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London, Ont., Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1921.

THE OUTLOOK.

One of those "glooms" which periodically
endeavor to take the joy from life by predicting
early and terrible disaster announces that 1921
will see civilization far sunk, if not altogether
submerged, in a morass of social, political and
industrial anarchy. It is true that black shadows
hover about the old world, that appalling
conditions prevail in large sections of Central
and Eastern Europe, conditions that seem to
lead towards stark savagery; nevertheless,
there are excellent reasons why we should be
hopeful and optimistic as to the world's im-
mediate future. France has settled down to some-
thing that at least approaches normality. The
French Communists, who would link up with
Lenine and his destroyers, have no real strength
or influence on their fellow-countrymen. France
will not permit organized discord and discontent
to get a footing. She is working steadily, if
slowly, back to financial and industrial stability,
and that means ever-spreading contentment.
Italy, too, while still feverish with labor and
social unrest, has definitely decided against
turmoil and turbulence, which would be
wreckers of civilization have fought to intro-
duce, Italian labor and capital are co-operating
instead of fighting.

In Great Britain but 4 per cent of the wage-
earners are idle. That does not indicate early
collapse and confusion. Furthermore, the fore-
most financial and industrial experts are agreed
that the prevailing slump cannot last long. With
Great Britain, France and Italy approaching
economic stability there is small likelihood of
old world civilization being overturned.

Here in Canada the outlook is far from being
discouraging. It is true that at the moment
there is an industrial stagnation that has pro-
duced an army of unemployed, but Canada is
well able to cope with the temporary slowing
down, and the stupendously rich resources of
the country are a sure guarantee of rapid and
complete recovery. Civilization will weather
the storm, and will be the more vigorous for it.

REDUCE ARMAMENTS.

An article in the New York Nation com-
ments favorably on the New York World's
suggestion that Great Britain, Japan and the
United States should agree to cut down arma-
ment expenditure for the next five years by 50
per cent. But, says the Nation, why wait for
Britain and Japan? The United States can
itself set a good example by reducing arma-
ments without reference to other powers.

This seems sensible enough. What has the
United States to fear from anyone, so long as
it attends to its own affairs? And it has no com-
mitments like those of Great Britain. Standing
outside the League of Nations, and refusing all
"mandates," the United States makes itself no
brother's keeper. In Mesopotamia Great Britain
defends the new, struggling state of Palestine
on the one hand, and the helpless mass of India
on the other, against the menace of Turks and
Bolsheviks that have already submerged
Armenia. Undertaking no such work, and con-
tributing no quota to the forces of the League
of Nations, the Americans have very little ap-
parent reason for keeping up a big army and
navy.

In Canada the last scattering squawks for a
navy, and military training, and fortifications,
and all that nonsense, seem to have died out.
We have settled down to minding our own
affairs, concerning ourselves about the out-
side world only to extend a helping hand where
we can, financial aid for the extrication of
typhus in Eastern Europe, credits to Rumania
for reconstruction. If the Americans go on
with armaments, they will seem to be menacing
Latin America, or inviting a hostile combina-
tion of Latin America and Japan. Like begets
like.

A NEW POWER SCHEME.

No sooner did we hear of a scheme in
France for deriving power from the tides than
the project is mooted in England of harness-
ing the high tide in the Severn.

"There twice a day the Severn fills.
The salt sea-water rushes by.
And hushes half the babbling Wye.
And makes a silence in the hills."

wrote Tennyson. Those poetic waters may serve
a useful purpose besides helping navigation.

It is expected that a concrete dam two and
a half miles in length across the Severn will
provide the development of more power than
is now obtained by the Amalgamated Niagara
Falls Company. At the same time an immense
harbor for seagoing vessels would be created
along with the power plant. The work on
the construction, if undertaken, will employ
great numbers of skilled and unskilled labor
for a long period.

The success of such a scheme would be most
interesting for Nova Scotia and New Brun-
swick. If the tides in the Bay of Fundy could
be utilized, another great resource would be

bestowed upon the Maritime Provinces, in addition
to their coal, timber and fish.

How the great natural forces and beauties
of the world are turning into utilities! In
Scott's novel a hundred years ago the practical
eye of Baile Jarvie saw the possibilities for
floating coal barges in Loch Lomond. Ruskin
lamented that "the Lady of the Lake" had
given place to "the Lady of the Reservoir." In
Niagara has had a ring put in its nose. Next
the romantic moon itself, as it lifts the tides of
ocean, is to be employed to run factories, trains
and washing-machines. The sun may yet be
harnessed up, and then there will be no more
worlds to conquer.

BACON AND THE ENGLISH MARKET.

A cable message from London announces
that the decontrol of Canadian bacon by the
British ministry of food, which had been prom-
ised for March 1, 1921, has again been indefi-
nitely postponed.

When control of bacon (which had been
freed in the spring following the armistice)
was re-established in the summer of 1919, the
British food ministry took over huge quantities
of American bacon, in the disposal of which it
must have lost heavily. In the winter of 1919-
20, it again bought heavily of American bacon.
It has had great difficulty in disposing of this,
and has forced Canadian bacon to aid by requir-
ing that four boxes of American should be dis-
tributed by the wholesaler with each box of
Canadian. It would appear that there are still
quantities of this stale American bacon to dis-
pose of. The ministry is in a serious quandary
to know what to do with it, and is trying to
maintain control in the hope of not having to
take further heavy losses.

In the meantime, the British department of
agriculture found that a controlled price for
English and Irish bacon was throttling the in-
dustry. It demanded, and, in spite of the strong
opposition of the food ministry, won control for
the home product. The Dominion Government
and the Canadian packers at once pressed, and
have continued to press, for equal treatment
for Canadian bacon. This has been steadily re-
fused. Surely Canadian products should not be
discriminated against.

During all last winter, the food ministry, in
spite of the strongest protests, insisted on re-
lating the price paid for Canadian bacon to the
price of live hogs in Chicago. Undoubtedly,
if control had not thus depressed the price,
Canadian bacon would have been much higher
during last winter, when feed-prices were so
high.

During the negotiations packers have recog-
nized that for a time after the war control
might be necessary, and were inclined to meet
the British Government as far as possible. But
the imposition of conditions that nearly ruined
the Canadian industry, and this last refusal to
allow the industry an early chance to return to
normal, calls for the strongest kind of action
that the Canadian Government and people can
take.

The British public want Canadian bacon.
With the return of farming conditions to
normal, the farmer must keep the British mar-
ket for his hogs. With the return of a free mar-
ket, the swine industry will be one of the most
important and profitable activities of Canadian
farmers. The Dominion as a whole is vitally
interested in doing everything possible to place
one of its most important export products on a
sound and normal market basis.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

D'Annunzio loses Fiume but gets glory and
the girl.

If de Valera would take the "rest" cure it
would give a rest to the rest of the world.

Bethmann-Hollweg will live in history as
the author of the infamous "scrap of paper"
declaration. Behind his statement lay the or-
ganized barbarism which conspired to enslave
civilization and which came close to achieving
the same. His remark will live as long as
freedom, liberty and justice has to fight slavery,
cruelty and tyranny.

WOMEN ON JURIES.

The decision of the supreme court on the right
of women to sit as jurors in this state follows the
general trend of opinion on the relation of women to
all the affairs of government. The court says that
a woman's rights and duties with respect to jury
service are the same as a man's.

It is to be expected that this decision will be
followed by the appearance of women on juries as
a regular and ordinary thing. It has been said upon
theory that women would not make good jurors, and
a variety of reasons have been given for saying so.
One reason rests upon the old charge that women
are not in the habit of reasoning deliberately and
consequently men do, whence it is said to follow
that they will decide cases according to their im-
pulses, their emotions and their "intuitions." It is
said that they are too soft and sympathetic for cases
where severity is required; that they lack breadth
and liberality; that they are too easily influenced,
and even that they have no sense of justice.

It is easy to point out upon the other side that
every defect alleged to be peculiarly feminine has
been observed at work in the minds, hearts and
natures of jurors exclusively male. The difficulty
encountered by prosecuting officers when they try
pretty women is notorious. Equally well known is
the difficulty in getting juries of men to hold the
balance even when a rich corporation is on one side
of a case and a poor man on the other. As for the
reasoning faculty among men, does not every lawyer
know that when a jury returns a specific finding of
facts with its verdict, the facts are about as likely
to be inconsistent as otherwise?

Upon such grounds as these it is possible to argue
that the women cannot do worse than the men.
Their inpenetrability to the influences of a sweet
smile and an inch of silk stocking may make them
better in some cases.

CITIZENSHIP.

The generous gift of \$20,000 by Sir D. M. Steven-
son to establish a university chair of citizenship at
Glasgow University is an interesting sign of demo-
cratic feeling. The idea of training men to be rulers
is an old one, and critics of democracy from Plato
to today have stressed the difficulties of gov-
erning and the necessity of acquiring administrative
technique. Far more recent is the idea of training
men to be citizens, or, rather, to be their own rulers,
with a nice discrimination in their choice of rep-
resentatives and a full knowledge of their own privi-
leges. But it is surely the right answer to the
"chambers of Platonism" and the seekers after
bureaucratic supermen. Citizenship is a subject that
will be increasingly administered to the young. That
is a welcome fact, but it does not destroy a linger-
ing regret that the fashion is not an older one.
Some of those who are now in very high places
might profit by instruction even now in the prin-
ciples of the British Constitution.

From Here and There

THE WORKINGS OF EXCHANGE.

[Financial Post.]
Exchange is seldom viewed by the public as the
great natural adjuster of international economic
relations. It is regarded rather as it affects various
interests which are viewed from entirely different
angles. We find that at present customers are
objecting to American exchange goods; that Amer-
ican manufacturers are objecting that they cannot
sell in Canada; that Canadian manufacturers
object that British exchange gives the British ex-
porter an advantage. And the general public feels
rather than thinks—that there is something easily
wrong when Canadian money is not as good as
American money, even though it may be better than
British money.

As a matter of fact, these things have a fun-
damental relationship. It may be pointed out, for
instance, that while the objection that exchange
gives the Canadian manufacturer an additional 15
per cent protection comes largely from Western
Canada, this same exchange has given the Canadian
farmer an advantage of 15 per cent on his exports
to the American market.

This factor was largely responsible for the mar-
keting of millions of bushels of Canadian wheat in
the United States this autumn at a time when
European countries were unwilling to buy. This
relieved the financial situation in Canada at a
time when the strain was very heavy, as the mar-
keting of wheat was being counted on to provide
seasonal liquidation of farm loans by the banks.
Nor does the manufacturer get all the protection
indicated, as he has to pay the increased exchange
on his imported raw materials.

1921 LIKE 1873.

[System for January.]

Business conditions today are not greatly differ-
ent from what they were almost fifty years ago,
according to A. B. Farquhar, president of A. B.
Farquhar Company, Limited. Of that critical period
he states:

"The abundance of predictions that never again
should we see low prices, that the country's needs
were infinite, and that the best we could hope to
do was to keep within hailing distance of demand,
really prevented much progress in truly economical
business. People were too busy to think of economy.
They were not, as I have previously remarked, so
skilled in extravagance as we are today, but con-
sidering their lights they did what they could.
Many sellers showed a disposition to consider the
buyer as a poor beggar without the gates, to whom
anything might be thrown! We had the seller
triumphant and the buyer despondent."

"As demand exceeds supply, so does a crown of
arrogance grow on the head of the seller, but the
moment the tide turns the buyer takes over this
crown, full-grown, and then no slave to an Oriental
potentate ever had to go through such elaborate
abatement of the crown as the buyer requires of
the seller. I find, looking back through all these
years, that the men who, as buyers or sellers, keep
level heads and do not force their transient advan-
tages, in the long run reap the real profit."

A PEOPLE "TO PROUD TO FIGHT."

[Asia for January.]

It seems impossible to deny that most of China's
present disabilities and dangers are due to no fault
of its own, but to the sad condition of things,
by the western powers, of a new condition of things.
The material civilization of the West asserted its supe-
riority over that of the East by forcible means, with
which all the wisdom of the East was unable to
cope. If we admit this—as we must—then, if there
be anything vital in the ideals that the Anglo-Saxon
race profess, anything attainable in the League of
Nations, it is the "reign of law." The West owes
the East a deep debt of reparation. And it can be
discharged only by sympathetic understanding and
by self-denying determination to protect the help-
lessness of the Chinese people through the necessary
period of administrative reconstruction.

And never has there been a race more deserving
of protection at the hands of the world. For, say
what you will, the very passive philosophy that
exposes China to the rapacity of earth-hungry
powers, approaches more nearly to the essential
principles of Christianity, as laid down in the
Sermon on the Mount, than the everyday practice
of most Christian nations. Here you have a people
in very truth "too proud to fight," because they not
only profess but firmly believe, that in the long run
reason and justice must triumph over force. The
polished pacifism of Confucius and the intellectual
superiority of his offspring, the classical literati, both
tempered with the Buddhist teaching of gentleness
and compassion, have produced a type of civilization
—a race-mind, fixed in unity of ideas—that, to the
Chinese themselves (and to many Europeans),
seems morally superior to that of the West—a
splendid inheritance.

STRONGEST CHARACTERS NEVER NOISY.

[New Success Magazine.]

The water in a little mountain stream dashing
down the rocks makes more noise than the mighty
Mississippi River. The strongest characters are
never noisy. They are balanced, poised, serene, like
a great river. They do their work quietly, efficiently,
and never permit temper, passion, prejudice, whim
or obstinacy to disturb their serenity or turn them
aside from their course. The world is looking for
the poised, level-headed man, the man who can
always be depended on, who won't fall down in an
emergency, or go to pieces over trifles. No matter
how brilliant or how great a genius he may be in
some directions, if a man is not balanced, master
of himself, he does not inspire confidence. He may
do great things on occasion, when everything is
going his way, with nothing to disturb or hinder
him. But always in a great crisis or emergency,
when a man is needed to assume tremendous re-
sponsibility, as when Foch, at the most fateful
moment in the world war, was made commander-
in-chief of the allied armies, the cry is: "Give us a
man with a level head, a man we can rely on, and
always know where he stands."

THE LONG WINTER EVENINGS.

[Salem News.]

In the old-fashioned family, old and young used
to settle down under the "sitting-room" lamp during
the long winter evenings, for much reading and
study. Games like authors and parchesi and jack-
straws were devised to reconcile the young people
to staying at home. Many persons found time for
much reading and reflection, and became thoroughly
posted on what was going on in the world. The
family used to go to bed at early hours, not so
much from conviction of the healthfulness of the
habit, as because they got too sleepy to stay up.
These are the times of more pep and hustle. People
want "something doing." When you visit a popu-
lar city and see all the crowds on the streets, you
think everyone is on the move. Yet if you could
look into all the homes, you would see a lot of quiet
reading going on. You would find many people try-
ing to improve their abilities by various forms of
study and better preparation for work. School study
is largely done in the evenings now. Students are
apt to work or play at sports in the afternoons,
when they dig into new books at night. Families
with live boys find the long winter even-
ings a problem. Some of the youngsters are much
given to drifting to the curbstones of the town
centre or the favorite hang-outs, to swap stories and
jokes with the younger crowd. Few young men learn
much that is useful in that way. The solution of
the problem is plenty of active life as an outlet for
youthful vigor. The evening lamp will not hold the
young crowd as of yore, at least after they get away
from the responsibilities of next day's school lessons.
But active games in a basketball or bowling alley,
when run as community institutions for public bene-
fit, may be just as useful as the stories read or the
games played under the old-time evening lamp.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CANADA?

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUESTIONS.

- 1-In 1904 the two towns of Clifton and Drummondville united to form the city of Niagara Falls.
- 2-The chief river of Manitoba is the Red.
- 3-The St. Mado company was a French fur-trading company, founded in 1590 by Pontreave and Chauvin.
- 4-Nova Scotia fisheries produce a catch of cod, lobster, mackerel, herring, haddock, halibut and salmon.
- 5-Imperial confederation was first suggested in Canadian parliament in 1873.
- 6-The Canadian Presbyterian Church has 300 foreign missionaries and 1,140 native workers.
- 7-The three days' battle of Batoche's Ferry ended the Saskatchewan rebellion.
- 8-Hull is the Quebec City situated directly opposite Ottawa, on the Ottawa River.
- 9-Egerton Ryerson is called the father of the Canadian public school.
- 10-The Athabasca River rises in Western Alberta, flows northeast, emptying into Lake Athabasca.

TODAY'S QUESTIONS.

- 1-Where in Nova Scotia are found exposed fossil forests?
- 2-When did Canadian and Australian troops first serve together under the British flag?
- 3-What is the estimated Presbyterian population in Canada?
- 4-On what river is Woodstock, Ont., situated?
- 5-How large is Lake Winnipeg?
- 6-Where is Alma Ladies' College?
- 7-What was the Frog Lake massacre?
- 8-What was the first region in America to export lumber to Europe?
- 9-By what pass does the Grand Trunk Pacific line cross the Rockies?
- 10-Who was the head of the syndicate which built the Canadian Pacific Railway?

Poetry and Jest

THOUGHTS.

[The Westminster Gazette.]
The empty house is very still today:
There's naught but silence in the
rooms you tried.
Your laughter's flitted from the garden
way.
Now that you tread the starry floors
of God,
The shadows in the garden fall
and pass.
The sweet rose is coming out once
more.
There's only sunlight sleeping on the
grass.
It's just a wind that shut the waiting
door.

Yet all the silence and the empty
Seem filled with you today, my
blessed dead.
Such peace is folded in the fragrant
glooms,
Such joy is in the tranquil sunlight
spread.
As though your thoughts, your happy
Moved in the winds and rested in
the flowers,
And living, loving, pierced with light
and shivered.

Such little laughing thoughts lurk by
the way,
And will, unbidden, by the red house-
hold spread.
Such tenderness besets the sunny day,
Such peace is folded in the fragrant
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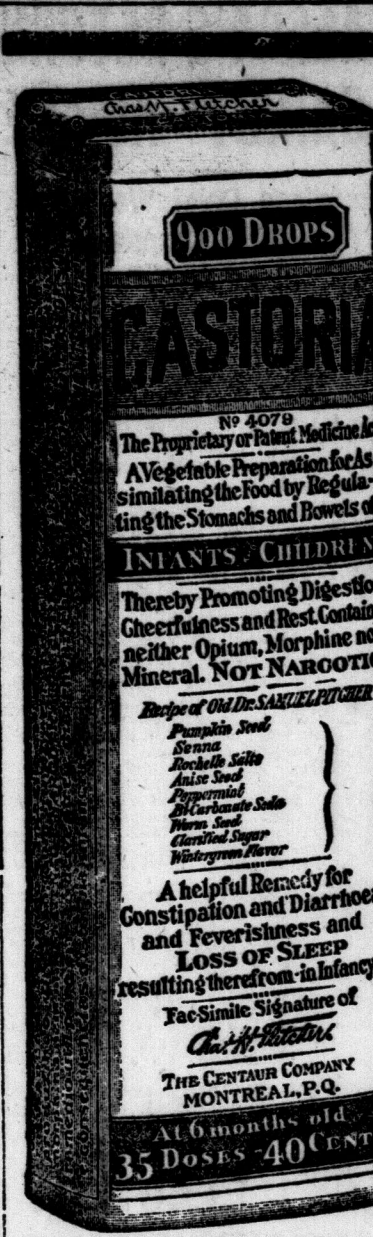
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