

AMNESTY GRANTED BY FREE STATE A SIGNIFICANT PEACE MOVE

A despatch from Dublin says:—Richard Mulcahy, Minister of Defence, has issued a proclamation granting ten days' amnesty to facilitate the surrender of Republicans.

This is a highly significant peace move, which was first revealed in an announcement from army headquarters that, following upon an interview with Richard Mulcahy, Minister of Defence; Liam Deasy, Deputy Chief of the Irregular forces, now under sentence of death, was trying to induce Eamonn de Valera and other leaders to surrender, and that, pending the negotiations thus instituted, the execution of Deasy and other prisoners had been suspended.

This explains the mysterious rumors which have been current lately

concerning nine impending executions. Nothing is known regarding the attitude of de Valera towards Deasy's appeal, but hopes are running higher than for some time past.

Army headquarters also issued a copy of a statement submitted by a number of prisoners in Limerick Jail to the General Commanding in Limerick, and claiming to represent 600 prisoners desirous of instituting peace negotiations and preventing the continued wastage of men.

The statement asks that four prisoners be permitted to leave on parole to visit the leaders outside in an effort to induce them to cease the struggle and punitive measures, and that while negotiations are in progress the Government suspend all executions.

Factor in Education The Playground as a

By W. M. Morris, Ontario Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association.

I read a story the other day from a Western Journal about a boy who never played. In the morning or at recess time, while the other boys were out playing games in the school yard "Henry" remained in the school reading a book. He never went out catching gophers or on a "like" like most boys do. The fine smooth ice or football field had no attraction for him. He was not strong as other boys were and so did not even try to take part in their games.

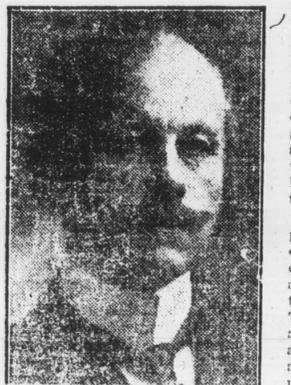
Henry was very clever in his studies. The head of the class was always his by reason of his studious habits. His demeanor in school was always exemplary. The teachers regarded him as a very good boy because he never caused any disturbance and made good marks in his examinations.

After completing high school he became a teacher, but never made a success because he had never learned the great and many things that play teaches. He had no understanding of children nor did he know how to get along with other people, having always lived the individualistic life. Children are quick to read character and so these pupils very soon discovered his weakness, rendering him a failure in the profession.

One year of strenuous life undermined his health. His parents discovered he had become consumptive. They were advised to try a change of climate and moved to British Columbia, where he seemed to improve for a time, but then his health again turned for the worse and in a few months Henry died. I wonder if there had been some organized play at school in which Henry would have been required to take some active part, if he would have grown up to be a strong and useful citizen? Someone may say that Henry was destined to die at this young age, but if his untimely death was due to neglect of the common laws of good health and exercise we should not blame Providence for the result.

This brings up the question of the value of the playground as a factor in education and this again involves our conception of an education. Each individual has his own ideas on the subject and consequently his own estimate of the means of acquiring it. Can we find some common ground with reference to the training of these young candidates for manhood, womanhood and citizenship? If we mean the mere acquisition of knowledge, regardless of physical health, moral standards and a preparation for citizenship then Henry was educated. But if we regard education as the preparation for complete living, including whatever we do for ourselves and whatever is done for us by others for the express purpose of helping us to live the very best kind of life, then education is more than mere book learning. We have all seen too many failures among the so-called educated and too many brilliant successes among those who refused to follow the grooves. It is not the mere acquisition of knowledge that counts but the ability to apply the information that is the real test of success.

When is a person educated? When he responds efficiently to every social situation in which he finds himself. The child is being educated when he learns to take his part in the little democracy of the home by helping to wash the dishes and carry in the wood. The man is educated when he makes a success of his business or profession, assumes his responsibilities as a citizen, knows how to spend his leisure moments, appreciates the beautiful and spiritual and finds some response in his soul to the Eternal. It does not matter whether he has acquired this development of character in the home, on the street, in business, or in school.



Mr. Adelard Turgeon
Recently elected president of the Canadian Forestry Association.



New Bank President
George S. Campbell, of Halifax, N.S., who has just been elected president of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Abraham Lincoln was regarded as a superbly educated man and yet he was very little the product of any school. We have all known some men who had very little of what is commonly called an education but who were men of deep thought and solid judgment and who were as well, if not better qualified, to vote at elections and succeed in life as some of their grandchildren who read only society or sporting news in the papers and revel in the cinema.

But what has play to do with this? People in the country used to have apple-pairings, corn-huskings, debating societies, singing classes and many other social, literary, political and religious gatherings where they talked about the current events and played together. There was a much higher average attendance at the school in those days. There they all learned to play games and incidentally learned to live together, for after all the great purpose in going to school is to learn to live with other people in the small circle of the home, the larger circle of the community and the largest circle of the world.

The supervised playground is just as potent a factor in education as the formal classes in the school. When the question arose among the Athenians many centuries ago, as to whether they should build a great public school or open a playground it was decided to open the playground. It came to pass that the citizens of that city advanced so far beyond the rest of the human race that the nations that have gone on building public schools and neglecting to open playgrounds have not been able to catch up with them. We are beginning to place more value on the school grounds. Sites have sometimes been selected for schools in cities, towns and rural parts because the piece of ground was no use for anything else. The first school built in Gary, Ind., had two acres of playground, the second had four, the third eleven, the fourth twenty-five, and I wonder what the next will be. I was at a school meeting in Keswick, North York recently, when they unanimously decided to purchase five acres of splendid land for the site of a new school. They mean to use it for a community playground. The school is the one public institution that is in every community and it makes the best possible community centre, but the school yard has been one of the least utilized of our educational resources.

Supervision of the playground increases its educational value many fold. I was at a meeting of the Brant Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association recently when a resolution was passed recommending School Boards to provide for the supervision of the pupils during the noon-hour. The whole county of Brant is organized for recreational purposes. The schools in England are organized to promote football and cricket. Our public school teachers should be given a course in supervised play that would enable them to teach the children games and assist in the recreational activities of the community. This would encourage backward children like Henry and restrain the domination of the bully.

Trying to estimate the value of the playground one thinks of the innumerable ways in which the sense perceptions of the children are quickened and aroused to recognize and respond to the things going on around them. They gain self-control and learn the art of readily and pleasantly co-operating with others. Such attractive and fundamental traits of character as politeness, honesty, loyalty, justice and obedience to law can best be acquired when children are practicing the art of living together on the play-



FRENCH TANKS IN ESSEN

France has not attempted to grasp control of the rich Ruhr district without a show of force. The picture shows a scene in a street of Essen, the great German steel centre and the home of the Krupp armament manufacturing plant.

ground. Playing is as great a reality to them as work is to adults, and if people learn in childhood to play together they will be able to work together. The boy without a playground becomes the man without a job.

Plenty of room for dives and dens (glitter and glare and snit!)
Plenty of room for prison pens (gather the criminals in!)
Plenty of room for jails and courts (willing enough to pay!)
But never a place for the lads to race; no, never a place to play!
Plenty of room for shops and stores (Mammon must have the best!)
Plenty of room for the running sores that rot in the city's breast.
Plenty of room for the lures that lead the hearts of our youth astray,
But never a cent on a playground spent no, never a place to play!
Plenty of room for schools and halls, plenty of room for art;
Plenty of room for tees and balls, platform, stage and mart.
Proud is the city—she finds a place for many a fad to-day,
But she's more than blind if she fails to find a place for the boys to play!
Give them a chance for innocent sport, give them a chance for fun—
Better a playground plot than a court and a jail when the harm is done!
Give them a chance—if you stint them now to-morrow you'll have to pay
Larger bill for a darker ill, so give them a place to play!



A Hockey Star
Cameron, one of the well known and popular hockey stars of the St. Patricks Toronto team, world champions of 1922.

Duke of York's Wedding to Take Place April 26

A despatch from London says:—The date has been set for the wedding of the Duke of York and Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. It will take place at Westminster Abbey on April 26.

TEN MEN SUFFOCATED BY GAS EXPLOSION

Score or More Overcome by Poisonous Fumes in Toronto Gas Plant.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Ten workmen were suffocated by gas and a score or more overcome by poisonous gas fumes following an explosion in the valve house of the Eastern Avenue plant of the Consumers' Gas Company on Thursday. The explosion was followed by terrifying scenes when heroic rescuers put up a vigorous fight to check the tremendous flow of gas from an eighteen-inch main to which two workmen were in the act of making a connection to a "booster" apparatus which regulates the distribution of gas throughout the city when the accident happened. The work of rescuing the victims trapped in the lower chamber of the valve house was a most hazardous undertaking, and resulted in the death of eight men who volunteered for this service. That the two men who were making the valve connection escaped with their lives is regarded as little short of marvellous. Rescue work was under way within a few seconds after the explosion. Seven men were rushed to St. Michael's Hospital, where they died a few minutes after their admission.

Capt. Buernier Secures Boat for Arctic Trip

A despatch from London says:—Captain J. E. Buernier, the well known Arctic explorer, will return to Canada in a few days after spending two months here. Captain Buernier's mission was to procure a vessel suitable for Arctic exploration and chasing poachers who prey on seals in Canadian waters. He has been offered a boat of the desired kind with a fair turn of speed and he will recommend its purchase to the Government on his return.

Capt. Buernier lectured at the Royal Artillery Institute during his stay here and was congratulated by well known British explorers and sea captains on the energetic manner in which he has painted the Arctic a patriotic red.

Bravery of War Prisoner Rewarded by German

A despatch from Vancouver says:—Major J. C. Thorn of this city was notified on Friday that he had been left an old manor by Herr Gartner, an aged German. The codicil recited that Thorn, "although an enemy of my country at the time, did, in the station at Leipzig, while under armed guard, jump in front of an approaching train and saved little Karl."

Karl was Herr Gartner's grandson. The granddaughter of the testator has offered \$10,000 for the manor.

CANADA'S CIVIC DEBT NOW \$419,379,993

\$7,483,842 Was Added to Debt in January of Present Year.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Canada's revenues during the ten months of the fiscal year ended January 31 totalled \$328,142,085, an increase of \$9,652,196 over the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year. In the same periods, ordinary expenditure declined \$6,241,022, the total ordinary expenditures in the ten months ended January 31 last being \$263,072,228. In January alone, as compared with January, 1922, ordinary revenue showed an increase of \$3,748,785 and ordinary expenditures a decline of \$6,654,029, the latter figure indicating increase in expenditure in some of the earlier individual months as compared with the previous year. However, in spite of decreased expenditure and increased revenue, \$7,483,842 was added to the net debt of Canada last month. On December 31, 1922, the net debt was \$2,412,496,151. On January 31, 1923, it had grown to \$2,419,979,993. The increase, it is explained, is mainly due to railway advances.

The total customs revenue for the ten months of the present fiscal year was \$97,314,753, an increase of more than twelve millions over the previous year when the customs revenue was \$85,262,370. The total revenue from excise in the fiscal year so far is \$30,781,743, as compared with \$31,006,842 for the ten month period of the last fiscal year. Interest payments on the public debt totalled \$120,637,413 for the ten months closing January 31, 1923, as compared with \$114,579,577 during the same period a year ago.

COST OF LIVING ON INCREASE IN CANADA

Figures Issued by Department of Labor Show Steady Rise.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The cost of living is again increasing. The average cost of a weekly family budget covering 29 staple articles of food in 60 Canadian cities was \$10.52 at the beginning of January, as compared with \$10.39 at the beginning of December, 1922, according to figures issued by the Department of Labor. In January, 1923, the same family budget cost \$11.03, as compared with \$7.73 in January of 1914 and \$16.92 in June, 1920, the highest point reached.

Including the cost of fuel and rent with that of foods, the cost averaged \$21.18 for January, as compared with \$20.97 for December and \$21.52 for January of last year. Meats and dairy products accounted for most of the increase in foods, though potatoes and sugar were also slightly higher. Evaporated apples and salt pork were somewhat lower. Fuel was slightly higher. Rents showed a continuance of peak prices. The rise was continuous since the early part of 1916, and reached the present high point last August. Agricultural products were generally lower, while nearly all other groups were slightly higher.

B.C. MINE EXPLOSION KILLS THIRTY-FOUR

Twenty Chinese Among Victims in Canadian Collieries' Coal Workings.

A despatch from Victoria, B.C., says:—Thirty-four men, twenty of them Chinese, perished as a result of an explosion in the Canadian Collieries Mines at Cumberland, outside Victoria, Thursday night, according to an official statement given out by the operating company Friday afternoon. Twenty-four bodies have been recovered. The dead miners still entombed are Chinese.

Rescue parties digging through a mass of debris and risking suffocation managed to save seven men, who are still unconscious in the hospital at Cumberland. Thursday night's explosion may result in the permanent closing of the Cumberland coal mines, it is feared by mining experts. Apparently it is impossible to guarantee the freedom of the mines from fire damp for any length of time, as mining officials certified only a few days ago that there was no gas in the workings.

Quebec Farmers Ask for Government Loan

A despatch from Montreal says:—The United Farmers of Quebec convention this morning passed a resolution calling on the Provincial Government to introduce some form of rural credits so that farmers might obtain long term loans at a rate of interest low enough to enable them to get a return from their investment.

Tropical Fruits Bloom at Fort William

A despatch from Fort William says:—A lemon measuring 1 1/4 by 1 1/4 inches is on exhibition in the window of a drug store on Victoria avenue. It is one of several large ones grown by J. M. Sheik at his home, 1417 Moodie street. The tree from which the fruit was picked is a new variety with fragrant flowers.



Hugo Stinnes
German financier and industrialist, has offered France a fifty per cent. interest in the Ruhr plants, but France insists on sixty per cent.

The Week's Markets

Toronto.
Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$1.25 1/2.
Manitoba oats—Nominal.
Manitoba barley—Nominal.
All the above track, Bay ports.
American corn—No. 3 yel., 80 1/2¢; No. 2, 89¢.
Barley—Malting, 59 to 61¢, according to freights outside.
Buckwheat—No. 2, 78 to 80¢.
Rye—No. 2, 85 to 87¢.
Flour—No. 2, \$1.45 to \$1.50.
Milled—Del., Montreal ton, \$26; bags included: Bran, per ton, \$26; shorts, per ton, \$28; middlings, \$28.50; good feed flour, \$2.
Ontario wheat—No. 1 white, \$1.11 to \$1.13, according to freights outside; No. 2, \$1.03 to \$1.10.
Ontario No. 2 white oats—45 to 47¢.
Ontario corn—Nominal.
Ontario flour—Ninety per cent. pat., in jute bags, Montreal, prompt shipment, \$5.10 to \$5.20; Toronto basis, \$5.05 to \$5.15; bulk seaboard, \$4.95 to \$5.

Manitoba flour—1st pats., in cotton sacks, \$7.10 per bbl.; 2nd pats., \$6.60.
Hay—Extra No. 2, per ton, track, Toronto, \$14 to \$14.50; mixed, \$11 to \$13; clover, \$8 to \$12.
Straw—Car lots, per ton, track, Toronto, \$9.50.
Smoked meats—Hams, med., 26 to 28¢; cooked ham, 38 to 40¢; smoked rolls, 26 to 28¢; cottage rolls, 32 to 35¢; breakfast bacon, 32 to 35¢; special brand breakfast bacon, 38 to 40¢; backs, boneless, 36 to 42¢.
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs., \$20; 70 to 90 lbs., \$19; 90 lbs. and up, \$18; lightweight rolls, in barrels, \$38; heavyweight rolls, \$35.
Lard—Pure tierces, 16 1/2¢; tubs, 17¢; pails, 17 1/2¢; prints, 18 1/2¢. Shortening, tierces, 14 1/2 to 15¢; tubs, 15 to 15 1/2¢; pails, 15 1/2 to 16¢; prints, 17 1/2 to 18¢.

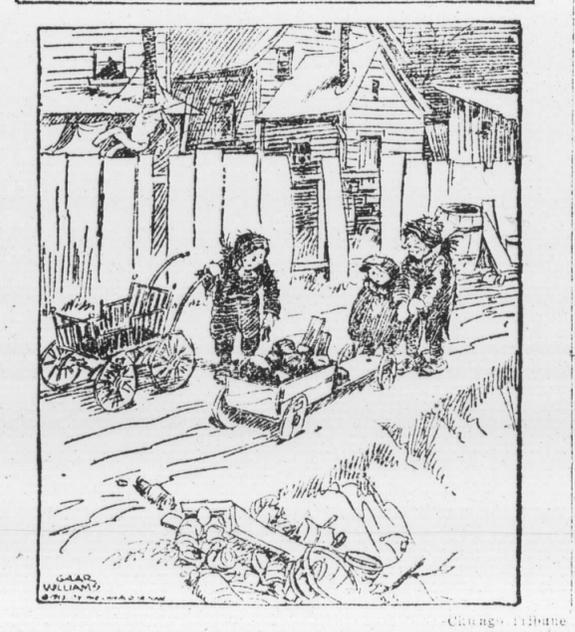
Heavy steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.75; butcher steers, choice, \$6 to \$6.50; do, good, \$5.50 to \$6; do, med., \$5 to \$5.50; do, com., \$4 to \$5; butcher heifers, choice, \$6 to \$6.50; do, med., \$5 to \$5.50; do, com., \$4.25 to \$4.75; butcher cows, choice, \$4.50 to \$5.25; do, med., \$3 to \$4; canners and cutters, \$1.75 to \$2.25; butcher bulls, good, \$4 to \$4.50; do, com., \$2.25 to \$2.50; feeder steers, good, \$5.50 to \$6.50; do, fair, \$4 to \$5; stockers, good, \$4 to \$4.50; do, fair, \$2.50 to \$3.50; calves, choice, \$12 to \$13; do, med., \$9 to \$11; do, com., \$5 to \$5; milk cows, choice, \$70 to \$90; springers, choice, \$80 to \$100; lambs, choice, \$12 to \$13; sheep, choice, \$6.50 to \$7; do, culls, \$3 to \$4; hogs, fed and watered, \$11 to \$11.15; do, f.o.b., \$10.25 to \$10.40; do, country points, \$10 to \$10.15.

Hog quotations are based on the prices of thick, smooth hogs, sold on a graded basis, or selects, sold on a flat rate. Bacon selects, sold on the graded basis, bring a premium of 10 per cent. over the price of thick, smooth hogs.

Montreal.
Corn, Amer., No. 2 yellow, 91 1/2 to 92¢.
Oats, Can., western, No. 2, 63 to 64¢; oats, Can. west., No. 3, 58 to 59¢; oats, extra No. 1 feed, 55 to 56¢; oats, No. 2 local white, 53 to 54¢.
Flour, Man. spring wheat pat's, firsts, \$7.10; four, seconds, \$6.60; flour, strong bakers, \$6.40; flour, winter pat's, choice, \$6.50; rolled oats, 50 lbs., \$3.15 to \$3.25; Bran, \$20; shorts, \$28; middlings, \$27; Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14 to \$15.

Cheese, finest cas erms, 26¢. Butter, choice; creamery, 42 1/2 to 43¢. Eggs, fresh, 46¢; eggs, selected, 36¢; eggs, No. 1 stock, 32¢. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, \$1.05.
Cows, bulls, \$3 to \$3.50; do, med., \$3.50 to \$4; com. cows, \$3 to \$4; canners, good, \$2; do, very thin, \$1.50; calves, good, \$10.50 to \$11; veals, com., \$2.50 and up. Hogs, selects and good quality butchers, \$11; western hogs, \$10.50.

GEE, A WHOLE LOAD OF COAL!



Changes in Home



A noted Empire... the plan of National... a familiar figure to... the famous curing photo...