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LONDON, THURSDAY, FEB. 4.

A GERMAN INVASION.

THE attempt by a German reservist to blow up a railway bridge on the border line between New Brunswick and the State of Maine is only an indication of the possibilities of the future. Whether he is, as he intimates, a German soldier, acting under instructions, or a private German acting on his own responsibility, is immaterial. It certainly looks as though others besides himself were concerned. When a German officer goes to a town, meets a man at night whom he professes not to know, gets a charge of dynamite from him, and tries to blow up a bridge with it, the only conclusion one can reach is that the matter had been prearranged.

Still, it is nothing more than we should expect. Canada, as part of the Empire, is at war with Germany, and the latter country is justified in making war on Canada. This little attempt is nothing in itself, and will have no effect on the war one way or the other. It will cost the C. P. R. a little money to repair the damage; but it does not injure the Empire, and does not frighten Canada. But it is within the bounds of possibility that another attempt may be made on a larger scale, with more serious results.

Nor is it any less grave if the act is only the work of an irresponsible German. It shows what even some Germans not actively engaged in the conflict feel about it. If one can do this thing, others may try it, and with better success. The event is serious in so far that it is a warning to us. Though the battle line is in Europe, we are not out of danger. All the more reason it is, that we should guard well our railroads and canals, that we should be watchful for possible enemies at home or abroad, and that we should throw all our energy into the work of defending the Empire, and bringing about an end of hostilities.

As to the individual dynamiter in this case, it does not appear to us that he is safe from punishment either in the States or in Canada. If he was only a private individual, he can be extradited for destroying property. If he is acting officially, then he is violating the neutrality laws by making the State of Maine his base of operations for an attack on Canada. In either case he is a criminal, for whom punishment is in store. It will be the duty of the United States to treat the case in accordance with law and justice, and we have no doubt of the result.

It is entirely within the bounds of possibility that some German-American organization is making the case of Von Horn a test of the action of the United States. They may want to know how Uncle Sam would act in case a raid were attempted.

WAR IN THE DESERT.

AN ARMY of Turks 150,000 strong is reported advancing across the desert, with Egypt and the Suez Canal as the objective. The report recalls Napoleon's Egyptian campaign, when in midwinter of 1799 one of his armies suffered terribly from thirst. Unless the Turks are unusually well supplied with water, their invasion of Egypt may meet with disaster. To march through shifting sands beneath a sun that even in winter blazes down with equatorial intensity is a terrific test. There is a hundred and fifty miles of it to be crossed, and the trying march will not leave them in shape for the fierce fighting that is assuredly ahead. The natural difficulties are greatly against the Turks in this invasion of Egypt. And if they do reach the canal in good shape they have to cross it before they can get at the heart of the British forces, and that the Suez is being thoroughly patrolled by warships goes without saying. Also by this time Kitchener has gathered an army for the defence of Egypt that is at least the equal of the Turks in numbers and efficiency. With a desert between them and their base, and a powerful, resourceful enemy in front, it looks like a mad adventure. It can only be accounted for by German influence. Germany hopes by a lucky Turkish victory in Egypt to arouse the natives against the British. Otherwise the campaign indicates poor military judgment.

A FALSE DOCTRINE.

PRESIDENT JACOB G. SCHURMAN, of Cornell University, is preaching to Americans with "Arm! Arm!" as his text. In Everybody's Magazine for February, the noted educator seeks to stir his adopted countrymen to the necessity, as he regards it of training soldiers, so that a large reserve could be called out at any time.

While professing to be a disciple of peace, he does not believe that peace is lasting, and he does believe that war is inevitable for every nation. Perhaps President Schurman, who is Canadian-born, considers that the possibility of strife between the two countries is so remote as to be considered fairly impossible, but, on the other hand, he has overlooked the case for peace without arms when he fails to see the moral in the hundred years of peace on this continent. This newer continent has a great lesson to teach Europe if Europe can be taught, and if the believers in war as a great cleansing process and a noble profession can be eradicated.

The United States will never become a conscript nation, and until any nation is conscript it can never have "preparation" such as Schurman advises. The only "prepared" nation of these times is the nation that enforces "conscription." Few men will become soldiers in times of peace of their own free will. Every German is a soldier, because he is a slave to rulers of the divine-right type. He is as much a slave as he is a soldier. He fights, perhaps because he is willing, but he fights anyway—because he must. With the specially-prepared glamor of a perverted patriotism about him, he may think he is doing a work for the good of humanity. In reality he is just a killing-machine, without a moral support in the world, and at the present time the child of a vicious environment, guilty of the most horrible acts.

The United States can never be anything but an unprepared nation in the military sense. If it is going to live in eternal fear of a menace, with a threat of violence hanging over it, such as France has known, the very thing to make the menace a reality is to prepare for it. Let the jingoes get to work, insulting Japan or some other nation, and in years to come the United States may have a nice flesh-and-blood-and-iron "yellow peril" knocking at its door. President Schurman talks like a jingo, to say the least; he certainly is deliberately overlooking the peace of this continent in his effort to make out a case for a large military force in the republic.

DR. HUTCHINSON.

THE charges preferred by Sir Adam Beck against Dr. T. V. Hutchinson were of the smashing order. Dr. Hutchinson is not a man to indulge in controversy, nor does he maintain that he has not been guilty of mistakes. He is well on in years, and citizens generally will feel that the attempt to discharge an old servant in dishonor might have had its smashing character tempered with a little consideration for his years of faithful service Dr. Hutchinson leaves his office with no dishonor attached to his name. He has done much for the health of the city in his time; he has been lax in some things, but not as lax as his opponents of long standing would have the public believe. London has been one of the healthiest cities in the country. It has facilities for the care of the sick. It has tuberculosis institutions That people were not always forced to enter these institutions had much to do with the agitation to dismiss Dr. Hutchinson.

GERMANY'S DISGRACE.

NOTHING so vividly indicates how low Germany has fallen in the estimation of neutral powers than the mobilization of the Dutch and Swiss armies. After that drive through Belgium, Holland and Switzerland are taking no chances. When Germany broke faith with Belgium and the powers she smashed every other treaty she ever made. She can no longer be trusted. That is what drew Norway, Sweden and Denmark together. The Scandinavian peoples have united against a common peril, knowing that at any moment Germany may toss aside any pact as "a scrap of paper." At any other time, with a war raging along their borders, Holland and Switzerland would have contented themselves with sufficient frontier guards to prevent the conflict overflowing into their respective countries. With Germany involved, any day may find them fighting for their national existence. There isn't the slightest doubt but Germany will smash a path through Holland if she finds it necessary to her plans, and should Italy enter the war it may be depended upon that the "kultur" will be forced upon the Swiss. It is quite evident that both Holland and Switzerland prefer to put their trust in their guns rather than in Prussian guarantees. Contempt for Germany's word is written all over their attitude.

THE COMING SESSION.

PARLIAMENT opens today. Whether the session shall be a purely war session, which means political peace, or not, is something for the Government to decide. The truce that was proposed at the outbreak of the war has been faithfully kept by the Liberals. There may have been occasional jibes at some of the ministers, for there has been some temptation. And the unwarranted attacks on the Liberal naval policy have been strongly resented. For this we have not been to blame. On the whole, no fault can be found with the Liberals. Every act of the Government towards sustaining the Empire has received Liberal support. There can be no doubt that the same course will be pursued if the Government is content.

In that case, the session will be a short one, and will be confined to the necessary war measures. The only possibly contentious questions will arise out of any wrongful contracting that has been done. And on that there should be no difference of opinion. Liberal and Conservative alike should be interested in meting out punishment to offenders.

Of course, something may depend on the course to be pursued by the Government in the matter of a general election. Many of its supporters were anxious for one last year. Possibly they will be of the same opinion still. In Great Britain it seems that both parties have agreed there shall be no election until the war is over. But then in that country they seem willing to place country before party. We fear that is a standard of political morality we have hardly reached in Canada. If the Conservatives think it will be a party advantage to have an election, there will be an election. In that case, the Liberals can scarcely be expected to keep silent. When a Government goes to the people it cannot expect to escape criticism. And while the whole country may be agreed to support it on one question, that is no reason why they should escape condemnation for mistakes they have made, and political crimes committed.

So whether there shall be peace or war depends on the Government. The Liberals will prefer peace, but if the other side wants war, it will have it.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Cruel of that Von Horn to go after Van Horne's road.

The author of "Beautiful Snow" is barred from these columns.

Von Horn has a peculiar way of blowing himself. He uses dynamite.

One hundred and fifty English peers are at the front. War puts prince and peasant side by side.

The Allies' importation of mules may forecast a determination to "Hee Haw" the Kaiser out of business.

Russian soldiers cultivate beards, as they find them terrifying to the Germans. The Kaiser's moustache was that way until it went limp.

February came in with a bang like a forty-two centimetre gun. Perhaps it will go out with as little noise as a toy pistol with a Maxim silencer.

Von Bernstorff maintains that hydro-aeroplanes are warships because they can float on the water. The gull has the same ability, but nobody would call it a fish.

Great Britain announces that foodstuffs for Germany will be considered contraband. That's the answer to the submarine raid in the Irish Sea. Germany can't stand much more of the choking.

The farmer returned from the prairies of the West needs no bending exercises. Between watching for frost and sunburn, and wind and hail, while his crops are ripening, he becomes the champion bender. Stay in Ontario!

THE TWILIGHT WITCH.

[Madison Cawein.]

The twilight which comes with her stars
And strews them through the blue;
Then breathes below the sunset bars
A breath of meadow rue;
She trails her veil across the skies
And mutters to the trees.
And in the wood, with firefly eyes
She makes the mysteries,
The twilight witch, with elf and fay,
Is coming down the slumber way,
Sleep, my dearie, sleep.

The twilight witch, with crescent moon
Stoops on the wooded hill;
She answers to the owlet's tune,
And to the whippoorwill.
She leans above the reedy pool
And wakes the drowsy frog,
And with the toadstool, dim and cool,
Kiss grey the old dead log.
The twilight witch comes stealing down
To take you off to slumber town,
Sleep, my dearie, sleep.

The twilight witch, with windlike tread
Has entered in the room;
She steals around your trundle-bed
And whispers in the gloom.
She says: "I brought my steed along,
My fiery steed of gleams,
To bear you, like a breath of song,
Into the land of dreams.
I am the witch who takes your hand
And leads you off to fairyland,
The far off land of sleep."

BETTER WAIT.

[Kansas City Journal.]

"Why do you object to my marriage, father? Surely 18 isn't too early to marry."

"But $10 a week is."

HIS PLAN.

[Detroit Free Press.]

He didn't wait for riches to be kind unto another,
He didn't wait for sunny days to smile upon a brother;
He didn't tell a weaker soul he'd help when he grew strong,
But what he had he gladly shared with all who came along.

He didn't say: "Tomorrow I may smooth another's way.
Perhaps I'll have a minute that I cannot spare today,
Perhaps I'll find a better opportunity for good."
When he saw a chance for kindness he employed it while he could.

He lived each day out nobly, just as though it were his last,
And as though he knew the future wouldn't bring back what had passed;
He gladly shared his little with the poorer that he met,
And when his final evening came he'd nothing to regret.

ANTIQUARIAN LORE.

[Philadelphia Ledger.]

Some maids wed at so advanced an age that ever after her friends refer to her husband as the junior partner.

MEN OF CANADA.

[By Percy MacKaye.]

Men of Canada,
Fellow Americans,
Proud are hearts beat for you over the border;
Proud of the fight you wage,
Proud of your valiant youth
Sailing to battle for freedom and order.

On our own battlefields
Many's the bout we had—
Yankee, Canadian, redcoat and ranger;
But our old brotherhood,
Staunch through the centuries,
Shouts in our blood now to share in your danger.

Ah, it's a weary thing
Waiting and watching here,
Numbing ourselves to a frozen neutrality;
Yet, in a world at war,
'Tis our good part to keep
Patient to forge the strong peace of finality.

Though, then, our part be Peace,
Yet our free fighting souls
League with your own 'gainst the world-lust of Vandals;
Yea, in the dreadful night,
We, with your women, weep
And for your shroudless dead burn our shrine candles.

So, by the gunless law
Of our same borderline,
By our soul's faith, that no border can sever,
Freedom!—now may your flight,
Waging the death of war,
Silence the demons of cannon forever!

Kin-folk of Canada,
So may your allied arms
Smite with his legions the Lord of Disorder!
God speed your noble cause!
God save your gallant sons!
Would we might sail with them—over the border!

"NORMAN"
The NEWEST
ARROW COLLAR
2 for 25 cents
Cluett, Peabody & Co., Inc. Makers. Sales Dept. Montreal

DAILY WAR PUZZLE

The Crown Prince at the front. **Find two more of his men.**

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE.—Upper right corner down in mud hut. Left side down under huts.

Tales From the Trenches

The British soldiers in the trenches cheered themselves at the New Year with song and entertainment, and the efforts of a section of the troops were highly successful, judging by the program of a concert which they had on December 31. The remarks concerning some of the performers are not exactly complimentary.

We print the program below, having substituted a dash for the name of each artist:

——Will juggle with the ivories.
"Marriage Market."
——"The Admiral's Broom" (to be returned to the Q. M. S.)
——"B——" (Deleted by the Censor.)
"Belgravia."
——"Simply Cannot Sing."
"Evan's Dawg's 'Orspital."
——In his "Bivvy."
"Asleep in the Deep."
——"Paree." (By kind permission of the Kaiser et son Fils.)
"Because" (I know it's hard).
——"Down Came the Blind" (brought down by "A Little Willie").
——"Has a ten minutes' halt."
"Where my Caravan has Rested."
——"His Life Story."
"Jimmy Binks."
——"The Old Clown" (not the Prince of that ilk).
——Something Mustard.
——"Home on Leave."
"Snooky Ookums."
——"Maire my Girl" (his only one).
——Will perform on the Corduroy.
——Hopes to be funny.
——Chased by "Jack Johnsons."
"In Cellar Cool."
——And the Rum bottle (and no half rations, please).
"We've all been doing a bit."
——At it again.
"Playing the game in the West."
——Will Blither."
——"My little dug-out in the Trench."
——Has Hopes.
"Sergeant of the Line."
——I want a Sergeant and 40 men.
"Somewhere a voice is calling."
GOD SAVE THE KING.

Domino Players: Ptes. —— —— ——

At the interval Iron Rations will be inspected.

(It is rumored that the unexpected portion of the day's ration will be present.)

At midight Something is expected from Q. M. Sergt. ——, ably assisted by the Cooks.

Stretcher Bearers at 12:15 a.m.

We understand that the men's midnight expectations from the quartermaster-sergeant and cooks were not disappointed, and that the performers were rewarded in a congenial way.

CAROL SINGING TO WOUNDED.

A lady interested in the establishment of a hospital in France writes:

Christmas Day was one of the most interesting I ever spent. Through knowing the English chaplain's wife out here I received an invitation to spend the afternoon carol singing at various British hospitals. So first to the A—— Here all was warmth and light, with the spirit of gaiety rampant. Many flags, mottoes, pictures and flowers in the wards, with spotlessly clean nurses everywhere. Our room contained a huge and splendid Christmas tree. So we sang old-time carols, then passed from bed to bed, containing the cheeriest occupants in the world. "We've had a grand time," exclaimed one hollow-eyed though beaming soldier. "Nothing but presents since six o'clock this morning. What would they say to that at home now?" "Glorious Devon," was being sung by some enthusiast as I found myself amid a group of convalescents.

"Dear old country—best in the world," murmered one.

"I'm from the west, too," I remarked.

In a trice my hands were seized and wrung by two eager Devon lads. One little white bed contained a patient whose leg had been operated on five times. "To-morrow it is to come off," he said, I cannot get the man's brave expression out of my mind as he said, "It'll be fine getting rid of the old pain anyhow!" Then on to the B—— Hospital.

Here again all was light and merriment. Tea being in progress, everyone urged us to be seated.

"May I introduce our new sister?" exclaimed some smiling nurse. A tall, gaunt figure extended a grimy hand and said:

"Excuse this apparent lack of soap, but I've been busy in the trenches until lately."

A roar of laughter greeted this sally, for the "new sister" was in realty some male inmate dressed up for the occasion. I talked to one young soldier for some time. His foot had been frost-bitten over a month ago.

"Having a good time, Baby?" remarked a friend as he passed.

"Baby" grinned from ear to ear.

"Are you the youngest here?" I said.

"Yes. I'm just nineteen—enlisted a year ago by giving the wrong age. Glad I did it, too, for I wouldn't have missed all the fun for anything."

"Will you come here a minute, Miss?" a man's voice sounded from behind. He showed me many gifts. All were delighted with the portrait and good wishes sent by our King and Queen. Then Princess Mary's gift was a constant object of pride and delight. So we talked, sang, played until the hour grew late.

"I'll have to drive the men to bed; they'll never go otherwise," laughed the matron. Then came "God Save the King" cheers and farewells.

DISPASSIONATE VIEW.

[Kansas City Journal.]

She stands before her glass all day,
And it is plain
I'm not in error when I say
My love is vain.

She likewise looks upon my suit
With great disdain,
My ardent wooing bears no fruit;
My love is vain.

HIS FORTE.

[Judge.]

Madge—Why do you prefer Wagner?

Marjorie — Because he composes about the only kind of music one can hear above the conversation.

FOXY PA.

[Chicago Herald.]

"He is very popular with his wife of late." And him such a flirt. How does he do it?" "She called him up the other day and said: 'Hello darling,' and he recognized her voice and replied: 'You have evidently made a mistake; I am not your darling. I have the dearest, sweetest, most beautiful wife in the world, and she is the only woman I permit to call me darling!'"

NO FUN TO GET UP.

[Kansas City Journal.]

Life is not a dream, they say;
Poets so aver;
As I rise at break of day,
Oft I wish it were.

RUSSIA WILL CONTROL.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Russia today informed the United States that the distribution of food, money and clothing to German and Austrian prisoners in Siberia would be permitted only by the Russian military authorities, declining to give foreign relief expeditions that privilege. An American expedition had started from Peking.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25 cents. W

The Canada Life Assurance Company

enjoyed another prosperous year in 1914.

The policies paid for in cash totalled over $14,000,000., and the business in force now amounts to over $157,400,000.

The increase in assets of $3,942,000. was greater than that of 1913 and brings their total up to $56,103,841.

A most gratifying feature of the year's business is the surplus earnings of over $1,533,000., the year being in this respect one of the very best in the Company's history.

The Canada Life is this year distributing to policyholders

Dividends of over $2,800,000

Not only is the amount now distributed materially greater than that of the last distribution in 1910, but the rate declared on policies has continuously improved since 1900.

HERBERT C. COX,
President and General Manager.

H. E. GATES, Manager for Western Ontario, London

7

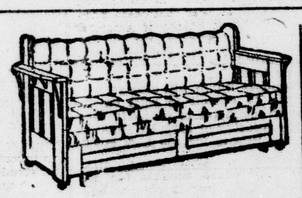
On January 2nd, Arthur H. Keene started on a purchasing campaign to furniture factories in Ontario. Some of these factories needed the ready cash and parted with the goods at Mr. Keene's own price.

The Result: The public of London will be enabled to purchase furniture from Keene Bros., 123-5-7 King street, at

A Saving of From 40 to 50 %

ALL GOODS ARE STRICTLY HIGH-GRADE AND GUARANTEED TO BE AS REPRESENTED, AND LOOK AT THE PRICES.

Davenports



A beautiful Couch by day. A comfortable Bed by night. Six feet 6 inches long. Oak frame, Spring and Mattress complete. On sale for, each

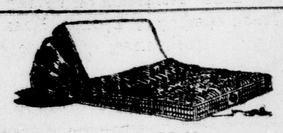
$19.50

Formerly sold from $30.00 to $40.00.

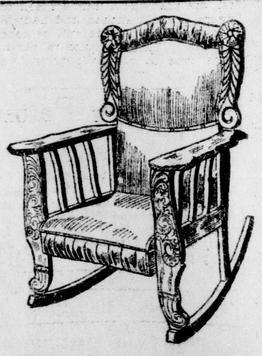
This Steel Bed Illustrated. Has continuous 2-Inch Posts and 1-Inch Posts inside. Only 26 to be sold.

On sale for **$8.85.** Original value $15.00.

60 Mattresses like above for, each ..... **$2.40** Seagrass and Wool Filled. Good covering.



If you want the cheap Felt Mattress you can have it for **$3.95**
But the Best Felt $10.00 Mattress, for $5.95



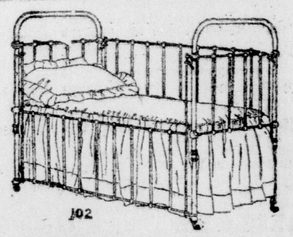
Easy Rockers

Massive Heavy Rocker, similar to illustration, upholstered seat and back. On sale at, each **$4.95**

5-Piece Parlor Suites for... ..... $19.90

Hardwood Dining Room Chairs

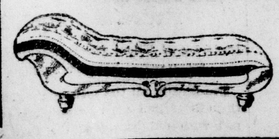
$1.10 Chair, like illustration, for, each..... 87½c
$1.25 Chair, very heavy, for, each 95c
$2.00 Chair, one-piece leg and back, each, $1.49
Rockers to match, add 25c per chair.



Metal Cribs

Just 7 Cribs for, each $3.95
Just 5 Cribs for, each $4.95
Just 2 Cribs for, each $6.75
Just 3 Cribs for, each $9.90

Some Purchase of Couches



A great variety of colors in floral and plain velour for, each $4.90
12 only, $18.00 Large Bradley Leather Couches, for each $12.75
The $15.00 Couch illustrated, in green or brown verona, for $9.90

KEENE BROS. 123-5-7 King Street

OUT OF THE HIGH RENT DISTRICT.

Agents for Ostermoor Mattresses and Happy Thought Stoves.