronounced "meteoropaths," abnormally subject to "weather neuroses." Friedrich Nietzsche was one par excellence. Such persons, as a rule, are more specifically "cyclonopaths." The passage of certain characteristic types of weather is reflected in their sensation and in the mode of operation of their bodily and mental functions. The gross change of barometric pressure pertaining to a cyclone, or "low," is not in itself an important factor in producing these manifestations since it never exceeds that experienced in the ascent (without the effort of climbing) of a good sized hill. Indeed, many "lows" do not expose us to greater pressure of changes in the course of twenty-four hours than we experience in a couple of minutes in riding to the top of an average office building.

Nations That Left No Sign.
There are two great nations of antiquity whose inscriptions cannot yet be read—the Etruscans and the Hittites. The Etruscans occupied a part of Italy corresponding roughly to what is now known as Tuscany. The Hittites at one time occupied a part of Palestine and united with the Canaanites to resist the invasion by the Israelites under Joshua. The Etruscan and Hittite inscriptions have thus far resisted the attempts of scholars to decipher them, though no one knows when some one may stumble on a bilingual inscription which will serve as a key, just as the Rosetta stone, discovered in Egypt in 1799, served as a key to the Egyptian hieroglyphics. In the new world the so-called Maya inscriptions, found on the ruins in Yucatan, are also a puzzle to scientists.

Not An Epicure.
One afternoon a sad eyed hobo rambled up the garden walk of a suburban home and meekly tapped on the back door. "Lady," said he in a tearful voice to the woman who answered his knock, "I hain't had a thing to eat since last week. If you would only give me some bread or—" "Mary," suddenly interjected the woman, addressing some invisible person, "bring Towser out here at once." "All right, dear lady," said the hobo in a resigned voice; "even dog meat is better than starvin' to death."

Laughter.
Laughter begins either with the mouth or the eyes. Then come the other muscular groups, and then come the vocal expressions of laughter, such as brays, cackles, sniggers, sippers, giggles, snorts, grunts, foghorn rumbles, yells, shrieks, guffaws, trills, chuckles, snuffles and all sorts of peculiar bird notes and musical sounds.

Information Wanted.
"Nora," said the mistress to the new servant, "we always want our meals promptly on the hour." "Yis, mum. An' if I miss th' first hour shall I wait for th' next?"

His Opinion.
Mrs. Yeast—What would you call a man who agrees with everybody? Mr. Yeast—A fool. "And suppose it was a woman?" "It isn't possible that any woman would."—Yonkers Statesman.

Back From the Honeymoon.
She—Now, my dear, we must face this problem. Shall we settle in the suburbs or the city? He—You mean live, darling. Don't forget that on my present salary we can't settle anywhere.

Carries It With Her.
Gibbs—My wife never loses her temper. Dibs—How do you account for it? Gibbs—She keeps it in such constant use it has no chance to get lost.—New Haven Register.

Using His Name.
"The agent who sold me this set of books told me he wanted to use my name with other citizens." "He's doing that, all right. I heard him telling a gang how easy you were."

Worth Trying.
"I washed Willie's pants t'udder day, and dey shrank so dat de po' chile kin ha'dly walk in 'um. Won'er how I gwan fix 'um?" "Try washin' de chile. Maybe he shrink too."

Trouble Even Present.
"Do you have any trouble when you are saying your lessons in school, Tommy?" "Yes, sir." "What seems to trouble you most?" "The teacher."

Brazil Nut Trees.
The Brazil nut tree does not begin to bear fruit until it attains the age of fifty years or thereabouts and continues to produce crops intermittently. Trees known to be hundreds of years old have produced crops.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

It is Said to Have the Most Trying Climate in the World. The chief peculiarity about Kurna is that the natives believe the place where they live is the exact site of the garden of Eden. The climate of Kurna is acknowledged to be the most trying in all the world. The heat is terrific in the summer time. It is claimed that the British government has a record of 159 degrees in the shade upon the bridge of a boat anchored in the river at Busreh, a little to the south. The missionaries at Busreh tell of nights when the thermometer registers not less than 125 degrees. British sailors bound for the Persian gulf in the summer time usually desert if they can. Perhaps in Arizona the thermometer rises nearly as high, but there is the dry air, while in the Persian gulf it is exceedingly moist. The Europeans at Busreh must pass the days in underground chambers, or serdaubs, while a native boy pulls a huge fan, or punkah, suspended from the ceiling to keep the air in circulation. The nights are spent on the roof, for it is impossible to sleep below. In the winter time the air seems exceedingly cold, for the marshes are filled with salt, and as the wind sweeps over the plain the moist air is peculiarly penetrating. Frequently the Arab, benumbed by the cold, falls from his horse.

Where Plato Taught.
The famous academy of Plato was in a suburb of Athens, about a mile north of the Dnyplum gate. It is said to have belonged to the hero Academus; hence the name. It was surrounded with a wall and adorned with walks, groves and fountains. Plato possessed a small estate in the neighborhood and for some fifty years taught his "divine philosophy" to young and old assembled in the academy to listen to his wise words. After Plato's death in 348 B. C. the academy lost much of its fame, but the beauty remained for centuries after the great teacher was no more.

WON BY DARING WIT.
Story of Czar Paul, His Sacred Snuff-box and a Wager. Czar Paul's snuffbox was as sacred as the imperial crown itself. No one was allowed to touch it. Kaploff wagered that he would take a pinch out of it. One morning he walked up to the table which stood near the bed on which the czar still reclined and boldly took from it the majestic snuffbox. Opening it noisily, he inserted his fingers, and, while Paul I. was watching him, in stupefaction at such audacity, he sniffed up the fragrant powder with evident satisfaction. "What are you doing there, you rogue?" exclaimed the czar excitedly. "Having a pinch of snuff, sire. I have now been on duty for eight hours, and, feeling drowsy, I thought it would keep me awake, for I would rather break the rules of etiquette than neglect my duty." Paul burst out laughing and merely replied: "That's right enough, my lad, but as the snuffbox is not large enough for both of us you can keep it for yourself."

Reptiles Are Shortsighted.
According to a naturalist, serpents, in spite of their reputation for alertness, are very shortsighted. Some of them cannot see more than a yard or two in front of them. Other reptiles are similarly deficient in sense of vision, and the authority asserts that a crocodile cannot see a man at a greater distance than six times its own length. In respect of hearing, many reptiles are even more deficient than in sight. Some serpents are deaf, the boa, it is said, being unable to hear any sound. The term "deaf adder" consequently expresses a fact. In one respect some reptiles show singular acuteness. They have an unerring instinct for water and in dry weather will travel straight to it, even when they are at such long distances that the mystery is how they could possibly become aware of its locality.

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THE COURT OF REVISION

Court of Revision of the Assessment Roll of the Township of The Rear of Yonge and Escott, will be held on Saturday, May 27th, 1916, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at the township hall, Athens. Dated May 15, 1916. R. E. CORNELL, Clerk

COURT OF REVISION

Court of Revision of the Assessment Roll of the Township of Rear Leeds and Lansdowne, will be held on Monday, May 29th, at 1 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Oak Leaf, 20-21 R. J. GREEN, Clerk

COURT OF REVISION

Court of Revision of the Assessment Roll of the Corporation of the Village of Athens will be held on Monday, May 29th, at 7:30 o'clock p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall. Dated this 10th day of May, 1916. A. M. LEE, Clerk

COURT OF REVISION

COURT OF REVISION

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