

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO.

THE DAILY ONTARIO is published every afternoon (Sundays and holidays excepted) at The Ontario Building, Front St., Belleville, Ontario. Subscription \$3.00 per annum.

Subscription Rates THE WEEKLY ONTARIO and Bay of Quinte Chronicle is published every Thursday morning at \$1.50 a year or \$2.00 a year to the United States.

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V. H. Morton, Business Manager. J. O. Healy, Editor-in-Chief.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1918.

STICK TO THE ARGUMENT.

We fear there is danger of losing sight of the main issue in reference to the rescinding of the \$6,000 grant to the Overseas Y.M.C.A. because of the personal feeling being displayed by the various contributors to the discussion.

The question, as we see it, is one of right and truth and justice.

The city council, after voting \$6,000 to assist the overseas work of the Y.M.C.A. and collecting this amount from the citizens in taxes, now proposes to divert the money collected to some other purpose.

Did the council do right in taking a course so unusual and extraordinary?

Ald. Robinson and others in the council made the most serious and damaging statements against those concerned with administering the overseas work of the Y.M.C.A., virtually claiming that they were wholesale grafters and profiteers, in fact that the whole scheme was an "organised hypocrisy."

Did Ald. Robinson and the other supporting him state the truth when they in effect charged these men with being profiteers and hypocrites?

Did Ald. Robinson and the others supporting him deal in justice when they made such statements in regard to the administrators of the "Y" funds?

Did they deal in justice when they failed to carry out the pledge and promise to the men overseas when the grant was first made?

To all these questions we cannot fail to believe that every individual who has more than a superficial knowledge of the subject and who desires to be fair will emphatically answer "no."

Ald. Robinson in his letter in yesterday's issue points out that the grave assertions and charges, against the Y.M.C.A., made in his address introducing his rescinding motion at the council meeting, were merely quotations from letters. What he says is quite true. But it is also true that he affirmed his belief in the statements made in the letters. He also based his course of conduct on the assertions made by the writers of the letters and he led a majority of the council to follow his example in an exceedingly important movement. It is not fair, then, to say that when he repeats the statements in public, affirms their truth and bases his course upon them that he is giving them full endorsement?

These grave charges, as The Ontario has previously pointed out, were not new. They had all been made months before in a paper of low repute. They were repeated in the dying hours of the Provincial G.W.V.A. convention at Hamilton last May. Then a special committee of seven of the prominent officers of the G.W.V.A. went into the charges and investigated them fully, fairly and from every angle. Major Ponton of this city, whose fairness and lack of bias in the matter we must all concede, was one of the investigating committee. The result of the inquiry was a complete vindication of the "Y" and at the Dominion convention the charges were declared to be without foundation and as far as possible a great public wrong was set right.

Why are these charges, slanderous and untruthful as they were shown to be, repeated by aldermen in Belleville city council at this late date and made the basis for a denial of a much-

needed gift to the men representing us at the front?

Ald. Robinson in his letter belittles the work of the "Y" in giving free drinks to the soldiers at the firing line. It may surprise him to learn that the audited statement for 1917 shows that for the work in France for that year \$80,000 was spent in that way. This represents the actual cost of the materials—tea, coffee, sugar, cocoa, and milk thus given away. Several millions of cups of hot drinks were served to the men in their hours of dire need, without money and without price. Can Ald. Robinson fairly represent this wonderful work, carried out under the fire of German guns, by the belittling remark that they give away a cup of tea or coffee "occasionally."

Ald. Robinson quotes the words of one or two returned soldiers. It is to be noted that they all crouch behind the questionable veil of anonymity. Let them come out and stand up like true soldiers and lay their charges upon their own names. Statements of such serious import should never be anonymously made.

We will quote a statement and use the name. It serves as an illustration of thousands of similar statements that can be secured. It comes from one of Ald. Robinson's nearest neighbors. Wm. Vallance informs us that his son-in-law Bandsman Fred Burke, who went overseas with the 254th battalion band, and who has been at the front over a year, was no ardent admirer of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. when he took his departure. In a recent letter to Mr. Vallance he says "he will never say a word against the "Y" again. They have proved themselves by their work in France.

Ald. Robinson says that he will hold up both hands for the \$6,000 grant if it can be shown that half the money collected is spent for the benefit of the soldiers.

The financial statement, published last June in all daily papers, shows where the money went. The statement has been accepted as satisfactory both by auditors and hostile critics.

If Ald. Robinson can show that less than 90 per cent of the Y.M.C.A. collections for overseas work is not spent in the proper, legitimate services for the soldiers, The Ontario will agree to denounce the overseas "Y" as a fraud and an "organised hypocrisy."

If Ald. Robinson can prove that one-tenth of one per cent of the collections are made way with in the form of graft or that the organisation is "out for the money" in an unpatriotic commercial sense, The Ontario will avail itself of every opportunity to expose the "Y" as one of the greatest shams in existence.

Now then let us have names, dates, amounts, and places and not generalities, insinuations, prejudices, or opinions without facts to back them up.

The Ontario has no axe to grind. We are waiting and willing to be convinced.

If Ald. Robinson hunts long enough he can find irresponsible men who will make all kinds of allegations against the Y.M.C.A., the K. of C. Huts work, the Salvation Army or any other soldiers' benevolence or good work of any kind whatever. But for every such groucher a thousand straightforward, honorable, honest men will refute their statements by telling the truth as they have seen it.

Strutting boasters like the kaiser cannot be adequately punished by exile to some remote St. Helena. What is required is the humiliation that the thousands can witness daily.

Bouquets for Liebknecht and brickbats for the kaiser.

Every day sees another "paw" torn from the Teuton's grasp.

Buy a Victory Bond and help make the world unsafe for autocracy.

It may be crow instead of turkey for the kaiser's Christmas dinner.

ROSES

'E's an old soldier, is Bill! An' 's girls wot lives in the country Sent 'em 'a box 'o flowers. An' 'e 'ad 'em put in 's bivvy. An' 'e watched 'em for hours.

An' 'e 'oo aren't like old soldiers Couldn't hide by the smell; 'Cos we wished we 'ad been in England Instead o' bein' in 'ell.

But Bill didn't seem to get 'umpy. 'E didn't mope and sigh, 'E just sat and smiled at 'is roses. Though we could almost cry.

It's a way they 'ave the old soldiers, The good 'uns like Bill. They 'ave roses come from England And are 'appy still!

'E's a good soldier, is Bill!

Reginald F. Clements in Westminster Gazette

THE HUN STILL HOPES

Written for The Ontario by Chas. M. Rice, Lawyer, Denver, Colorado

How far Germany yet regards herself from anything approaching unconditional surrender, and what a distance she must still travel before reaching that humility and penitence which is willing to give all in expiation of its crimes, may be gleaned from the fact that her secretary of state for the colonies only very recently stated that the "safeguarding of Germany's colonial future is not only the aim of the government but of the people."

"A lively consciousness," says he, "now extends far into the workers' circles that the retention of our colonies is a vital question for the honor of Germany as a great power. Our colonial war aims are second to no other in national importance."

Again, while the civilized nations of the globe are discussing a league for the abolition of war, while, indeed, Germany herself is putting forward claims of qualification for membership in such a league of nations, we catch the following belittling note from the Tilt Kronzeitung:

The natives of Kamerun and German East Africa are by no means inferior to the Senegalese or Congoniggers in military qualities. The Hereros, and especially the Hottentots, will supply splendid military material in the military training of colored troops Germany will march at the head of all nations. Our enemies will have to realize this quite clearly.

In short, this war is not to be the last. As soon as she has wriggled out of the present unpleasantness, by hook or crook, she will make ready for the next one by training the ne-

groes in her colonies. She expects to have enemies—always enemies.

Of course it may be camouflage. The fact that it has been transmitted to the press might so indicate, still, even the Hun may now and then inadvertently speak the truth.

Germany, whether autocratic or democratic, must pay the price. The world is convinced that not all the devils who den beyond the Rhine decorate their names with a "von." The people have fed on the carrion of Kultur so long that they themselves smell to heaven like a flock of vultures. The world has not forgotten the dastardly treachery of the Fritzies and the Ottos, when no officer was at hand to compel them—luring stretcher-bearers to destruction by simulating death, ambitions buscading from ambulances.

It has not forgotten German women of high degree who spat on prisoners and stoned them. It has not forgotten German Red Cross nurses who refused food to wounded and starving prisoners, or offered them a bowl of soup after indescribably defiling it. It has not forgotten the celebration of the Lusitania massacre by school children chanting the "hymn of hate."

Any way we view it, there is no safety for the world until this world criminal has been disarmed, handcuffed, sentenced, and put where he can do no more injury to mankind. Arm the South African "niggers" and make him fight presumptively, to contract the precious blood of the cowardly Hun. The allies should see to it that he will not get another chance to commit his blood-thirsty deeds.

Lt.-Col. Marsh Scores Y.M.C.A.

Editor Ontario,—

Perhaps I shall be stepping on your toes if I request a few lines in connection with the Y.M.C.A. grant (?) I have read the so-called editorials regarding the action of the Council at its last meeting, but knowing as I do the feeling of the general public regarding Y.M.C.A. affairs, I can only consider these "editorials" as the personal opinion of the editors rather than an expression of opinion of the general public and as far as I am concerned would have paid no attention to them had not D. V. Sinclair in his usual blundered way just written a letter which may be called both pitiful and threatening. It is too bad that "Dave" cannot open his mouth without putting his foot into it. He opened his mouth a few weeks ago at the Board of Trade in a slanderous attack at myself and ending by swallowing the foot. Now he apparently compliments me by saying one of "the men in Belleville who were responsible for stopping the grant." I hope I was. When I wrote through your paper some months ago advising the council to withhold the desired grant of \$6000 pending proof of where the money was to go, I hoped the council would follow some good advice, and I was not the only taxpayer who congratulates the council on its action; there are hundreds of us.

I have, like other good taxpayers paid my taxes, a not inconsiderable amount of nearly \$1200, but I fail to find on my tax notice, any notice of any part of my tax being intended for the Y.M.C.A. or its works, and I strenuously object with hundreds of other taxpayers to any of my taxes being handled by the Y.M.C.A. in any way whatever.

This so-called humanitarian organization has absolutely failed to disprove the attacks made upon its truthfulness, in fact admits I believe that during the years 1914-15-16 all the statements made are correct and how far matters have improved since we do not know.

Monies raised by the Salvation Army, the K. of C. Huts, etc., are obtained on the distinct understanding that everything for the soldier is absolutely free. The Y.M.C.A. assumes no such position, in fact admits that practically everything is sold—for what purpose? Is it not obvious?

I do not take a back seat from anybody in my donations to all patriotic purposes and for the welfare of our boys overseas as far as my means permit, but when I give a dollar for these purposes I want to see 100 cents spent for the purpose for which it is contributed.

I hope the members of the city council will consider the matter closed and ignore the comment of the members of the Board of the Y.M.C.A., who seem to be more interested in the affairs of that organization than in the purses of the general taxpayers.

As for patriotic impulse in Sinclair, its quantity and quality can be measured with a very short rule when his remarks of a few short years ago against Canada and the British Navy are recalled.

Editor's note.—We are not sure what Col. Marsh means by the expression "so-called editorials," unless it be that the editorial productions that appear in The Ontario are not worthy of being called by the name "editorial." As to the poor quality of The Ontario editorials, we would readily agree with Col. Marsh. We would also inform Col. Marsh that these "so-called editorials" have no severer critic than the humble individual responsible for their composition and character. Col. Marsh or any other man who values his time is amply justified in casting Ontario editorials contemptuously aside as when Col. Marsh in the above letter says he "would have paid no attention to them."

Col. Marsh is quite true, as Col. Marsh says, "editorials are but the personal opinion of editors." The "personal opinion" of editors or of contributors to the press is worthy of attention only as far as that opinion corresponds with fact and truth. What particular opinions expressed in The Ontario in reference to the Y.M.C.A. were false in that regard?

Col. Marsh in his letter goes on to say—"This so-called humanitarian organization has absolutely failed to disprove the attacks made upon its truthfulness, in fact admits, I believe, that during the years 1914-15-16 all the statements made are correct."

Will Col. Marsh tell us when, where, how or in what document any responsible official of the Y.M.C.A. ever admitted that the "attacks made upon its truthfulness" in the years 1914-15-16, were correct?

Will Col. Marsh tell us of any particular charge against the Y.M.C.A.'s overseas work or its honor or "truthfulness," that has been made by any responsible party, that has not been met in the fullest and frankest possible manner?

Will Col. Marsh in his next communication quote the finding of the special committee appointed by the G.W.V.A. to investigate some of the charges that have been made and tell us his opinion of it?

Col. Marsh in his letter further states that "Monies raised by the Salvation Army, the K. of C. Huts, etc., are obtained on the distinct understanding that everything for the soldier is absolutely free."

The Ontario, as a supporter of both these latter movements, has followed their campaigns pretty closely. We have never anywhere else seen a statement on their be-

half that they supply "everything for the soldier absolutely free."

Will Col. Marsh inform us if no charge is made at the K. of C. Huts and the Salvation Army canteens for goods that are supplied to the soldier? If charges are made will Col. Marsh inform us whether they are higher or lower than the charges made for similar goods at the Y.M.C.A.?

As to Col. Marsh "stepping on our toes" in sending a letter to The Ontario differing from the editorial viewpoint, we must say that we always welcome letters to our columns as long as the writers keep within the bounds of fair debate and deal with topics of interest to our readers in all our sixteen years' experience in journalism we have never once refused a contributor space in our columns because his opinions differed from our own. We welcome criticism, favorable or unfavorable. Therefore we would say to Col. Marsh, "come again." We like his frank and outspoken letters on this and other subjects, that he has occasionally contributed to the press.

Mother Identifies Little Boy's Body After Night's Wait

Earl Crawford Killed by a Motor Car.

London, Oct. 29.—After remaining unidentified for 18 hours, the name of the small boy who died in Victoria Hospital Friday night after being run over by an automobile driven by H. Aldis, of 74 Bruce St., was learned to be that of Earl Crawford, of 160 Horton street.

The accident happened at the corner of Ridout and Horton street, about 6 o'clock Thursday evening, and the youngster died about 9.30 o'clock.

Owing to the fact that there was sickness in the household, the mother of the lad was unable to make inquiries about the boy, and supposed that he was spending the night with friends. She made inquiries at the hospital about noon and came to the conclusion that it was her boy who had been run down, and later identified the remains at Ferguson's undertaking parlors as those of her son.

The lad had been hanging on to the back of a coal wagon and evidently not seeing the automobile as it came around the corner, he jumped off and backed right up into it. Mr. Aldis had put on the brakes to come around the corner, when the boy detached himself from the wagon ahead and dropped right in front of the car.—Advertiser.

Busy Trenton News

(From our Own Correspondent)

Miss Jean Collins returned from Toronto today.

Mr. H. Ronney-Williams returned to town Saturday.

Mr. A. C. C. McIntyre left town Monday for Montreal where he has accepted a position.

We are glad to learn Mr. James Cox is making good progress in his illness.

Trenton was very mournful over Sunday. No churches opened.

Mrs. Morton Murdock arrived in town Saturday from Winnipeg, where she was visiting her sister.

Owing to the many sick people in Emergency Hospital has been opened and she at this juncture called her services which were promptly accepted.

Dean Starr, of Kingston, has left for Toronto, having visited here with friends.

Dr. T. S. Farncombe is out of town regaining his strength after a very trying time.

VICTORY is yours at the FINISH, so contribute towards it NOW. BUY VICTORY BONDS.

Mr. Hubert Britton, of the R.F.C., stationed at Trenton, was in town over the week-end visiting with his sister, Mrs. Elsie Matchett.

We are glad to learn Chief Arnold is up and doing after a bout with the "flu."

Mr. Dupont returned east Saturday after many months stay in this town.

There still seems a great amount of sickness here.

Much credit is due to Mrs. C. N. Barclay who will serve hot soup and pneumonia jackets to any sick person.

In these trying times why don't people learn to live for the good they are attending to others. Wake up.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Williams left for Kingston today noon.

Mrs. Jack Shurtle with daughter

Epidemic Dying Out

Reports Show That Conditions Are Improving

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—While 184 new cases are known to have broken out in the last 24 hours, the influenza epidemic situation is improved. More than two hundred names have been struck off the list, and the death rate of the twenty-four hour period ending noon on Friday was 17, as compared with 24 the day before.

Better on Coast

Victoria, B.C., Oct. 28.—That the Spanish influenza epidemic has shown no marked extension throughout the province during the twenty-four hours ending at noon today is evidenced by the fact that no applications for the banning permission were received by the department of public health here this morning.

Passed Apex

Montreal, Oct. 28.—"We have passed the apex of the epidemic." This is the verdict of Dr. S. Boucher, medical officer of health on the outbreak here. Cases today totalled 989 and deaths were 125, the first being an increase of 124 over the previous day, while the deaths showed a decrease of 15. Total cases reported are to date 14,025, with 2,258 deaths. Total provincial municipal pallies reporting is now 475, with 62,998 cases and 1357 deaths.

Dust Causes Asthma. Even a little speck too small to see will lead to agonies which no words can describe. The walls of the breathing tubes contract and it seems as if the very life must pass. From this condition Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy brings the usual to perfect rest and health. It relieves the passages and normal breathing is firmly established again. Hundreds of testimonials received annually prove its effectiveness.

YOUR 5-HUNDRED DOLLAR VICTORY BOND WILL:

- Buy— 4 ARMY WEAPONS, or 4 automatic rifles, or 3 cases of surgical instruments, or 63 blankets, or 1 field wireless radio outfit, or 500 overseas caps, or Steel helmets for a company of infantry.

Ready-made Medicine.—You need a physician for ordinary ills when you have at hand a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. For coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchial troubles it is invaluable, for sores, burns, bruises, sprains it is unsurpassed while for cuts, sores, ulcers and the like it is an unquestionable healer. It needs no testimonial other than the use, and that will satisfy anyone as to its effectiveness.

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