

## The Daily News

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E. C. Dawson, Editor-in-Chief

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MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1913

## PUBLICITY IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The familiar cry that harm results to the city's interest from publicity in the conduct of public business has again been raised by members of the Winnipeg board of control, certain members of which body recently declared themselves in favor of excluding the press from its meetings.

It is encouraging to observe that those who favored the "star chamber" sessions proved to be in the minority, though it may be questioned whether, even if they had been able to give effect to their desires, the public would have tolerated the arrangement. The attention of the people needs but to be called to the dangers of the practice of holding secret meetings in order to ensure its condemnation in a manner prompt, effective and unmistakable.

Reports state that the suggestion was made by one of the controllers that a permanent press agent be appointed, whose duty it would be to make public through the newspapers just so much of the business transacted by the people's representatives as those gentlemen would deem it advisable that the public should know. The suggestion is not new. Many will remember that a Calgary commissioner recently advocated the establishment of a municipal bulletin for the publication of news and views of municipal business. The press agent in either case would be appointed by the men under whose direction he would work. Such an arrangement would doubtless be more than satisfactory to these gentlemen. Acts which might excite criticism would be kept as much as possible in the dark, or, where a measure of publicity was unavoidable, would be presented in the most favorable light. Thus, the thin-skinned alderman or controller who shrinks from the touch of criticism would be fully protected, while the unscrupulous, if any there were, would be able to operate with the minimum of danger from possible discovery.

The arrangement, however attractive as it may be to public officials representing either of these two types—does not command itself to the public, who are seldom deceived by the specious cry that the city's interests may be hurt by full publicity in the conduct of public business. To the plain man it is a sufficient consideration in favor of full publicity that the aldermen or controllers are his representatives and the business in which they are engaged his business. Nor does he need to be told that the city's interests will be as safe in the hands of the press as in those of the aldermen. He knows that the interests of the newspapers are those of the city in which they are published. Upon the support of the citizens they depend for their existence. They may, therefore, be trusted always to guard the city's interests with a care as jealous as that of any city official.

## AN INTERNATIONAL MANIA.

It is becoming increasingly evident that, if the demon of militarism is to be exorcised, it must be through the agency of the plain people of all civilized nations. They do not want war and they are not likely knowingly to provoke war; yet they must bear the enormous and increasing burden of armaments and, in the event of conflict, must fight, suffer, die and pay.

How long will they be content that this condition shall continue? They have the power to change it and will do so when they awaken to a knowledge of their power. Already there are signs that they are stirring.

The following, from an article written for The London (England) Daily News & Leader by Ed. Bernstein, a member of the German Reichstag, is both interesting and significant. The occasion of the article was the announcement of the military proposals of the French and German governments and the manifesto which it provoked from the workers of both countries. Of the militarist spirit this German politician says:

"It is an international mania, and only internationally can it be cured. The parties of the workers have realized this, and have acted accordingly. The protestation against it of the executive and the Parliamentary representatives of the French and the German socialists, published last Saturday in the 'Humanite' and the 'Vorwarts' in both languages, is a new and hopeful step in this direction. And, what is most significant, this manifesto has not been suggested by the one party and accepted by the other; it is the outcome of a simultaneous consideration in both countries. On Friday, the 21st of February, the committee of the German socialists sent a letter to the French suggesting a joint manifesto; and, on the morning when

this letter arrived in Paris, a member of the French party arrived in Berlin with the same message. On the same afternoon, at almost the same hour, the same thought was conceived on the banks of the Seine and the Spree. A really symbolical coincidence!

"In the same spirit and on the same lines the workers in both countries will fight the new sacrifices to militarism. They will prove the earnestness of their determination that there shall be no war nor warlike peace; that genuine peace and goodwill shall unite the civilized world. Unfortunately, they are not numerous enough in the Parliaments to vote down the desired credits. But they will not tire in carrying out the work of education, and they call on those members of other advanced parties who have retained the old ideas of international goodwill to fight side by side with them for the great cause. It is an arduous task, but it is also a noble, elevating task. Looking around at the middle classes, one may despair of its success but if the eyes turn to the democracy of the workers the hearts are filled with new hope. In the workers' camp, on the other side, every sign is welcomed which shows that there are at least some people who have heart enough to say a courageous word at the proper hour.

The friendly words of advice given by English Radicals to the French Radicals may today not obtain a good hearing in the councils of the latter, but they will, for all that, not pass unheard or without effect. Nothing is superfluous in this important movement; no contribution to international understanding will be lost. The press of the delirious has a wide circulation; may the Press of the sober not relax in their crusade against the spread of the armament delirium."

## WHAT CANADA CAN DO.

"We have built three transcontinental railways, breaking rock for the roadway, crossing mighty rivers, threading a difficult and dangerous path through the mountains. Where is the weakening or the coward who says we cannot do on sea as much as we have done on land?"

The building of battleships is only a part of the vast enterprise which we have in view for Canada. The made race in naval armaments may cease, but if so our mighty enterprise will not be abandoned. We will build merchant ships and passenger ships. We will put life and vigor into every community in Canada which has access to sea, or lake, or river. We will build everything that counts, and we will be satisfied with nothing less than leadership in building ships and sailing ships, in carrying passengers and in carrying the commerce of the world. You cannot check Canada."—From Toronto Star.

The need for an emergency naval policy having passed, it would be in order for Mr. Borden to proceed at once to formulate a permanent policy and let the people of the Dominion pronounce upon it.

The census of the city's population is to be taken on April 19th. The date fixed is none too soon. Brandon has too long been misrepresented. The citizens should co-operate by giving the required information to the enumerators promptly and willingly.

## Magnetos

By GEORGE FITCH,  
Author of "At Old Sirash"

A magneto is a pocket electricity factory whose chief mission is to make an automobile go.

When a magneto is working well it produces a beautifully continuous electric current which is cut into small chunks and fed into the cylinders, causing the explosions which have made the gasoline engine justly famous—and for lack of which explosions it is also justly infamous.

Magnetos are small and delicately built. They are located beside the motor, usually where they can easily be reached by any man who can stand on his head and wriggle into a garter-snake hole. They are placed this way for two reasons—to keep amateurs from bothering them and to make it worth while for an 80-cent an hour mechanic to tackle the job.

It is as hard to find out what is the matter with a sick magneto as it is to cure a woman with nerves. A magneto may appear to be in the picture of health and have all of its faculties in good working order. Yet it will produce electricity as reluctantly and scantily as a church congregation produces money for the missionaries. The magneto is the nerve centre of the automobile and when it gets out of kilter the machine develops blind staggers immediately.

An automobile with an invalid magneto is just exactly as useful as a democrat wagon with a meditative and reluctant mule in the shafts.

It is possible to buy electricity in bulk and run an automobile with a collection of dry cells stuffed full of lightning juice. But the magneto is far more economical. By hiring an expert about twice a year to take your magneto apart and shake his head sadly over the remains at a total cost of about \$35.40, you can often save \$20 worth of dry cells.

This may not look like economy to the man who walks, but it is about as near to saving money as the automobile owner ever gets.

NEW FACTS OF EUROPE'S MILITARISM  
HOW BRITAIN REGARDS THE NEW ISSUE

The real meaning of the decisions of Germany and France to increase their armies—and the significance to Europe of that action and the position which Great Britain should take on the new facts, is lucidly shown in a leading article in the Manchester Guardian.

"We see evidences in many directions of a new orientation of European policy as the result mainly of the Balkan war," says the Westminster. "For the time being Great Britain and Germany no longer occupy the foreground, and in place of the debate on their naval strength we now have a growing preoccupation with the military strength of the triple and dual Alliances, which expresses itself in new proposals for raising the strength of their armies."

## Germany vs. France.

"The prospects of peace in Europe are good, but at its national enjoyment about as bad as they could well be," says the Manchester Guardian.

"This year the German Army Act expires, and notice has been given of a new bill under which the active strength of the German army will be raised about 15 per cent. The active strength is at present 720,000 men; it will be in two years under the new bill about 850,000. This increase is not directed against France or any single power. Its excuses are the revival of the Russian army after its defeat, the danger of war between the great powers in the Balkans, and perhaps (though no official statement of reasons has yet been given) the fear that the weight of the British army might in the event of war be thrown on the side of Russia and France.

"But, whatever the reasons, it has caused great alarm in the French newspapers. The active strength of the French army is now 600,000 men, but of these 70,000 are in Algeria and Tunis, so that the actual superiority in Europe of the German army over that of France is nearly 200,000 men. It will be more than 300,000 if the reichstag passes the new army bill. This superiority in numbers, great as it is, is still rather less than the superiority of Germany in population. There are 65 Germans to 38 Frenchmen; there will, if the new bill passes, be 53 French soldiers for 85 German. Still, we should be dull not to understand and even to sympathize with French nervousness.

## What is France to Do?

"What is France to do? The French newspapers, headed by the Temps, are full of proposals to extend the two years' service to three years. This change would bring about the peace strength of the French army to over 800,000 men, or approximately equal to the German army. We cannot interpret the message of the French president in any other sense than that a proposal for a great increase in the French army is at any rate under consideration by the government. He eulogizes the army as the most effective auxiliary of diplomacy; declares that a nation cannot be effectually pacified except by being always ready for war, and in a passage that we find moving, profoundly as we disagree with the political views underlying it, he declares that 'a diminished France, a France exposed by her own fault to challenge or humiliation, would be a France no longer.' But these sentiments mean trouble, and it is impossible not to connect the projects of an increase in the French Army with the appointment of M. Delcasse as ambassador to St. Petersburg. M. Delcasse is the great apostle of the balance of power in Europe, and he is not going to St. Petersburg for nothing.

## Nations as Prodigals.

"No useful purpose would be served by attempting to apportion the blame between France and Germany for this prospective increase of armaments. They do not stand alone. Every nation in Europe is wasting its substance. What makes the case of France particularly touching is the magnitude to make in a perfectly hopeless struggle with natural laws. The additions of an extra year to the term of military service means an additional tax of, say £50, on every family that has a son of military age. It is the value of 250,000 men put as an additional tax on the industry of France. And all in the hope of proving that two is equal to three. It cannot be done. A nation with a population of 38,000,000 cannot have a standing army equal to that raised by a nation of 67,000,000 except at a wholly disproportionate sacrifice. Germany has only to make an equal effort and France would have to raise the term of barrack life to four and five years.

"It is saddening to see a nation with the genius of France running its head against a wall in this way. Two courses are open to France. She may make up for her numerical weakness—which every year will make more marked—by extending her alliances, so as to make a counterpoise to the power that she fears most. This is M. Delcasse's way, and as her allies will wish her to have as powerful an army as possible, it will be attended by constantly increasing sacrifices on her part.

## The Other Way.

"The other way is to recognize that a nation numerically weaker cannot meet a stronger nation on its own terms, and that it must make up for its natural weaknesses by some radical change of military policy. Such a change would be the frank abandonment of the military offensive, the restriction of her armaments to the requirements of defence, and a new orientation of policy corresponding to this change in her strategy. This is the way that M. Jaures has suggested. Can there be any doubt which way a sincere well-wisher of France, with no interests of his own to serve, would wish her to follow?

## Two Conditions.

"On all Englishmen alike lies the duty of doing nothing to encourage France in the wrong. To base our policy on the principle of neutrality is, therefore, to base it on the lowest, if the wisest, measure of common ground. There are two conditions of this policy of neutrality. The first is that we should assure France that it is our interest, and that we believe it to be hers also, to come to an agreement with Germany, and that neither has our friendship with France, a hostile front towards Germany, nor our friendship with Germany, should it be attained, a hostile front towards France. The second is that, neither must she expect us to defend our policy in her own. And, lastly, that just because we recognize our old antagonism to France to have been a mistake, we do not mean to repeat the mistake with Germany in the place once occupied by her.

## Peace Via War.

"There is a very general misunderstanding on these principles which is unfair both to this country and to France, and both countries stand to gain by perfectly plain speaking. Let M. Jaures remind us of the elementary facts with which we have to deal. 'The people of Germany and the people of France,' he writes in L'Humanite, 'want peace. The German government and the French government and the French government want peace. Yet the two peoples are on the road to war, thanks to the very precautions that they take, one against the other, and that though neither is menacing the other. Either Europe will cure itself of this folly, or it will tear itself asunder in its madness.'

"Let us hear M. Jaures appeal to his party: 'It is our task, the sublime mission of the Socialist proletariat, to avert this disaster from the peoples; to save peace, democracy, civilization, the future of labor, the hope of justice. The democracy of France, under the dangers that multiply about it, will come out of the inertia in which it languishes. The insolence of reactionaries, the audacity of adventurers and traitors, will not long make head against her.'

"Can we doubt in which speaks the true voice of France that they know, in the conventional tags of the President's message or in the Dantesque fervor of M. Jaures? In the one calls the France of the Revolution, in the other the France of the Monarchy and the Empires."

SAVED BY WOMAN'S QUICK WIT.  
Stops Elevated Train Within Four Feet of Fallen Man.

New York Mar. 31.—A quick witted woman saved the life of Abel Crave of 2799 Eighth avenue last night when he reached for his hat and fell to the tracks at the northbound station of the Ninth avenue elevated road of 125th street.

As Crave bruised and bewildered, was trying to regain his feet a train was coming into the station. The woman ran to the station door, picked up a red lantern standing there and waved it frantically until she saw the train come to a stop. Her warning enabled the motor-man to apply the brakes in time to clear Crave by about four feet.

The station agent called a policeman to pull Crave back to the platform and during all the confusion the woman disappeared.

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## CHIC

Table Showing the Wonderful Growth of the  
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All Loans Made Bear	5% Interest at the
Rate of	Per Annum
First Loan made April 22, 1911	\$500.00
Loans made during month of December, 1911	\$4,000.00
Loans made during month of June 1912	\$17,000.00
Loans made during month of August, 1912	\$22,000.00
Loans made during month of November, 1912	\$34,300.00
Loans made during month of December, 1912	\$35,100.00
Loans Pending and in Process of being made at Dec. 31, 1912	\$68,000.00
Loans Made and Pending December 31st, 1912	\$103,100.00
December 31st, 1912, Loans made and in Process to date.	\$263,100.00

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