

### Great American Citizen Who Worked for Allies And Admired the British

It has been often said that before the United States went to war against the Germans, the people of that country whose sentiment was pro-Ally, were pro-French rather than pro-British. Among the really great men of the United States this was not the fact. One of these men was Joseph Choate, who recently passed away in New York after a long and fortunate life. For two generations this man, "the leading citizen of New York," so the newspapers proclaim him, has given fruitful aid to every work of humanity and patriotism, and to every cause of better government where his influence could be exerted. His good fortune pertained to the end, even when seemed to withhold the shadow of his wing until this American was made happy and content by the course his country took in the most tremendous of earthly events. He had a wonderfully gallant old age, hopeful, useful, radiant, and unquenched. He might have wished



HON. JOSEPH CHOATE

perhaps to live long enough to see his ardent hopes concerning the outcome of the war brought to fruition, but at least the last public event in which he took part was one which must have given him great satisfaction. He bore an honored part in the welcome of the British Commissioners, and saw what he had always hoped to see, the great Anglo-Saxon democracies drawn more closely together. The union of France and England with his own country in a great common aim, wrought with the fabric of civilization, woke all his enthusiasm. For beyond the immediate struggles he saw the vision of a world at peace. Mr. Choate spoke up stoutly for the prosecution of the war to the end; but he was a lover of peace of justice secured by peaceful means. At the second Hague Conference he was the champion of every method of abolishing war. In one speech at The Hague he had an impassioned burst about the alternatives to settlement of international disputes by judicial process—a burst which almost has a prophetic air, in view of what has since occurred.

"Let us resume all the savage practices of ancient times. Let us sack cities and put their inhabitants to the sword. Let us bombard undefended towns. Let us cast to the winds the rights of security that have been accorded to neutrals. Let us make the sufferings of soldiers and sailors in and after battle as frightful as possible. Let us wipe out all that the Red Cross has accomplished at Geneva, and the whole record of the First Peace Conference at The Hague, and all the negotiations and lofty aspirations that have resulted in the summoning of the present conference."

If Mr. Choate the past two years showed that a kind of seva indignatio burned in his heart against Germany, it was mainly because his instincts as an international lawyer and a friend of peace had been so outraged by her reversion to barbarous warfare.

#### Diceless Dicing, Now.

It's pencilitis now. Automobile poker has had its fling and now comes pencilitis. Pencilitis is not a disease. It is found mostly in cigar stands around town. It takes more than one to have pencilitis.

The next time you step into a cigar store and see a customer standing against the case keeping a clerk busy rolling a pencil back and forth between them, look out for you will find out what it is.

It's diceless dice. Some wise clerk in one of the stores conceived the idea of taking an ordinary six-sided lead pencil and marking its six sides with numbers corresponding to those on dice. The pencil is rolled and the one who rolls the highest number wins a "horse," as they call a trick in Indian dice. Two tricks out of three win the game.

While not as handy as dice, the pencils are helping some. And there is not the risk of being arrested for having a gambling device, for lawyers say they have not found a case where a court held that a pencil could be placed in the same category as cards and dice.

#### Training Farmers.

France is teaching some of her wounded soldiers how to be up-to-date farmers in spite of their disabilities. At Cellard, in the Department of the Loire, an institution has been opened with a complete equipment of modern farm machinery for the cultivation and harvesting of crops, including a tractor for plowing and other purposes. The instruction is essentially practical, the staff consisting of a competent agriculturist and an expert mechanic versed in farm machinery.

### New Russian Calendar Has Been Made Uniform With European Nations

THE calendar is one of those things which most people take for granted. It is regarded as a simple and necessary equipment of every well-regulated household or office, and few people, probably, pause to consider the wealth of history, stretching back to the remotest period, which lies behind it. In this respect, indeed, the calendar is a snare and a delusion, for, from the very first moment when one begins to make inquiry into its history, one is involved in many other studies. There are associated with it great political questions and great religious questions. There are mazes of the most abstruse mathematical calculations to be faced, whilst it involves, or may involve, a careful study of practically the whole field of astronomy. Then, if anyone imagines, when he first engages in this inquiry, that he has simply to trace through a single thread, which has one end in the beginnings of things and the other on his writing desk, he is doomed to disappointment. There are other calendars, still in use to-day, and many others were at one time in use, and they all have histories. However, the Julian calendar, to which Russia, by a special edict, has at last conformed, after holding out successfully against it for more than three hundred years, is now by far the most important of those at present in use, and the coming in of Russia places it in the position of a world calendar.

Russia, in the change she has just made, has performed an act beside which the national writings of an hour at the commencement of summer time is indeed a small matter. She has written off no less than thirteen days, and, in order to bring herself into line with the rest of the world, took a leap, from April 18 to May 1. Thus is a long controversy now practically settled. It had its beginnings more than three hundred years ago, and it came about in this way: In early times the Romans were wont to divide their year into ten months, but, later on, in the days of the kings, they adopted the lunar year of 355 days, divided into twelve months, with an occasional intercalary month to preserve the adjustment. In process of time, however, the priests who had charge of the matter, either through carelessness or ignorance, allowed confusion to creep in, and by the time of Julius Caesar the matter was crying out vociferously for drastic adjustment. Julius Caesar, accordingly, grappled with the question in B. C. 6. The year was divided into 365 days, and, every fourth year, one day was added, the length of the year being assumed to be 365 1/4 days. As a matter of fact, however, the year is less than 365 1/4 days, by eleven minutes and forty-eight seconds, and this fact was the source of all the trouble which followed, for some sixteen hundred years.

In those sixteen hundred years, the few minutes each year, grew into days, and by 1582 the discrepancy between the official date and the actual date amounted to ten days. This shifting of days had caused great disturbances by unfixing the times of the celebration of Easter, and likewise of all other movable feasts, and so, in the year already mentioned, Pope Gregory XIII. decided that a reformation was necessary. After carefully investigating

the matter, with the help of the astronomer Clavius, he ordained that ten days should be deducted from the year 1582, and that, in the month of October in that year, the calendar should jump from the 4th to the 15th. In order that this displacement should not occur again, it was further ordained that every hundredth year should not be counted as leap year, excepting every fourth hundredth, beginning with 1600. In Spain, Portugal, part of Italy, France and the Roman Catholic Low Countries, the change was made, although not in every case on the same date; but in the Protestant countries the innovation was strenuously resisted, and the Lutherans of Germany, Switzerland, and the Protestant Low Countries did not agree to the change until the year 1700. England stood out for another half century, and it was not until 1751 that an Act was passed for equalizing the style, in Great Britain and Ireland, with that used in other western countries of Europe. By that time the ten days of Gregory's time had grown to be eleven, and so, when the change was made, the 2nd of September, 1751, became the 14th, and an incensed populace paraded the streets of London, calling upon the authorities: "Give us back our eleven days!" Russia and Greece still held to the old style, the discrepancy, of course, accumulating all the time. Now Russia has made the leap, and Greece alone is left to represent the old order.

#### Not a Copper.

In the French city of Toulouse, it seems, there are no more copper sous. Instead, there are sous of pasteboard. The one-sou piece is rectangular and of exactly the same size as the two-sou piece. Just how or why is not clear, but the disappearance of the copper coins from the whole region of Toulouse has been complete. Consequently, the necessity of replacing them by this paper, or rather cardboard, money. The paper two-sou notes bear this legend: "Good for one sou." For they are tramway tickets, nothing more, though they pass freely as currency. The one-sou note has printed in the middle of it a picture—a very bad picture, at that—of that rare, precious, marvellous, and no longer obtainable object, the copper sou.

#### No Excuse.

There's something there's no excuse for—scientists can't figure up any alibi for them. It seems they were just invented along with flibusters, mosquitoes, and many other like pests just to make existence miserable. There are five of 'em on each foot, situated on the end you push into the sock first. They are very quarrelsome and there's much friction amongst them and they raise more fuss than a bushel of Mexican revolutions. They are very ungrateful creatures. Toes really owe us a lot for letting them live. They're useless, and what do they do but harvest corns, encourage ingrown nails, freeze up on us and have a merry way of sneaking under somebody else's heel to be stepped on? Can you beat it for ingratitude? Ballet dancers have the right idea, getting even with the toes. They make their toes support them physically and financially.

#### Spanish Etiquette.

There is a curious story of how the Duke d'Aosta when king of Spain told a mulcteer to whom he was talking to cover himself, the sun being hot, for getting that by so doing he made the mulcteer a grandee. Marshal Prim, to prevent this catastrophe, knocked the man's hat out of his hand, and, according to some, the mulcteer had something to do with Prim's assassination that followed soon afterward.

## Here's help in decorating your home inside and outside



People judge you  
by your home. A beautiful home,  
well decorated outside and inside is not only a pleasant place to live  
—but commands the respect and admiration of your friends and neighbors.  
Good decorating results require good taste plus good finishes, plus proper skill in  
applying. You can get expert advice on all three if you consult us about

**Lowe Brothers**

### Paints, Varnishes, Enamels, Stains

In the selection of paint for the exterior it is economy to use Lowe Brothers "High Standard" Liquid Paint. It is scientifically-made paint that gives perfect protection with lasting beauty. "High Standard" Paint spreads and goes farther than cheap paint—sets in a close tight coat—resists years of wind, sun and wet—fails only by gradual wear—leaves a good surface for repainting.



You will always get  
good paint where  
you see this sign.

"High Standard" Mellotone. Its rich colors rest as well as delight the eyes. It is fadeless and washable—not easily scratched or marred—and decidedly economical.

For refinishing furniture, floors and woodwork, Lowe Brothers Varnish comes in colors to match usual finishes. Easy to use—economical.

For varnish that wears, retains its brilliancy and depth of lustre, choose Lowe Brothers "Blue Flag" Varnish—one for every purpose.

For solid colors on old floors use Lowe Brothers Hard Drying Floor Paint.

If you have a decorating problem we'll be glad to help you

Sold in Carleton Place by  
**D. G. THOMPSON.**

The Ontario Government has established a moving picture bureau.

An order in Council has been passed preventing any man of military age from leaving Canada except on production of a passport.

Drastic action on food control, the liquor evil and race-track gambling is forecasted as about to be taken by the Government.

Philo Hughes, aged eighty-four, residing near Avon, was strangled by falling across the gearing of his buggy when overcome by weakness following a stroke of paralysis.

One of the most interesting effects of the war is the revival of various old trades and industries, especially in England. Charcoal burners are busy making fuel for use in the trenches; long disused sawmills are getting out timbers for dugouts; foresters are making tent pegs; clog makers are fashioning wooden shoes; owners of willow plantations are cutting osiers for fascines and shells baskets; but most interesting of all is the revival of flint knapping, perhaps the oldest industry in the world. It is said that the flints are need to strike a light in the trenches.

The President of Brazil asked Congress for a revocation of the neutrality decree.

The three days' campaign in Toronto, realized \$210,000 for the Y.M.C.A.'s military service.

Five slices of bread are so held on a new rotary toaster that four of them are being dried by the heat while the fifth is being toasted.

Rev. Dr. E. J. Bidwell, who was Bishop of Kingston and coadjutor to late Bishop Mills of Ontario Diocese, was enthroned at St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, as Bishop of Ontario.

# ?

## If you can solve this problem

# FREE

These  
grand  
prizes

8
5
2

**As an advertisement of the opening of**  
Prizes to the persons sending in the  
Neatest Correct Solutions of the FIFTEEN  
PROBLEM. There is positively no "Lot  
Casting," "Drawing," or "Chance" con-  
nected with the distribution of these prizes  
—it is a contest of skill. The contestant  
sending in the Neatest Correct Solution  
will be awarded the first prize; the con-  
testant sending the "second best" Neatest  
Correct Solution will be awarded the  
Second Prize—and so on until the entire  
HUNDRED PRIZES are distributed. In  
case of a tie, each contestant will receive  
equal rewards.

**Why we do this**  
Instead of spending Thousands of Dol-  
lars in expensive advertisements, high-  
priced solicitors who send you free-  
ly, also many other methods which all merely  
add to the price of the piano and which  
the purchaser pays in the end, we believe  
in giving the cost of all this expense direct  
to the customer.

The Percival Piano Co. is a subsidiary  
concern of the old and well-known Per-  
cival Plow and Stove Co., of Merrickville,  
of 70 years' standing. Ask any Bank who  
we are.

**FIRST PRIZE**, a beautiful upright piano, value .....\$450.00  
**SECOND PRIZE**, a beautiful upright piano, value .....\$350.00  
**THIRD PRIZE**, credit cheque for .....\$150.00  
Good on the purchase of a piano  
**FOURTH PRIZE**, credit cheque for .....\$125.00  
Good on the purchase of a piano  
**THE NINETY PRIZES** following in the order of merit, credit  
cheques ranging in value from \$35.00 to \$117.00, depending  
on the order of merit. Good on the purchase of a piano

**NINETY-FIFTH PRIZE**.....\$20.00 in gold  
**NINETY-SIXTH PRIZE**.....\$15.00 in gold  
**NINETY-SEVENTH PRIZE**.....\$10.00 in gold  
**NINETY-EIGHTH PRIZE**.....\$5.00 in gold  
**NINETY-NINTH PRIZE**.....\$2.50 cash  
**HUNDREDTH PRIZE**.....\$1.00 cash

**N.B. All solutions must be in our possession  
on or before Wednesday, June 6th, 1917**

**The Percival Piano Co.**  
203 Queen St.      Ottawa      Phone Q. 3769

**Directions**  
**T**AKE the figures from 1 to 9  
inclusive and place them in the  
squares in such a manner that  
when added diagonally, vertically  
or horizontally, the total will always  
be 15. No number may be used  
more than once. Use this sheet, a  
separate piece of paper or any  
other material.

Only one person from each family  
may enter this contest. The in-  
tegrity of the gentlemen who have  
consented to act as judges is a guar-  
antee that the prizes will be award-  
ed to those deserving them. DO  
NOT DELAY. Send in your solu-  
tion immediately. You may win  
the First Prize.