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MONTREAL, AUGUST 19, 1910.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE. ONE of the greatest women that ever lived died on Sunday last. No general in the British Army did more for the United Kingdom in the Crimean war than Florence Nightingale. The object of a great soldier is to save the lives and the health of his own troops while putting the enemy out of business. Who saved more of the lives of the soldiers of the Queen than the frail little Lady with the Lamp? Miss Nightingale's work in the Crimea, has had tremendous influence in every war that has followed. She anticipated in a certain sense the antiseptic surgery of Lord Lister which has revolutionized all surgery. She realized that where "villainous saltpetre" was killing its thousands the more villainous dirt was killing its ten thousands. She almost humanised war by introducing the elements of hard work, intelligent system, and elaborate organization into the task of saving the wounded and the typhoid stricken. The death rate in the South African war was enormously reduced, because in the Crimean war Florence Nightingale taught the War Office something about soap and water and sympathy. Her executors in accordance with her own desire have refused the distinguished honour of sepulture in Westminster Abbey. They were absolutely right. It would have been a profanation of the body of Florence Nightingale to lay it beside some of the bones to be found in that greatest of mausoleums. She fought nobly for her country and for humanity in a great war. Her body will be buried in peace at her old Hampshire home to-morrow; but her name liveth evermore in the hearts of her countrymen.

GERMAN NAVAL PROGRAMME.

THE German government will, it is announced, this year, ask for an appropriation to build three battleships and one battleship cruiser; in addition to appropriations for the replacing of the two old battleships just sold to Turkey. It also contemplates the construction of two small cruisers and six torpedo boats and the expenditure of \$3,750,000 for submarines. What on earth, or on the sea can these things be wanted for? While England is talking about peace, Germany is manifestly preparing for war with somebody. Perhaps Switzerland! But if Emperor William is leaving the Canadian Navy out of consideration, he is reckoning without his host. Certainly the war will be over before the first Canadian built battleship is launched; but when our navy does get afloat its revenge will be terrible. The more

Dreadnoughts the Germans build, the more first class German battleships will be towed into the St. Lawrence astern of the wood scow Julie Plante, or one of our harbour tugs. The Kaiser may defy the British Admiralty, but when he sets the Canadian Navy Department at defiance he is up against a different proposition. How would he liked to be exiled to St. Helen's Island—or Ile Ronde?

NEW CANADIAN COINAGE.

IT is reported that many people are suspicious of the coins now being issued by the Canadian Mint, because the designs are a little different to what they have been accustomed to. A moment's reflection should convince them, that about the last thing a coiner of base money would do, would be to call attention to any peculiarity of his wares by a departure from the ordinary and well known designs. Coiners not only adhere closely to the traditional designs, but do their best to give an appearance of age and dirt to the coins. A new design would only serve to call attention to the general appearance of the coin, and to invite investigation into its weight, quality, feel and ring. Base money can only be passed by the aid of its modest unobtrusiveness. Lt.-Colonel Sherwood, Commissioner of the Dominion Police, says there is very little false Canadian coinage in existence, and he is probably correct. The coiner like other manufacturers prefers the large market, and it costs no more to make American quarters and half dollars than to make Canadian quarters and half dollars. A Canadian coin challenges attention in the United States by its exceptional appearance. The first impulse of a patriotic United States citizen is to kick at a Canadian coin, because it is British. He may conquer his natural aversion if he sees a profit in the deal, but it is apt to make him examine the money.

GOVERNMENT BANK INSPECTION.

A striking illustration of the unreliability of the American system of government bank inspection is found in the collapse of a bank at Biddeford, Maine. The misrepresentations and losses commenced twenty-five years ago and have just been discovered; not through the inspection, but through the failure of the bank. A system of inspection which only discovers misrepresentation after the bank failure is about as useful as the plan of locking the stable door after the horse is stolen.

