

CAUSTIC COMMENTS

Winnipeg, Nov. 17.—Middle of November as it is, when temperature is usually below zero, Winnipeg is so sunny and mild that butterflies are still to be seen on the wing. Thanks, we prefer them on the half-shell.

Leonard, his twin brother, and a "dead ringer" for him. Leo is wanted for the theft, but the twin in jail claims he is Leonard. As Shatus says: Leo and Leonard are "berry much alike"—specially Leo.

LIFE ON SCREEN NOT ALL VELVET

Groans of The Silent Drama Actors Are Heard Over Many Features of Employment. When Patricia Flicker, the illustrious movie star, is seen falling from a mountain top into the ocean or shot heavenward by exploding dynamite, we may take it that the victim of so much eventfulness is not in reality Miss Patricia. A double has replaced her.

BIRKENHEAD SCORES FRENCH OF YPRES

Defends Kitchener in Stinging Exposure of Shell Shortage. Lord Birkenhead's exposure of Lord French in his new book, is merciless, ruthless, pitiless, relentless. He points out that Lord Escher ignores the documents which control judgment upon the shells controversy.

KAISER TO REMAIN WAS WILSON WISH

Thought Kaiser Would Suppress Bolshevism in Germany. President Wilson's tendency to play a "lone hand" in his country's conduct of affairs pertaining to the Great War was modified, it appears, in the days shortly preceding the Armistice.

justice. I pointed out the position in which the President would be if he proposed an armistice which they (the Allies) would not grant. He said that this would be left to their military men, and they would practically decide the outcome of the war by the terms of the armistice, which might include leaving all heavy guns behind and putting Metz, Strasbourg, etc., in the hands of the Allies until peace was declared.

Why a Woman Needs a Bank Book. EVERY woman has some little plan of things she will buy when she has saved enough money. Loose cash kept in your purse soon goes—it tempts you to spend.

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And we suppose that when they start to wear long skirts again there will return that wild look and withering phrase, "Young man, can't you step without walking all over my dress?"

Among the flagrant forms of agreement now being offered is one which after stating that "seven working days shall constitute a week, furthermore states that 'no remuneration is to be given for nights, Sundays or holidays, etc.' Under this it is possible for a company to start an actor's work on a Saturday, and finish his part a week from the following day (Sunday) and thereby receive nine days' work for one week's pay.

Actors are sometimes taken away to distant locations with salary not to begin until they are actually photographed, and a visit of perhaps two weeks results in an engagement of one week or even less.

At some studios and with some companies there is an evident intent to shorten the length of the actor's engagement by overworking. These companies disregard such matters as lunch and dinner hours. Sometimes the taking of the picture continues straight along through the afternoon and evening with no stop for dinner until the director quits at say 8 or 8:30 p.m.

Such scenes as result in injury or physical disfigurement to the player are often demanded. 'Realistic' fight scenes, automobile, train and ship scenes, cliffs and mountain scenes are often staged with utter disregard for the players' welfare.

Very often 'surprises' are sprung by the director unknown to the actor, as for instance explosives discharged near by without the actor's knowledge even though he at the time may be mounted upon a most unreliable horse.

Colonel Bepington was staying as a guest at G.H.Q. 'By Lord French's direction, an ex parte and extremely polemical brief was given to him placing the whole blame for the failure not only of Neauve Chapelle (hitherto a victory), but also of Festubert, upon the shortage of high explosives, and the whole blame for the shortage upon Lord Kitchener.

"In the case of Festubert, the suggestion was specially outrageous, for Lord French had himself written to Lord Kitchener a few days before the engagement: 'The ammunition will be all right.' The case was, of course, intended to be made, as it fact it was made, with a shriek to the whole world.

"It was done openly," says Lord Escher. "Was it?" retorts Lord Birkenhead. "Did Lord French inform Lord Kitchener of the steps he was taking. Did he inform the Prime Minister that he—a soldier in the field—was taking active steps to destroy his Government?"

"Lord Birkenhead impales Lord French on the horns of the psychological dilemma. It is a terrible impeachment and it can never be obliterated. If the shortage of shells was grave enough to justify methods so repulsive and unsoldierly, it was known, or it should have been known to Lord French and his staff weeks before the battle of Neuve Chapelle and Festubert took place.

"It was known, or it should have been known, at the moment when they were predicting (and later, announcing) victory. If it was known when it should have been known it was the duty of Lord French to come home (as he did not infrequently did) and insist on explaining to the whole Cabinet the desperate situation which had arisen.

Very much so. Customer (missing his favorite waiter)—"where's Jules today?" Waiter—"He's gone, sir." Customer—"Gone! Do you mean he's defunct?" Waiter—"Yes sir—and with every thing 'e could lay 'is 'ands on!"

The Reason. Critic (as the composer plays his last piece): "Very fine, indeed. But what is that passage that makes the cold chills run down the back?" Composer: "That is where the wanderer has the hotel bill brought to him."

To be college bred means a four-year leaf, requiring a great deal of dough, as well as plenty of crust.

Another one for Henry. In Bombo, the musical farce with which Al Jolson is regaling his many admirers in the west, he tells a story from which we think every person steering a Ford must certainly get a "kick." It is as follows:

"Not long ago several automobilists presented themselves at the 'Pearly Gates' for admittance and St. Peter being quite up-to-date, classified them according to the kind of automobile they drove.

The first man on being asked, said he drove a Packard. "All right, you go with the Presbyterians." The second man informed St. Peter that he drove a Cadillac and he was placed with the Methodists.

The third man on being asked what kind of a car he drove said that he drove a Ford, at which St. Peter exclaimed, "You get over there among the Christian Scientists. You haven't got a car, you just think you have," fell to the bottom of the skirt.

POST YOUR XMAS LETTERS EARLY. The Post Office Department calls the attention of the public to the fact that parcels or other mail matter intended for delivery in European countries before Christmas should be mailed at as early a date as possible, preferably within the next two weeks.



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