

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO.

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1917.

USEFUL CITIZEN LEAVING

By the removal of Mr. Henry Sneyd, manager of the local branch of the Merchants bank, this city is losing a useful and public-spirited citizen. During his ten years' residence here he has not sought any position in the lime-light or on the band-wagon but when there was work to be done in the interest of the public he has not been slow to offer his services. The board of trade and the board of education have benefited much by his reliable judgment and good business sense. In these capacities he has rendered faithful service but it has been as one of the most active members of the local committee to administer the Canadian Patriotic War Fund that he has carried on a labor of love with conspicuous energy and success. The debt that is owed by the dependents of soldiers and therefore by the entire community to Mr. Sneyd for this noble work is one that can never be repaid. For all this work he has never received one cent of remuneration. It was enough that he could in this way give some assistance to those who were gallantly fighting our battles at the front.

In his business relationships Mr. Sneyd was dignified, courteous and obliging. He retained the good will of his customers because he was unfailingly fair.

He will carry with him to his new and more responsible position the united good wishes of the citizens of Belleville.

THE SENTINEL AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

From every side The Ontario was being showered with favorable compliments because of our timely exposure of the "massacre" plot. For having, by this warning saved the lives of nearly ten thousand Protestants in Belleville alone, we were being held up as the greatest benefactor of the age. We were reminded that great public services like this might most properly be recognised by some such honor as a baronetcy, a knighthood or at least an honorary colonelcy. Only of late years, especially since the beginning of the war, these distinguishing marks have been reserved for those who can best rob the soldier of proper munition supplies at the front or the soldier's family of cheap food at home. Our ambition was certainly becoming aroused and we were pretty well satisfied with the way matters were going when The Orange Sentinel had to come along and spoil everything. Just listen to this:

"The Belleville Ontario is guilty of a clumsy piece of sarcasm at the expense of the Orange Order and the Tory party, which the editor probably regards as clever."

Then with overmastering, corrosive scorn The Sentinel goes on to quote a paragraph or two from our "massacre" article and winds up with this stinging rebuke,—

"A man who writes and publishes such stuff at a time like this is quite incapable of teaching good citizenship to any class of people."

We assure The Sentinel that it quite misapprehends our attitude when it states that we regarded our production as "clever." Cleverness, as far as this province is concerned, has been monopolised by Toronto, or, as The Hamilton Spectator would remark, "hogged by Hogtown." In rural communities like Belleville our best efforts in the direction of cleverness get little beyond "clumsy" conceit and bucolic bluntness.

But Toronto—whew! Just as the philosophy of Nietzsche has produced in Germany a race of supermen that have become the marvel of the universe, even so the philosophy of The Sentinel and of Jack Canuck has produced in Toronto a race of supernuts that have become the marvel of all Canada. They naively admit their own superiority and from their lofty branch of nutty perfection they look out with pitying complacency upon all other poor humanity that is so misfortunate as to find its domicile outside the main nut-forest. Unfortunately the towering genius of these Toronto prodigies is often associated with chronic hysteria, egomania, neurosis, myopia and wear-the-hull-showism.

Why just think of it! The Sentinel spells "massacre" with only one "e" and no doubt pronounces it "massacur!"

But "good citizenship" is a different matter. Those who are not clever may at least be

exemplars of good citizenship. The Sentinel intimates that we are "quite incapable of teaching good citizenship." This is a very serious charge. Before admitting the truth of the charge may we be permitted to make a few statements in defence or extenuation.

A damnable lie has been invented about our Roman Catholic fellow citizens. This falsehood has been sedulously whispered from one end of the province to the other by thoughtless people who did not stop to think whether there was the remotest basis of truth for the story or to think of the mischief the propagation of the story might occasion in the midst of this disaster of war. The story was in effect what has already been published in The Ontario, it told of the bringing in of arms in piano-cases and dry-goods boxes and the storing of the weapons in churches, separate schools and nunneries. Wherever there was a Catholic church or a group of Catholic families the story has been repeated and given a local application. In short, the Roman Catholics, who worship, in common with the Protestants, a God, just, merciful and benevolent, and who have been living for the past hundred years as brothers, at peace with their neighbors, were represented as harboring murder in their hearts, and to be secretly preparing for a "holy war" and another St. Bartholomew's.

No doubt The Sentinel has heard very many times lately these ominous tales of the concealment of weapons and of a contemplated "holy war" to be waged by Catholic against Protestant.

Does The Sentinel believe that the concocting and spreading of these vile fabrications had anything to do with "good citizenship"?

What has The Sentinel done, as the apostle of "good citizenship" to discredit or discourage this highly dangerous campaign of secret slander and falsehood?

The Ontario has heard the blood-curdling yarns from many different sources and with many varying details but with sufficient points of resemblance to indicate a common source and origin.

Ignorance, superstition and interested bigotry do not yield to the ordinary processes of argument. Against such forces ridicule is the only effective weapon.

Strictly in the interests of "good citizenship" and to do our humble part in bringing about the early demise of this imbecile canard we published our now famous burlesque, "Massacre Planned," never dreaming that even in the unsophisticated sanctum of The Sentinel it would be taken seriously.

The Ontario is not the special pleader for Catholicism, Orangism or any other form of religious belief or secret order. That is not our business as publisher of a newspaper. But when we speak of "good citizenship" we can meet on common ground. Our friends of the Roman Catholic faith are at least entitled to decency and fairness of treatment. Diabolical slander, cruel suspicion and gross insult, whispered about, are coward's weapons and neither decent nor fair.

Union, harmony, mutual trust, respect for one another's likes and dislikes and forbearance are more needed in Canada today than ever before. What has The Sentinel been doing since the outbreak of the war to bring about harmony and good feeling among our various national and religious elements? Has it not been trying its best to create in Canada another Mexico by stirring up strife, fomenting discord, unduly emphasising small differences, hunting for bones of contention? Demanding one's rights is one thing. Aggressive mischief-making is another thing.

Another point about its "good citizenship" we would like The Sentinel to explain. We have repeatedly challenged The Sentinel on previous occasions to produce the explanation. So far it has failed to do so.

The Sentinel has itself intimated that it is in active alliance with the Conservative party. Upon that point there can be no doubt for The Sentinel itself admits it.

That being true The Sentinel will also admit without argument that—

Henri Bourassa is the most dangerous man we have in Canada today.

Henri Bourassa is preaching the same anti-British doctrines today as he preached in the year 1911.

An alliance was formed in 1911 between Henri Bourassa and his Nationalist followers on the one side and the Dominion Conservative party on the other.

In the campaign of 1911 the Dominion Conservative party financed the Nationalist campaign in Quebec province.

All through the years 1911 and 1912 there was an effective alliance between the Conservative party and the Nationalist party. Since these facts are so The Sentinel itself was also in virtual alliance with Nationalism in 1911 and 1912.

We have previously challenged The Sentinel, and we now challenge The Sentinel

gain, to quote any editorial expression from its columns in the years 1911 and 1912 con-demning Nationalist doctrines or condemning the Nationalist-Conservative-Sentinel alliance, enrolled itself on the register of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It changed its name to followers were threatening to shoot holes in the British flag.

And during those very years was laid the foundation for the anti-British, anti-Canadian policy that has since been so successful and so disastrous to recruiting and to British interests in the province of Quebec.

The Sentinel was silent in those momentous years, or favorable to this anti-British policy, as long as it worked out to the temporary advantage of the Conservative party.

Had The Sentinel spoken with no uncertain tone at that time it might have prevented the enactment of one of the most disgraceful chapters in Canadian history.

Without Conservative and Sentinel support it is highly improbable that Nationalism could ever have become important in Quebec.

As it is a most dangerous cleavage has been set up in Canadian public life.

Does The Sentinel think that its tacit alliance with Bourassa and Nationalism in 1911 and 1912 was an illustration of "good citizenship"?

Does not The Sentinel itself think that it ought to be "massacred" because of its failure to support British and Canadian interests at a most critical time and because of the bad leadership it has been giving to the excellent Order it represents or rather, misrepresents?

THE MASONIC ORDER

All classes of citizenship join today in welcoming to Belleville the Grand Lodge of Masons who are assembling here to hold their annual convention. Visitors always receive the right hand of goodfellowship when they come to our city. But the Masonic body will be doubly welcome because of what it represents and what it has done.

Masonry is not the most numerous but it is the most influential and widespread of the secret societies and orders. Its various branches permeate every civilised country on earth. Everywhere that it exists it is inclusive of only the best grades of citizenship. The utmost care is always exercised to maintain the high character of its membership. It is quite true that unworthy people do get past the guard of Masonry, while multitudes of worthy citizens have never joined the order. But as far as it is humanly possible the individual lodges keep up the strictest censorship over those who seek admission.

In welcoming a thousand or more Masons to Belleville, therefore, we greet the men of affairs, influence and fine reputation in their respective communities.

Masonry does not believe in tawdry show, callithumpan processions or indulge in any perfervid appeals to passion or prejudice. Masonry is dignified but it does not take itself too seriously. It does not consider that it has substantial classes are loyal to the British Empire, as this war has shown. Not given home ternal. But fraternity is a big word and to Masons it has an important meaning.

The great work of fraternity in which Masonry is engaged is carried out so quietly and unostentatiously that few are aware that the work is being accomplished at all. They do not know by stealth, but the very secrecy with which their beneficent labors are carried on has led to the wildest and most erroneous rumors in reference to the character of the order.

To those on the inside all these stories about intrigue to defeat the ends of justice, and unholy influences set to work to interfere with churches, politics and even business affairs cause only amusement. They simply smile and then go on and do what they consider to be their duty.

The work of benevolence, charity and fraternalism carried on in the most inconspicuous manner, coupled with a system of moral teachings applied to the individual life, gives to the order a usefulness far surpassing that of any other beneficial society.

Welcome, Masons!

THE CRADLE OF MASONRY

This Bay of Quinte district is virtually the cradle of Masonry in Ontario. When Masonry, after its first introduction into the pioneer villages and settlements of this province, became dormant and virtually dead it was the Bay of Quinte lodges that kept the flag of Masonry flying at the mast-head. Those were the trying years following the war of 1812 and listing to 1820.

As long ago as 1794 a lodge of Masons was organised at Kingston. This old St. John's Lodge is No. 3 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It was eight years later when a lodge was organised at Belleville and was named Thurlow lodge. It continued under that name until 1816 when Belleville became a town. It then changed its name and was con-known until 1857 as "Belleville" lodge. In that year it surrendered its English warrant and the Nationalist-Conservative-Sentinel alliance, enrolled itself on the register of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It changed its name to "Moirs" lodge and by that name it is known to this day.

The present Belleville lodge was organized in 1860. Eureka lodge was instituted thirteen years later. The three lodges are still in a most flourishing condition and have a combined membership exceeding seven hundred.

Moirs lodge is not only the parent lodge of the two others in this city but of many throughout the district, including those at Trenton, Madoc, Stirling and Marmora.

It is a remarkable fact that five of the lodges in the district organised prior to the war of 1812 are still going strong. These are St. John No. 3 of Kingston, Moira No. 11, of Belleville, Union No. 9, Napanee, Prince Edward No. 18, Picton and St. John No. 17, of Cobourg.

All five took part in the Grand Lodge which met in Kingston in 1817 when R. W. Bro. Simon McGillivray, having been sent out from England by the Duke of Sussex to go to Canada and reorganise the Order, was present and set about his work. The work of reorganization was not completed until 1820.

Volumes might be written about the history of Masonry in the district in those early years. It is a history inseparably bound up with the pioneer settlement and development of the Bay of Quinte section of Ontario. Suffice it to say that since the dawn of the nineteenth century this district has been a radiating center for Masonic influence.

IRISH LOYALTY.

The death of a man like Major William Redmond on the battlefield should do more for the future of Ireland than Sinn Fein riots or election victories and the hate songs of New York emigres. Many thousands of Irishmen have suffered in this war for their valorous loyalty to the Empire, but none of such eminence as the brother of the Nationalist leader, himself also an orator, statesman and writer of mark. The blood of William Redmond killed in action speaks to the whole world of better Ireland's worth and faith.

There have been in the past suspicious questionings of Nationalist Ireland's loyalty. At the present time also, it is clear that Sinn Fein is winning ground. But what did the critics expect Ireland to be loyal to? To Castle Rule and to English domination? Here in Canada that sort of thing was never known, and any approach to it passed away in the 1840's; we should have been quite as loyal as Ireland to a boss overseas. But the Irish people have been and are intensely loyal, even fanatically loyal, to what they perceive to be worthy of their affection and reverence. They are loyal to their religion, whether Roman Catholic or Protestant. They love Ireland and its shamrock, its poetry, history and traditions. The substantial classes are loyal to the British Empire, as this war has shown. Not given home rule yet, merely promised it, they have made what Lord Kitchener called "a magnificent response" to the call to arms.

Loyal to England one can hardly expect the Irish population to be, but loyal to the British Empire, yes, more indeed than might have been expected. What is the British Empire? It means to Ireland, once she has received the justice of home rule, free government, free religion, free education, humane ideals, peaceful and kindly co-operation, gentle manners, equal rights of men and women, chivalry and light. By these things Ireland will stand to the death. For them men like William Redmond and Professor Kettle died in France. Though there is at present showing itself in elections and otherwise a renewal of irritation among the Irish masses and among some of the feverish intellectuals, there can be no doubt of what Ireland morally thinks of the Emperor. Only Carson made up to the Kaiser. There have been a few out and out disloyalists, as there are in every country. Case-ment was pigheaded, his judgment was overclouded by passion. Frank Harris is a shallow-hearted scoundrel, who having done all in his power years ago, as editor of the Saturday Review, to inflame England against Germany, came out on the opening of the war in 1914 as an advocate of the enemy he had assailed. But such are exceptions. Ireland as a whole, of whichever religion, detests the foe that tears babies to pieces, desecrates the shrines of faith, insults and outrages humanity. There can be no question of the loyalty of Ireland to the essentials of which the fabric of the British Empire is made.

Those who talk of a split in the Liberal party should go farther and emphasize the cordiality, good-will and single-mindedness that exist between Sir Robert Borden and Sir Sam Hughes.

Other Editors' Opinions

THE WAY TO WIN THE WAR

It has taken some time for the full import of the battle of Messines Ridge to be realized. In many respects the British success stands as the most remarkable feat of the war. And unlike other battles, the attack was most extraordinary in its details. A high French officer has said of the action: "It is a model of what a modern attack should be." A model attack then should begin underground. Operations comparable to the building of subway tunnels, leading directly under the enemy positions and undermining whole ridges, must be pushed relentlessly for months. When the objective is attained, the most powerful of explosives must be packed into the galleries and made ready for firing by an electric spark. On the surface every device formerly employed, including tanks, machine grenades, bayonets, gas bombs, hand guns, infantry and cavalry must be multiplied.

The artillery must be of all dimensions, from the great howitzers, mounted on railroad trucks and operated miles behind the lines, to quick firers that push right into No Man's Land with the infantry. There must be long distance shelling of the enemy approaches, depots and munitions dumps; also the spaces where reinforcements may be massed to reinforce the trench or for counter attacks. All this besides the heavy guns for demolition of what is left of the mined fortifications; guns to provide the barrage fire that protects advancing troops; anti-aircraft guns; guns that throw up illuminating shells and poison shells.

Added to these devices the British used "oil cans" which threw boiling oil into the enemy ranks, shells which upon striking exploded and spread a new kind of destruction in all directions. But this is not all. Any one who has read of the part played by the various branches of the air service in the Messines Ridge battle must have been thrilled as never before by an account of modern fighting. In this respect the attack was more than a model. It was superb. Nothing like it has ever taken place before. British flyers literally clouded the skies and played a most significant part in the whole performance.

The lesson of this battle is plain. The Allies have beaten the Germans at their own game. The ruthless terrorists have been overmatched in every department. Tactically, technically and in materials, supremacy has been attained. There is no longer any doubt that Germany can be beaten in the field. All that remains in doubt is the length of time it will require. This in turn depends in a large measure upon the support this country gives to the Entente in making such operations possible, adding to their duration, extent and frequency. Verily, as President Wilson says, "the war has begun to go against Germany."—Brooklyn Eagle.

CANADA'S G. O. M.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is likely to retire from public life owing to his dislike of conscription; but he is 76 and the step could not perhaps have been long delayed. I remember a talk with him in which he spoke in glowing terms of the ennobling effect of liberty upon men, as illustrated in the lives of many thousands of immigrants into the Dominion from the lands of oppression in eastern Europe. He declared that there was no race or nationality, however down-trodden and spiritless, which did not provide human material capable in the second generation of contributing valuable material to the strength and prosperity of the Empire. He mentioned, I remember, the Galician peasant, his native condition and the new conditions in the free air of the prairies, and went on to discuss the characteristics of immigrants from every part of Europe, coming last to these islands. It will please some of my readers, and perhaps not offend others that his closing words were these: "The Scottish, Sir—the Scottish are the salt of the earth."—London Daily News.

The indication of worms are restlessness, grinding of the picking of the nose, extreme peevishness, often convulsions. Under these conditions the best remedy that can be got is filler's Worm Powders. They will rid them to atoms that pass away in the evacuations. The little sufferer will be immediately eased and a return of the attack will not be likely.

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