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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1918

EPIDEMIC ABOUT OVER

The end of the Spanish "flu" visitation, as well as of the war, will probably come within a few days. There are not now ten per cent. of new cases reported in comparison with those days when the disease was at its height.

After that there will be sporadic cases here and there for a few days but those also will speedily die out if the right course is taken.

Now that the character of the disease is so well determined it is possible to adopt practical rules that should prevent renewed outbreaks.

It is now recognized that the disease is extremely contagious or communicable by being in the immediate vicinity of those who have it in active form.

In many places, particularly in the United States, they are enforcing a practical system of quarantine, by isolation of the patient from visitors and from other members of the family.

In Belleville we have had no restrictions of that nature whatever. Visitors have freely come and gone and probably many cases of infection can be traced to that source.

This would be well, not merely from the standpoint of public health, but from that of business. Trade in the city has been practically paralysed. People reading the obituary columns in the papers and hearing exaggerated verbal reports of the ravages of the plague, have gained the idea that Belleville is smitten as by a pestilence.

It should be borne in mind that many of the deaths recorded in the papers are of those who died in the rural districts outside of Belleville or who have come in from outside points to the city hospital.

The enforcement of a reasonable quarantine regulation, however, would, in our estimation, do more than almost anything else to restore confidence of the trading public and business would soon resume its normal course.

HOW VICTORY LOAN HELPS

Millions of dollars have been used by the Dominion Government since the war began to finance Canada's exports of agricultural and animal products. There has been a tremendous expansion of overseas trade.

That is the statement of the Finance Minister, Sir Thomas White. He says the 1917 Victory Loan was the salvation of Canadian industry. It will be the same this year.

and the other food commodities that Britain must have. This year we will have \$225,000,000 worth of wheat for export; \$40,000,000 worth of cheese, and \$10,000,000 worth of butter, eggs and condensed milk.

Canada's total exports of agricultural and animal products last year amounted to \$740,000,000. In 1915 they were \$209,000,000. The same with manufacturers. The increase in the same period was from \$85,000,000 to 636,000,000—all because of the Loan issues.

"FLU" CONSIDERATIONS

Citizens will generally approve of the decision of the Board of Health to keep public places closed for another week because of the epidemic. The scourge is rapidly dying out and the number of new cases now reported is comparatively small.

New York opened the places of public assembly too soon and the consequence was an immediate increase in the prevalence of the disease far beyond what it had been before.

In Belleville many families have kept in a state of comparative seclusion and have so far escaped the disease. If the schools were to reopen, with cases still quite numerous, the families now immune would probably soon suffer a visitation.

The epidemic has created a great wave of prosperity for druggists, physicians, undertakers and cemetery companies. But to the general lines of trade it has brought stagnation.

Theatres have been hit hardest of all. Their business has been absolutely taken away. October and November are, to theatres, the best months of the year.

The "flu" will undoubtedly have a serious effect on the fuel situation, already quite serious enough. The producing miners as well as the transportation companies have been quite as hard hit as anybody else.

It strikes the humble outsider that the provincial health authorities have shown precious little foresight or wisdom in meeting the exigencies of the epidemic.

This disease was prevalent in Spain in early July and reached New York on August 12th. Yet with all that opportunity to obtain advance information what advance information did Dr. MacCullough and his assistants obtain?

ue. Why was not this serum earlier introduced into Canada?

THE NEW YUKON

The report of a silver rush in the Yukon will recall to all middle-aged and elderly folk of today the stampede to Alaska and the Klondike following the discovery of gold there twenty-five years ago.

The rest of the story is much the same as that of the two other great gold rushes of history, California's and Australia's. The few who got in first secured the cream of the deposits.

But if the gold discovery of the Yukon and the Klondike enriched comparatively few it opened subarctic areas of Canada and the United States of limitless resources in things essential to the welfare of the North American millions.

The opinions of physicians differ as to the value of various sera that have been tried to stay the progress of influenza. At Belleville extensive use has been made of the serum evolved by Dr. Reed, one of the bacteriologists of Queen's University, Kingston.

IF WE SHOULD FALL

If we should fall them in this crucial need— Hold back the money that is theirs by right— Either from thoughts of fear or selfish greed.

Other Editor's Opinions

"THE GOOD OLD DAYS" Mr. Adam Bull, aged 87 years, of Scarborough, near Toronto, relates that in the old days of St. Andrew's Church, Scarborough, there was quite a debate one summer as to the advisability of buying with church funds a barrel of beer for members to drink between services.

Did you ever realize the value of a true neighbor? If not, just lose one who has lived by you for a dozen or more years and see what a hole

knows. The mite I hold is a drop within the flood! Not give the last red cent for those Who gave for us their last red drop of blood— How shall we face those gallant fighting men Who gave up home, love, life to keep us free? What shall we do when they come back again To probe the traitor souls of you and me If we should fail? There are no depths so deep That we could hide from their just, noble scorn.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row. That mark our place, and, in the sky, The larks, still bravely singing, fly. Scarce heard amidst the guns below. We are the dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

An Answer

In Flanders fields the cannon boom. And rifle flashes light the gloom. While up above like eagles fly The fierce destroyers of the sky. With stains the earth wherein you lie In Flanders fields.

America's Answer

Rest ye in peace, ye Flanders dead. The fight that ye so bravely led We've taken up. And we will keep True faith with you who lie asleep. With each a cross to mark his bed, And poppies blowing overhead, Where once his own lifeblood ran red. So let your rest be sweet and deep In Flanders fields.

Fear not that ye have died for naught, The torch ye threw to us is caught, Ten million hands will hold it high, And Freedom's light shall never die. We've learned the lesson that ye taught In Flanders fields. R. W. Lillard, in the New York Evening Post.

street, Sutton, Surrey. Mr. Lloyd George had pulled up his motor "there to address an impromptu meeting, and "Cymro" jumped down—and forgot to come back.

On the 29th the premier issued a description of the missing terrier and offered a reward of £25 for his recovery.

On Wednesday, the 31st, a letter was received from a resident of Redhill, Surrey, who had found "Cymro" wandering about disconsolate, and had given him a home till he learned who was the owner.—Exchange.

A LESSON FROM THE "FLU"

Benevolent Providence has so arranged it that from evil and disastrous events springs some good. The prevailing epidemic is no exception to this rule. The vital importance of public and personal cleanliness is being too forcibly and sadly impressed upon these days to permit of the lesson going unlearned.

The use of the microbe-destroying antiseptic has become universal. Always in every office there has been a "domon disinfectant" whose gargles were a source of merry jest.

It would be well for the authorities, federal, provincial and municipal, to crystallize into permanency this widespread and effective participation into which we have been so deeply seized. A few weeks hence when the peril has passed shall we be an institution in its own right?

After the meeting was held in square where citizens listened by Belleville's W. E. Deacon, introduced the Mitchell, E.C., Rev. J. C. D. Col. E. D. Gerald Spafford Swaine made a wish which Mr. ward. The lent and will be results.

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Postal Clerks Meet

A joint meeting of postal clerks, railway mail clerks and letter carriers was held in the post office building Friday evening, Nov. 1st. There was a large attendance of the three grades present.

Mr. J. Living has sold his residence to Mr. H. Judge Hucks. His sister, Cherry Valley, week. Mr. Lyons, of

IN ROCKY MOUNTAINS. Their granite forms on high. The native sons will do their share Their summit is the sky.

The

Earth's and gold grows upon ply. H a tree wear mer-green Some are of hectic color gold, purple the shades of er number ings in the their forms are quite b work of twi dumb, pathe One by their feeble was so tena ground—du es. Or, und rude puff of last pilgrim like flocks of The weeks since, hummed in tole, groobed them with b The sun kiss ing zephyr c quivered wit were soothed

Victory

The Kaiser Splendid Square.

The Victor this morning successful def in connection campaigns for streets were the flags of crowds along iastic and lar headed by de which was the force headed. This was the people of Bell this organiza they were gre excellent app The playing o also much— the battalion autos, then a hanging in effi next carrying priate legends Victory Bonds. followed mad ance with the tastefully deco

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