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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1915.

The Condition of the Other Fellow.

Judge Russell, of the Nova Scotia bench, who occasionally varies his judicial duties by giving the public the benefit of his clever pen in the discussion of the questions of the day, had a letter recently in the Halifax Chronicle, in which he made timely use, as applying to the war situation, of a bit of advice tendered long ago to the famous Halifax oarsman, George Brown, by his trainer. The essence of it was that if ever the oarsman, in any of his contests, felt almost exhausted and doubtful of his ability to hold out to the end, he must not be discouraged, but remember that his opponent was probably in the same condition. If not a worse one, and that therefore continued effort would probably win success. In the discouraging moments that must occasionally come to Britain and her Allies in the present conflict, it is well to remember this philosophy. The difficulties that are encountered, the troubles that arise, the failures that occur in the prosecution of the war on our side, always loom up largely, and sometimes tend to produce pessimistic views. But a little reflection will bring the thought that of all these things Germany and Austria must have their full share, and that these enemy countries are feeling the strain even more than Britain and the Allied nations. Indeed, the admitted thoroughness with which Germany had prepared for war is calculated to strengthen this impression. Germany was probably at her best, in a military sense, in the first few months of the war. She started in at a tremendous pace, and has been able to keep it up for many months. But it would not be reasonable to suppose that such a pace can be continued for a long time without the point of exhaustion being reached. For a short war Germany was splendidly equipped. In all probability she counted on that fact to give her an early triumph. Admitting all that she can reasonably claim as to her preparatory organization, it is a fair belief that she is finding the war longer than she expected it to be, and that, cut off as she largely is from the world's supplies, she is feeling the strain upon her resources much more than she will be disposed to admit. She must keep up appearances and declare to the world that all is going well. She must make the most, as she does, of every point gained by the German or Austrian forces. But the conviction is growing that while time is helping the Allies by enabling them to make amends for their admitted inadequacy of preparation, it is not helping the Germans, but rather imposing upon them the necessity for greater effort which they are in no position to make.

The German system of censorship gives little chance for public discussion of the war situation. There are signs, however, that the economic pressure is being keenly felt and that German opinion is becoming anxious about the final result of the conflict. One of these is the suppression of the Berlin Socialist newspaper which had hinted at the desirability of peace, and had expressed the opinion that Germany should not attempt to hold Belgium when the war ends. For this indiscretion the paper and several others which reprinted the article have been suppressed.

There was some surprise when war was declared that there was no manifestation of disapproval from the German Socialists. These had grown to be a body of considerable number and power, and as their voice had usually been for peace, many looked to them for a declaration of hostility to the war. Under similar conditions in Great Britain or in the United States there would certainly be a vigorous expression of dissent from the policy of the Government, for both in England and America the people have been educated to speak their minds freely. Conditions in Germany were not the same in this respect as in England and America. The militarism of Germany would willingly have suppressed the Socialists long ago, but it was not deemed wise to take this extreme step. The mischievous fellows were tolerated so long as they did not make themselves too disagreeable. When war was declared the military element took command of everything. The Socialists evidently were terrorized and either fell in with the war movement or remained silent. Now the indications are that the discontent is growing stronger and may break the bonds that have been placed upon it.

The German people cannot always be kept in ignorance of what is happening on the battle fronts, and in the countries arrayed against them. The occasional capture of a fort or a trench, the sinking by submarine of one British merchant vessel out of five hundred which sail the seas freely, cannot in the long run conceal from the German people the fact that in men, money and all the resources of war making, Britain and her Allies are much better able than Germany and Austria to stand the strain. If it is to be a war of exhaustion, it is not Great Britain, Russia, France and Italy that must fail.

The Kilts.

Trench warfare has sounded the death knell of the kilts and the ancient garb of the Scots may soon become a thing of the past. During the trench warfare of the past winter the scanty garb which the Scottish regiments seek to clothe their ather limbs became caked with mud which rendered it most unsuitable for service. The swinging kilt seems capable of absorbing more mud and water to the square inch than any other garment, with the result that when the soldiers marched the frozen mud-caked

skirt swung against their bare legs and scratched and chafed the wearer.

Some time ago a penurious Imperial Government decided to take a few yards of cloth out of the kilts and make them pertain more nearly to the hobbie skirt. A wild outcry was at once raised by Scotchmen everywhere, and violent threats were made against a Sassenach Government which would dare meddle with the traditional fighting garb of the Celts. What a Government could not do trench warfare has accomplished, and the probabilities are that the new Highland regiments sent to the front hereafter will be clothed in the ordinary garb of civilized men. The Germans have much to answer for, and if they should turn out to be the means of abolishing the kilt through their adoption of trench warfare, the Scotch will never forgive the Kaiser and will make the terms of peace so drastic that he will wish he had never been born.

If Great Britain adheres to her present plan of financing she will require to raise \$3,775,000,000 within the next nine months. She already has \$2,600,000,000 in sight, making total expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1916, of \$6,375,000,000. Wars nowadays cost considerable.

Reports from England shows that the new 4½ per cent. loan is being taken up more generally by the people than was the first war loan, which bore interest at 3½ per cent., and was issued at 95. John Bull is patriotic, but he likes to get a good return on his money.

Great Britain is doing everything in her power to lessen the interference with legitimate trade of neutral countries. For example, the cotton and copper which she seized on American ships are paid for, and what cannot be used in Great Britain is resold to the Allies. Great Britain has imported 3,127,000 bales of cotton during the first half of 1915, as compared with 2,156,000 bales in the corresponding period of 1914.

Rightly or wrongly, steel is regarded as the world's greatest trade barometer. If such be the case, the present condition of the steel trade shows that there has been a marked improvement in business during the past six months. On the 1st of January the United States Steel Corporation were operating at less than thirty-eight per cent. of capacity. They are now operating at eighty-two per cent. of capacity. Undoubtedly the worst is over.

Away back in the fourteenth century the great universities of Europe had many more students than our largest colleges have at the present time. Oxford had fourteen thousand in the middle of the fourteenth century, the University of Paris had twelve thousand, and Bologna ten thousand. Students in those days did not live pampered lives. Lectures began at six in the morning, and were continued until darkness set in, while the accommodation furnished students was of the most meagre nature. Such a thing as a fire in a lecture room was unknown, while glass windows were the exception until the close of the fourteenth century. It is even a far cry from the traditional Scottish student with his bag of oatmeal and room in the attic to the luxurious ease of present day college traditions.

DO-NOTHINGISM.

(From the New Republic.)

Mr. Bryan's speech at Carnegie hall deserves a place in college textbooks as the perfect example of how do-nothingism may go hand in hand with immense pretensions. Mr. Bryan is against armament; he is also against the attempt to create some kind of international organization. He is for the Monroe doctrine, but he would presumably not fight to maintain it. And though he would not fight to maintain it, he would also refuse "entangling alliances" which might make the doctrine safe without fighting.

Here is the ideal he offers his countrymen; that they should not arm, but also they should not disarm; that they should, in other words, be misarmed; that they should maintain their isolation and at the same time maintain the guardianship of a hemisphere; that they should uphold international law and order but decline to consider any plan for international organization. They should stand absolutely pat, trust the arbitration treaties, and set a moral example. As a programme for American pacifism it would have about as much sense as a demand for omelettes accompanied by the specification that no eggs be broken.

INFANT MORTALITY.

(Exchange.)

According to the last decennial census, about one hundred and eighty thousand babies are born in Canada every year. Out of these no less than thirty-six thousand die before their first birthday. This mortality percentage is four times as high as that from tuberculosis. Montreal heads the list of Canadian cities in the "slaughter of the innocents." The child death rate here is two hundred and fifty per thousand; in Ottawa it is two hundred and seventeen per thousand; Fort William, two hundred and two; Toronto, one hundred and fifty-five; and Hamilton, one hundred and fifty-one.

CANADA'S SHAME.

(Peterboro Examiner.)

Canada has been foremost in many forms of service and achievement; but it is rearmist in recognizing the womanhood of woman. Women have the suffrage in Federated Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Finland, and in thirteen of the United States of America. We should resent the idea that any of these countries are more enlightened or progressive than we are. What, then, of our denial of equality of rights of men and women, of justice and fair play, which half the world is fighting fiercely for to-day?

A PATRIOT-SOLDIER'S PHILOSOPHY.

(Toronto Star.)

The calm and brave philosophy of a soldier and patriot is, says the Kincaidline Review, conveyed in this paragraph from a letter of Sergeant J. E. Eastlake to his father:

"Whatever you do, don't worry about me. If there is a shell for me I will get it, and that's the way it is to it. You must realize that a chap over here is not only the son of his father and mother, but the son of the nation, and it is going to cost more lives to lick the Germans than most people think."

THE OSLER THEORY REFUTED.

The New York World points out that Admiral Von Tirpitz is 66 years old, that Admiral Fisher is 74, that Admiral Jellicoe is 56, that Kitchener is 65, that French is 63, that Ian Hamilton is 62, that Joffre is 63, that Pau is 47, that Castelnau is 70, that Gallieni is 67, that Kluck is 69, that Heeringen is 65, that Bissing is 71, that Mackensen is 66, that Hindenburg is 68, that Haeseler is 72. It does not seem to be an age for young men in military matters.

ECONOMIC FOUNDATION OF HISTORY.

(The New Age (London).)

The popularity of the Marxian dogma is due to the facts that, in the first place, it is an interpretation of history, just as the theory of Evolution was an interpretation of progressive variation in nature; and, in the second place, it appears under certain circumstances to be primary. Without some economic foundation obviously no history whatever is possible. Food is the first condition of life. But because food is the first condition of life, and, under certain circumstances, becomes the only condition that matters, it does not follow that food is the only motive of life. On the contrary, food as motive is predominant only where food is precarious; as soon as food is comparatively secure, other motives begin to play; and in advanced societies these other motives overlay the economic as a building stands upon its foundations. Threaten the security of food and, of course, all the motives made possible by secure food are shaken and become relatively insignificant. The economic motive, in fact, can be found at the bottom of all other motives; but this is not to say that all other motives are economic, or even that economics enters into them. Because at the bottom of every structure you will find a foundation which is naturally the first condition of the structure itself, it does not follow that the structure is all foundation!

DOES IT DESERVE BETTER?

(Grain Growers' Guide.)

An honest politician is Canada's greatest need.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

"Employed in the steel works are you? Don't you find your job fearfully hot in the summer time?"

"Oh, no; you see I work in the chilled steel department."—Boston Transcript.

"I always think before I speak," said the new arrival in the Ananias club.

"That's right," answered the old member. "Think up a good one while you are about it."—Washington Star.

Tourist—How far is it to the village of Slocum?

Native—Folke mile, sir. But you be walking away from it.

Tourist—But the sign-post directed me this way.

Native—Ah, yes. But we've 'ad all the sign-posts turned round to fool the Zeppelins.—Passing Show.

Farmer (to one of his laborers, who has come home after his training in the militia)—Which would you rather be, a soldier or a farm hand, Paddy?

Pat—A soldier, of course.

Farmer—And why so, Paddy?

Pat—Well, you see, you'd be a long time working for a farmer before he'd tell you to stand at ease.—London Opinion.

A typical story of Yorkshire character is told of a returned soldier. Any one who knows the all importance of washing day in Yorkshire will appreciate the humor of it. He was just out of hospital and except that his left arm, still stiff and sore, was tucked into the breast of his jacket, you would never have guessed what he had suffered for king and country. As he crossed the threshold of his paternal home his father took the pipe out of his mouth and gave him a real Yorkshire welcome:

"Thah's never cum. Moother, there' aar Jim."

And "moother," hurrying in from the back yard, added her felicitations thus:

"Thah's lookin' noan so bad, lad; but whatever med thee cum hoam on a wesh day?"—London Express.

Mr. Bryan himself has told a story of how one of his political enemies got even with him. There was a mass meeting out in Nebraska at which Mr. Bryan was to speak, and which was presided over by a man with whom the Peerless Leader had crossed swords several times. A real feud was on between these two men, and when Bryan ascended the platform the presiding officer paid no attention to him.

At last it came time to introduce Bryan, and the chairman walked over to him and blandly inquired:

"What is your name, please?"

"William Jennings Bryan."

"Bryan, ah, yes," said the chairman. "And what do you do, Mr. Bryan, sing or speak?"

ADIEU TO A SOLDIER.

(Walt Whitman.)

Adieu, O soldier!

You of the rude campaigning which we shared;

The rapid march, the life of the camp.

The hot contention of opposing fronts, the long maneuver.

Red battles with their slaughter, the stimulus, the strong terrific game.

Spell of all brave and manly hearts, the trains of time through you and like of you all fill'd

With war and war's expression.

Adieu, comrade!

Your mission is fulfill'd—but I, more warlike.

Myself and this contentious soul of mine.

Still on our own campaigning bound.

Through untired roads with ambushes, opponents lined.

Through many a sharp defeat and many a crisis: often baffled.

Here marching, ever marching on, a war fight out—aye, here.

To fiercer, weightier battles give expression.

ROAD TO LAUGHTERTOWN.

(British Weekly.)

Oh, show me the road to Laughtertown.

For I have lost the way!

I wandered out of the path one day.

When my heart was broken, my hair turned gray.

And I can't remember how to play!

I've quite forgotten how to be gay.

It's all through sighing and weeping, they say.

Oh, show me the road to Laughtertown.

For I have lost the way!

Would ye learn the road to Laughtertown,

O ye who have lost the way?

Would ye have a young heart though your hair be gray?

Go learn from a little child each day:

Go serve his wants and play each day.

And catch the lilt of his laughter gay.

And follow his dancing feet as they stray:

For he knows the road to Laughtertown.

Oh, ye who have lost the way!

WAR BABIES.

(Chicago Tribune.)

War, in itself an elemental expression of human emotions, has caused a reversion to barbarism which the philosophical find easy to understand but which society is perplexed to make room for in an ordered state of morals. The consequences of the reversion are babies without names. The nations at war need the babies and want them and realize that neither the mother who has borne the child nor the child itself can be permitted to suffer what in ordinary times would be the punishment imposed for irregularity.

Europe has not returned generally to a state of promiscuous concubinage, but the disposition to "breed before you die" has followed some stronger urge than that of ecclesiastical exhortation and has embraced more opportunities than were offered by the specially simplified marriage procedure arranged for those about to go into battle.

The Church of England has been criticized for adapting itself to a situation which threatened to withdraw the youth of the country from matrimonial possibilities and consequently to have a depressing effect upon the vital statistics of the nation. It was accused of provoking a disregard of moral restraints and of causing a lapse into promiscuity by throwing aside delicacy and coming out plump with the declaration that England was going to lose men and would need babies.

It is fairer to say that the church was working as energetically as it could to regularize relations which the authorities knew were being formed irregularly as the result of the tremendous upheaval in human conditions. Considerations which were important in ordinary times disappeared in extraordinary times.

The philosophical may say that it was nature responding to a sudden and savage attack upon her most essential process. She made a readjustment in anticipation of interference with her orderly methods. She quickened the will to live and put it in the form of the will to breed. Of that impulse even the philosophical would concede that the unmarried fathers and mothers would be unconscious. Their consciousness would be restricted within simpler emotional bounds, but that would not eliminate the possibility of the greater plan. Nature was not thrown off her balance, but made readjustments and with the consequences public policy, morals, charity, church, and nation are now concerned.

Hitherto Great Britain has regarded such a subject as one far below the line. It was to be denied of experience, put out of thought and kept out of conversation and counsel. Even now the English will not even approximate Magyar candor or the policy of Maria Theresa and her regiments of hussars, but reticence has been broken down. Facts are facts and it is impossible and impolitic to pass on the other side of the highway with averted eyes.

The unmarried mother has done a service to the state. The fact that she outweighs the fact that she did not intend to, and the state is concerned to see that her position is regularized, that she and her child are protected from the shame and disgrace that would have been the punishment in ordinary times, and that they are given protection and made what they ought to be, valuable to the state.

If nature readjusted herself to meet a danger, society will have to readjust itself to accept the consequences, and then, with the normal restored, both may proceed in approved and sanctioned ways.

GERMANY'S JOKE ON THE ALLIES.

(Ottawa Journal.)

"The most conclusive answer of the British Government to the charge that it was in any way responsible for precipitating this war, and that the effort to avert it was not made in good faith, is the conspicuous fact that it was not in the least prepared for it. Its army was utterly inadequate for any such contest, and the nation lacked not only the necessary equipment but the means of providing it."—New York Journal of Commerce.

Nor does it seem that Russia was much prepared either. And even France took a month to rally. It was a grim laugh that Germany had on all of them.

COST OF UNPREPAREDNESS.

(Buffalo Express.)

A Canadian officer, writing from the front to a friend in St. Catharines, says:

"All this misery and waste could have been averted if we could have thrown a million men into France and Belgium at the commencement of the war, because Germany would not have taken the risk, but anyone who advocated national training in England or Canada was looked upon as a scaremonger and a fool."

May the United States avoid having to reproach itself a year or two hence with the thought that similar misery and waste might have been avoided by it if it had made adequate defensive preparation.

The Day's Best Editorial

BETTER CALL THEM "SHACKS."

(From the Keokuk, Ia., Constitution-Democrat.)

A circular just issued by the federal department of the interior advertises the terms upon which the government will sell "villa sites on the waters of Flathead Lake, Montana."

It remains to be seen how this "villa" thing will take in Montana, where life is real and elemental and where the finer frills of super-refinement have sometimes been stood off at the point of a long, blue six gun.

If we remember correctly, it was in the Flathead country that Big Bill Skiles slipped three protesting bullets through an itinerant lecturer's silk hat before the wearer could get out from under it. And it was only thirty miles away, at Squaw Creek, that a hapless dude in leg-o-mutton riding trousers had to dance till his tongue hung out, with sudden little spurts of dust kicking up all around his feet. Such is the local tradition among the Bar U and the Lazy L gangs of riders.

It is somewhat incongruous to think of "Red" Cassidy hanging up his "chaps" and holster on the porch of a villa and then consoling himself with a makin's cigarette as he gazes dreamily out through the columns of a pergola upon the gleaming waters of Flathead.

This is not to say that Montana lacks in appreciation of the finer things of life that are genuine. But it is to say that the appearance of the "villa" in the Flathead country is a startling testimonial to the evanescence of the human types that now survive chiefly in the movies. It was only yesterday that any villa daring to rear its haughty head on the shores of Flathead would either have been roped and dragged into the lake or else scornfully designated as fit only for dudes or sheep herders. Even today it's a safe bet that the villa will be forced to masquerade under the less lifelike name of "shack."

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WE MORALIZE, THEY FIGHT.

(Minneapolis Journal.)

To understand, to get along with this world, nay to improve this world as well as to accommodate oneself to it, requires an intellectual tolerance rather than a moral conviction. What were the wars of religion, the persecutions of injustices in religious name, but the conscientious endeavors of morally convinced men to impose their notions upon the world?

We Americans believe in democracy, but while we may believe in it, we know that as a matter of fact the greater part of the world's population does not. Knowing the fact, how can we expect Russians or Germans to think and act as democrats would think and act? The expectation is absurd. Our pacifists believe war is immoral. They may be right, but they cannot expect Europe, the major portion of its people, to think so. About the only people whom they need not convince are the Chinese.

We Americans live with neighbors whose elbows dig into our ribs. We inhabit almost a continent which everywhere is pretty much alike. Hence our dearest conviction is that all the rest of the world is like ourselves, or is going to be like ourselves soon. That is an illusion which will cause us some severe crops, if we obstinately induce it. Kind words butter no parsnips, and noble abstractions do not alter facts. We live in a world that is what it is, regardless of what we Americans may say or believe. Most of that world never heard of Washington's "Farwell Address" or of Lincoln's "Speech at Gettysburg." It has other notions, ideals, convictions than our own, and for its own particular set of such notions each portion of it (except China, is perfectly ready to bleed and die.

ALL THAT IS NECESSARY.

(New York Sun.)

The German government's latest apology for sinking a neutral merchant steamer, this time a Swedish vessel, which was not only torpedoed by a heavy submarine, but shelled by a headless cruiser, seems in its courteous terms to signify an earnest desire not to offend neutral sentiment; but the deuce of it is Germany thinks the slate is wiped clean when an apology is duly rendered and a promise of indemnity made.

ROUMANIA'S STYLE.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

Roumania's new mania is a true mania for dicker-ering. Her sword is sheathed in speculation and drawn with deliberation. Those who call her the costermonger of nations are not far wrong.

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