

Opinions From Our Contemporaries

JUSTICE FOR IRELAND

St. Patrick's Day is approaching. On this great festival of the Gael, the thoughts of countless thousands will turn back in affection to the old cradle and land of the race.

It is impossible to say, but the pressure is becoming greater year by year. One of the mysteries of the public school system is the difficulty of getting male teachers.

A GREAT FARMERS' MOVEMENT The convention of the United Farmers of Ontario, held in Toronto last week, was probably the most representative body of the kind that has assembled in this city for many years.

That as we and our fathers have never ceased to protest that the Act of Union was unfairly obtained in defiance of the Act of Renunciation of 1782, and is still maintained by the 'force majeure' in opposition to the will of the great majority of the Irish people we now urge remedial action, this assembly supporting the plan of Premier Lloyd George that the Dominions shall assist in the settlement of the Irish question.

That, as Canada has taken an active part in the present war on the ground that 'when one portion of the Empire is at war, it is all at war', so too when one part of the Empire, as is the case in Ireland, is unhappily governed in opposition to the will of the great majority of its people, it is the duty of every part of this Empire to take active steps to see that justice is done to that portion of the Empire.

And that, in our belief, such justice can only be accomplished if the principle of Nationhood be clearly recognized in Ireland, and Self-Government, such as is enjoyed by Canada, be accorded to her.

Wherefore be it further resolved that whoever shall act as delegates from Canada at this great Conference, be desired to strongly urge upon that august body of national representatives, our humane demand and earnest prayer.

We suggest that this resolution be passed at mass meetings of Irish-Canadians all over the Dominion and that it be cabled to Premier Borden in London, or that the resolution, as passed, be sent to the Premier at Ottawa and notification of the fact be cabled him to England. Many prominent Irishmen of both sides of politics have already given their approval to this scheme. Its success rests with our readers. Shall Ireland appeal to us in vain?—The Canadian Freeman.

TIME TO PROTEST

Patience with Hon. R. A. Pyne has ceased to be a virtue. The Ontario Department of Education has utterly failed to obey the progressive impulses that energized other departments of the Provincial Government after 1905.

UNPROGRESSIVE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

It is no secret that a reactionary element exists in the board of education, and also in the provincial department of education, and the minister himself has exhibited in connection with the public school system, no special desire for progressive measures.

How long the dykes will hold R.

The war will probably be an excuse for their delay in the matter of reforms that must come before long. Frederick Hearst would be well advised to look into the department of education and encourage any sparks of intelligence or embers of progress that are to be discovered there, if he does not wish to provide a new subject of attack for the opposition.—Toronto World (Con.)

A GREAT FARMERS' MOVEMENT

The convention of the United Farmers of Ontario, held in Toronto last week, was probably the most representative body of the kind that has assembled in this city for many years. The delegates came from all parts of the province, and they reflected all shades of political opinion.

This process should make available the one great untouched fuel supply remaining on our continent, the lignite fields of North Dakota and Montana, which are said to contain literally trillions of tons of coal easily accessible.

Thus there is hope in the coal situation after all. The coal famine that has pinched every section of the country this winter need not be repeated. If railroads and factories begin using hard coal refuse and lignite instead of good domestic coal, there will be plenty of fuel for all of us at lower prices for many years to come.—Bisbee (Arizona) Review

MAKE A GARDEN

Have we learned our lesson from the 1916 crop figures? Have the high food prices, caused by shortage of crops, the war, and inadequate facilities for distribution taught us anything at all? It's up to us to grow more crops. Organizations all over the country interested in agriculture, as well as the federal agricultural authorities, are carrying on campaigns for diversifying crops.

It's all worth while. Every vegetable garden however small, is just so much gain. Every family that can raise edible crops is helping to meet its own immediate needs and so to increase the food output of the country generally.

POWDERED COAL FOR ECONOMY

A new means of efficiency and economy, and at the same time a means of conserving one of our most valuable resources, is the use of pulverized coal in steam engines. It is not an entirely new idea. There are some 8,000,000 tons of pulverized coal now being used annually in the United States. But this is a small part of the total coal consumption

for industrial purposes. It has been demonstrated in the past year that powdered coal is adapted to much wider use. It might be burned in most industrial plants. It is regarded as especially valuable for railroad locomotives.

Its advantages for railroad use have been fully set forth by John E. Muhlfield of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. A railroad's fuel cost comes next to its labor cost. Mr. Muhlfield shows that by burning powdered coal, the roads could save from 20 to 40 per cent of the total heat value of the fuel consumed, and increase the efficiency of the boilers 10 to 15 per cent.

The \$300,000,000 now paid for locomotive fuel, nearly \$100,000,000 represents fuel burned in firing up, maintaining fires when the engines are standing idle, cleaning the grates, etc. As the burning of powdered coal is almost instantaneous, there's little waste of this sort. A locomotive can be fired up in one hour. When it is standing the consumption of fuel stops, like the consumption of gasoline in an automobile. It takes less than half as much pulverized coal to fire up as it does lump coal.

The cheapness of the fuel is due to its being made largely of coal otherwise unavailable. At present about half the product of the anthracite mines is unsalable to the ordinary trade. All the refuse can be burned by the new process. Any kind of coal, of any size, can be ground up and used. Anthracite, bituminous, semi-bituminous, lignite and peat are said to work equally well when reduced to powder.

What is wanted from the Hydro-Electric Commission in Eastern Ontario is active operation or their abandonment of this field.

To conserve, labor will be one of the most important of economies. Statistics show that when this war is over, 14,000,000 men will have been withdrawn from the world's field of labor. Wages must increase. To develop the mineral resources of Eastern Ontario with high-priced labor, will be difficult unless the new idle water powers are made to give forth their energy. With cheap power it is possible in Eastern Ontario to mine and treat its now valueless mineral deposits, and by so doing to supply a great want of the Empire's manufacturers in enabling them to secure some of their needs in raw materials under the flag.

What in minerals required by the English manufacturer that can be supplied from Eastern Ontario has been published in technical journals in England, but it will be a damper to the Englishman that comes here to do business to find the water power question in its present unsatisfactory position. The Commission not developing the powers, private enterprise deterred from entering the field, no cheap power available; a poor way for Eastern Ontario to do "its bit" in developing our Empire.

Statistics issued by U. S. Government show present expenditure for coal in U. S. per capita at \$14.30. By 1940 this will be increased to \$22.50 per capita. The position in Ontario will be worse; we have no coal within our borders.

Yours truly, Joseph James, Actinolite, Ont., Feb. 12th, 1917.

THROWN FROM THEIR CUTTER

Runaway Horse with Sleigh Struck Farmer's Outfit and Upset Occupants A farmer and his wife were thrown out of their cutter on Front street in front of Hyman's fur store this morning about 10.30 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fox spent a few days last week at Napanee. Mr. Frank Kevill of Toronto, and Mr. Nicholas McDonald of Point Anne, were recent visitors at Ed. McDonald's.



EVEN CHILDREN ON CASUALTY LISTS

To the miseries of destitution in Belgium are too often added actual killing and wounding by shells of non-combatants. To us in Canada it would hardly be conceivable that a little girl of nine like the one in the accompanying photograph, should be suffering from the hideous wounds inflicted by a "Jack Johnson", were it not a matter of almost daily record that just such things are taking place wherever the German can make his long arm reach.

WATER POWER AND MANUFACTURING

Third Letter by Mr. Joseph James of Actinolite on Resources of this District

Editor Ontario. "To gather the streams from waste and to draw from them energy labor without brains, and so to save mankind from toil that it can be spared, is to supply what, next to intellect, is the very foundation of all our welfare."

The efforts made by Governments needs to be supplemented by the efforts of the private individual, as a last resort. It is the energy and enterprise of the individual that brings results. Governments can and should help, and no doubt will help if given a correct lead.

One of the most valuable of our latent possibilities is Water Power. An engineer writing on this subject said: "I seriously think the development of a number of the smaller powers that are scattered throughout the district would do more good than the installation of a single long transmission scheme, but anyway if conservation is carried out properly, all powers will be benefited."

Water power development in the United States has been at a standstill for the past seven years, a condition brought about by fear on the part of the people that a "Trust" was obtaining control of all water power sites. Here in Ontario we have not exactly the same reason to give for our slow development.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hubbs spent a recent day with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Noxon, Gilead.

CHISHOLM

Miss Myrtle Campney spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Cole, at Point Peter.

Fortunately for the Belgians, homeless penniless and often actually wounded, there are still devoted people who are willing to give up their own personal comfort to minister to the needy in truly Christian style. Such are the nuns, shown here who with thousands of their sisters have braved all the horrors of war to carry material and spiritual succor to the helpless. There will be a brighter chapter in the history of this war. They have lived up to the traditions of their faith in a conflict where not even religious ground is sacred to the invading German.

great power and ignoring or overlooking the smaller powers that are at its disposal.

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A Silk Skirt Made to Order

Here is an opportunity to have made in our Dressmaking Department a Silk Skirt from any Black or Colored Messaline, Duchesse and Taffeta Silk, regular \$1.50 quality, with six different styles to choose from, for

\$8.75

This offer lasts for this week only.

TEA ROOM

When downtown drop in the Quinte Chapter I. O. D. E. Tea Rooms, Rigg's Music Store

EARLE & COOK

THOUGHTS BY THE WAY

The British People

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

The use of the name 'English' in itself and who could not speak a word of English, Irish, Welsh, and Scots other than the King's infant son, of the British Isles—has occasioned English men in any other tongue, that of the Toronto Globe, which has and who was born in the Welsh part of the British Isles. From 1822 I led the writer to notice also the frequent erroneous use of the word 'English' as embracing all the peoples of the British Isles.

The English do not alone represent the people of the British Isles any more than does England alone represent the British Empire. The word 'English' is frequently erroneously used in speaking of things British, even teachers and professors using the term English history and English victories when meaning British. The English or Anglo-Saxon race united with the Scotch and Irish, comprise what is known as the British people; these, with their varied characteristics make a people of many and varied talents, and rising united like the trefol clover from its parent stem, have made a people pre-eminently fitted to lead the world. The slow but sure, indomitable and persevering character of the Anglo-Saxon as seen in the English race, the hasty and generous and brave impulsiveness of the Celt as seen in the man from the Emerald Isle, the intrepid, daring and warm blood of the sons of Auld Scotia—these united have made a people that have won the highest place among the nations of the world.

To not one alone is the merit due, as from these races, unlike but united, have sprung the peoples of this most powerful nation. The cool, indomitable, perseverance of the Anglo-Saxon, reinforced by the warm, ardent spirit of the Celt, has often opened up the way to victory.

The old Viking spirit of the Anglo-Saxon burns in the English today and the unbendable and unconquerable spirit of the ancient Celt is felt in Scotch and Irish—the one unconquerable at the Battle of Bannockburn, and the other indomitable in their striving for Home Rule. The spirit that yields not to conquest is also glimpsed in the history of Wales, which country boasts even now a Prince of its own. To such unyielding spirits as history reveals in the Welsh, Irish, and Scots, may in a great measure be attributed the success of the British army in wars past and present.

The Anglo-Saxon conquest, as such, is improperly designated, for the Celtic races have never been conquered by them; all Irish, Welsh, and Scotch resisting to the death. With the union of such races it is little wonder that the British nation dominates the world. History gives us ample proof of the unconquerable spirit of the Celtic races. When the first Edward of England attempted the conquest of Wales, he was met by a people of dauntless courage in their mountain fastnesses. They fought to the death but were still unconquered. They were only pressed when the English King promised them a native prince as a ruler, one born on Welsh soil.

ESTABLISHED U. Ge Ne BLACK Belleville the far Order Address of D The Right V Black Chapter met in their 4 tion in the On va Tuesday at shipful Grand of Kingston, in The brethren and the proceed usual exercises, represented by tically very Chario. Among the present were Past Grand M of the Past Gra filled this high distinction. The platform was, Sir K. J. K. Sande, Gran ceteram. Women were also active part in The Home address, spoke their spirit of work of the or references to ouly Father in He said that he called the Knights of B was here the of October 15th, Reference w tiful situation Bay of Quinte, has been made ren. Enlistments Notwithstand listments of K with the war. arses, some s some having a great reward a and Country, i made satisfact bers, reporting crease. In touching tion of the O sion, Sir Knigh spoke of the co ed him; of the at the splendid work of these d by the offic He fittingly d Sentinel", that the rights and and urged the read the article great work. Feeling refer great loss the in the deatha ble members The Grow address, spoke of democracy a there was ab towards demor h. In every featu bright outlook An address sent by Sir County Manee was fittingly Knight H. A. Precatory N and address o