

MONTREAL SOUNDED THE LOUD TIMBREL AND KEPT IT GOING

How Great Metropolis Jubilated and Refused to Subside When News of Hoax Was Received—Trophies of War-Ridden Fields of Flanders—Cure Has Chorister Arrested and Latter Takes Case to Court on Suit for Damages.

(Special Correspondent.) Montreal, Nov. 9.—"Sound the loud timbrel" was the slogan of Montreal on Thursday. Bedlam and babel combined. The armistice hoax came at the noon hour and—well hundreds forgot they had started to work. Fronted joy gripped the populace and for hours its grip was strong. In fact, when it showed signs of relaxing it held many found the embrace so delectable they refused to be released, and not even the later news denying the signing of armistice terms restored them to normal. For many the motto was "We're started, let's go on." A goodly few couldn't have got back to normal without the aid of remedies if they had wanted. The early hours Friday morning found some still convinced their jubilation was ahead of Foch's schedule, but when they saw others wending their way to work as per usual and wearing rather sheepish grins at having exploded their pent-up joy without due cause they figuratively speaking took to the parachute and from their aerial explorations dropped respectfully back to the sure footing of everyday affairs. But while the man who takes things more seriously had a grievance against the world in general because his hopes were shattered and resumed his daily tasks nursing a grudge, he of the lighter vein consoled himself with the reflections that since Thursday's news was false the true report will mean another day for celebration.

Veterans of a score of hard fought battles, scarcely a handful of the men who drove back the Boches at the first battle of the Marne, seventy members of the French Foreign Legion, who have been touring American cities and arrived in Montreal on Thursday. While the purpose of their visit was to stimulate interest in the Victory Loan drive, the little band of heroes changed to reach the city a few hours prior to the premature news of the cessation of hostilities on the German front was flashed through the metropolis and while the biggest event of the supposed ending of the war eclipsed their arrival, their appearance nevertheless added a picturesque touch to the celebration in which the citizens indulged during the day. As they marched through the streets from the railway depot to their hotel, and again in the afternoon, fully equipped with a set jauntily on their heads, and the majority of them wearing more than one decoration for some exceptionally valorous action at the front, the detachment was given a rousing welcome. Not since "Mafeking Night" have such scenes been witnessed as marked their passing at some of the centres of the city where the jubilant crowds had congregated in greater number.

Not was this to be marvelled at since the detachment represents eight nationalities, including Alsians who for four weary years have been making a noble fight for the liberation and recovery of their province stolen by the Huns, Luxemburgers, Russians, Englishmen, Swiss, Monacans, Arabians, Egyptians, Americans and men from many of the southern states of

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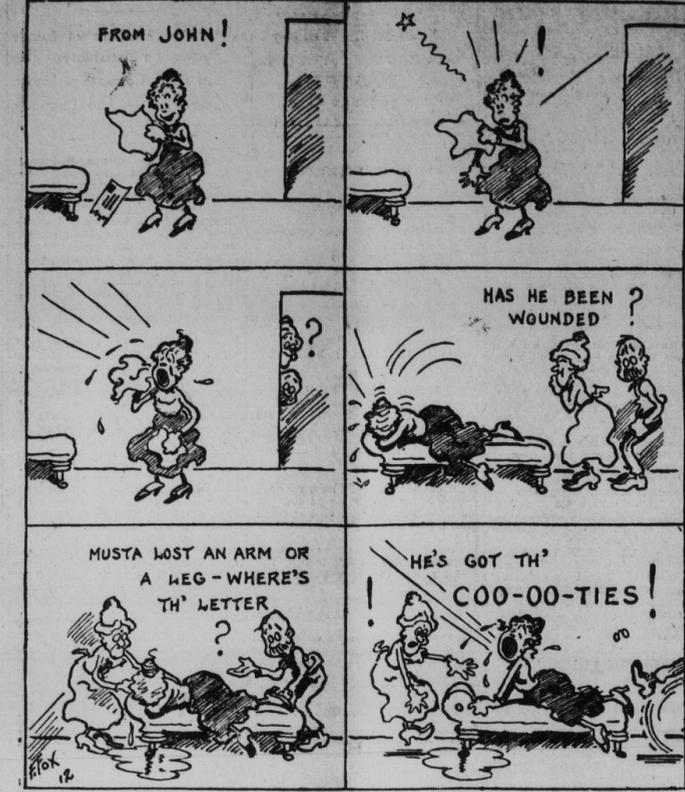
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Belief in the possession of one's vocal powers is no guarantee that the possessor may exercise them in church unheeded, however much he considers the choir will be improved by the addition of his musical efforts. In a district around the city of Quebec a few days ago the above point was determined by a judge who dismissed an action brought by a parishioner against the clergyman. The parishioner desires to manifest his musical aptitudes as a member of the choir did not meet with the cure's approval, but despite the fact he with the voice, insisted on being a chorister, holding forth, with the result that the clergyman had him arrested on a charge of creating a disturbance. The charge was dismissed and the pseudo songster entered suit for damages before the civil courts. The judge who heard the case, however, upheld the cure as within his rights as deciding who should or should not provide the hymnal portion of the service.

J. L. S.

The War Bride Receives a Letter from Her Husband at the Front.



McADAM

McAdam, Nov. 9.—When the machine shop whistles and the ringing of bells followed the report that peace had been declared, the people of McAdam with all their true patriotism dropped everything and started to celebrate, women and children ran from doorways to greet their neighbors, men gathered in groups everywhere, business was at a standstill; everything even the "Flu" was for the time forgotten in the rush of joy. Flags were brought forth from every nook and cranny where some have lain silent since August, 1914, and were soon floating in the breeze from every house. Automobiles were decked in gala attire, stores were besieged for flags and there was not one to be purchased at any price. In the evening, women and children turned out on mass and congregated on the long C. P. R. platform or the square in front of it, where a huge bonfire was piled and the band was pealing forth sweet notes of peace and joy. Just before the torch was set to the bonfire, the Rev. Donald McIntire mounted an improvised platform and read the message that had been received and made a short but very impressive speech, after which he offered his prayer of thanksgiving and praise to the Divine Father, the God of Peace and of every voice in the crowd there echoed a loud Amen. When the evening papers came in from St. John with the news that the message was not confirmed, it made little if any difference, everyone wanted to believe it was true. The noise and cheering kept up until midnight and long after many of the citizens were driving along the streets cheering. This morning when the news that the message was a fake reached the ears of the people, they with the true patriotism and courage which has characterized them ever since the war began said "Peace must come soon and we will do it all over again."

The "Flu" is abating here, but McAdam surely had its share, two hundred and fifty cases, with seventy pneumonia, but thankfully we say only one death. Too much credit cannot be given to Dr. Gardner for his indefatigable efforts, to save his patients, he never spared himself day and night. He was always on his calls of relief. Miss Moore, trained nurse from Houlton was a close second to the Doctor and was always ready and glad to help in all cases where most needed. Mr. and Mrs. Haynes of Milo, Me.,

MENNONITES OF SASKATCHEWAN

An experiment that will be watched with interest is that which the Saskatchewan Department of Education is making in the Mennonite settlement near Swift Current. The settlers here are those known as the Colony Mennonites, and of the several sects into which the Mennonites are divided they are the least adaptable. Dr. H. P. Focht, who recently made a survey of the schools in Saskatchewan, said of them: "The Colony Mennonites present a real educational problem. From the first they have been opposed to public schools and to the introduction of English into the schools for no other reason, it can be stated, than for fear that with the introduction of English into the communities there would come also the 'hohmuth' of the 'unredeemed world and the gradual disintegration of the community spirit.' The fundamental tenets of their faith are, it is well to bear in mind, renunciation of the vanities of the world and refusal to participate in civic duties, to bear arms and to take oaths. The Old Colonists stand on what they believe to be their rights, when they resist public school attendance."

Such instruction as is given in the schools of the Old Colonists is wholly in the German language and inefficient. But up to the present there has been a tacit recognition of their claim that they are protected by the assurances given by the federal government in 1873 to the Mennonites who came to Canada at that time, them immunity not alone from military service but also from any sort of governmental control or regulation of their schools. Premier Martin is reported in the Saskatchewan newspapers as expressing the view that these settlers can establish no valid claim to immunity from the school laws of the province. In any case, the most

generous interpretation of the assurances given to the original Mennonite settlers could not be held to tolerate the continued existence of inefficient private schools in which no English is taught.

The plan adopted in the Swift Current district, which will later be applied to other Mennonite settlements in the province, calls for the erection of modern public schools and the strict enforcement of the School Attendance Act. Three such schools will be erected in the settlement and teachers with special qualifications for the work will be provided. Inspector Cram, who has been on the staff of the Department for some years, will act as official trustee of the three school districts until the people are themselves ready to appoint trustees in accordance with the customary procedure. Premier Martin says the Department is assured that a number of those for whom the schools are provided will attend from the outset, but it is anticipated that there will be some of the settlers who will not so readily conform. The Government, however, is firm in its decision to enforce the provisions of the School Attendance Act which apply without distinction to all people within the province.

The Government's action is greeted with every mark of approval by the press of the Province. The Regina Leader declares that the people of the province "will approve of the attempt and support the Government in carrying out promises made at the last election." The Saskatoon Star says: "It will probably be the experience in the Mennonite districts, as Inspector Anderson found it in the Russian districts near Yorkton, that the children, once they are long enough to begin to appreciate the advantages of an education in English, will attend regularly and convert their parents to enthusiastic support of the public schools." The same paper calls upon the Government to adopt a vigorous policy in relation to the German Lutheran schools, of which there are six, and the German Catholic schools, numbering eleven. "Private schools teaching a foreign language and giving the children no instruction in English," says the Star, "ought to be dealt with strongly and firmly. We trust that during the session of the Legislature Mr. Martin will announce comprehensive plans for dealing with these, as well as plans for eliminating all languages other than English from the primary grades of the public schools."

"Der Courier" in English. "Der Courier" of Regina, which ceased publication as a German weekly newspaper a short time ago, appears now in English guise. The editor, in explanation of the change, says, in part: "As far as loyalty and patriotism is concerned, 'The Courier,' which from now on will be published in the English language cannot do any more than 'Der Courier' has been doing during the first four years of the war when our paper was published in the German language.

"Naturally many of our readers will ask: Why, then, is it necessary to adopt now a change of language in publishing the paper? The shareholders of the company found that the main reason for declining in favor of this change is the fact that very many, if not most of our English-speaking fellow citizens, and especially some influential organizations, hold the view that a continuance of the foreign-language press in Western Canada constitutes a hindrance in the way of accomplishing assimilation and a speedy adoption of the English language, regarded as absolutely essential and desirable in the interests of building up a strong national life. While we believe that the language question might well be a subject for argument and that there is more than one side to this question the shareholders of the company realized that the present time calls for the putting forth of every effort of the nation in perfect harmony rather than for the carrying on of arguments concerning internal questions, however important they may be.

"Very many of these people, we feel certain, have now gained a sufficient command of the English language, enabling them to read their papers in English, but no doubt there are still many who even today are not in a position to read and properly understand articles written in the English language. For this reason we believe that it would be advisable

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