

## Timely Topics

By Tim. Wise

### THE VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ENQUIRY

AN EXPLANATION AND A CORRECTION

SOMETIMES when an explanation is difficult to make there is a temptation to avoid making it, but an unfortunate error crept into this column in last month's issue, which we feel ought to be rectified. An article on the above subject had been considerably curtailed owing to lack of space. Somehow one single phrase was left undeleted, and to make matters worse, a word occurred in it which the writer never intended to use.

The sentence in question read: "The municipal inspector shares the blame with the principal of the school." As intended, this would have read "shares the responsibility," and the phrase was used in connection with a matter of organization.

There was no intention of attaching blame to individuals so far as the writer was concerned, for as we said at the time:

"The public would like to have the matter cleared up, and it seems possible to do so without finding a scapegoat, but simply by adjusting conditions and rightfully apportioning authority."

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### THE NORTHCLIFFE WAY

The super-journalist is "at it" again. This time he has been telling the exclusive set at the London Aldwych Club that he watched the war coming for twenty years. During part of that time he did his best to antagonize our loyal allies, the French. Just before the war broke

out he cabled from Germany appealing for a better feeling between the British and German peoples. In August, 1914, an article appeared in his pet monthly magazine, *The London*. It was entitled: "The German Military Bubble: Who Will Prick It?" During his visit to the States last year His Infallible Lordship declared in an article in the *World's Work* that the Germans had not many more than a hundred thousand men on the Russian front. His many newspapers are now telling us what hordes are piling up on the western front from the east. But because his Lordship controls all the newspapers of the shrieking "god-saker" type he escapes the scurrilous treatment which other and greater men than he have endured in the name of "efficiency."

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### A GERMAN PEACE

There is only one thing to be said at the present time about the terms forced upon the unhappy Russians by Germany. It is that the Germans must be supremely victorious over all her enemies for such terms to stand. Just now the German people are undoubtedly hopeful that the army will bring a victorious peace. The war lords are in the ascendant, and their thinking is evidently confined to military matters. All the skill of German chemists, inventors, scholars, artificers, has been fully utilized to bring about victory. And the soldiers are claiming the credit. With minds steeped in memories of mediæval times they talk loudly of their conquests and turn their swords in the heart of the conquered. It is the