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W. H. MORTON, Business Manager. J. O. HERITY, Editor-in-Chief.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1920

NOT A BAD OLD FLAG

Referring to a rent attack on the British flag at New York, Life of that city gives warning to those who want to pull it down that they can't keep it down. It won't stay down. "It covers too much—a great deal too much good as well as quite a lot of evil.....It is a flag, that, outside of Ireland, stands for more justice in the world and more humanity than any flag whatever, unless it is our own; and whatever, in the meantime, is going to happen, it seems to be the flag under which Ireland must come eventually to peace, and as great a degree of contentment as is compatible with the Irish temperament and experience."

This is very well put, and from the point of view of an American periodical may be regarded as very fair to the much-abused old flag. And, even if Ireland be not excluded, there is much to be said for the justice and humanity for which the flag stands. There is unfortunately very much, far too much, in the story of English rule in Ireland that would do no honor to any flag. There has been cruelty and stupidity, which no honest student of history now seek to deny or excuse; but this is to be said chiefly of the past. In recent years there has been no lack of evidence that, whatever the attitude of some Englishmen may have been, the better part of England has been not only willing but anxious to acknowledge the wrongs of the past and to atone for them. If Ireland has suffered much from English rule in other days, she has derived many benefits in our own time. Both history and geography have decreed that England and Ireland must live together as neighbors. This is a fact that both must realize before there can be peace. And, whatever the blame may be placed for past conditions, the blame for existing conditions cannot all be placed, in fairness, at England's door. England today seems to be prepared to go as far as national safety will permit in meeting the legitimate demands of Ireland for self-government. The chief difficulty today in reaching a settlement of the Irish question lies in the failure of Irishmen themselves to agree as to what they want. If Irishmen in Ireland and elsewhere would devote to the settlement of their own factional disputes the energy, or even a portion of it, directed against England, there would be hope of an early solution of the Irish problem.

THE SAME OLD GAME

According to the Berlin correspondent of a Chicago paper, not only the former German Kaiser but millions of ordinary German people and all the German financial, industrial and political leaders, look to the United States for aid which will enable Germany to take her place again as one of the great nations. The former Kaiser is represented by his former court chaplain as looking forward to a reconciliation between Germany and the United States. He foresees both nations profiting materially from the renewed friendship, Germany giving the benefit of her scientific and cultural studies in return for the kind of help which the United States can give. It is not so long ago since the people of the United States were declaring they were fed up on German culture; but so many things have happened since armistice day that it is not easy to say what's what today.

It is interesting to learn from his former court chaplain that the former Kaiser feels hurt because British ministers of the gospel have attacked him from their pulpits; but it is even more interesting to learn, also from the former court chaplain, that the former Kaiser "is above all small hatreds." Presumably it is only the great hatreds, such hatreds as those expressed by the German Hymn of Hate, for instance, that he deems worthy of his attention. The world has sadly misjudged the former Kaiser, according to his former court chaplain. "William Hohenzollern always stood for peace," he says, and he predicts that when history tells the truth about him, the world will see how great was his work for peace. Even today it is the belief of the former Kaiser that every good citizen should work for international peace and unity. Perhaps some day the world will wake up and find out that its vision of the former Kaiser as the man who was mainly responsible for letting hell loose in Europe was only a horrible nightmare. In the meantime it is all very puzzling, or would be if the world had not had ample opportunity to form an estimate of the character of the former Kaiser. Apparently he has not changed. Indeed we have the assurance of the former court chaplain that, except for increased grayness in his hair, there is no change in him. Presumably he has not even learned to profit by his experience. Bitter experience should have taught him that he is not to believe everything he hears from or about the United States.

THEY GREW TIRED SOON

In an editorial in Current Opinion for December, Dr. Frank Crane explains why Harding was elected. His explanation is that the people of the United States were tired. They had jumped into humanity and altruism during the war. They had submitted to the draft, and bought Liberty bonds and skimped on meat and sugar, "to make the world safe for democracy and preserve the human race." They had reached the crest of the wave of idealism, and then came the slump.

Dr. Crane believes that if Wilson had died about the time he went to Paris, if some crazy assassin's bullet had struck him down, just when he was proclaiming the acceptable year of the Lord to England, France and Italy he would have been hailed as one of the greatest heroes, martyrs and seers of all time; but through the neglect of the assassin he escaped such immortality. "American people," Dr. Crane says, "are as human as anybody. They got fed up on Wilson and his high plan. They were sick of hearing Aristides called the Just."

There is something, no doubt, in the explanation. One wonders if Lincoln would occupy the position he holds today in the hearts, not only of the American people, but of the people of the world, if the assassin had not done his work so well. At the time of the assassination, Lincoln was known chiefly as the most thoroughly abused man in the United States.

On the whole Dr. Crane's explanation does not do much credit to the people of the United States. They were carried to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Then suddenly there was a moral slump. "Yesterday we were slapping John Bull on the back and sending our boys to fight with his in the trenches. Next day we suspected him and snarled at him. At La Belle France, whose hand we had been holding while we swore eternal love, we are now making faces." And all because the American people became tired! But did not the American people tire very easily? The people of Great Britain did not tire so soon.

KEEP TO THE RIGHT

When travelling Life's highway, don't hustle
another,
There's plenty of room on the pathway for all;
By minding the rule you will not cause a brother
To slip off the edge and most probably fall.
The crowds that rush past you full often may
try you
And make you feel yours is a pitiful plight;
But stick to this rule as they hurrying pass you,
You'll not go far wrong if you "Keep to the
right."
If tempted and tried almost past your endurance
To turn from the right to some easier way;
If some careless soul seeks to give you assurance
That you will succeed if you only will stray;
Just think of those poor souls who listened and
heeded
And found themselves soon in a desperate
plight,
And point to the warning (you know it is
needed),
The warning that bids you to "Keep to the
right."

By minding this rule you will keep out of danger
And help other travellers well on their way;
To remorse and regret you will then be a
stranger,
And joy will be yours at the end of each day.
You never will find yourself in a dark byway,
Forlorn and disheartened and seeking for
light,
If you will give heed to this rule of Life's highway,
And always remember to "Keep to the right."

OTHER EDITORS' OPINIONS

THE ABOLITION OF TIPS.

(Vancouver Sun.)

The Waiters' Union is said to favor the abolition of tips. This, if true, makes it unanimous. But a lot of people will feel dubious about the statement that "the practice is gradually dying out in the East." Its death pangs are likely to be somewhat prolonged.

UPS AND DOWNS OF MILLIONAIRES.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

According to the just completed figures of the internal revenue department, this country had 20,944 millionaires in 1918, or 5,246 less than the year before. And the number of "twenty-millionaires" was reduced from 141 to 67. These terms produce confusion. Any man who returned an income of between $40,000 and $50,000 for a given year was a "millionaire" in official parlance. Any man who returned an income of $1,000,000 was a "twenty-millionaire." Of course, in most cases he was nothing of the sort. His income sprang from stimulated business, not from accumulated capital. But even with this qualification an essential one, the figures for 1918 are interesting, perhaps illuminative. In 1914, for us a pre-war year, the men who paid taxes on $1,000,000 income were 60 in number. In 1915 they were 120, just doubled. In 1916 they were 206. But in 1917 they had fallen to 141, and in 1918 to 67. The returns for 1919, not yet available, will almost certainly show a further drop. In other words, the world war, before the United States went into it, was remarkably fruitful in big incomes. But the years when we were actually in the war meant a drop in the top rank of from 206 to 67. That is food for reflection.

A WICKED PARODY.

(Toronto Star.)

Barry Pain has written a wicked parody on Mrs. Asquith's autobiography, "Marge Askinforit" (Werner Laurie, 1s 6d). "In my own circle I have always been known as Marge. The name is, I am informed, derived from the Latin margo, meaning the limit." And in the chapter about the family; I had not her beautiful lustrous eyes, but neither had she my wonderful cheek. She had not my intelligence. Nor had she my priceless gift for uttering an unimportant personal opinion as if it were the final verdict of posterity with the black cap on."

THE NEW SPELLERS DESIST.

(Montreal Herald.)

After eleven years' efforts the campaign of the Modern Language Association to popularize simplified spelling has been abondoned. The association gives it up in its own publications, and admits the world doesn't want to be torn from its old habits. There was, of course, hardly any rational argument that could be used against many of the simplified forms. They corrected cumbersome and involved combinations of letters that took time and space to form, and looked anything but the word intended. Most everybody admitted that, but most everybody strongly resisted the conclusion that because reason and argument had the best of it they should prevail to overthrow habit and tradition. The new spelling may have appealed to our heads, but the old spelling possessed our hearts. Yet changes do come, even by edict. We have simplified Shakespeare's spelling, and even Franklin's, but it was not done by system or prescription. We hardly know when we lost the "k" off the end of traffic. If we had known when it was dropped we would have picked it up again, but we imagine it was just allowed to slip without publicity or remark. If a society had taken the "k" in hand to banish it there would have been a fight over it. These quiet processes doubtless will go on, and a few generations hence some progress in simplification of spelling may be observed. But they will come to notice so unobstrusively that none will know just when they took place. That is the process by which our language was formed; its reform must come about by the same methods.

THE LOST HIGHLANDERS

("The Bookman," in Winnipeg Free Press.)

Under the caption "Wolfe's Lost Highlanders," a writer in the current number of Chamber's Journal writes about the Scotchmen who remained in Canada after the fall of Quebec and married French women. And he tells again the story of their gallant defence of that fortress, sixteen year later, in the American invasion. These Highlanders called to the colors from their farms responded to the number of 21 officers and 207 men, "no bad muster after sixteen years of peace, not forgetting French wives of doubtful loyalty." And he says that but for these Highlanders, speedily called into action by Sir Guy Carleton, there is not a doubt that "the Stars and Stripes would float from the Rio Grande to Baffin Land" today. It is the last time that Wolfe's Highlanders appear as fighting men. In the battle the British lost 15 men and Americans 400. "It was the decisive battle for Empire in Canada, and it was the Highlanders who turned the fortunes of the day." Henceforth they are devoted to the arts of peace in town and country, and are racially absorbed by the French-Canadians, their surnames only remaining this day—Campbells, Frasers, Maclarens, etc., all speaking the French language. "They are French-Canadians, but every trait and gesture shows the inheritance of the men who made and saved Canada for Britain."

HOME THE HEART OF FARM BUSINESS

(Farm and Ranch Review.)

The home is the place where all big business is born, and if the home is chaotic, poorly equipped and worse managed, then the chance for any great business enterprise to be created in there is very slim. This is just as true of a farm home as any other, and the farmer who must bring to bear upon his various undertakings all the mental and physical activity of which he is capable, cannot afford to neglect the home atmosphere. If he is to attack the various problems that constantly confront him with the greatest amount of energy of which he is capable, then the home where he and his family meet to discuss these problems must be conducive to the greatest mental and physical activity on the part of all concerned, and in order that the household machinery may run with the least friction and loss of strength and energy, it is necessary that the home be modern. Such improvements as water, light and heat are considered very expensive to install, but when the comfort of a home thus equipped is taken into account, crediting it not only with the greater convenience it affords, the lesser amount of work necessary for its upkeep, but also the mental rest to be attained in such a home, the initial cost dwindles into insignificance. Any up-to-date farmer who values the health, strength, comfort and convenience of the members of his household, and the mental stimulus arising from bodily comfort, cannot afford to remain inactive when it comes to modernizing his home.

TEACHERS

Hon. Mr. Grant, Minister of Education for Ontario has been telling teachers' conventions at various points that he will not be satisfied until the minimum salary paid to teachers is $2000. We believe that teachers should be well paid, particularly competent heads of schools. But it is quite manifest that the smaller municipalities cannot possibly tax the ratepayers sufficiently to meet salaries of that minimum amount besides the amount required for the maintenance and heating of the schools. Think of $18,000 per annum for salaries alone which Markham Village would levy. If Mr. Grant is to see his minimum of $2,000 paid to the teachers of Ontario his government will have to quadruple the meagre amounts now given in grants to Trustee Boards on salary accounts annually. This year the taxes in Markham village for schools maintenance alone were 15.4 mills and 1.3 mills to meet school debentures. This rate would have to be doubled to meet Mr. Grant's $2,000 salary minimum.—Markham Economist and Sun.

THREE MEMORIAL WINDOWS INSTALLED.

The three memorial windows are now in position in the Kingston city hall, the last one, "The British Navy Triumphant," being finished. The first one is called "Ypres" and is represented by a Canadian soldier in action at that famous battle as shown in a drawing in Punch at the time the heroism of the Canadians became known, and their great fighting qualities were recognized. The second window placed in position is called "Mons," 1918, and is the figure of a woman sewing seeds, also taken from Punch. "The British Navy Triumphant" is depicted in the third window by a sea-horse rising from the waves of the ocean of which he is the master.

We are glad to note that each year Christmas is getting to be more and more a season of good sense instead of a season of great spending.

PROSPECT OIL USING AIRPLANE

Adventurers, Barred by Police, Seek Way Round to Fort Norman

FLIGHT OF 600 MILES

Equip Plane With Runners for Snow Landings—Twenty Walked in.

VANCOUVER, B.C., Dec. 21.—While would-be prospectors for oil in the Fort Norman district are chafing impatiently to break through the cordon of provincial police which prevents their passing Peace River Crossing to stake claims in the oil fields a scheme is afoot here, which, if carried to a successful conclusion, will enable them to stake claims without breaking the law.

The adventurers plan to enter the oil fields of Fort Norman from the coast by airplane, stake their claims, and fly back to the sea, thus getting ahead of those who are waiting in large numbers at Peace River Crossing for the spring when the police will allow entry into the district and when there is certain to be a wild scramble for the most promising claims.

Entirely Feasible.

According to Major C. MacLaurin, superintendent of the Jericho Air Station of the Dominion Air Board, it would be possible to fly from the coast to the oil fields in a long-distance flying machine. The distance is approximately six hundred miles and if a powerful airplane could be secured on the coast the flight would be a feasible undertaking.

It is planned to outfit at a point on the coast nearest the Fort Norman district. The 'plane would be equipped with runners by means of which landings could be made on the ice of rivers and lakes which abound in the interior of British Columbia. The machine would take off from the base at the coast, fly over the alcost impassible mountain ranges and land on some convenient lake near the point where the claims are to be staked. After staking, the aviators would leave immediately, returning to the coast on the same day.

Twenty Got There.

There were about twenty claims staked in the district before the area was closed in the autumn by the authorities, who feared to allow prospectors to enter the district in the heart of winter lest they perish. A cordon was consequently established at Peace River Crossing and those who attempted to enter the oil fields were ordered back. It is claimed that some of the most promising areas are yet to be staked and up to the present it was thought that the only chance of entering the country was to await the withdrawal of the police in the spring.

Junior Schedule; Opens Here Jan. 7

Winner Here Plays Peterboro or Lindsay for Group—City Games Shortly.

The schedule of games in the junior series O. H. A. for group 2, section B., was drafted last night by Messrs House and Cummings of Trenton and Ed. Thomas of Belleville. The dates are:

Jan. 7—Trenton at Belleville.
Jan. 14—Belleville at Trenton.
Jan. 17—Trenton at Belleville.
Jan. 21—Belleville at Trenton.

The winner of B. Section of the group plays the winner of A section (Peterborough-Lindsay) home and home games for the group championship, goals to count.

Ice will be ready for practice at the arena in the course of a couple of days.

The public works department has begun the building of a cushion rink for the city hockey league on a lot on the east side of Front street, opposite the Queen's hotel. The ground is being levelled and the sides of the rink erected.

Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will drive worms from the system without injury to the child, because its action, while fully effective, is mild.

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—DENTIST—
X Ray Equipment
Office Burrows Block
Front St. City
Phone 462.

Christmas Mail Heavy as Last Year

There will be only One Delivery on Christmas Day—in the Morning.

Christmas mail rush is now on at the post office and from present indications it will not exceed last year's. The outgoing mail may even be a little lighter, owing to the fact that the mail and parcels for Europe has dropped off largely. The stamp sales this season, however, comepare very favorably with those of previous years. Up to date the incoming mail is about equal in volume to that of last year.

The present staff of ten with eleven carriers expect to handle the Christmas parcels and mail. On Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 the carriers will each have a boy assistant.

There will be only one delivery on Christmas Day—in the morning.

Eat Reindeer Meat at Empress Hotel

A novel feature of the Christmas menu at the Hotel Vancouver, and at the Empress Hotel, Victoria, will be reindeer met. Of course there will be numerous dishes to select from, but this season guests will have an opportunity of sampling a dish which has of late been coming into prominence in the Canadian West. and in the United States cities along the Pacific Coats. Seattle, Washington, draws a large supply of reindeer from Alaska. Vast herds of reindeer roam the wilds of the northwest of Canada, and the rearing of these promises to become a profitable industry.

A company has been formed in Winnipeg for the establishment of a reindeer and musk-ox farm in the Canadian West. This new company aims to provide the public with a new form of diet, reindeer roasts and musk-ox steak. The father of this cheap meat idea is Stefansson, the Arctic explorer, who delivered a number of addreses in Winnipeg a year or so ago in which he demonstrated the feasibility of establishing big herds of reindeer and musk-ox on grazing lands in the region contiguous to Hudson Bay. These animals, he asserts, will thrive in this modified form of captivity and can be rered t such smll cost that their flesh can be sold at a very low figure. In fact Mr. Stefansson thinks that once reindeer in considerable numbers have been transplanted from the far north to the more southern grazing grounds, that it will be possible for every farmer in the Canadian West to have his own little herd of reindeer. They can be tamed and can be used as draught animals. They can pull and trot like a horse; they can furnish mil kand meat like the cow.

INDIAN TREE

AN excellent gift suggestion is the fine coalport China, with the design in natural colorings of Rose, Green and Blue with burnished gold border.

IT is appropriate, useful, decorative and carries happiness with it.

WE have a large open stock to choose from, such as tea cups, and saucers, tea pots, sugars, creams, tea pot stands, comportes, salts and peppers, muffin dishes, cake plates, tea plates, etc. all of excellent quality, but at moderately low prices.

(Everything in our store free of tax.)

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Personal Mentio

Miss Wilmott is spending time in Detroit.

Mr. Allan Hamilton, of Ki is in the city visiting friends.

Captain E. Wilmott is ex daily from Buenos Aires, S.A.

Mr. W. D. Ketcheson, of ford, is in the city on a visit.

Miss Grace Graham is sp the holidays at her home, rose."

The Misses Agnes and Hild Cormick are expected home from New York.

Miss McKeown, daughter of McKeown is spending her ho at her home here.

Judge Fraleck left today Niagara, where he will spen Christmas holidays.

Miss Kathleen Bradshaw is s ing a few days with her br Harold, in Belleville.

Mrs. Arthur Pratt, Queen St left to spend Christmas wit parents at Woodstock.

Lady Rachel Cavendish and Margaret Scott will spend some in Montreal during January.

Mr. and Mrs. Mac. Robertson today for Meaford, to spend Cl mas with Mr. Robertson's moth

Sir Adam and Lady Beck and Marion Beck will spend three w together at Biarritz, during the days.

Mrs. W. H. Lattimer with her children left yesterday for Tor to visit her father, the Rev. Jo Locke.

Mr. Jack McCullough and mother, of Sidney, spent a day week at Mr. Peter Johnson's in leville.

Miss May Henry, of Belleville spending the Christmas holiday her home, 531 Homewood A Peterboro.

Dr. Bert Faulkner, who has b taking a post-graduate course Chicago, is expected to arrive in city on the noon train today.

Mrs. W. H. Buchanan left yes day for Kingston where she visit her daughters, Mrs. P.