

The Weekly Ontario

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THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE COUGH.

On Sunday night at the recruiting meeting at the Opera House there was a continuous round of coughing among the members of the audience that made the words of the speakers almost inaudible towards the back of the house.

It is no reflection on the speakers at Sunday night's meeting that they were greeted by coughs instead of applause. Frederick Palmer, the distinguished war correspondent, was similarly greeted and afterwards admitted that veteran lecturer as he was, he was nearly confabbergasted by the volleys and fusillades of Belleville coughs, more disconcerting to him that showers of German shrapnel.

We say it therefore in an offensive sense that under the spell of Rev. Capt. Cameron's really wonderful and fascinating oratory the people quite forgot their colds, coughs and influenza. He magnificently succeeded where Frederick Palmer dismally failed.

We therefore maintain that about ninety-nine per cent. of this coughing is an unnecessary performance. Teachers and physicians who have tasted the matter know from experience that it can be almost altogether suppressed by a very small effort of the will.

In conversation with a local physician the other day he informed us that a patient came to him suffering from a chronic cough. A thorough examination disclosed no affection of the throat or lungs. The doctor shrewdly guessed that the man was coughing purely from force of habit. He told him to go home and quit his foolishness. The man did so and to his great surprise found that he could get along without coughing and in a short time the desire and tendency also vanished.

Let every man therefore to coughing inclined think before he coughs.

TERMS OF PEACE.

If Germany's future as a nation is irretrievably blasted before this war is brought to a close, her people will have themselves alone to blame. When the war began there was no special feeling of hostility against Germany among any of her opponents—certainly not among the British. As the war has progressed, and she has recklessly committed crime after crime against civilization, humanity and Christianity, the feeling against Germany as changed from almost regretful hostility to bitter loathing and a stern determination to disable her for all time to come, so as to make forever more impossible the commission of similar outrages upon other nations.

An honorable peace for Germany would have been easily attainable at first, upon adequate guarantees, for her future good behavior. Now, the whole world, including all neutral countries, has been fully convinced that no guarantees which Germany could offer would be worth the paper on which they might be written. She has dishonored her own official signature. Treaties, to her, are mere "scraps of paper." She repudiates the knowledge of any law but the alleged necessities of her own rulers and her own armies. She respects no conventions. She regards the slaugh-

ter of non-combatants as a mere insignificant detail. She admits no rights, but her own "will to power."

It would be as wise to talk of making peace with a pack of wolves in full cry as with such a nation. The wolves had to be exterminated before their human neighbors could rest in security. So, Germany will have to be dealt with, as a nation, before Europe or the world can really think of permanent peace. Let not any one make the mistake of blaming only the leaders of Germany. We have been too prone, in the past, to fall into that error through accepting individual Germans on their face appearance, in times of peace. We have, on superficial view, regarded them as men like ourselves, differing mainly in language and unimportant customs.

We know, or should know, much better by now. We have had abundant proof that they are radically different, that our honorable ideals are as inconceivable to them as their diabolical ones are detestable to us. Their prime motive is greed—the greed of the wolf and the highwayman. Their main desire is to enrich and aggrandize themselves recklessly at the expense of their neighbor. Their minds are filled with covetousness for the goods of their neighbors, instead of with Christian desire for the good of those neighbors. Their rulers and leaders are merely their outstanding exponents. They are worthy of their leaders, and their leaders of them, as is always the case. A people which tolerates and applauds vile leaders is of necessity vile itself.

Not one word of disavowal, or reprobation of the vile deeds committed by Germany as a nation since the beginning of the war, has been forthcoming from the German people. On the contrary they have thrown up their caps and shouted with joy at every outrage perpetrated by their forces under the orders of their leaders. Their hearts have glowed with satisfaction over the sinking of the Lusitania, and the continuous murdering of women and children in France and England. They gloated delightedly over the horrible ravaging of Belgium.

It would be insane, therefore, to think, much more to speak, of making peace with such national vipers until their poison fangs have been finally extracted. A year ago it looked as if Germany might have been granted terms of peace not too humiliating, after her armies had been forced back within the boundaries of their own territory. Today no such idea is entertainable. It is obvious to all, now, that Germany must be destroyed as a potential military power. For the permanent peace of the world all possibility of her ever again dreaming of asserting herself in arms must be eliminated. However long or arduous the task may be, nothing short of that will justify the tremendous efforts and sacrifices which the Allied Nations have already made to check her long-planned career of murder and rapine.

There is only one possible event which might justify the Allies in offering peace to Germany before her thorough subjugation; and that is the complete breaking of the German people with their present government and institutions. If the Germans were to get rid of their Kaiser and his military entourage, and prove not only their good faith but their definite accession to the rank of modern, national civilization by taking the conduct of their public affairs directly into their own hands, peace might be made with them at any time and on the most generous terms consistent with the complete restoration of Belgium and the other small nationalities which they have crushed. But peace with a Kaiser-ridden and army-controlled Germany is not thinkable; and will not be thought of. The war cannot and will not end until the Kaiser and Kaiserism have been completely eliminated forever from Germany and from Europe.

THE APPAM CASE.

The affected English admiration of the German naval stroke in capturing the "Appam" and sinking a number of British merchant ships, to say the least of it, untimely. It is even more out of place than the Australian proposal to lionize the Captain of the "Emden" after the destruction of that ship. This is no time for applauding the successes of our opponents as if we were looking on at a game of football. It is not surprising that the Germans neither understand or appreciate it. This war is far too serious a matter for any such "sporting" exhibitions of retarded aloofness. The Captain of the "Emden" was to be lionized in Australia because he had been more successful, and less brutal than most of his fellows. Now, "sporting" Englishmen are clapping their hands in mawkish affection of appreciation of the "cleverness" of a successful German trick at sea of which they know nothing but its alleged success.

At the best, there does not appear to have been anything particularly brilliant about the Appam trick. The Germans somehow seem to have got some sort of an armed craft smuggled into the high seas. That craft, according to

German accounts which may need much revision, has succeeded in sinking half a dozen unarmed British merchant vessels and in taking one such vessel into an American port. The trick, at best, is a "smart Alec" one of very small importance. When the lies with which the Germans, as usual, are beclouding the adventure are swept aside, it will probably look still smaller.

If the spirit of International Law is observed in settling the case of the "Appam" it will turn out that the Germans have merely taken the quickest means of returning the "Appam's" crew and passengers to their homes, and of restoring the vessel itself to its rightful owners. There can be no reasonable doubt in any well-informed mind that no nation can capture a merchant vessel of a hostile country, and take it into a neutral port without having first had it condemned as a lawful prize by a competent Prize Court, and get away with the permanent retention of it.

No vessel captured at sea ever has, or can become the lawful possession of it captors until it has been judiciously condemned. In a German port it might and probably would, if convenient, be held and treated regardless of laws. In a neutral port, the case is very different. Those who took the "Appam" into Newport News entered American waters as armed belligerents. The simple and plain duty of the United States Government is to disarm and intern them. The "Appam" was a British merchant vessel when captured and remains the same still. Nothing has been done to change her status as such. She should be as free now as are her passengers who have been allowed to land on American soil and take passage for their homes. They were a much German captives as the ship on which they were taken. How can they be released by order of the American Government and the ship on which they were passengers detained?

The "Appam" is either a German ship or it is British. It is not German, because no pretence is made that it has been lawfully condemned as a prize by a competent German Court. If it is still British, as it undoubtedly is, it should be free to depart at will as a wholly unarmed merchantman. If it is to be adjudged German by the American Government, by what right do they order the liberation of its passengers? A ship, wherever it may be, is legally a part of the soil of the country whose flag it flies. The "Appam" went into an American port, flying the German flag. If she is adjudged to be a German man-of-war she and her German crew must be interned as such. If she is a German merchantman, temporarily in United States waters, the American Government has no right to interfere with dispositions on board. The captain of a vessel at sea has the right not only to imprison but hold in irons unruly portions either of his crew or of the passengers. No Government of any country at which he may touch, has, or has ever claimed, the right of interfering with his authority. Only regularly constituted courts, or direct appeal, have any such right.

Over a million and a quarter dollars for the party organs in a war year indicates that "patriotism" is still doing business at the old stand in the same old way!

The Liberal agreement to the extension of the Parliamentary term does not mean that there is to be a truce to boodling. Wrong-doing and fraud and graft will be relentlessly exposed.

"Has Germany abandoned her lawlessness from under the sea only to revive it from above the sea," asks the New York World. "Sinking ships indiscriminately by bombing from a Zeppelin is something new in the war, but in principle it is kin both to Zeppelin overland performances against non-combatants and to the early German undersea running amuck. The ship blown up and sunk at night in this case appears to have been an enemy naval collier, but for all the assailants knew it might have been a passenger vessel or an American merchantman."

"On the one hand," says the Providence Journal, "we see the United States marvellously prosperous, because of the great war; on the other hand we see Europe, drenched in blood, because of this same conflict—torn and unhappy, impoverished and uncertain of the future, weeping over the loss of her sons and facing the possibility of bankruptcy. With these two pictures before us, is it likely that we shall attempt to secure from the Allies any material mitigation of the temporary loss and inconvenience to which we may be put by the increased severity of their blockade?"

The huge amount of public money that is being sunk at Hudson Bay, under the administration of Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways, is startling. A statement of the expenditure up to January 1st, 1916, a furnished in reply to a question by Hon. George P. Graham, shows a total of \$15,422,004. There had been expended on the railway itself \$10,446,592, which included expenditure on sidings, bridges and

\$5,018,711 had been expended, including \$163,312 on bridges. Some 378 miles of the road had been graded and steel laid to mile 242. The line of steel will not reach Port Nelson for another year.

Yesterday was the most fruitful day for wild-cat rumor that we have noticed since the outbreak of the war. These extended all the way from an invasion in force of the Niagara Peninsula by German-Americans, the arrest of several Belleville citizens who are afflicted with names that have a Germanic sound, and to the evolutions of a scareplane over the township of Sidney. The Ontario answered many inquiries by phone, informing all and sundry that as far as we were aware Niagara Falls was still doing business at the old stand and no hyphehated adventurers had attempted to dynamite the power plants or wreck the whirlpool.

Why people manufacture these crazy yarns and why others circulate them and believe them is one of the mysteries of warfare.

To all we would repeat what we have said before—wait for the papers. If events of startling importance take place they will be posted on the bulletin boards and later appear in the paper. If the events are not so posted or published the public will be well advised to consider that such events have never occurred.

If we would establish a business system of government, demanding the same standard of ability in public life that successful business institutions demand in private life, we'd have money in the treasury all the time. We could build battleships and establish armies galore and not lick a stamp or wonder where the money to pay for the necessities of government is coming from. We could do all this out of that which we now waste on the lumping, staggering farce we now call government in so many communities. Why not get ready to think this over?

Big business is built on brains. The great manifestations of commercial power and organized efficiency travel forward upon the ability of men who can think. Why wouldn't brains work as well in government as they do in private enterprises? Why is it that we demand the highest form of ability for every other activity of life and then when we get to government we select men for their party affiliations, or for their good fellowship, for their political popularity, or for their much seeking? It rarely occurs to anybody to ask what kind of a mayor or alderman or school trustee or member of parliament the seeking candidate will make. We select public servant out of our superficial emotions.

DADDY, WHY DON'T YOU GO!

"Why aren't you a soldier, daddy, Or a sailor on the sea?" Asked a bright-eyed little laddie "Fighting for mum and me? All the bravest men are fighting, Teacher told me yesterday, Dreadful wrongs that wanted righting; Why don't you go, daddy, eh? Teacher said her dad and brother Both had gone away to fight For her and her darling mother, So they won't be killed at night. Are you 'fraid of fighting, daddy? Is that why you stop away?" Asked the earnest, clear-eyed laddie—"Are you never going, eh?" —A. H. Brazier, in London Express.

FOR THE RED CROSS.

Ye that have gentle hearts, and fair To succor men in need, There is no voice could ask in vain With such a cause to plead— The cause of those that in your care, Who know the debt to honor due, Conside the wounds they proudly wear, The wounds they took for you. Out of the shock of shattering spears, Of screaming shell and shard, Snatched from the smoke that blinds and sears, They come with bodies scarred, And count the hours that idly toll, Restless until their hurts be healed, And they may fare, made strong and whole, To face another field.

And yonder where the battle's waves Broke yesterday o'erhead, Where now the swift and shallow graves Cover our English dead, Think how your sisters play their part, Who serve as in a holy shrine, Tender of hand and brave of heart, Under the Red Cross sign.

Ah by that symbol, worshipped still, Of life-blood sacrificed, That lonely cross on Calvary's hill— Red with the wounds of Christ; By that free gift to none denied, Let pity pierce you like a sword, And love go out to open wide The gate of life restored. —St. John's Seaman, in Punch.

Other Editors' Opinions

CHEAP LIVING IN VIEW.

John Moody, of Moody's Institute New York, discusses in a recent circular financial conditions or factors after the war. The demand for capital will not, he says, increase. It will decline, absolutely, and far more than the supply. For this reason interest rates will fall to a low level, and remain low for a long time, rather than rise to even the relatively high level existing during hostilities, or while the Governments are floating their big loans. The direct effect of war is not to increase demand or by inactivity, but it impoverishes the country to such an extent that the people buy less of everything. Producer, dealer, transporter, will all have less to do and will need less capital. Result—the demand for capital falls flat and interest rates range at low level.

Mr. Moody recalls the experience of previous wars. Low rates prevailed in London for years after the Franco-Prussian war, when \$4,000,000,000 of capital was destroyed in a few months. The Bank of England discount rate ranged from 4.70 in 1872 to 2.61 in 1876. After the Civil War in the United States, in which \$5,000,000,000 was destroyed, the rate ranged at low figures also, running down to 2.10 in 1868. "In short," says Mr. Moody, "the action of the interest rate in after-war periods is similar to its action in after-panic periods. Low money rates prevailed simply because the demand for the use of capital slumps more than does the supply.

The comments of this same authority on commodity prices are intensely interesting. After the Franco-Prussian war, Dunn's Index fell in seven years from 113.7 to 78.6, and during the same period English commodity prices moved downward in like manner. Demand and supply govern commodity prices just as they govern the interest rates. Prices and interest, generally speaking, move together. The facts are deduced that barring the special demand for certain types of commodities, brought about by disturbed commercial relations existing during the war, there will be a downward movement in world commodity prices for some time after hostilities are over. The cost of living, says Mr. Moody, which has been steadily rising the world over for a decade or more, is sure to decline sharply once this war is brought to a close.

All of which has some interest for the people. The man who has money to spare, and who can lend it out now for a long term of years, is a fortunate one. The man who is not rich, or even well-to-do, who finds it hard to live just now because of the war, has the promise of cheap money and cheap living, and if he is at all imaginative, he must even now be regarded as a happy individual.—Kingston Whig.

POOR RURAL SCHOOLS.

Dr. C. C. James, the Dominion's Agricultural Specialist, deprecates the deficiency of the rural schools. He says that 96 per cent. of the scholars receive their whole education in schools where there is only one teacher and of very low efficiency. In consequence the young people fail to catch the ideals and inspiration that makes them content with rural life. They drift towards the city, and they make the mistakes of their lives.

At present there is a scarcity of teachers, as there is a scarcity of any kind of talent and labor. In boom times the industrial centres prove a strong attraction to the young men. In times of depression these young men suffer, and hence have occasion to lament that they left the farm. During the war the country has been combed of its eligible men, and most of them will be ultimately unfit for farming, or unwilling to resume it. The future, therefore, for the tillers of the soil, and for many a long year, will be gloomy enough.

Governments can do much for the people, but the Canadian Governments have left altogether too much to their initiative, and they do not get the leaders which they need. A few men of the Dr. Robertson stamp, distributed over the country, and given the power and means to put their ideas into operation, would work wonders; but their recommendations are too often pigeon-holed and forgotten.—Kingston Standard.

A Safe Pill for Sufferers.—There are pills that violently purge and fill the stomach and intestines with pain. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are mild and effective. They are purely vegetable, no mineral purgative entering into their composition and their effect is soothing and beneficial. Try them and be convinced. Thousands can attest their great curative qualities. Sufferers thousands owe their health and comfort to timely use of this most excellent medicine.

Military

Lieut. Graham to assist in the co the D. Co. of the

Capt. Gilroy was ing to the officers Capt. Pilley is C. Co.

Capt. Gilroy will ton tomorrow to ations of the P. S

The 80th Bn every precaution Austrians bring suspicious cases a tion here.

Kitchener Hay, born in Belleville, 155th Battalion. William Hay is a unit, Kitchener last member of for he has also to and Roy at the fr family in Belleville father and three s case.

The 156th Bn 175 men drilling.

Major Allen ha on duty.

Lt.-Col. W. J. ville today and co of the N.C.O.'s s He found the prov a very satisfactory for their first exa case.

Lt. McGie is in L. Elliott was yesterday.

The money re Private Nunn who rday morning Messrs. George C Lynch of the fir had \$80 on the had he lying. It over to the 155th Pte. Nunn is do

A few men sh it is believed, as a lilton's address on teared.

The strength of proaches 700, ac moneter on the is.

The 155th enli 1st to Feb. 14. Cap and collar b here arrived and ted in the various "Quinte" stands o

Church Life

In Church Life o ty publication of the appears an interest Danger to the Chu isation," by the R Penton of Colborn

The article deal with the question of ent influences that of England from down to the preser er points out that nance or business terest? "Business methods, and bus suming all power, mand that all educ for their purposes, and executive gove ed entirely by their modern world is o and once more is to conform to the not unconsciously but openly and avo

He refers to the having on the sp the Church and stances that have servation where having unfortun

Among the evil, cialism enumerates to a parish whic the following ter coded to a parish ten male month tree were habit lived in unconc two were outrag and one was a no Holy Church in the amazement or schismatics. But nch were about ocial support of the replied to all at touching assurance paid."

Soldiers

St. Thomas' g scene of a grand night when a gro diets of the 80th t and were treat of wounds which by the index of