

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO.

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1917.

"TURN THE OTHER CHEEK."

The Rev. Dr. Henry van Dyke until recently was the United States ambassador to the Netherlands. He has returned to America filled with perfect hatred of the German cause. He has written some of the best poetry which has appeared since the war began. He is one of the best and strongest minds in America, and the following extracts are from the New York Herald's report of his sermon last Sunday:

"The German Government is the enemy of all mankind. She violated the treaties of Belgium, Serbia and other countries.

"I hate the predatory Potsdam gang on scriptural grounds. I hate them with a perfect hatred.

"The entrance of the United States was a right step and unavoidable."

Dr. van Dyke declared that the pacifist idea that the war ran contrary to the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount did not conform to the teachings of Jesus Christ. He said that the doctrine of "turning the other cheek when smitten on one cheek," was an Oriental custom, and colloquial and provincial in its meaning. He said it did not have the universal meaning which justifies war. "Our Lord never meant to 'turn the other cheek also,' as it is now understood," said the preacher.

Dr. van Dyke asserted that the United States was smitten on the right cheek when the Lusitania was sunk and promptly was smitten again on the left cheek by the torpedoing of the Sussex.

"We went to the very utmost limit," he said, "to try to keep out of war. When Germany announced her ruthless, reckless, rotten submarine policy, we went to war."

"We do not know the price that we shall have to pay, but it saves our country from losing her soul. We were forced after long and patient endurance to come in to defend our own life and the lives of our neighbors."

GERMAN "PREPAREDNESS"

Is there some new devilry contemplated by the Germans towards their prisoners of war? There is the threat of this in the inspired announcement by German newspapers that these prisoners are taking part in a great conspiracy to interfere with war work in Germany, and to engage in arson, crop destruction and injury of implements. Additions to these tales are to the effect that explosives for burning buildings are being sent prisoners in double-bottomed jam-pots, and disease germs for infecting cattle in cigarettes.

The enemy has made a habit of trying to excuse himself for contemplated crimes before committing them. Prior to the first use of poisonous gases, it will be remembered, he charged the British with using them. He has also spread in Germany false tales of atrocities practiced by the Allies, in order to make his own feigning appear as just revenge.

In causing the publication of these weird improbable stories among the people, the German authorities doubtless have an object, which will appear plainly in due time. It may be that the lies will be made an excuse for confiscation of most of the supplies sent from home to the prisoners, and their use by Germans; or it may be that these gifts will be forbidden, in order to make existence harder for the unfortunate ones held in captivity. The former is more probable, for in that way some of the food Germany needs would be obtained, while the latter would not benefit anyone.

It is possible that the plan is to revive the hatred against the Allies which some reports say has been decreasing. This hatred is an essential in the eyes of the German war authorities, as they have no cause by which enthusiasm for the struggle can be maintained. If the masses believe that these stories are true they may become more bitter against the Allies, and be more ready to continue the fight, being persuaded that the tricks, which originate in German minds, are really being attempted against them and their property by British, French, Russians or Serbians.

In a few days we may expect to read of new orders being issued at Berlin, based on the home-brewed lies.

DEFENDING THE LAND.

An illustration recently used in a scientific magazine showed a railway following the coast of the United States, constructed to carry heavy guns which could be rushed from point to point when attack threatened and so guard against invasion.

Possibly such a device might be effective, but what a horrible condition of affairs it would be to require such a defensive scheme! Continuous watchfulness for an enemy who might approach the shores, land and lay waste the territory; everlasting anxiety as to what the nights might bring forth.

The United States has chosen the better way of guarding her coast, by entering the war against Germany. Every civilized being hopes that with Germany's defeat the need of such elaborate and costly defences will be removed. That is one of the great reasons for fighting the Teutons to a finish—to make a repetition of this awful struggle impossible.

When this great war is ended it will be the duty of the victorious Allies to make such terms and form such international agreements that in future nations may live assured against attack. It can be done and must be done, then inventive genius can be turned to better account than planning the repulse of hostile invasions.

R. L. S. AND THE HUNS.

The subordination of each individual German to a machine system is illustrated as far back as 1891 in a story told by R. L. Stevenson, writing from Samoa to a friend. Stevenson had clashed in controversy with the German authorities in control of the island government. A German captain who had been a "constant visitor" at the author's house, and is described as "a delightful fellow," wrote to Stevenson to say that "as a German officer he could not come even to say farewell." Since then," writes Stevenson, "I have seen no German shadow." In a letter a little later he says that "the manager of the German plantation at Vallele is almost the only German left to speak to us." That manager must have been a very bad German, much degenerated in a tropical island. Stevenson finally got the better of his Teuton opponents, and some of them were superseded, wonderful to relate of Berlin.

The speedy quelling of the Sinn Fein rioting in Cork goes to show that machine politics don't stand much show in a clash with machine guns.

Long is the arm of the law. The body of a murdered girl is found under the floor of a New York basement and a few days later an Italian is arrested in Bologna and confesses the murder.

Canada and the United States are like Egypt in the time of Joseph and the Pharaohs. All the people come to us for corn and we shall do our best, even at some sacrifice to ourselves, to deal it out fairly among both friends and neutrals.

Hon. A. J. Balfour has delivered his report on what was accomplished during the stay of the British and French missions in the United States towards co-operation in winning the war, and throughout his speech there is nothing of what "I" or "we" did, but only great admiration for the spirit of the American people exhibited during his visit. One could bring to mind great contrasts to this speech in those delivered by other men.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

Placing the little hats all in a row, Ready for church on the morrow, you know; Washing wee faces and little black fists, Getting them ready and fit to be kissed, Putting them into garments clean and white, That is what mothers are doing tonight.

Spying out rents in a little worn hose, Laying by shoes that are worn through the toes; Looking o'er garments so faded and thin; Changing a button to make it look right, That is what mothers are doing tonight.

Calling the little ones all around her chair; Hearing them lip their evening prayer, Telling them stories of Jesus of old, The shepherd, who gathers the lambs to His fold;

Watching them listen with childish delight— That is what mothers are doing tonight

Creeping so softly to take a last peep— Silence the token of childhood's sleep; Anxious to know if the dear ones are warm; Tucking the blanket round each little form; Kissing each little face, rosy and bright, That is what mothers are doing tonight.

—Washington Post.

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM OUR AMELIASBURG CORRESPONDENT

The country at present is looking its best, and the indications point to a successful harvest of grain and hay. Should there come a drought later when the grain is setting, it is the one thing which will interfere with what promises to be a bountiful harvest. In some sections grain has been damaged by too much rain, but taking everything into account, the outlook is very favorable.

During the earlier part of the spring there was considerable concern about the shortage of hay. While the hay crop will not be equal to last year, the crop promises much better than at first estimated. It is safe with favorable weather conditions during the next few weeks, to place the hay crop even this year above the average. Potatoes, corn, and root crops, although late, are showing up very good, and there is a favorable prospect that potatoes will be worth less than \$5 a bag another season.

The fruit crop, while not likely to be large, is showing up in some sections better than the first estimate. Spraying has been pretty thoroughly done by some growers, but many others have not been able on account of the shortage of labor to do anything in that line; and it will be seen later how much more profitable will be the results in favor of those who sprayed as against those who did not.

Taking everything into consideration, the acreage in crop this year may safely be estimated larger than last year. Still there is a considerable quantity of land, prepared last fall for crop which has not been seeded.

The labor question—or, perhaps better stated, the shortage of labor—is severely felt in this place, and it is almost impossible to get help at any price. A good deal of the help which is open for engagement is so very unserviceable that the patience of the most plous is taxed beyond endurance. This class of service, in every instance, demands as much for their work as the first-class men. And it can be easily seen that serviceable men—those who can be depended upon—are beginning to feel there is not enough difference in the price between their labor and the labor of the fellow who places a higher value upon his services than it's worth. Value of service does not seem to be taken into account. It is more a question of money, meals and short hours with many of these men, who formerly have resided in the cities and towns.

A good deal has been said about the need of practicing economy and otherwise doing everything possible to reduce the high cost of living. It has often been stated that "it is easier to preach than to practice." But why would it not be in order to cut out fall fairs this year? There is always a good deal of time lost in preparing for these fairs and only a few get enough out of the business to pay for the trouble and expense gone to, in going to the show; while, in too many instances, the proceeds are as good as thrown away in providing amusements to draw the crowd. Those who patronize them feel that they have had no value for their money. If the money has to be spent, use it for war purposes, and postpone the shows for another year at least. There is not a doubt but that the country fairs could be profitably dispensed with this year.

The situation at Ottawa requires the most careful handling at the present time. It is not a time now for "jockeying for position," or which side can get the greatest party advantage. It is a time for earnest, sincere thought and action—a time when every member of the House of Commons, who has any interest or concern in the future welfare of Canada and the Empire, should put forth the best efforts within him to consolidate the Empire; and that means Canada. There may be differences of opinion regarding the exact meaning of the "Militia Act," "Conscription," "Compulsory Service" or whatever they may choose to call it, but there should be no difference of opinion as to a united Canada.

What it means now and to future generations, who know? But the same influence is at work here by German agents as have been shown to have existed in Ireland, Russia, Italy and other parts of the world. It requires a strong conviction of what is right, when men take the course several of the honorable members have taken in the House during the past week, in separating themselves from so distinguished a leader as Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It is plainly to be seen that these men

realize the seriousness of the situation, although they do not fully concur in the means to produce the desired results. There should be enough men who are honest and sincere in their loyalty to Canada and the Empire, holding seats in Parliament today, to join forces and settle this matter in a satisfactory way.

The whole situation goes to show that if strong party men can throw away partisan feelings in time of war and work untiedly and with harmony, to promote the best interests of the country and the state, the same thing can be done in the time of peace. The men who are not willing to do that kind of thing should never be allowed to hold a seat in any parliament, much less in a government, whether Conservative or Liberal.

There has always been too much twitting and accusing the other party of what they have done, and the guilty party justifying its wrongs by the sins of their opponents. Should one result of the war be the establishment of a better and purer system in Government in the future, a great and lasting good will come from it.

If this war results in creating a more friendly feeling throughout the world, between nations which have not in the past been on the most sociable terms, commercially or otherwise, the great national good will be hard to estimate.

But when we come to say that this war will produce a greater love and respect for Germany and her people, we are stuck. It reminds me of a story I heard some time ago, which seems to fit in just right. Many will remember how, some years ago, the public school teachers were paid and supported, before free schools were introduced. At Massassaga Point, like all other places, there were those in favor of free schools and those who were not. One of the old residents of the section, who was very much against free schools, was sick, and little hope held out for his recovery. The end was drawing near, and the old man expressed a desire that another resident acted as local preacher, and was a strong supporter of free schools, should come and pray with him. Ready and willing to comply with his neighbor's request, Mr. F. went to the bedside of the dying friend. He read carefully selected scripture fitting for the occasion, and offered prayer of consolation and comfort. After words of cheer and encouragement had been given, the effect was plainly noticeable upon the sick man. As great tears of repentance rolled down his cheeks, and with quivering lips he raised his eyes to his friend, he said, calling him by name: "You are a good man. No one can doubt your sincerity or honesty, and I thank you for your words of comfort. I know of no one at this time I would rather have pray for me than you. I respect and honor you, but when I think of that school business, it upsets the whole thing."

I am much inclined to think that in years to come, when we think of the suffering, misery, loss of life, and woe that Germany has caused the world, it will have a strong tendency toward lessening that Christian and brotherly feeling which we are admonished to have toward one another. We certainly can never expect to entertain very high feelings of respect or esteem for Germany in the future, no matter what she may do. We may be able to forgive, but it will be a long time before we can forget her many acts of savagery.

There have been a number of reasons given for the falling off in recruiting for overseas service. While I am not aware that much would be gained by discussing the matter, it might not be out of place to say that the large number of commissioned officers who enlisted and failed to go on the battle line, has not helped matters. Apparently hundreds of these officers never intended doing any fighting, if it was at all possible to shirk the job; and, to all appearances, they have been successful. They have had a good trip overseas, toured England, Ireland and Scotland, and also a portion of France. But their names have never been mentioned in the despatches or any medals awarded for distinguished valor on the field of battle. They have had a good time at the expense of the country, while many of the non-commissioned officers and men who went overseas with them, have been bleeding and dying in the trenches.

If this be the case, it is not to be wondered at that there should be a falling off in enlisting. Would some authority tell us why these men should escape being sent on to the trenches, and still draw pay for doing nothing? Not many young men are going to enlist when simply holding a commission is going to keep others from going to the front, who are no better than themselves. Can it be possible that those who hold commissions as officers may or may not do actual warfare, while those less fortunate in holding commissions must fight whether they want to or not?

This is the season of the year when statute labor is being performed, or an attempt being made to perform it. For some time past the roads have been in fine condition. From now until fall, in many places where little or no interest is taken in doing the work, the roads will be made almost impassable by the drawing of dirt and stone on the road.

As bad as much of the work done is, it can be no worse than that done by the county road superintendent on the Rednerville and Roblins Mills road last year. If the County Council would send the superintendent to take a look at the road built by Stanley Welbanks this year, east of Rednersville he might get some idea of building roads at considerable less expense than the county is having them built under his supervision; and that without the use of the latest improved road machinery. Mr. Welbanks deserves much credit for the work he has done, and the council can make no mistake in having the example he has set, followed generally throughout the Township.

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PAINTS, PAPERS & PICTURES

A complaint is made—and very justly too—with regards to the expenditure of \$322.60 by the County Council in sending a delegation to attend the Good Roads Convention, recently held in Toronto. Why it was necessary that the county should be called upon to pay this expense has not been explained,—when there was no possible chance of the county being benefited by sending at least more than three. The words, to all appearances, desires to win the approbation of his colleagues, at the county's expense.

FOUND A SHELL CASE

The finding a couple of days ago of a shell case along the Grand Trunk track near the tool house west of the North Front St. overhead bridge, caused a little excitement to the discoverers, as it had the appearance of having a cap attached. Constable Ellis today looked into the munition and found that the supposed cap was nothing other than the head of a draw bolt, which had been inserted evidently as a joke in order to frighten somebody. The shell was a sixty pounder and was likely a rejected one, which had fallen from a car of scrap iron.

STAYED AT RELATIVES

Mr. Allenden, Strachan street, was greatly alarmed last night and this morning when his daughter, Rita, aged fourteen or fifteen had not returned from work last evening and had not reached home this morning. It appears however that Rita went yesterday at one o'clock with her aunt to her home in East Belleville and spent the day and night there.

NEW

Mr. Bru holidaying for a month. The Fire were out ening. T satisfactory Messrs. ley and W shipment of Thursday. local agent borhood of this season The Bell stretching Capt. Gl is home of his mother Sunday.

The first met month ants on number too but were n catch.

A memo Hart's chub honor of P killed in a from the v land was a citizen, an death. Bu vere his r that we m

Mrs. W. Brooks daughter of the hip ninety-one the accide trust the speedy and suffer gre Mrs. T. visiting from home Fri Those vice at T ternity w West, Ea James Ca Balley, C Lyn d, W Carl McO Vandervo report an by the Re text being Madoc Le use at t day, July the Rev. is visiti Hill, of t The Et held in M nesday, T hundred the Exam Mr Jas Saturday Mr. T Monday connection is to be The P soldiers' home of day, July crowd sp

The R well he church Y We un will be u rday, A Thos, B The meet at and Wed Monday day for Madoc W held on t Miss Co governme "Choois in War a very e and she expert, t in four which p starchy i bread, s meat) forming eggs, be brown b building children, and oatr fruits at also spo vantage more ex drawer Conover line. N Eight ne refreshm thanks t Mr. A. West. at the r