

HUMOR IN THE WAR; FOR AND AGAINST

PLEA FOR LESS HUMOR IN WAR.

(By Harold Begbie in London Chronicle)

This admirable title is not mine. It belongs to a gunner who has fought through all the worst battles in France. It occurred in a conversation we had together in a London drawing room. If I were free to write the things he told me you would call it a bad title. You would say that I should plead for no war humor at all.

A Great World Agency

War is hell. Anything which tends to obscure this truth is a deadly evil. Any spirit which makes for levity in this matter is a most devilish blasphemy. There has never been in the history of man so great a world agency as war.

The gunner said to me: "People are misled by hearing of jokes from the trenches. Let me assure you that every man in a bombardment trench fears with every stretched nerve of his body. Because two or three of them, in a moment of nervous reaction, utter some casual remark or sing a verse from a casual music-hall ditty, the British army is supposed to be full of Ollis Haven't the people at home got enough imagination to be frightened by the words of young men who compose our modern armies loathe this beastly war with every ounce of their feelings?"

Fighting War There are two good reasons for this plea. To begin with, the frivolous atmosphere at home (besides being in most excellent taste) is bad for the men preparing to go out. Cromwell would have trained his armies in another atmosphere. The welfare of the army demands a more serious and dignified spirit at home. And next, we are fighting in a time when the world is in a state of such a nervous tension that it needs to be brought to a focus by a serious and dignified spirit at home.

SEVEN OUT OF EIGHT APPLY FOR EXEMPTION Moncton, N. B., Oct. 22.—Since Saturday noon eight have reported to the post master under the Military Service Act and seven of these claim exemption. More than fifty per cent of men medically examined here are placed in Class A.

PLEA FOR MORE HUMOR IN WAR

(By A. St. John Adcock in London Chronicle)

Nobody can deny that Mr. Begbie makes out a strong case against war humor, you look at the subject from his standpoint. But there are other angles from which it ought to be viewed, for if his plea were granted and carried to its logical conclusion there would be an end of all humour—in peace as well as in war.

It wasn't war that first brought death into the world and all our woe. Mr. Begbie asks us to think of the conjunction, "War—Humour," as if they were irreconcilably opposed. I would like you to think also of the conjunction, "Life—Humour," seeing that, in the long run, life kills more than war, for it kills more of us more mercilessly than war does, with slower, longer tortments to body and soul than war, and with no respite of anything incongruous in pesting about life.

In Peace and War. Most of us would sooner be blown into nothing by a shell, or hit on the neck by a barbed wire bullet, than die gradually through the years of a wasting consumption. Yet Hood made a jest even of consumption; he laughed at the lank visages, pained about the spare ribs, found humour in the shortness of breath and one loves and honors him the more for it, since he was dying of consumption himself. If he had taken it quite seriously, and made everyone around him miserable by insisting on his heroic figure in our literature, soon his wit, joy, and even frivolity, but he said to me, "In God's name don't let us have quite so much war humor."

My other story is of an incident that happened only a few days before the war, at a place a little farther behind the line. An Irish soldier was recovering in a convalescent camp. He had been slightly wounded and was suffering from a nervous wreck of him. Late in the autumn there was a large entertainment for Christmas, and his man, who before the war, was a popular Dublin comedian, volunteered to get up a proper Christmas entertainment. He improvised a stage in a Y. M. C. A. hut, painted the scenery, wrote the pantomime, which was full of frivolous war allusions, and was not only his own stage-manager, but himself acted a leading part in the extravaganza.

ONLY 78 OUT OF 500 IN HALIFAX READY TO FIGHT Halifax, Oct. 22.—Seventy-eight men reported for military service and 422 claimed exemption at the office of the official registrar on Saturday.

Good Things Coming to Theatres of St. John

IT'S GOOD AT GEM

The new programme at the Gem Saturday night delighted all. The vaudeville acts are very entertaining; the Virginia Pearson picture an excellent feature. Come tonight!

LOCAL NEWS

The black mellow overcoat was on the selling at \$15 will help you out on the high cost of living.—Turner, out of the high rent district, 400 Main. T.F.

GUNNER ROBERT M. FAIRFOWL KILLED

Former St. John Man Who Had Come Through South African War

Mrs. Thomas Sutherland of Brookville has received word from Ottawa that her son-in-law, Gunner Robert M. Fairfowl, was killed in action on August 15. Gunner Fairfowl came from Scotland to St. John and resided here until after the death of his wife, when he joined the garrison at Halifax, enlisting from there in the 8th Siege Battery. After arriving in France he was transferred to another siege battery. Gunner Fairfowl was a veteran of the South African war.

THE N. B. COMMAND

It was learned yesterday that Brigadier-General MacDonnell, D.S.O., C.B., late commander of the 5th brigade in France, now home on sick leave, has accepted the position of general officer commanding the New Brunswick military district. Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Powell is to be promoted to general staff officer. As to the appointment of an assistant adjutant general, no names have been mentioned.

ITALY WINS WORLD HONORS IN AEROPLANE BUILDING

While attention has been focused upon the aeronautical progress made by the British, French and Germans, Italy seems to have forged ahead unobserved and captured the honors as the builder of the world's premier aircraft. Popular Mechanics Magazine for November says information from apparently reliable sources indicates that the Italians now possess not only the fastest, but also the largest and best climbing aeroplanes in existence. Their success has been due to the perfection of extraordinary engines capable of producing from 500 to 700 h.p. These motors are making possible the construction of planes that are larger than has hitherto been feasible. There is now being built in Italy a machine that will be driven by motors producing 3,000 h.p. It is expected to carry 50 persons.

CLIMO

Is noted for his photos. The most appreciated gift is one of these. Christmas samples now ready. Come early and save disappointments. Studio, 85 Germain Street 11-17.

DEATHS

MAWHINNEY—In Boston, Mass., on Oct. 20, D. J. Mawhinney (Wahls), leaving a wife, one son and one daughter to mourn.

BIRTHS

STONEY—On the 20th inst. to Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Stoney, 35 Charles Street—a son.

NOTICE OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS, 50c.

STOCKINGS

UNITED SOLDIERS' STOCKINGS, Fairview Temperance Hall, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. Games, guesses, booths, door prize, etc. For soldiers' Christmas stockings. We need your patronage. Do come.

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TO REGAIN HEALTH CLEANSE THE BLOOD

When your blood is impure, weak, thin and debilitated, you cannot possibly enjoy good health. Your system becomes receptive of any or all diseases, and germs are likely to lodge in some part of the body. Put your blood in good condition, and do so at once. Hood's Sarsaparilla acts directly and peculiarly on the blood—it purifies, enriches, and revitalizes it and builds up the whole system. Hood's Sarsaparilla is not a cure-all. It is the best blood medicine on the market. It has stood the test of forty years and is used all over the world. Get it and begin treatment today. It will surely help you. Sold by all druggists.

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White Enamelled Crib, 2-6x4-6, exactly like cut, fitted with non-rustable link spring. Special, \$7.75

Other Safety Crib Designs at \$11.50, \$12.30, \$15.00

High Chairs \$1.50 to \$5.50

Nursery Chairs \$5.00 to \$2.50

Basinets \$4.45 to \$6.75

Cradles \$2.15 to \$4.70

Coaster Cars \$1.35 to \$3.00

Hobby Horses \$4.95 to \$11.00

Rocking Chairs \$1.40 to \$4.75

Sulkies \$3.95 to \$10.00

Our Showing of Reed Baby Carriages is unsurpassed.

J. Marcus, 30 Dock St.

PT. H. BONNAR DIES OF WOUNDS IN FRANCE

Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 22.—Pennis relatives yesterday received word that their son, Private Herbert Bonnar, is serving in France on October 18. He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Jean Mazer of Fredericton, and one son. A brother, Private James Bonnar is now in hospital in England on account of wounds and another brother, Private Edward Bonnar, is serving in France. All three brothers left Canada with the 140th.

THE ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club today decided to add twenty-five bushels of wheat to the twenty-five contributed by the board of trade to encourage wheat raising in St. John county next year.

CORSET TALK NO. 5

Remember, please, this talk is personal, backed by corset enthusiasm. We believe that a large portion of women do not understand the hygienic importance of proper corsets. Real style and comfort can be yours if you let us assist you in choosing a model that will suit your figure. Come in and have a corset talk, or phone for fitting appointment.—Corset Department, Daniel, head of King street.

PERSONALS

Mrs. W. L. Hiscock, of Missoula, Montana, has returned to her home after visiting her mother, Mrs. M. L. Hoyt, 1 Coburg street.

WAS 100 YEARS OLD

Cornwall, Ont., Oct. 22.—Charles Ruest died at his home in East Cornwall on Saturday. He was born in Rimouski, Que., on June 1817. He was for years a river captain.

COAL MINERS BACK TO WORK

Springfield, Ill., Oct. 22.—Illinois coal miners went back to work today with the exception of those in Franklin county, after a strike lasting a week, in an attempt to force an increase in wages.

REPORTED PEACE PROGRAMME OF THE COUNCIL IN RUSSIA

(J. M. Robinson & Sons' private wire telegram) New York, Oct. 22.—Russian council announces peace programme which includes neutralization of Panama Canal and restoration of all German colonies.

REVIVAL SERVICES

At the Coburg street Christian church revival yesterday, there was special music at all services. Rev. S. B. Culp took for his theme at 11 a.m., "What It Costs Not to be a Christian." There was a lecture at 4 p.m. to men only on "Different Kinds of Men." There was a large crowd at the 7 p.m. service. The revivalist took for his theme, "What and Where is Heaven?" Mrs. Coe sang "Beautiful Reckoning Hands." Six persons responded to the Gospel invitation during the day. Three received the hand of Christian fellowship, and three made the good confession. There was baptismal service at the close of the evening service.

EXPORT OF SILVER SPRUCE

Ottawa, Oct. 22.—The exportation of silver spruce (except license) from Canada has been prohibited to all destinations abroad other than the United Kingdom, British possessions and protectorates.

TRAIN LATE

The Boston train was one hour and thirty minutes late in arriving in the city today. The delay was due to the trains being late on the Maine Central.

FURNITURE FOR THE KIDDIES

SEE OUR WINDOW DISPLAY

High Chairs \$1.50 to \$5.50

Nursery Chairs \$5.00 to \$2.50

Basinets \$4.45 to \$6.75

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WOMAN'S EXCHANGE LIBRARY

Seventy new books just in. Authors: Rinehart, Blindles, Gibbs, Richmond, Roache, Benson, Reynolds, Brady, Cranfield, etc. Costs only a few cents to rent them.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

THAT BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCE on the Manawagonish Road known as Englefield. Lower floor—Dining room, 16 x 14 1/2; kitchen, 13 x 18 1/2; den, 12 x 11 1/2; parlor, 17 x 14; toilet room, also large hall. Upper floor—3 bedrooms, 17 x 14 ft., 14 x 14 1/2, 12 x 11 1/2, one dressing room, 8 x 8; large bath room, also linen room; hot water heating, modern plumbing, large color, concrete walk. Lot 100 x 230, C. B. D'Arcy, 287 Tower street, Phone W. 297. 6756—10—26

WANTED—EXPERIENCED SHOE SALESMAN

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CONDITION OF HON. MR. GANONG CRITICAL TODAY

(Special to Times)—St. Stephen, N. B., Oct. 22.—Lieutenant-Governor Ganong's condition is very serious. A specialist arrived today from Montreal.

THE FORD CITY TROUBLE

Tilbury, Ont., Oct. 22.—About 500 people yesterday attended a meeting of the French-Canadian Catholic element who are in sympathy with the Ford City opponents of Bishop Fallon. Many Protestants also were present, and also a fair percentage of both French-speaking and English-speaking Catholics who are not sympathetic with the movement.

MOVIES SENT TO RUSSIA TO HELP WIN THE WAR

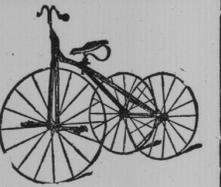
Motion pictures are to be used on a vast scale in the anti-Bolshevik campaign which the writer in the November issue of Popular Mechanics Magazine believes will greatly aid the allies' cause. The pictures are to be shown in theatres as well as in small villages and at the front. It is proposed to show these pictures in every amusement center.

VOICE ANALYSIS IS MADE WITH NEW APPARATUS

An interesting apparatus that has been lately developed by a professor of musical theory to analyze the tone qualities of the human voice and to determine defects that require remedying is the subject of an illustrated article in Popular Mechanics Magazine for November. The instrument is built of metal and by a sensitive membrane it it overtones that require development and those that should be modified are ascertained.

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Guaranteed line of Tricycles, rubber tired wheels, offered to you at actually present manufacturer's cost; three sizes. \$3.65, \$3.95, \$4.35

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Every article of goods we sell is "fine." We feel that it is a CRIME to sell people inferior and POISONOUS stuff to put in their stomachs.

The pure food laws—which can be dodged—do not force US to sell pure groceries. Our own good BUSINESS SENSE tells us that the best way to make money and build our business bigger is to give the people GOOD, PURE STUFF.

Let us supply you with these better lenses that mean better eyesight for you.

THE BEST QUALITY AT A REASONABLE PRICE

The Change in One's Eyes

Is gradual, Unconsciously one accommodates himself to it. Before he is aware of it, the paper or book is being held at arm's length—there are wrinkles—and a visible effort is necessary to see at close range.

We fit glasses which restore normal vision and preserve it. Don't wait for the change in your eyes to bring pain, distress, blurred vision. Consult Sharpe's optometrist now.

L. L. Sharpe & Son Jewelers and Opticians, 21 KING ST., ST. JOHN, N. B.

Gilbert's Grocery