

Journal of Commerce

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MONTREAL, TUESDAY, JULY 13, 1915.

The United States and Germany.

President Wilson and his advisers are confronted today with the most serious situation that has arisen since they came into office. There was a time when the United States was disposed to look with comparative indifference upon events in Europe.

The World's Railways.

The world's total railway mileage at the end of 1913 was 684,614 miles, an increase of 15,000 miles for the year as compared with a gain of 16,770 miles for the previous year.

Table showing railway mileage by region: Europe (214,665), No. and So. America (252,467), Asia (67,051), Africa (27,472), Australia (21,959), and Total (684,614).

The British Elections.

We have on several occasions referred to the indications, in all parts of the Empire except Canada, of a general desire to avoid the turmoil inevitably associated with the holding of contested elections.

would sit this year or new registers be prepared; and, if not, what arrangements the Government proposed to make with regard to this matter, and the postponement of elections.

Mr. Asquith: A good deal of the work in compiling the registers of electors in the present year has already been done, and I do not think that it is desirable that the ordinary procedure should be suspended.

In Canada no bill to postpone the elections is, for the present, necessary. The House of Commons has about fifteen months of its legal term to run.

Although there are only about 600,000 automobiles in use in the entire world, outside the United States, the Scientific American predicts that by the first of next year there will be 2,500,000 in operation in this country.

The Konigsberg has been destroyed in East Africa after being "bottled up" for several months. Germany's dream of world power is passing.

Evidence seems to be accumulating that Roumania, Bulgaria and Greece will shortly enter the war on the side of the Allies. Italy took a long time to take the plunge, but eventually came across.

Sir Lomer Gouin, Premier of the Province, says, "I am ready to do anything the citizens of Montreal desire me to do."

The London Daily Chronicle has a column called read with surprise by most Canadians:—resting comments on current and past affairs.

"Since we have become so closely allied with France there have not been so many jokes about 'Frog eaters.' Our own Canadian brethren, who have been fighting so strenuously in Flanders, are themselves great frog eaters, and should the French ever offer them this delicacy they will find that Canadians will gobble them up with no small relish.

COUNTRY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The "beat" teacher we ever had in our old district school had a distinctly bad influence in the community.

Born and raised in the country, she longed for the town with her whole soul. She despised the rural life.

She thought all the wisdom of the world was printed in books, and that all the worthwhile opportunities of life were to be found in distant cities.

She did not openly deride and mock our parents, of course, but we knew without being told what her feeling was.

She was full of enthusiasm, and she found it easy to inspire us with her own top-lofty ambitions.

Most of the girls in the neighborhood wanted to be Jenny Linds and Florence Nightingales. All the boys wanted to be heroes—great soldiers, poets, judges, statesmen.

None of us, of course, wanted to be great in his own neighborhood. Each thought he had to get away from home in order to have a chance in life.

Teacher could not, in fact, see the neighborhood. The eyes of her soul were afflicted with that disease which the oculists call hypermetropia. She could only see distant objects.

The girls in the neighborhood, feeling the impulse toward the "wider horizon," drifted away to the towns and cities.

They escaped the "deadening monotony" of rural life by becoming waitresses in hotels and workers in factories.

Some fared a little better, and some a great deal worse—but none of them became a Jenny Lind or a Florence Nightingale.

The boys, too, were full of the grand unrest. They turned their backs scornfully on the old homesteads.

Each was "the architect of his own fortune," and teacher had taught him to believe that all the building materials were to be found in distant places.

After they had failed as architects, many of them came humbly but gladly back to the old district, and succeeded as farmers.

Now as never before in the world, opportunity is found on the farm, and every school teacher should know that.

There are more statesmen of real worth and more genuine poets coming from the tall grass than from the tall buildings.

The wider horizon is the privilege of youth, but it is visible to every one who lifts his head at home, while it is too often obscured by clouds of smoke to the sojourner in the cities.

Do not let teacher fill the minds of your children full of cheap romance while she ignores all the beauty and dignity that should make rural life so satisfying.

—Farm Life.

NOT OUR JOB.

If there are others who, like Prof. Holt, entertain the belief that J. Pierpont Morgan can stop this war they may as well dismiss the thought. There is no one person in the United States, either in finance or in political life, who can do that.

MONTREAL TO WINNIPEG.

For thirty years it has been possible to travel between Montreal and Winnipeg by the Canadian Pacific Railway. Now for the first time there is a choice of rail routes.

The length of the new route is 1,257 miles, and the trip will be made from Toronto to Winnipeg in forty-two hours, which is satisfactory.

Although there are only about 600,000 automobiles in use in the entire world, outside the United States, the Scientific American predicts that by the first of next year there will be 2,500,000 in operation in this country.

Registrations up to February 1 showed 1,500,000. Since 1913 the increase has been at the rate of 600,000 cars per year, and each month has shown an increase over the last.

People generally know that when they become lost they walk in a circle, but do we know why this is? Scientists now tell us that one foot is faster, and that we cannot walk down the street a half mile without walking toward one edge or the other if we simply walk and allow our minds to be free from the thought of "keeping straight."

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"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

Golfer (proudly)—I play with my head, my boy. His Rival.—Yes, I notice that you are partial to wooden clubs.

"Does your Jiggaby come by his erratic temperament naturally?" "Yes; his mother was a grand opera-singer, and his father was a left-handed pitcher."—Puck.

"What did your father die of?" the doctor asked an Atonchian negro, who was being examined for life insurance. "Ah don't know, boss," he replied, "but it wasn't nothing serious."—Kansas City Star.

Clerk—I'd like to get a week off, sir, to attend the wedding of a friend. Employer—A very dear friend, I should say, to make you work that much time.

Clerk—Well, sir, after the ceremony she will be my wife. Johnny's mother was tired of having her table cloths stained. So she instituted a fine of a penny for every stain.

During tea a few days later Johnny was observed running his rather grimy finger very hard on the cloth beside his cup and saucer. "Johnny, what on earth are you doing?" asked his mother in surprise. "You'll soil the table cloth."

"Oh, no, I won't," replied the youngster. "I'm just trying to rub two spots into one."

An English professor, travelling through the hills, noted various quaint expressions. For instance, after a long ride the professor sought provisions at a mountain hut.

"What do you all want?" cried out a woman. "Madam," said the professor, "can we get corn bread here? We'd like to buy some of you."

"Corn bread? Corn bread, did you say?" Then she chuckled to herself, and her manner grew amiable. "Why, if corn bread's all you want, come right in, for that's just what I hain't got nothing else on hand but."

A short time ago a man was charged in Glasgow with stealing a herring barrel. After the charge had been proved the principal accuser thus addressed the magistrate:

"Deed, Sir Bailie, the man at the bar is a great rogue. The stealing of the barrel is naething to some of his tricks. He stole my signboard last week, and what does your honor think he did with it?"

"That would be hard for me to say," replied the judge. "Weel, sir, I'll tell ye," said the witness. "He brought it in o' my ain shop w' my ain name on it and offered to sell me't, as he said he thought it would be o' mair use to me than onybody else."—Glasgow News.

How did you die? Did you tackle that trouble that came your way With a resolute heart and cheerful?

Or hide your face from the light of day With a craven soul and fearful? Oh, a trouble is a ton, of a trouble is an ounce, Or a trouble is what you make it;

And it isn't the fact that you're hurt that counts, But only—how did you take it?

You are beaten to earth? Well, well, what's that? Come up with a smiling face. It's nothing against you to fall down flat, But to lie there—that's disgrace.

The harder you're thrown, why, the higher you bounce: Be proud of your blackened eye! It isn't the fact that you're licked that counts; It's how did you fight—and why?

And though you've been done to the death, what then? If you battled the best you could, If you played your part in the world of men, Why, the Critic will call it good.

Death comes with a crawl or comes with a pounce: And whether he's slow or spry, It isn't the fact that you're dead that counts, But only—how did you die?

—Edmund Vance Cooke in Zion's Herald.

RUINED BY MODERATE DRINK.

The passing of the American Temperance Life Insurance Association is attributed by the president of the association to the number of deaths, in excess of calculations, in the class of moderate drinkers.

The association began business about twenty-five years ago, its original plan being to insure only total abstainers. About five years ago it modified its rules in order to accept moderate drinkers as well as total abstainers.

The deaths in the class of moderate drinkers were 50 per cent. larger than in the totally temperate, for whom the insurance was originally intended on the theory that persons of the better habits lived the longest.

The two causes named by the president for the failure amount to about the same thing—the premiums were insufficient in both the total abstainer and the moderate drinking class. Possibly a third cause was potent also, the factional rows among the members.

The French despatch states that seven-tenths of all casualties are caused by artillery fire. This simple fact, if it is a fact, explains all the fuss about supplies of shells.

The first ineffective in the war was the Dreadnaught; the second, the cavalry; third, the magazine rifle. The weapons which have taken their place are the submarine, the scouting aeroplane, and the machine gun.

The old field gun is now the fourth ineffective, its place being taken by the high-powered, low-trajectory 75 or 77 mm. field gun, such as those used by the French and Italian armies.

The new high-powered artillery is a great consumer of explosive shells, and hence the excitement over the supply for each of the contending armies. Since December the French have been manufacturing 100,000 shells a day more than they consume, and Germany probably the same. The other nations are in arrears.

Mr. Henry Clews, in his latest report from New York, speaks of the pound sterling being sold at 4.754 dollars, the lowest quotation in over a century.

He says, in a discount of about 2 1/2 per cent, and compares with a discount of about 4 per cent on French exchange, 15 on Italian, 18 on German and 24 on Russian. "These comparisons," he continues, "show that thus far Great Britain has stood the strain better than any other nation, and while it is possible that sterling may sell at still lower figures, there are as yet no signs of weakness in Britain's ability to finance both herself and her Allies until the end of the war."

The exhibition of strength and skill which British finance is making is remarkable, and far exceeds all expectations, nothing like it having ever been witnessed in history.

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL.

Apparently there are shareholders of the Manchester Ship Canal Company, who are dissatisfied with the financial results and working of the Ship Canal. A Shareholders' Association has therefore been formed, and in a circular now issued it is pointed out that, although for upwards of 21 years the Ship Canal has been in operation, it has failed to return any dividend upon its eight millions of share capital.

It is urged, therefore, that a new policy, in the interests of all concerned, has become imperative.

FOREIGN SAND FOR SUBWAYS.

Some of the contractors constructing sections of the new subways have been using European sand for filling in. Our own United States sand would go just as well, but the European war has cut down cargoes to this country to such an extent that many steamers are coming over in ballast. Beach sand has been used for ballast, and upon arrival in New York the steamship people have practically given away the sand to anyone who will take the trouble to haul it away.

PARTY PATRONAGE AND RASCALITY.

This assurance by hardened practical politicians that if they keep the party backing they can survive exposures of corruption and graft shows that there is something rotten in the state politic. One of the good effects of the Manitoba explosion will be that it will speak in thunder tones to the people of Canada of the folly of tolerating and condoning rascality in the sacred name of party.

The Day's Best Editorial

PAY YOUR BILLS. A certain number of retail stores are essential to the welfare and progress of every community, in spite of the fact that many communities are overloaded. These establishments cannot pay their bills to the wholesalers from whom they buy until they get their pay from their customers for the goods which they have sold to them.

The money has to be paid sometime, so why not pay it when the goods are purchased? By doing that you are helping the storekeepers to conduct their business on a basis which is more satisfactory and beneficial to them. At the same time it is more satisfactory and beneficial to you. A cash business is more satisfactory and beneficial to both sides of the transaction than is a time business.

Long running accounts, slow collection—and even sometimes no collections at all—are hard on the merchant. At the same time they are hard on his customers. He can do a cash business with his wholesale dealer only if you do a cash business with him. By paying cash for what he buys he gets lower prices and better service than when he pays only weeks and months after the accounts are due. Consequently, he must charge higher rates for the goods which he sells in order to pay the higher prices which he is charged and make up for the bad accounts which he is unable to collect.

It is simply good business to pay cash as you go, at least to settle all bills at the end of the month in which they are contracted. The quicker a man gets his business on a business basis, that much quicker will his profits from that business increase; it matters not what the nature of his business may be.—The Farming Business.

Imperial Bank OF CANADA

HEAD OFFICE TORONTO Capital Paid up \$7,000,000 Reserve Fund \$7,000,000

This Bank issues Letters of Credit negotiable in all parts of the world. This Bank has 127 branches throughout the Dominion of Canada.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT at each branch of the bank, where money may be deposited and interest paid. MONTREAL: Cor. St. James & McGill Sts BRANCHES: St. Lawrence Blvd.

KOREA TO HAVE SECULAR SCHOOLS.

Japan's policy for Korea as a dependent province of the empire is one that, so far as administration goes, takes on the form of benevolent suzerainty, a policy that penetrates to every section of Chosen and affects all its inhabitants.

That which Japan has tested for itself as worth appropriating from the Occident, and which it deems best for the Koreans, it decrees shall become operative. But preceding the flats are the probes. Nothing is done by impulse. The why and the wherefore of the project are determined in Tokyo before force, if force be deemed necessary, is used in Seoul. If time is needed to give effect to a new policy that may seem radical, and really is, then the course followed differs. If Europeans and Americans have interests that will suffer by summary action, it is provided that the new order of things shall become operative following an interval for adjustment. If Koreans only have to be considered, the orders may be peremptory, if thought necessary.

A case in point is the decision of Japan to secularize the Korean schools. So much of the pioneer educational work of the ancient kingdom, prior to Japanese suzerainty, was done by Christian teachers in schools established by the contributions of American Protestants that it seemed inevitable, when Imperial schools were established and Japanese trained educators were given the responsible task of creating a school system, that some friction should follow; and this was not lessened by the clash that came, in the course of time, between the missionary forces and the Japanese administrators, over the alleged guilt of Korean converts to Christianity that were charged with conspiracy against Japanese authority.

The regulations that have issued from time to time for establishment and maintenance of the public school system of the province have never openly antagonized the missionary schools. Japan does not do that at home. But it does control these schools in certain important aspects of their work, and from its point of view, must do so. Nor, in the primary and secondary grades of instruction, is there much opportunity for successful competition of the private school with one that is backed by the public purse and governmental prestige. In the higher grades Japan has found it well for itself that it can count on graduates of colleges and universities not supported and maintained by the government. It is in this field of independent education that Count Okuma, through his institution at Waseda, is thought by many to have done his greatest work for Japan.

What is most interesting about this latest decree of Japan formally secularizing the Korean school of education is that it gives no sort of support to the prophecy, common of late, that the empire was to re-instate formally one of the ancient Asiatic faiths as the state religion. As one reads of this progress of the ambitious empire on the path of religious neutrality in education one wonders whether the national leaders are copying France or the United States.

INVENTOR'S REWARD.

The inventor seldom profits by his invention. The Chinese invented gunpowder. Here are the men of the Saxon eyes. Men of the fens and men of the Peak. Men of the Kentish meadows sleek. Men of the Cornwall cove and creek. Men of the Dove and Dart.

Here are men of the kilped clans. From the heathery slopes that lie Where the mists hang grey and the mists hang white. And the deep lochs brood 'neath the craggy height. And the curlews scream in the moonless night. Over the hills of Skye!

THE VALE OF SHADOWS.

Here are the men of the Celtic breed. Lads of the smile and the tear: From where the loops of the Shannon flow. And the crosses gleam in the even glow. And the halls of Tara now are low, And Donegal cliffs are sheer.

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