

The Toronto World

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SATURDAY MORNING, OCT. 2.

Professor Robinson as Peer Gynt

Certain persons were to be spewed out because they were neither hot nor cold. They never did anything very wrong and they never did anything very good. As enemies they are contemptible. As friends they are as an Egyptian plague.
Professor Robinson presents a very fair type of the mind that cannot see the great underlying principles which redeem or condemn all human action, which is, as the old Hindu maxim has it, ever surrounded with error as the flame is involved in smoke. It is not in humanity to be wholly perfect, but it is fortunately in humanity to discriminate between justice and cruelty, between truth and deception, between good faith and treachery.
Whether the angels fight for Great Britain or not, we believe that Great Britain is fighting on the side of the angels. Professor Robinson says he thinks that the cause of the allies is equally bad with that of Germany. When Professor Robinson, her present ally in the sixties, and annexed to the German Empire, Professor Robinson did what Professor Robinson wants them or wanted them to do when Germany overran Belgium. Their non-interference resulted in the annexation of the Danish provinces. Other annexations followed, and Prussia, now dominating Germany, has still others in view.
Professor Robinson thinks it is all right, and that Great Britain should not have interfered. And yet he thinks he is not a very good German. The good book which he is supposed to be familiar with tells the professor that men are judged by their works and not by their professions. No doubt his intentions are good, but he is not a good judge of intentions or he would have revised his decision to accept a degree of honor from a college which abhors his sentiments, as he must have known.
It is to be regretted that Professor Robinson and his views have obtained such publicity, for they are not of great intrinsic importance. They will injure more the fine body of men with whom he has been associated than he will injure either Germany or the allies, for we feel sure that Germany would have none of him on his own showing. We commend him to Ibsen and "Peer Gynt."

A New Soil Fertilizer.

At the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science much interest was taken in a new soil fertilizer invented or discovered by Dr. W. B. Bottomley, professor of botany in King's College, London. This product of laboratory research he has called "humogen," and it is made from peat, of which Ontario has large deposits, but it will invite special attention here. An article by Winifred Fairfield in the London, England, Daily News, describing the new fertilizer, states that the most important element in soil fertility is the bacterial life in the humus, and of that the most valuable bacteria are those that can assimilate nitrogen from the soil air and add it to the soil. They are therefore known as "nitrogen fixers" and for some time scientists have been trying to find a suitable medium for their cultivation. Among other substances peat was tried, because it was known to be particularly rich in plant foods. After long experiment a process was devised by which the peat was treated with certain bacteria taken from the soil, which releases those plant foods and makes them available. Having done this work the peat is sterilized by live steam and is then inoculated with the "nitrogen fixing" bacteria.
The results of the first experiment with "humogen" were satisfactory, the land treated being greatly enriched in nitrogen. Dr. Rosenheim of King's College found that some Chinese primulas, watered twice in six weeks with a solution of "humogen" in the proportion of two ounces to four gallons, presented an extraordinary contrast with untreated plants in size, foliage and flowers. A market gardener found that he could, by means of a top dressing of a spoonful of peat, raise a plant in two months which without peat, would require six

GETTING TOO HOT FOR HIM



How the Western Wheat Grower is to Be Helped.

The price of wheat is fairly high and appears to be standing firm. Even the Alberta farmer, who has to pay fifteen cents to get his wheat to the head of navigation, has such an enormous crop this year that his return per acre will be good, even tho his profit per bushel be small. Continual rains have interfered with the wheat harvest, and some farmers will be able to carry their wheat without borrowing any money upon it; but we think it quite likely that the banks, or the government thru the banks, will be called upon for \$100,000,000.
The banks may prefer to finance the whole affair themselves, but they can, if they wish, rediscunt the security taken from the farmer with the minister of finance, and obtain national currency. If the banks are reluctant to ask for national currency, and do not accommodate the farmers promptly, then the farmers have only to call upon Mr. White's representative at Winnipeg, who will advance them national currency upon their wheat as collateral.
One hundred million dollars in the pockets of the western farmers within the next thirty days should make the sun shine and the birds sing all over this Dominion.
The World, in the humble capacity of a finger-board, has been pointing out the road to prosperity for some time past, and we are glad to see Mr. White turning his team into that road. By rediscouting the farmers' paper with wheat as collateral, thru a generous issue of national currency, Mr. White will relieve what threatens to be an ugly situation, and will merit, as well as receive, the thanks of the business men of the east and the farmers of the west.

A Big American

A big American in the broadest sense of the term is Mr. James J. Hill. He was born in Canada not many miles from Toronto, but the greater part of his long and useful life has been spent in the United States. No citizen is more loyal than he to the republic, but he is proud of his British birth and has never lost his natural affection for his native land. Hence he has taken an active part in promoting the big Anglo-French loan and to his good offices must be attributed in no small measure its success.
The Chicago Journal recently acclaimed Mr. Hill as a great "American Empire Builder." The title is not unwarranted. He has converted the great American desert into a chain of prosperous commonwealths. Minnesota, the Dakotas and all the country northwest of the Mississippi has felt the influence of his strong will, his indomitable perseverance, his unflinching faith and his robust Americanism.
It may be said that Mr. Hill was generously rewarded by the Northwest, that he was the recipient of many extravagant grants of public domain. Be that as it may, his fellow-citizens are well satisfied with him and his work, and the empire he built is glad to have him share in its prosperity.
We in Canada know him as a shrewd, considerate friend, whose advice is always welcomed by the Dominion. We know that his primary purpose in getting thru the big loan was to help the American farmer, but we believe that he also helped in the big undertaking because he sympathizes with his native land in the great war.

SEND REINFORCEMENTS TO WESTERN FRONT

German Hurl Up Troops, Big Guns and Ammunition.
AMSTERDAM, Oct. 1.—All the railroads in Germany and Belgium have been given up for the movement of reinforcements and guns to the western front, according to information received here today from the frontier. Thirty-eight long and heavily laden troop trains passed thru Belgium during the night.
Many heavy guns have been transferred from Lille to the great railway centre of Douai for use in stopping the advance of the allies in the region north of Arras. From Douai artillery reinforcements can be sent almost to any part of the German front in France very quickly by reason of the network of railways converging there.

SOME ESSENTIALS FOR IMPROVEMENT

New Views on Accounting and Budgeting Given by Dr. Brittain.

ELECTIONS ON POLICY

Should Not Turn on Personalities, But on Program Named.

Dr. Horace Brittain was the principal speaker at the luncheon given yesterday in the National Club by the Bureau of Municipal Research. His address was an exposition of the new views of accounting and budgeting which are deemed essential for the improvement of the business administration of the city hall. George H. Gooderham, M.L.A., occupied the chair, and the attendance was large and influential. Copies of a specimen budget, in which the city's finances for the current year are set forth in model form, were distributed, and apparently gained much approbation from the many financial experts present. Dr. Brittain displayed a copy of the budget form used by the City of Sheffield, in England, in which the circle or wheel form of showing the proportion of revenue according to source, function and expenditure is adopted.
The head of a large public utility told The World that he could readily adapt the method to his affairs. Dr. Brittain stated that the object of the pictorial method of setting out the figures was to enable the taxpayer who could not read to see at a glance where his taxes went, what for and who got them. The whole budget could be shown in one circle and in great detail.

Elections on Policy.
Elections, he said, should not turn on personalities but on policy. The only way to secure this was to present the policy before the election. This meant getting the budget ready in December. It was only by laying all the cards on the table that the voters could understand what they were wanted to vote for. Aldermen would hesitate to lay anything before the voters which would not stand criticism.

The taxpayer would not hesitate to pay if he were given good reasons for the expenditures required. The time to plan was before work began, and if the argument were valid that the budget could not be prepared until the year was well begun, then it could be still better prepared at the end of the year when all the expenditures had been made.

With regard to actual expenditures, Dr. Brittain showed that a proper classification enabled the leaks to be traced. Sometimes too high-priced a man was put on low-priced work, and the present system this could not be discovered. They did not know whether they were paying too much in salaries to the city hall now. Statements should be made of how money has been spent. It was important to know whether sums had been added to the estimates.
He believed the Exhibition charges were not proper charges. No public utility should make money out of the taxpayer, he stated, but he doubted, if it could be shown that the Exhibition was run at a loss.
Waste would account for from 10 to 20 per cent. of loss. He was satisfied there was no graft in the city hall, but there was much unnecessary expense. The departments might be cut down from 17 or 18 to 7, or perhaps 5.

The early budget was the most effective method of reform. The bureau, he said, would engage in no personalities and would back no candidates. Dr. Brittain's talk was received with prolonged applause.

Mayor Church said he had changed his mind as to the usefulness of the bureau since January and after seeing it at work. If they were incompetent at the city hall at least they were honest. They had an honest tax rate this year for the first time, and there were other improvements. The city should have a first-class bond department of its own to study the market. This statement was applauded.
C. A. B. Brown raised the point that the government did not permit the trustees to prepare the educational estimates for the succeeding year. Dr. Brittain thought legislation could be obtained to accomplish this. The mayor thought he could prepare a much simpler budget if his hands were not tied by the Municipal Act. Not a dollar of overfund would appear in the works department this year. All work done was in the estimates and the only expenditures not estimated were a few unforeseen war

U. S. TO ASK RECALL OF CAPT. VON PAPPEN

German Military Attache Implicated in Archibald Case, Like Dumba.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Unless Capt. Von Pappen, the German military attache, is voluntarily withdrawn by his government, indications today were that within a short time the United States would request his recall.
All the papers carried by James F. Archibald, the American correspondent involved in the case of Dr. Dumba, have now been placed before state department officials, and while final decision will await the return of today that the documents disclose a transgression of diplomatic proprieties on Von Pappen's part such as had caused the recall of the Austrian ambassador.

In the list of documents now in possession of the state department are four cipher letters from Dr. Dumba, some from Capt. Von Pappen and some, it is believed, from Count Von Bernstorff, who on the latter point official confirmation was lacking.
In the batch, however, were letters from Count Von Bernstorff introducing Mr. Archibald. There is nothing so far as officials would disclose, which indicated that the German ambassador had violated diplomatic proprieties.

GERMAN PUBLICATIONS BARRED FROM CANADA

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 1.—The Illinois Staats Zeitung and the Bendpost, two daily newspapers printed in the German language and published at Chicago, have been prohibited entry into Canada.

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MICHIE'S BEAURICH CIGARS

ONLY EIGHT CASES SMALLPOX SHOWN
Smallest Number for Month in Twenty Years and No Deaths Reported.
Only eight cases of smallpox are reported for the month of September by the provincial board of health and no deaths resulted from any of these. This is the lowest number of cases reported for any month during the past twenty years. In September of last year there were 14 cases, but no deaths.
Among the other communicable diseases whooping cough showed a great increase over the corresponding month last year, 114 cases being reported, as compared with 94. Tuberculosis showed 101 cases, with 54 deaths, last year the figures were 80 cases and 76 deaths.
There were 148 cases of typhoid, 140 of diphtheria, 106 of measles and 76 scarlet fever. The total number of deaths for the month was 95, exactly the same as in September, 1914.

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Pictures of The First Pupils In the New Technical School

Appear in Next Sunday's World

DRAINS TOO SMALL

Superintendent Bishop Explains Why Grounds at Earlscourt School Flooded.

Superintendent Bishop of the building department of the board of education explained yesterday afternoon that the flooding of the Earlscourt Public School grounds was caused by the drains being only four inch and inadequate for heavy rainstorms. They were put in before the territory was annexed to the city, and are now being enlarged to six inches.

A Brew for every taste: Special Extra Mild Ale—Pilsener Lager—Special Extra Mild Stout—Old Stock Ale, and every brew the best of its kind, pure and healthful.

Why not have a case of each and suit the taste of all your friends?

