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PATRIOTIC ACTION OF MANUFACTURER.

The \$758,248 returned to the Imperial Munitions Board by Mr. Frank Baillie, of the Canadian Cartridge Co., Ltd., of Hamilton, is probably the largest single contribution made in Canada in support of the Imperial or Canadian treasuries on behalf of war expenditures. On August 25th last year Mr. Baillie made an offer to Mr. D. A. Thomas (now Lord Rhondda), who was then representing the Ministry of Munitions in Canada that his company would manufacture a million 18-pounder British cartridge cases at cost, from metal to be supplied to the company, the cost to include all operating and maintenance charges, but no compensation to the proprietors. The offer was accepted, the arrangement being that the shells were to be paid for by the Shell Committee at a price already being paid to the company on a contract in force, the company at the completion of the work to refund the difference between the cost and the amount paid. It is this arrangement which has just been carried out.

Income in England of £500 before the war paid £13 income tax, and now pays £51. Tax on income of £1000 has risen from £38 to £139, and on an income of £5000 from £292 to £1502.

Correspondence

"WHAT DOES AMERICA STAND FOR?"

A. G. G., who is the editor of the London Daily News, under the above title has written a very interesting article which appeared in that journal of June 17th. Reference is made to the great historic phrase of Canning about bringing in the New World to "redress the balance of the old." After more than a hundred years the Monroe doctrine, suggested by Canning, which A. G. G. terms one of "isolation" as to European affairs, fails. To-day, "the dream of isolation is over." All through the United States the consciousness of this fact has aroused a feverish unrest. It is formulated comprehensively under the name of "Preparedness," and on the banner of every party that word is inscribed.

"Everywhere there is eager heart-searching, anxious questioning. What is the American nation? Is there an American nation? What does it stand for? To what goal is it drifting? The lightings from across the Atlantic have revealed its lack of national purpose, its vastness and its vulnerability and the perils of a constitution that has not accommodated itself to the needs of a changed world. It sees its authority challenged from within by a European people to whom it has given the shelter of its own freedom. It sees its rights challenged from without by the warring powers of that Europe from which it had believed itself to be divorced. It stands on the brink of the vortex, and any moment may be caught in the swirl of the waters."

Out of the tumult of its agitation there has emerged this cry for "Preparedness" which means the power of action, and that that cry of Americanism by which is meant that the citizen of the United States, whatever the origin . . . "must be loyal to the citizenship of the American nation."

The reason of this change of attitude, to A. G. G. is (1) a sense of insecurity; (2) through "Preparedness" to be a moral power:

"It is the idea that the power of America should be used to deliver humanity from the toils in which it has been enmeshed by the past, that it should be the weapon of the new dispensation, that the affairs of men shall henceforth be subject to the arbitrament not of force, but of justice."

As to the obligation of loyalty, that is of the very essence of citizenship, and the chief cornerstone of the fourth of July. In regard to the "insecurity," that claim sets aside the bulwark of the Monroe doctrine, or at least causes the policy of that doctrine to assume a very strange attitude; for if the policy isolates then to forego that means by co-operation to run the risk of entanglements which the Monroe doctrine was designed to avoid.

How much of this preparedness is a passing party strategy, and how much serious, sober conviction, it is not easy to express or forecast. This is almost certain that it means much to us. For as good neighbors with a century of peace behind us, and not a fort on our wide border, the reflex influence alone will have much weight. Men and nations are creatures of imitation. That feature concerns us. The agitations of war cast up much that the calm of peace sets aside; not more of militarism, but less, is the hope of the future in the onward steps of progress.

Aware of pleas made and distinction drawn as to militarism, still fresh interests and a given spirit are thereby generated. The ship of state can be headed one way or another. It is a question of fundamental principle and direction.

Side by side we have lived at peace. Why? Because we have been headed in that direction; and because we have learned "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." If two nations for one hundred years can do that what prevents others from taking the same wise, and righteous path?

H.

SASKATCHEWAN FARMERS' GIFT.

The grain grown on the patriotic acres set aside by the members of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association is now being ground by the Robin Hood Mills. The grain will produce 3,200,000 pounds of flour, or 80 carloads loaded at the minimum. The flour is a gift to the Empire from the patriotic farmers of Saskatchewan, and is only a slight indication of how they are heart and soul behind the motherland in the fight for the world's liberty.

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

"Miss Stena Graphah was a wah sufferer las' Monday when she got caught in a showah with huh new American-dyed raincoat."—"Mistah Robinson" in Rough Notes.

Tommy (to Jock on leave)—What about the lingo? Suppose you want to say egg over there, what do you say? Jock—Ye juist say, "Oof." Tommy—But suppose you want two? Jock—Ye say, "Twa oofs," and the silly auld wife gies ye three, and ye juist gie her back one. Man, it's an awfu' easy language.

The Professor (in London Opinion)—I'm afraid, my dear young woman, that you find statistics very dry things. The Dear Young Woman—Not always, Lieutenant Smyth told me there were 400,000,000,000 people in the world and I was the prettiest girl of the lot.

The visiting nurse at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, was talking to the children in the lower grades at school. She told them of the importance of having fresh air in the house, especially in the sleeping rooms. She asked a few questions, and when she asked one little boy if he slept with the windows open, he replied:

"No, ma'am, but we keep the doors unlocked.—Harper's Magazine.

Only the fact that his cold was very severe indeed persuaded Sandy Macgregor to go to the local chemist for advice, declares Answers. "Mon, A've an awfu' cauld," he said, plaintively. "Hae ye a guid cure fur it? 'I have," said the man of drugs, promptly, "I know of a sovereign remedy." Sandy backed slowly toward the door. "Hoots ava' mon!" he said again, anxiously. "D'ye no kenyin aboot fower-pence."

In 1862 an intimate friend of President Lincoln visited him in Washington, and found him rather depressed in spirits as the result of reverses repeatedly suffered by the federal troops, says the Country Gentleman. "This being President isn't all it is supposed to be, is it, Mr. Lincoln?" asked his visitor. "No," flashed Lincoln, with twinkling eyes. "I feel like the Irishman who after being ridden on a rail said: 'If it wasn't for the honor av th' thing I'd rather walk.'"

A young Englishman was travelling along St. Catherine Street in a street car, and seated opposite him was a mother holding a particularly ugly baby. The Englishman gazed at the baby, and became so fascinated that his stare finally became somewhat obnoxious to the mother. Exasperated she at last leaned forward in her seat, and looking straight at the young man, said "Rubber." Immediately the Englishman was relieved and looking again at the baby, and then at the mother, said, "Thank God, lady, I thought it was real."

A middle-aged bachelor was in a restaurant at breakfast, when he noticed this inscription on the egg:

"To whom it may concern: Should this meet the eye of some young man who desires to marry a farmer's daughter, eighteen years of age, kindly communicate with—, Sparta, N.J."

After reading this, he made haste to write to the girl, offering marriage, and in a few days received this note:

"Your note came too late. I am married now and have four children."—Newark Star.

Early last year a patriotic grocer in a small Scottish village decided that either he or his assistant must go. "And as he himself was single, his mother and sisters being well provided for from their shares in the shop, he thought he was the more suited. Mackay, the assistant, agreed promptly, and presently found himself in command of the business. But a few months later his master was dumbfounded to meet his late assistant, attired in khaki, "somewhere in France." "Hie, mon," he said angrily, "did I no' tell ye tae stay at hame in charge o' ma shop?" "So I thoct at the time maister," replied Mackay, "but I sune fun' oot it wisna only the shop I was in charge o' but a' your women-folk. 'Man,' ses I tae maeself, 'gin ye've got to fecht, gang an' fecht someone ye can hit.' So I jined."

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