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**THE LONDON ADVERTISER**  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

London, Ont., Wednesday, June 21.

## ON THE BRINK OF WAR.

IN spite of the earnest desire to maintain peace shown by the Wilson Administration, there seems every probability that war will break out between the United States and Mexico in the very near future; in fact, the clash may easily come before this appears in print. Such a war can have only one ending—the defeat of the Mexicans and the establishment of an American protectorate.

Perhaps Carranza and his advisers are doing a better turn for the United States than they realize by forcing the issue at this time. There has been a strong belief for years that, sooner or later, the United States would have to interfere in the management of the country, and that this would have to be preceded by a clash of arms. All hope that the Mexicans would fight themselves into a state of utter weariness and then settle down to a peaceful existence has been abandoned.

If this international struggle has to come, now is the time. Before long, it is hoped, the European war will end with the military power of Germany forever placed under an unbreakable restraint. Then the civilized world anticipates an extended period of peace and the settlements of all disputes by arbitration in one form or another. It would be sad indeed if it fell to the lot of the peace-loving United States to mar this plan by going to war with Mexico a few years hence, just when all were settling down to live and adjust disputes without bloodshed. Yet, responsible government for every nation will be necessary to the consummation of this humane idea of eliminating wars, and there seems little possibility of Mexico having such until her affairs are straightened out by some other and more powerful country.

If the struggle comes, the United States will, without doubt, experience countless difficulties and begin to appreciate the magnitude of Britain's task in the Boer war. There will no longer be a disposition to make light of the South African feat, when the Mexicans have shown what they can do in their mountainous lands without anything like the Boer equipment in artillery or ammunition. Invasion of Mexico will be no picnic. The forces which have already penetrated far into the interior have suffered considerably, although finding practically no active resistance; what will happen those who are opposed by the whole nation?

Judged on the standards of the great war, the Mexican-American scrap will be too small to attract any great attention outside of the two countries involved, but for these it will be serious. Once it begins, the Americans must carry it to a successful conclusion, in order to maintain their status as a great power. There can be no let-up until the enemy throws up his hands in surrender, and that is only to be expected after the infliction of heavy losses on both sides.

It is hardly likely that the United States will be blamed if it does finally decide to settle Mexican affairs. It is not a case of the large nation bullying the small; for the shoe has been on the other foot; the little fellow has been snapping at the heels and occasionally taking bites from the legs of the big one. And even President Wilson's patience must have come end, especially when it appears that peace has ceased to be a virtue.

## OF TWO KINDS.

THE WORD "preparedness" has two distinct and separate meanings.

In the one case it means a state of readiness against war; in the other it means a deliberate making ready for war.

The peacefully-inclined nations of the earth are in the first class, while Germany and her pawns are in the second.

Sane preparedness is justified when a nation feels that attack is inevitable. France, Britain and Belgium are the fruits of this doctrine.

Mad preparedness was practiced by Germany's war party and it was developed of lust for conquest and slaughter.

If this continent were at peace for a hundred years, as it has been, and a class arose in Canada and the United States which demanded "preparedness," each against the other, that would be the maddest of folly and would almost inevitably lead to war.

The case for absence of armament has been proved on this continent, for this continent, excluding Mexico, will never have a war, so far as prophecy can be made.

Now, when the United States sees the menace of Germany, however far removed, Bryan leads an anti-preparedness faction. He would not prepare, no matter how certain attack seemed.

Neither of these classes should rule a nation. The one flaunts war in the

face of peaceful neighbors; the other bleats like a sheep in the hope that the evilly-disposed may spare it. With Germany beaten down and the Allies deciding future terms of international relation, "preparedness," let it be hoped, will be an issue of the past. Canada and the United States are the great proof of the folly of aggressive armament.

## A TRIBUTE TO DR. CLARK.

THE Winnipeg papers are loud in praise of Rev. W. J. Clark for the part he played in favor of church union. His speech was one of the greatest contributions to the subject ever made. In London his friends are legion, and he is remembered by all as the beloved pastor of First Presbyterian Church for many years.

The Manitoba Free Press said of his contribution to the debate: "Dr. Clark's speech came as near genuine oratory as the Assembly is likely to get. It was on a high plane throughout, generous to opponents, spiritual in quality, and yet lacking nothing in definiteness." From the Winnipeg Tribune we read: "The unionists chose for their chief spokesman, Dr. W. J. Clark of Montreal. We doubt if a better, abler, exponent of the broader spirit could have been found within the church. His excellent qualities of heart and head are most appealing. He raised the whole question to the high level of what is best for humanity."

## A TORY PAPER'S CALL.

THE Montreal Gazette, dean of Conservative newspapers, has afforded the editorial sensation of the season by calling for an election in the near future on the grounds that the present House of Commons shows "signs of having outlived its vigor."

In its issue of June 15 the Gazette says that some Liberal newspapers are trying to give a creepy feeling to their readers by issuing warnings that a parliamentary election will soon be sprung upon the country. It points out that the present House of Commons has about come to the end of its full term, and follows this with the observation that the House is not possessed of its original strength.

When the conduct of the House of Commons impresses a paper holding such Conservative rank as the Gazette as being weak, there is radical reason for the country to sit up and take notice. The Allison revelations and other developments have evidently been too much for the Gazette.

## CRUEL RED TAPE.

IN A LETTER to a Toronto paper, Peter MacArthur, writer and farmer, of Ekfrid, complains of the Government "red tape," which is causing inconvenience and even unnecessary suffering to families of those who have been wounded at the front. He gives two instances: one in which a soldier from this city was sent back to Canada, but instead of being sent to London, where his parents reside, he was forced to proceed to his enlistment point, Winnipeg. There he died, and when his father inquired the cost of bringing the body home, he found it would amount to about \$500, too much for his resources.

The other instance he mentions is that of a Scottish boy, who was sent back to Canada, as convalescent, and died in this city, while his parents lived in Scotland. He says that the Government "red tape" is too much for the people, and that it is time some change took place. Surely there is no valid reason against making a returned man's homecoming as joyful as possible, especially when it entails no extra expense to the country. It is sheer cruelty to send him far from his friends, just because that happened to be the place of enlistment.

It would be no more than just if the desires of all invalided men were ascertained before they were placed on board ship, and, wherever possible, carried out. Red tape may have its place in the national scheme, but it should be made of easily-broken material.

## A HALF-TRUTH.

SOMETHING is being said of the spiritual advantages accruing from war, its sufferings and sacrifices. If war revivifies religion, makes men and nations modest, brings out their courage and self-control and enforces simpler living, some might believe that Bernhard was right, that war is a good and divinely thing. Or may it be considered at worst as the spots of fever, a result of evil no doubt, but also the relief and outlet of the evil?

There is a theory widespread that advance is made through suffering and that thus good comes out of evil. If this be the truth, it is not hard to argue that evil is good because the means of good! What, then, is the use of striving for reform if abuses are themselves desirable or the pathway to reform? Chesterton remarks on the paradox of Dickens that poverty and even equaler are shown happy and interesting, but yet reforms are urged. The half-starved are as happy as the rich. Why, then, try to make the poor more comfortable and healthy or to educate them? Yet Christ spent much time in healing the sick and making the lame walk.

Perhaps it might be argued that sacrifice is all very well, but suffering imposed on one by circumstances outside his control not in itself the path to excellence. War is a bad thing, but the way it is taken may be making the best of a bad thing. But even if a cruel war may have some good results, there are to be considered the physical, intellectual and moral wreckage, the rousing of bitter passions, prejudices and long-enduring hatreds, the immeasurable loss. To speak of the benefits of war or any other avoidable suffering may do very well for consolation, but Bernhard's half truth will not pass.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Greece will melt, but something more than hot air is evidently necessary. Brussels says the Russian campaign

# With a Very Special Mallet Uncle Peleg Can Play Croquet As Well As Anybody

BY FONTAINE FOX



Is just starting. Well, for a first day's batting, they've done very nicely, thank you.

Von Moltke's death is no mystery. He died after a eulogy of Von der Goltz, probably choking with one of the lies he told.

The latest addition to the Decalogue, according to the Ottawa Journal, might be: "Thou shalt not steal—from thine own till."

Ottawa city talks on daylight saving. It was not to be expected that the lead in a progressive movement would come from the capital.

We hasten to assure Washington that, with all the good-will in the world, Canada cannot spare any troops to help beat Mexico at present.

When Hon. A. J. Balfour needed a rest, he took it on top of a London house, reading novels. Found modern "literature" required no brain effort.

Contractor Kelly is so sore because he cannot get his trial postponed that he won't offer any defence, so there. And if he is found guilty, it's the judge's own fault.

Perhaps it would be rubbing it in too thickly to take away the name Berlin from the city which harbors so many who treasured that Prussian connection, and then substitute Waterloo, the reminder of the other despot's fall.

There is a great difference between the Duke of Connaught and the late Duke of Cambridge. The former takes off his raincoat to review troops when he sees the men without protection, while the latter used to review the forces from under an umbrella when it rained.

A writer in the Manchester Guardian of recent date used a rather apt figure of speech to describe the British navy: "The new navy is a brilliant and tremendous power of the most amazing and diverse capacities, like an elephant in its massive strength to crush a tiger and its delicate cunning to pluck a poisonous adder from its hiding place."

## "HEARTS AND FACES."

[By John Murray Gibson.]  
When one of the princes of publicity takes his stand among the authors of fiction, one has the right to expect an achievement.

One certainly does not "like" Mr. Gilson's book. One goes to the very end, expecting, hoping: as one does in life. And one isn't satisfied.

The sudden entire change of outlook on the part of George Grange, who as he enters the world of men, is disconcerting, unconvincing. Life again. The fiction is fluent and natural, the diction of the ready writer and the artistic atmosphere is portrayed by one who knows.

It is a picture of the metamorphosis of a nice, natural hobbie-de-hoy, with a full fall of kindness, into an unusually complete type of egotistical cad. The lad who was outraged by the concentration of Adam Grant in the face of suffering and dying childhood, has not a thought to spare, in later life, for the woman who loves him well enough to leave him.

It is the picture of a man obsessed by the Siamese Twin ideas of self and success, and the book ends with the hero mentally mauling in a morgue. One does not "like" the book. But it has all the properties of a cocktail.

The portraits grouped around George Grange—Nathaniel Reid, who has escaped the pitfalls of intellect, and won through to understanding; that modern pansy, Mrs. Middleton (you've seen modern pansies?); that exotic passion flower, Claire, and that aroma that is Purgot—all make one hope the dinner will not be long delayed.

## AGAINST IT.

[Club Fellow.]  
Jinks—She's decidedly against vivisection.  
Jinks—I found it out the minute I tried to open my heart to her.

FLOODS DISARRANGE TRAINS.  
CALGARY, Alta., June 20.—There is considerable disarrangement of train service on the C. P. R. lines owing to flooding, and some serious washouts have occurred. All the mountain streams are swollen to an unusual degree.

## The Advertiser's Daily Short Story

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## A Mixed Disposition

BY LOUISE OLIVER.

James Porterfield Morgan, known to the world as Jim Morgan, looked at his sister quizzically.

"Laura, do you mean to say that Polly Love is your ideal of a woman?"  
"Yes, Jim, dear, bright, wholesome little Polly, with her silly giggle as you call it is my ideal of a woman, and I wish you'd marry her."

"Well I like Polly of course but—"  
He flicked the ash off his cigarette and failed to finish.  
"I know what you mean, Jim. Your type is the dashing kind with a disposition like all the months of the year combined. June one instant, April the next and a regular January freeze to follow."

"You must acknowledge that it makes things more interesting at least. One wouldn't tire of a wife like that. She'd be like the surprise bag at the fair—you'd never know what was coming."

Laura tapped her foot impatiently. "Jim, you men make me tired with your queer ideas of women. Take it from me, they aren't the celestial beings you think, any of them—except Polly. She's an angel."

"If she were here she would laugh at your wonderful wish," answered Jim sardonically. "No doubt that's what she's doing now anyway, wherever she is. She's always laughing. And perpetual good humor bores me as much as incessant sunshine. A rainy day gets to be a relief."

Had Jim known it, he was right when he said that Polly was laughing. And this was the occasion. That morning a letter had come from Cornelia Graham announcing that she would visit them for a week on her way to Boston.

The news was received by Polly and her mother much the same as if Victoria of Spain had declared her intention of "dropping in." For Cornelia was pretty, rich and spoiled and the entire relationship held her in reverential awe.

"Oh, we can't have her with the protesters and paperhangers here," protested Mrs. Love in a panic. "And the rugs are all up and away at the cleaners, and we've no time to get them to get down or you'll ruin that exquisite suit you have on. We look like an accident ward in a hospital—all plastered up."

Mrs. Love kissed her relative resignedly. What was to be was to be! But why couldn't she have waited? Cornelia looked around soberly. "I'm afraid I have come at a bad time. But I don't want to be a trouble. Aunt Mary, just put me anywhere you like. Polly, you look splendid! I wish I had your skin!"

Cornelia was led through shrouded furniture and buckets of calamine and glue up to the second floor to Polly's room—the only room in the house that hadn't been dismantled.

"I wish," she continued to herself as the devastation grew, "that I had had the sense to stay away from here. I don't want to be a trouble. Aunt Mary, just put me anywhere you like. Polly, you look splendid! I wish I had your skin!"

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"That poor child," said Laura, "is in an awful fix. Cornelia Graham, that rich cousin of theirs, has just come and

## WAIT A MINUTE!

—By J. M. F.

Speaking of Pan-Americanism, it seems to be the favorite pastime in Europe to pan Americans.

It will be a grand sight to see William Randolph Hearst and his writers leading a charge against their fellow-bandits, the Mexicans.

The time is ripe for H. Ford to take the Spoof, and the Flivver to Mexico and get the Mexicans out of their saddles by July 4.

It would be interesting to know how many German officers will be engaged in the Mexican army, when Mexico goes to war with the U. S. A.

Rain makes more hay, says the wise bird. He must be an ass to like that kind of fodder.

"Who's Guilty" is the name of a new film play, possibly dealing with the life and times of a famous honorary colonel.

Men are taller in the morning, an expert says. We are generally very short at night, we know.

Carranza says Mexico will fight for its national honor. That is the zero thing in the way of fight-starting.

Somebody is trying to make New York the "City Beautiful." Possibly he intends to put dresses on the women folks.

We have read of a prizefighter who is following this line of endeavor so he can qualify for an evangelist. Better be a "trassier," so he can get a strangle hold on the devil. Billy Sunday will out-language him.

A few more German leaders will have apoplexy, when they see how great that Russian drive really is.

"The Hun fire killed their own compatriots," says a headline. Somebody must have shoved "their own" into that lay when the boss was not looking.

A Boston stenographer says she has had eight employers, not one of whom ever attempted to kiss her. Certain kinds of faces are certain proof against such dangerous pastimes.

Insect pests cost millions of dollars annually, but the human bore consumes millions of dollars worth of valuable time, and not a sweater in sight.

An expert has warned humanity against swallowing chewing gum. Oh well, somebody has got to gum up the newspaper pages.

To win success, marry a scold, says a matrimonial expert. Who wants success at such an awful price?

It is an awful oversight that in this crisis Pres. Wilson has not mobilized W. Jennings Bryan, and his heirs.

In the meantime his million men springing to arms have been noticeable by their entire absence.

President Wilson might mobilize Geo. M. Cohan's chorus girls, and flag wavers to start against Mexico.

As we go to press, the loyal German-Americans of the U. S. A. have not volunteered for service in Mexico.

Sir Sam Hughes is coming to London. It is not probable that Col. J. Wesley Allison will be present also.

So far as we can learn the Ford peace

## Traction Company

CHANGE IN TIME—THURSDAY, JUNE 22.

London to St. Thomas and Port Stanley: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and HOURLY to 7:30 p.m. 9:15 p.m. Last car at 11:15 p.m., to St. Thomas only.

SUNDAY SERVICE, 9:30 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.

LONDON AND PORT STANLEY RAILWAY

New Time Table Effective May 17, 1916.  
To ST. THOMAS AND PORT STANLEY: 5:20 a.m. and hourly thereafter at 20 minutes after the hour until 10:20 p.m. Then 11:20 p.m. to St. Thomas only. Cars leaving after odd hours stop only at St. Thomas.

Sunday service commences at 6:20 a.m., commencing June 19, 1916. Special car leaves London 4:55 a.m. arrives Port Stanley 5:45 a.m. Beach 5:45 a.m., stops only at St. Thomas. Returning, leaves Beach 5:45 a.m., Port Stanley 6:55 a.m., arrives London 7:00 a.m. Makes local stops. Daily, except Sunday.

Grand Trunk Railway System

TIMETABLE CHANGES.

A change of time will be made on June 25. Full information on application to agents.

Grand Trunk Railway System

TIME TABLE CHANGES.

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Grand Trunk Railway System

**Wives Sometimes Object To Life Assurance But—Widows Never Do**

Many a man has failed to insure because of his wife's noble but misguided scruples. She didn't want even to think of her husband being taken from her. The thought of money forcing itself into such a tragedy filled her with horror.

Such a woman overlooks the awful plight of a family left destitute. It's a husband's duty to protect his family from want and suffering after his death. A wife who opposes her husband in performing this duty is unfair to him, to herself and to her little ones.

A few dollars each year invested in an Imperial Income Policy will secure the payment of a regular, monthly income to a man's family after he's gone. We have an interesting booklet which tells all about it, and will send a free copy to any man or woman who asks for it.

Write for your copy today.

**THE IMPERIAL LIFE Assurance Company of Canada**  
HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO  
Israel Taylor, Branch Mgr., London, Ont.

party, which is launching another world's peace crusade, has not gone into Mexico.

We hear some discussion about free cash. However, free cash does not clutter our fireside.

As T. Roosevelt has been silent for some time, we must rise in our pew to remark that T. R. must be very ill.

It might be a good thing to start one of these preparedness parades towards Mexico.

In order to make the whole world right, it should be Korea's turn to try and kick the stuffing out of China.

Well, this is somewhat of a broken winter. We like a change.

CUT IT OUT.  
If you have a grudge that pains you, Cut it out;  
Or a habit that enchains you, Cut it out;  
Don't waste time in useless thinking; You can't cure yourself by winking. So, just can the foolish shrinking—Cut it out.

If you're fond of sorrows telling, Cut it out;  
Ere you hear the chorus swelling: "Cut it out!"  
Folks are bored by all this goading And this grief charged anecdoting; If you want to keep a-floating, Cut it out.

—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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Largest and most luxurious steamers on inland waters.  
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London .. 5:20 7:30 9:00 1:25 5:10 7:55  
St. Thomas .. 6:03 8:10 9:30 2:06 6:02 8:37  
Woodstock .. 6:23 8:34 10:08 2:25 6:23 8:59  
Ayr .. 6:55 8:55 10:25 2:55 6:55 9:30  
Guelph Junction .. 7:23 9:12 10:57 3:21 7:42  
West Toronto .. 8:20 10:11 11:55 4:15 8:40 10:50  
Parkdale .. 8:30 10:20 12:05 4:25 8:50 11:00  
Toronto .. 8:40 10:30 12:15 4:35 9:00 11:10  
WESTBOUND  
No. 629 No. 21 No. 631 No. 633 No. 19 No. 635  
Toronto .. 7:10 8:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 11:50  
Parkdale .. 7:20 8:20 1:50 4:20 6:50 12:10  
West Toronto .. 7:27 8:27 1:57 4:27 6:57 12:17  
Guelph Junction .. 7:50 8:50 3:41 5:50 8:17 12:36  
Ayr .. 9:22 10:08 4:01 6:06 8:17 12:43  
Woodstock .. 10:0