

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

There seems to be a threatened shortage of gasoline, an estimate made in the United States showing that the total underground supply will be entirely exhausted in less than twenty years. Whether the report be correct or not automobilists may naturally expect a constant advance in price of this commodity until some genius can produce an engine that will use some other motive power.

England is having her full share of after-the-war troubles. Three of the largest miners unions in Britain are more than likely to go on strike owing to differences with the Government. This critical situation makes it imperative that Premier Lloyd George should be in London, and his absence from the Peace Conference will likely delay completion of the peace treaty.

It was with bad grace that the Huns agreed to surrender their big guns, their ships, their airplanes, their rolling stock and other appurtenances demanded by the allies. But they draw the line at giving up the west bank of the Rhine, and the delegates to the Peace Conference are to be authorized to break negotiations if an effort is made to enforce this condition.

Japan, it is said, will insist that there be incorporated in the League of Nations covenant an article prohibiting international discrimination on account of racial differences, and demanding equality in immigration. The United States is opposed to such an agreement and Senator King declares that if such is insisted upon the U. S. will not sign the League of Nations compact. This is another complication to overcome.

There is a race on between Great Britain and the United States as to which country will produce the first transatlantic flight on record. Britain is credited with being a trifle slow in a race of progressiveness, but if the United States is as tardy in perfecting their across-the-ocean airships as she was in completing and sending them to Europe for fighting purposes, there will be no difficulty in picking the winner.

The second clause adopted by the Peace Conference on January 25th cited that "the League of Nations shall be treated as an integral part of the general Treaty of Peace, and shall be open to every civilized nation which can be relied upon to promote its object." In view of this President Wilson contends that the United States cannot reject the proposal to form a League of Nations without at the same time rejecting the Treaty of Peace. In other words should the Senate not agree to join the League it will be equivalent to refusing to make peace with Germany. What will the Senate do with this complication?

The publisher of a paper must live as well as the clothier, the drygoods man or the grocer. To get the where-with to live he has one thing to sell and another thing to rent. He sells his paper and he rents the space in his columns; these are his principal sources of income, and can anyone inform us why he is expected to give either away? He can, of course, do so if he chooses, and as a matter of fact, he does furnish a good deal of his space rent free. But it does not follow that he ought to be expected to do so as a matter of course, and further, when once he does it ought to be recognized as a contribution just as much as the sugar or coffee given by the grocer. But it is not generally looked at in that light, yet everybody knows that the very existence of a newspaper depends upon the selling of the paper and the rent of the space as much as a merchant's success depends upon the sale of his goods. There is just as much reason for the merchant giving his goods away free as there is for the publisher.—Simcoe Reformer.

The endorsement of Hydro Radials by such a splendid majority in Hamilton last Saturday was another triumph for Sir Adam Beck and public ownership. Nothing was left undone by the powerful organization pledged to defeat the by-law, and the three Hamilton papers were lined up solidly against it. A cowardly last minute attempt was even made to cast a slur on the loyalty of Sir Adam, but this only made his supporters put forth even greater efforts. It is to be hoped that a branch line may one day pass through Aylmer, as this town is sadly in need of better transportation facilities. Stranger things have happened than that the Government may take over the Grand Trunk Railway, in which event the Air Line would doubtless be electrified. This would suit our purposes and requirements very nicely indeed.

## THE BUSY MAN

If you want a favor done  
By some obliging friend,  
And want a promise safe and sure  
On which you may depend,  
Don't go to him who always has  
Much leisure time to plan,  
But if you want your favor done  
Just ask the busy man.

The man with leisure never has  
A moment he can spare,  
He's always "putting off" until  
His friends are in despair,  
But he whose every waking hour  
Is crowded full of work,  
Forgets the art of wasting time—

He cannot stop to shirk,  
So when you want a favor done,  
And want it right away,  
Go to the man who constantly  
Works twenty hours a day.  
He'll find a moment, sure, somewhere  
That has no other use,  
And fix you, while the idle man  
Is framing an excuse.

W. H. Willis.

## WHAT HAS ENGLAND DONE?

Strange, that in this great hour, when  
Righteousness  
Has won her war upon Hypocrisy,  
That some there be who, lost in littleness,  
And mindful of an ancient grudge,  
can ask:  
"Now what has England done to win  
this war?"

We think we see her smile that English smile,  
And shrug a lazy shoulder and—just smile,  
It were so little worth her while to pause  
In her stupendous task to make reply.

What has she done! When with her  
great, grey ships,  
Lithe, lean destroyers, grim, invincible,  
She swept the prowling Prussian  
from the seas;  
And heedless of the slinking submarine,  
And hidden mine, the Hun-made treacheries.

Her transports plied the waters ceaselessly!  
You ask what she has done? Have you forgot  
Thatneath the burning suns of Palestine  
She fought and bled, nor wearied of the fight

Till from that land where walked the Nazarene  
She drove the foul and pestilential Turk?  
Ah, what has England done? No need to ask!

Upon the fields of Flanders and of France  
A million crosses mark a million graves;  
Upon a cross a well-loved English name,  
And, ah, her women! On that peaceful Isle

Where in the hawthorne hedges thrushes sang,  
And meadow larks made gay the scented air,  
Now blackened chimneys rear their grimy heads,  
Smoke-belching, and the frightened birds have fled

Before the thunder of the whirling wheels,  
Behind unlovely walls, amid the din  
Seven times a million noble women toil—  
With tender, unaccustomed fingers toil,

Nor dream that they have played a heroine's part.  
Great-hearted England, we have fought the fight  
Together, and our mingled blood has flowed.

Full well we know that underneath that mask  
Of cool indifference there beats a heart,  
Grim as your own gaunt ships when duty calls,  
Yet warm and gentle as your summer skies;

A nation's heart that beats through-out a land  
Where kings may be beloved, and Monarchy  
Can teach Republics how they may be free.

Ah! What has England done? When came the call,  
She counted not the cost, but gave her all!  
—Vilda Sauvage Owens, in New York Times.

## THE RETURNED SOLDIER

What manner of men came back to New York on the Leviathan and the Mauretania? Not boastful, brag-gart men, telling tales of their own prowess. Those who told us that our boys who would come back brutalized by their work of war forgot that "the bravest are the tenderest."

"Not in all the journey," wrote a correspondent who made the trip with the men of the 27th Division on the Leviathan, "did I hear one of them say he had killed a German. They had other things to talk about."

It may puzzle the folks at home to know just how our boys are changed, but changed they are assuredly. They do not talk about their idealism; few American boys are so constituted; but the idealism is there. Only to an occasional man is given the gift of expressing what remains unuttered in most hearts. One of these living voices in Coningsby Dawson, of the Canadian army, and author of "Carry On." Writing in McClure's Magazine of the returning soldier and the thoughts and ideals he is bringing back, Lt. Dawson says:

"Presently we shall take off our khaki, but we shall not cease to be soldiers. We shall not be soldiers in the sense that you dread—swaggerers, people banded against the civilian by the pride of military caste. You see, we never wanted to be soldiers—the thought filled us with horror. It was your need, the heroic fact that someone had to die in your defence, that made us fighting men. Nevertheless though we don civilian dress, we have not done with fighting yet. We are coming back to man the trenches of a kinder social order, and to follow the barrage across No Man's Land in pursuit of a new heaven and a new earth. Our souls will still be clad in khaki; we shall be a brotherhood for righteousness."

More briefly, that is the testimony of Lieut.-Col. Theodore Roosevelt, jr., himself of the 27th Division, who predicted that every man who went through the war would be so uplifted that the whole nation would feel their upward surge.

It was decided also that the Kiel Canal should be internationalized and made available to the ships of all nations on even terms. Tolls will be collected to pay for the maintenance of the canal. Germany probably will retain sovereignty of the waterway.

The council has under consideration the question of maintaining Heligoland as a port of refuge for peaceful craft.

Mrs. Cartwright has returned home after spending a few weeks with her son, Stanley Barrett, Tillsonburg.

Cadet Carl D. Law, of Harettsville, who recently returned from overseas, and mother, Mrs. William Law, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. David Branion. Cadet Law was a school chum of the late Bombardier John Branion.

## HELIGOLAND TO BE DISMANTLED

Paris, March 18.—The fortifications on the island of Heligoland, Germany's formidable base in the North sea, must be dismantled. This decision was reached to-day by the supreme allied war council.

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\$30 and all between prices up to \$100

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## SPRINGFIELD

Mrs. J. P. Strong arrived home from California last week. Owing to an attack of influenza she was forced to remain in Bay City, Mich., for more than a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Oliphant, of Luton, were called to Oakville yesterday to attend the funeral of the former's brother, Henry Oliphant.

A high school teacher having asked for a short essay employing certain words ending with "tion," a pupil handed in this astonishing production. "Father's hair is a recollection, mother's is an acquisition, sister's is an aggregation, brother's is a conflagration and baby's is a mere premonition."

Married—Mr. A. Baker, Springfield and Mrs. Brush, Aylmer, on Monday last.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woolley, a daughter, on Tuesday morning. Both are doing well.

Messrs Winters, Cathers, Shaw and Black are attending the assizes at St. Thomas this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Charlton have returned from Cleveland.

A public reception for returned heroes took place in the town hall, Tuesday night. A good program was given. Springfield does not neglect her returned boys.

A social evening was held at the home of Mr. S. P. Charlton on Friday evening, when a pleasant time was spent in card playing.

Miss Annie McCollum spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Belmont.

A large number from here attended the fancy dress carnival at Aylmer last Friday and report a splendid time.

Mr. Clark Rockey enjoyed a short visit from his sister last week.

The Baptist church Ladies Aid postponed their usual annual St. Patrick's supper, owing to the very heavy rains.

Miss M. Henry assisted at a concert on Monday.

Fancy Linens

AYLMER'S

Fine China

## Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Store

## IN THE SPRINGTIME

we unconsciously think of suits and wraps for the balmy days that are coming. Smart Snappy, up-to-date Suits, the box the box coats, long coats, charming dolman wraps and the daintiest of costume creations are found at this store.

## SPECIAL BLOUSE SALE

White Voile Blouses ..... \$1.35  
Silk Crepe ..... \$3.75  
Georgette ..... \$5.75

## DRESSES AND COATS

Taffeta Silk Dresses ..... \$21.00  
Silk Poplin ..... \$15.00  
Serges ..... \$15.00 up to \$30.00  
Navy Blue Serge Suit, special ..... \$25.00 up to \$55.00  
Coats from ..... \$16.00 up to \$55.00  
Silk Camisoles at ..... \$1.00 up to \$2.75

New Shipment of China just arrived



One of our many pretty waists.

## WOOSTER &amp; TURNER

Thos. Wooster

Wm. Turner

W. G. C.  
W. H.  
Car

Convention Held Here presented

Mr. Charlton Receiv  
Nomination was  
Over S.  
—W.

The convention of the East Elgin, held in the here last Thursday after one of the best represent meetings in the history ing Great interest and was shown, in all the afternoon, and all the s pressed their confidence cess of the next election eral party.

W. G. Charlton, of the unanimously nominated date for East Elgin f eral Government at th tion, and Wilson H. Mil Deputy-Reeve of Yar chosen as Liberal cond Provincial Legislature. nomination came as a himself as well as to m present. Of the nine nominated for the loca three permitted their ballotted upon: W. H. McDermand and Ex-V Cornell, of Port Stan first ballot the vote stoc W. H. Mills ..... S. S. McDermand ..... N. S. Cornell ..... Giving Mr. Mills a both opponents of 1 v When the result w Mr. McDermand inn mitted a motion, that vote be given Mr. Mi seconded by Mr. Corne tion was passed unani In accepting the n Mills acknowledged most unexpectedly and his supporters would to regret their actio was the pleasure of l be the choice of the c he declared that the do was to get out and certainly intended to ed the co-operation of ized he must have th all, to win. The count been represented by go down to vote Gri wished to see men local legislature who ent the constituencies there. He would go elected, to represent not the classes. He the big interests in treal and Ottawa ha long enough.

Mr. Mills, who occ by virtue of his office the East Elgin Libe resigned the presiden favor of Percy Denni ident.

The Nomi For the Feder W. G. Charlton—N. S Black.

For the Provin S. S. McDermand—l Cheeseman.

N. S. Cornell—J. R. Wonnacott.

W. H. Mills—W. C Black.

W. M. McCredie—S Corless.

J. C. Dance—W. Wag ton.

Dr. F. H. Miller—S Phelps.

C. W. Wonnacott—G Cornell.

M. M. Black—Roy C ler.

Miss Murray—W. Johnson.

A remarkable fea THE AYLMEI These Markets are The prices are Fur Buyers.

Flour ..... Wheat, per bush ..... Oats, crushed ..... Oats, whole ..... Corn, whole, per ..... Corn, chopped, per ..... Rye, per bus. .... Buckwheat, per bu ..... Potatoes, per pecl ..... Bran, per cwt. .... Shorts, per cwt. .... Hay, per ton ..... Live hogs, per cu ..... Milk, per cwt., 4 ..... Butter, per lb. .... Eggs, per doz .....

## CAST

For Infants In Use For O Always bears the Signature of