



The  
**CANADIAN  
 COURIER**  
*The National Weekly*



HERBERT  
 PIER.

Vol. XVIII.

September 4th, 1915

No. 14

**PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS**

*Sidelights on What Some People Think the World is Doing*

**O**NTARIO farmers have a just cause of complaint. Since St. Swithin's Day, July 15th, there has been a rainy season. The good, pious folk who look after the changes in the Anglican prayer-book are to blame, and St. Swithin knows it. There is a prayer for rain. But did any one, since the days of Noah's Ark, ever hear of a prayer being offered to stop the rain?

**M**ETHODISTS are usually up to the minute in methods. The new hymn book now being compiled for the Methodist Church in Canada contains the first hymn on record asking for the protection of air-men. We do not know the hymn nor the name of the writer. But if Kipling is the author, we know it will have some reference to the carburetter.

**H**INDENBURG is said to have learned his strategy from Loutao, a Chinese war expert who wrote a book about war 3,000 years ago. The obvious inference is that as soon as Russia gets Hindenburg's pincers smashed to flindereens, she ought to lay a plot to include China in the new Russian Empire.

**M**ESSRS. Bryan and Edison endorse the P. P. movement. We have one in Canada, but not that kind. Mr. Bryan thinks the United States should not go to war and that American citizens should be careful about traveling on any boats not recommended by the Kaiser. He preaches peace. Mr. Edison is an exact echo of Mr. Bryan on these two points, but he puts the loud pedal on prosperity. Peace and Prosperity, no matter what they cost, are the principles represented by America's greatest inventor and the United States' most dazzling public failure. On the whole, the Canadian P. P. movement looks better than the American.

**M**ONTREAL faces a deficit for next civic year of anywhere between one and three million dollars. Toronto, the second greatest city in Canada, will have a deficit about as large, if not larger. The civic debts of these two metropolises now aggregate to the dimensions of a good-sized national debt. Rents in both cities are going down and taxes going up. The chief business of Montreal and Toronto for years has been to let the real estate experts decide how big and therefore how costly the city should be. But the subdivisionist has never been able to show how millions of annual deficit can be regarded as good business, nor how taxes going up and rents going down can be considered as sound political economy.

**T**HREE young men belonging to a certain canoe club and a well-known college have spent their holidays since the end of May paddling, playing tennis and wearing white ducks. Three other young men in the same canoe club have spent the same time drilling, sleeping out of doors and wearing khaki. Somewhere about a year from now the three white-duck young men may be at the station to welcome home the three young men in khaki. Dialogue: "Glad to see you back, boys. Been reading about you in the newspapers. You're all right. Canada's proud of you. Shake!" "Oh, thanks! Are you—quite well?"

**P**ARENTS should be careful to pick Christian names for boys that sound well in a title. Our Minister of Militia has been knighted. He will now be called Sir Samuel. In the whole-category of Christian names in Canada is there a worse-sounding name than Samuel to be prefixed by Sir? If so, it

must be Ebenezer. It is stated on good authority that the Minister was christened Sam with no reference to Samuel. Which only makes it worse.

**C**ANARDS are worse in war than in politics. Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, acting Minister of Militia, was credited last week with having said, in a speech at Vancouver, that 15,000 Canadians would be sent to the Dardanelles. That was the day after the Royal Edward transport was torpedoed with a loss of 900 British troops. Mr. Casgrain proves that he made no such statement. The reporter misquoted

stored away in the United States in case of need. Bishop Williams is an authority on a number of public questions outside the pulpit, but when he quotes George Moore on the German-American situation, it is time to suspect a bogey.

**A**N unconfirmed rumour says that Japan has been asked to send troops to Russia; when, according to a well-known Canadian expert on Russia, the trans-Siberian railway is lined far into the interior with war camps, 50,000 men to a camp, thoroughly drilled, who have never even had rifles.

**A** RECENT intimate description of Gen. Joffre by an American writer says that his head is far too big for his body. Up to the present it looks as if Joffre's head might yet be too big for the German armies. It is said that when Hindenburg was asked what general he would like to have with him in taking Warsaw, he replied—"Joffre."

**C**ONSTANTINOPLE is said to be lighted with coal-oil, owing to a shortage of coal at the Doldabotche gas works. In case coal-oil should become scarce at the Ottoman Capital, the Turks may decide to open the Dardanelles with no further resistance, to let Standard Oil in with its tanks.

**S**IR IAN HAMILTON is credited by cable with saying that before October 1 the Dardanelles will be in possession of the Allied forces. That statement should be of some comfort to Hon. Winston Churchill, who, in a speech about two months ago, said the Allies in that part of the world were within a few miles of one of the greatest victories of the war. Unfortunately, distances in some areas of this war are not computed in miles, but in yards.

**T**HE greatest book in the world is said to be the new English dictionary, which contains 300,000 words, and kept the editor 37 years at his task till the day of his death a couple of years ago. Many English-speaking people may wonder what is the use of the other 299,000 words. The only explanation is that most of them may be needed to write the story of the decline and fall of the German Empire.

**S**INCE Mr. Andrew Kelly, president of the Western Canada Flour Mills, estimated the western wheat crop as nearly 300,000,000 bushels, the grain elevators have been asking the box cars on the railways—"What are you going to do about it?"

**T**HE German Chancellor is said to have saved his job with the Kaiser by making a ferocious attack on England in his recent speech to the Reichstag. It is not stated that he quoted the Hymn of Hate, which he has probably not had time to learn. And as the author of that hymn has expressed his regrets that it was ever put in the hands of children, the Chancellor may not be permitted to see a copy.

EVERY MAN TO HIS TRADE.



This Australian is getting a fine art shave from a Turkish prisoner who used to be a hair-dresser in Constantinople.

him, and in so doing added to the anxieties of thousands of people in Canada. A similar inaccuracy in politics would have cost that reporter his job.

**T**HE Bishop of Huron writes to a Toronto editor to say that there are 2,500,000 Teutonic reservists in the United States who have never been naturalized and who report regularly to the Kaiser; and that vast quantities of munitions have been bought by the German government and secretly

**Our New Serial**

Robert Machray, the novelist and author of the new serial story beginning in this issue, was the first medallist of the University of Manitoba and afterwards lecturer in English literature in that institution.