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To-Day's Cables

Food Controller Speaks Must be Economy

First Duty to Ascertain Food Stocks Available And The Stocks Visible.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Baron Devonport speaking for the first time as food controller in the House of Lords today, said: "Solution of food question resolved itself into one of rationing. It was not enough to maintain food supplies, but it was overwhelmingly essential that they be distributed fairly." Food Controller said his first duty would be to ascertain quantity food stocks available and stocks visible. There were many unpatriotic people, he said, trying to get hold of supplies in excess of their wants. "My remedy," said Baron Devonport, "will be to adjust supplies coming into the country so that everybody will have equal chance of getting a fair share, no more, no less. On account of many people buying quantities of sugar, it cannot be got for all, and remedy must be found for that. Possibly only way will be by system of rationing. It was obvious, Baron Devonport added, that general diminution of the consumption of staple food was necessary and present diminution could only be brought about by voluntary abstinence, but if voluntary abstinence was not successful it would be necessary to make abstinence compulsory.

DUE TO A DISAGREEMENT

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—The Tagblatt discussing change in Austrian Government comes to conclusion that fall of the Ministry of Koerber will be due to a disagreement over the Ausgleich agreement between Austrian and Hungary signed in 1907 concerning commercial and customs relationship. Newspaper says that Spitz Mueller, who had been asked to form new Ministry as Minister of Commerce in Stuerghk Cabinet worked out details of a new policy which Dr. Von Koerber regarded as too favourable to Hungary and hence excluded him from Cabinet.

SWISS DOUBTFUL

GENEVA, Dec. 15.—South German Press attaches great importance to the flying visit of the Emperor to Munich yesterday where he held a Council with the King and Bavarian Ministers. Both peace and military matters were discussed. The Emperor remarked on the absence of young soldiers in the streets. The Emperor carefully read long telegrams concerning the opinion of the Allies on peace proposals.

The Journal de Geneve says: "Germany will make the Germans believe that the Entente Allies will morally responsible for a continuation of the war. Perhaps the Germans will believe this, but neutrals will not be duped, anyhow not the Swiss."

HOLLAND NEXT

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Premier Cortland Der Linden addressing the Lower House of the Dutch Parliament yesterday said that the Dutch Government still believed that there is danger of Holland being dragged into the war.

According to a despatch from the Hague, the Premier was speaking on the Budget and said that country's supply had considerably increased and was daily increasing and that in view of international situation it was unavoidable that sufficient military forces be kept at immediate disposal of Government.

HINDENBURG AND CHANCELLOR

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 15.—Field Marshal von Hindenburg has sent a message to the Imperial Chancellor congratulating him on his speech in the Reichstag, and adding:

"I read your speech with deep emotion and great satisfaction. By the Kaiser's command you made this speech a great moral demonstration of the strength of the Fatherland at home and at the front. We soldiers know that at this moment there is no higher or holier duty than to prosecute victory with the utmost energy and live or die for the Kaiser and Fatherland."

The Chancellor replied by saying, that he regarded von Hindenburg's words as the voice of the German people's army and adding: "It is the increased Tuesday afternoon, and the flight of craft seemed hopeless. S. O. S. signals were sent out, but wireless aerial was carried away, but operators Clement and McLean endeavoured to rig new aerial, and while doing so terrific sea swept over the vessel, mainmast went over, and Clement knocked insensible and washed away at one time in terrific sea. Grilse rolled so much that water rolled into funnels. At this juncture Chief Engineer shouted it was all over, and jumped into the sea and was never seen again. When it moderated Wednesday repairs were effected and the Grilse was able to make 8 knots toward Shelburne, arriving Thursday night at ten thirty.

SAFE CONDUCT

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Entente Powers have decided to grant safe conduct to Count Taunowken, recently appointed Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to the United States.

SWISS STILL NEUTRAL

PARIS, Dec. 15.—Edmund Schulthess, new President of Switzerland, affirms his intention of strict neutrality, in an interview with a Berne correspondent of the Petit Journal. The policy of Switzerland, President Schulthess asserts, dictated by our traditions of desire, even by our vital interests, is and will remain that of loyalty and strict neutrality toward all the belligerents. Neutrality is sustained by an immovable resolution to defend our integrity and independence against all comers and the assertion to the contrary is quite without foundation.

GREEK ACCEPTS

LONDON, Dec. 15.—An Athens despatch says that indications are to the effect that Allies ultimatum will be accepted on principle by King Constantine, and the despatch says that this decision is outcome of Cabinet Council held under the Presidency of the King.

NEW DEMANDS ON GREECE

PARIS, Dec. 15.—The Allies are about to hand new categorical demands to Athens' cabinet, according to the "Petit Parisien." The principal object of these demands is putting a stop to the movement of troops, ordered by King Constantine with a view to the pending of important forces into Thessaly. Encounters are reported between Royalist troops and French attachment near Katerine, but no confirmation is received.

SET FIRE TO DUMP

LONDON, Dec. 15.—War Office tonight issued following communication: "Last night enemy trenches were entered by us in the neighborhood of Monchy au Zais, South Arras, a number casualties inflicted, enemy dugouts filled with troops. Raid attempted against our trenches in neighborhood of Hulluch, but enemy failed to enter them. Prisoners were left in our hands. Usual artillery activity continues today on both sides, our bombardment of enemy dump in neighbourhood Pys Northeast Albert, set fire to material collected there, causing large clouds of smoke."

BOILERMAKERS ON STRIKE

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Official Press Bureau issued the following statement to-night. Since Saturday the majority of boilermakers in port at Liverpool have been on strike. Strike followed refusal on part of same men for period of five weeks to work overtime. Their action has been taken in defiance of urgent requests from the leaders of Union of the Provisional Munitions Act. Grievance of men arises from award given by Committee of production November 3rd. They applied for advance of ten shillings on the ground of increased cost of living and the award given was three shillings.

NO CONDITIONS ARMING SHIPS

PARIS, Dec. 15.—Peace proposals of Central Powers have been delivered to Italian Government. No definite indications are given as to conditions upon which peace negotiations might be attempted.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—In the Commons today, Thomas McNamara, Financial Under-Secretary of Admiralty, announced Admiralty had under earnest consideration the matter of merchant ships.

STEAMERS SUNK

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Lloyd's Shipping Agency announces British steamer Stursula sunk. Steamer Harlington previously reported having struck mine Dec. 9th and sunk, crew picked up by steamer Harlyn, which was sunk later. Nine lives lost. Harlington and Harlyn were both British steamers, former 11,000 gross tons, latter 3,495 tons gross. Lloyd's announced December 10th both been damaged.

HOPES TO BE WELL

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Premier expresses hope that he will be able to appear in Commons next Tuesday as planned.

Last Night's Cables

TO-DAY'S CABLES ARMED MERCHANTMEN

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Robert Cecil, Minister of Blockade, in reply to question in Commons concerning armed merchantmen, said only neutral maritime Governments at present refuse to admit defensively armed ships into ports but even that does not impugn the legality of arming merchant ships for defence.

GERMAN SUBS SANK COAL VESSELS

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 15.—Berlin despatch says German submarines between November 28th and December 28th sank off French Atlantic Coast among other vessels steamships carrying coal cargoes which were on way to France; also English steamship with 6000 tons war material which was proceeding from New York to France.

LLOYD-GEORGE WORSE

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The condition of Premier Lloyd-George has taken a slight turn for the worse. He suffered considerably from a severe chill contracted early in the week. His physicians ordered him to remain in bed for few days.

NOT WITHOUT EXAMINATION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Embassies of Entente Allies here today reflected view that Germany's peace proposals will not be rejected without examination, but that Allies in reply will probably call for statement.

TOTAL PROHIBITION

PARIS, Dec. 15.—Total prohibition through France of consumption of such alcoholic beverages as whiskey, brandy and liquors has been decided on by government.

DANISH WEST INDIES FOR U.S.A.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 15.—Plebiscite held yesterday on question of sale of Danish West Indies to United States resulted in 283,000 votes being cast in favor of sale to 157,000 against such action.

Stronger Greece Policy Expected

LONDON, Dec. 14.—There is neither an official explanation nor a trustworthy indication here as to the reason for the replacing of Admiral Du Fournet, the Commander-in-Chief of the Entente Allies' sea forces in the Mediterranean, by Admiral Gauchet, and the announcement is printed here with scarcely any comment. One or two papers, however, interpret the change in the command as a first step in a stronger policy by the Entente Allies towards Greece. The Daily Mail, quoting a statement of Premier Briand in the French Chamber of Deputies, that to-morrow a new front will be formed, says it is difficult to see how this can point anywhere but to Greece, but remarks that it is not clear whether Premier Briand used the word tomorrow rhetorically or literally. The Times' Syria correspondent, telegraphing under date of Dec. 12th, says: "Venizelist troops have just disembarked at Hermopolis, the port of Syria, and the island passes under the rule of the National Government. Crowds cheered the troops as they landed. Royalist officers and men of the local forces are detained for the present under a British safeguard, but several of them have declared their wish to join the National Army, and have been accepted. The remainder of the Cyclades will shortly be taken over by the National Government. The new Governor is about to land."

England's Enormous War Expenditure

£3,952,000,000 Spent Since Outbreak of War. A Full Day for Peace Talk.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The total amount of votes of credit since the outbreak of the war was £3,952,000,000, including £22,000,000 for extra administration expenses. Referring to the peace proposals of the Central Powers, Mr. Bonar Law said: "In moving the last vote of credit, Mr. Asquith used the words, 'the Allies require there shall be adequate security for the future. That is still the policy, still the determination of His Majesty's Government.' The statement was received with prolonged cheering. In moving the vote of credit, Bonar Law said, 'Assuming the rate of expenditure was the same as at present, the vote would carry them until Feb. 24th.' The total for the financial year would be about £1,950,000,000. 'The biggest estimate for the financial year,' he said, 'was exceeded by £250,000,000. The loans to Allied Governments amounted to £400,000,000 daily. An additional £200,000,000 would be required from Feb. 24th to which time to-day's vote is expected to suffice until the financial year which would bring up the total vote for the year £1,950,000,000 or £350,000,000 in excess of the estimate made some months ago by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Reginald McKenna. The enormous increase in the output of munitions was emphasized by the Chancellor who said if he could give the figures for June 1915 and those of to-day the difference would be almost incredible. 'Something has happened which I think necessary that I should say a word about.' Bonar Law continued. 'Naturally the papers are full of peace proposals from Berlin. Until now no proposals have reached His Majesty's Government. It is obvious, under these circumstances, no member of the government can make any statement on the subject, considering its nature. Referring to the country and how entirely its energies had been devoted to peace, Law went on to say 'it was marvellous to consider how she had been organized for war. No more striking proof of the vitality of the country from an industrial point of view was found than the enormous extent by which the output of munitions had increased during last year.

FRANZ JOSEF'S GIFT TO WOUNDED AND DEPENDENTS

MUNICH, Dec. 14.—The Neueste Nachrichten says that sixty millions of crowns were willed by Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary from his private fortune, for a fund for the benefit of the wounded soldiers, invalids and relatives of the men who were killed in the war. Two daughters and one grand daughter receive twenty million crowns each. The remaining ten million crowns of the late Emperor's private fortune are divided among various legatees.

"THE KAISER OUR RECRUITER"

CARDIFF, Dec. 14.—Field Marshal Viscount French speaking here to-day said "Germany's so called peace proposal will only serve like the Zeppelin raids to draw the nation closer together. The Kaiser will thus prove our best recruiting agent. His latest piece of arrogant insolence will only prompt us to additional efforts."

NOT OPPOSED

TORONTO, Dec. 14.—Hon. A. E. Kemp, Minister of Militia, was elected by acclamation in East Toronto to-day.

QUITE SO

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The House of Lords refused the appeal in the Singsby legitimacy case without calling upon the respondents.

MEN! MEN! MEN

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The supplementary estimate issued to-day provides for an additional 1,000,000 men of all ranks for the army service during the present fiscal year. The original estimate was for 4,000,000 men. In moving the vote of credit of £400,000,000 to-day Bonar Law has decided to confine his speech entirely to the financial side of the war, and in the absence of Premier Lloyd George and former Premier Asquith, owing to illness, it was expected the debate would be merely along this line. However, this will not prevent members of a small group of peace advocates from asking questions in an effort to draw out the Government in regard to Germany's peace proposals, although it was regarded as unlikely that they would succeed. The proposal of the Central Empire had not been received at the Foreign Office this morning, and as it is understood simply to offer negotiations containing no terms, the consultations of the Entente Allies regarding it are expected to be purely normal, preliminary to the transmission of a joint reply. In any event Great Britain will make no official comment until Russia, France and other Allies express their views.

CAPT. BLAIKIE'S CASE

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Times says it understands an important statement will be made in the House of Commons to-day with regard to the making prisoner by the Germans of Captain Blaikie, of the steamer Caledonia, after the steamer had been sunk by a German submarine.

ARRIVED!

To-day, Dec. 12th, per S.S. "Graciana":
300 Cases Valencia Oranges
250 Kegs Green Grapes
100 Cases Small Onions

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Domination of Might Over Right in Belgium

Cardinal Mercier Replies Scathingly to Von Bissing's Letter Justifying German Deportation of Belgium Workmen.

London, Dec. 6.—Documents received here give the text of the reply of General Von Bissing, military Governor of Belgium, to Cardinal Mercier's letter of October 19, and the Cardinal's rejoinder of November 10.

General Von Bissing's reply, dated October 26, begins by denying any violation of the assurance the German commander gave at the beginning of the war that no men would be removed from Belgium, declaring that such removals had been justified by the clandestine emigration of large numbers of young men wishing to join the Belgian army. He adds:

"The German authorities would have been quite justified in following the example of England and France, but they have not done so."

Contending that the employment of Belgian workmen in Germany has nothing to do with the conduct of the war, but is purely social and economic measure, General Von Bissing says:

"Great Britain's merciless economic isolation of Germany bears equally on Belgium; it deprives her of raw materials, and prevents the export of manufacture, and thus deals a vital blow, leaving masses of the people unemployed and bringing a state of public calamity to Belgium."

General Von Bissing then declares that the Belgian people realized the state of affairs and that tens of thousands of them have gone to Germany where they could get better pay. Others would follow, he says, but are deterred by influence systematically brought to bear on them. He concluded by inviting the Cardinal to study the situation from a social and economic viewpoint.

Replying on November 10, Cardinal Mercier recalls the promise made by Baron Von Huhne and subsequently confirmed by Baron Von Der Goltz, and says:

"The undertaking was explicit and entirely without time limit that 'young people have nothing to fear that they may be sent to Germany either to be enrolled in the army or

employed at forced labor.' This engagement has been violated every day a thousand times for fifteen days."

In answer to General Von Bissing's charge that England and France have done such things, Cardinal Mercier reminds them that he should look to those countries for revenge, not towards a peaceful and disarmed population. The Cardinal then denies that the Belgian workmen menaced public order, saying "five million Belgians and some hundred Americans are wondering witnesses of the dignity and impeccable patience of our working classes."

Cardinal Mercier then says that if, as Von Bissing declares, such labor has nothing to do with the conduct of the war properly speaking, it has something to do with the war "improperly speaking."

"For," he continues, "even if a Belgian does not take up arms, he releases the hands of a German workman who will take them up."

The letter concludes as follows: "Monsieur Governor, at the beginning of my letter I recalled the noble words of your Excellency:

"I have come to Belgium to heal the wounds of your country. If your Excellency could, as we priests do, enter the homes of the working people and hear the lamentations of the wives and mothers to whom your decree brings mourning and poverty, you would be better able to see yourself that the wounds of the Belgian people are open and bleeding."

"Two years ago they say there was death, there was pillage, there was burning. But it was war. Today it is no longer war. It is cold circulation, desired destruction, the domination of might over right, the humiliation of man in defiance of humanity. It depends on you, your Excellency, to silence the voice, the cries of outraged conscience."

"May God, on whom we call with all the ardor of the soul of an oppressed people, inspire you with the pity of the Good Samaritan."

French Champion To Box Willard

Tex Rickard Arranging to Have Carpentier Visit America

(By H. C. Hamilton, United Press Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Tex Rickard, the world's greatest promoter of boxing bouts, is about to dazzle the public with another of his smashing "feats" in fist-cuff excellence.

If Rickard's plans for annexing a license for Madison square garden go through, and if Rickard can induce the French military authorities to give their consent Jess Willard and Georges Carpentier will meet in a ten round, no-decision bout in New York, some time late in January or early February.

Willard already has given his word to go through with the bout, telling Rickard at the same time that all he required was six weeks' notice to begin training. Rickard declares Willard appears to be in good condition and would have little trouble getting ready.

At the present time Carpentier, the European heavyweight champion, is in Paris on a furlough. He is a member of the French aerial service, having joined that branch of the army when war broke out. He has been sounded by the probability of a New York match and has given his consent. If things can be arranged satisfactory he soon will sail for New York.

With such a match up his sleeve, Rickard probably would be only Madison square garden, of course, the garden. Undoubtedly he would go the limit to stage it and would leave nothing unturned to get the prospect of an enclosure. The leasing of a weight he could find, providing would add more fame to his crown, but a Willard-Carpentier bout, with the glamor of a war hero pitted against the hulking world's champion, could draw a massive throng.

Carpentier has done little boxing since he won from Gunboat Smith, the American heavyweight, in what was to have been a twenty-round bout in London. The bout ended when Smith struck Carpentier after the latter had fallen or had been knocked by his knees and the referee declared a foul. That was in July, 1914, and shortly afterward war was declared and Carpentier joined the colors. The idol of France, he has been kept in good condition at the front, occasionally taking part in boxing contests.

In announcing the probability of his match Rickard said he also was planning matches between Freddie Welsh and Johnny Kilbane and a bout between Les Darcy and the best middleweight he could find, providing Darcy recs on his way to this country. He declared his policy, if he gains control of the garden, will be put on only the highest class attractions, preferring champions as opponents for rising boxers. Samuel McCracken, who long has been associated with Rickard, will be matchmaker.

Saw the Ghost of Their Colonel

An Amazing Story From the Trenches in France

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 10.—(Correspondence)—Those who complain that the ghost scenes in "Hamlet" and "Macbeth" hurt their sense of probability, will be interested to read that a hundred British soldiers, men who, as a rule, see no visions, saw the ghost of their colonel in France. At the beginning of the war, says the "Daily Express," a famous regiment left England for France. The Colonel of that regiment was a man beloved by all his men, idolized by his young subalterns, and highly thought of by his young brigadier. For a year the colonel led his regiment through the campaign in Flanders, until one misty morning a hand grenade deprived him of an arm. The colonel left for England by the first hospital ship and his regiment knew him no more. The colonel after a few months was fitted with an artificial arm, but he was not satisfied. He wanted above all things to get back to his regiment. He moved heaven and earth to get back there with his men, but that he was in command was impossible. If he liked, however, he could have the command of a garrison battalion shortly leaving for the Dardanelles. Not being of an idle disposition, he took it. After landing at Lemnos one of the first to fall ill with dysentery was the colonel. He had sufficient strength to warrant his being taken to a hospital ship, however, and so, for the second time, he returned to England under the Red Cross. The hospital ship docked in England on a Tuesday, and at midday on Wednesday the colonel was carried into the train which was leaving for London. He never reached that city, for he died just half an hour after the train had left. Now the extraordinary part of the story is that at the exact moment that the colonel died on the hospital train, a company of his old regiment saw him in their trench in Flanders. There was nothing out of the ordinary happening at the time and beyond the usual number of exploding shells the "tick-tack" of a machine-gun, and the occasional bursting of a

hand grenade, the morning was just as many others had been. The company were at their post when the company sergeant-major turned to the company commander: "Beg pardon, sir, here's Colonel coming round; I didn't know he was back again." There, standing with his cap just a little on one side as he always wore it, stood the colonel. His field boots were caked with mud, and an old pair of binoculars were slung around his neck. The company commander was surprised, and started to walk towards him, when he dropped his stick. He stooped to pick it up, and when he straightened up again the colonel had gone. The officer dived down a communication trench and rushed for company headquarters. "Did you see him?" he queried breathless. The three subalterns looked up at his question. "See whom? D'you mean the colonel? Yes, we saw him standing still, looking down the trench just here; we looked at him for fully a minute and suddenly he WAS NOT THERE. Can't make it out at all," said the spokesman; "I thought he was in the Dardanelles; besides all the men saw him too, and I don't know whether you noticed it or not—he had BOTH his arms."

He went back to the next week's mail heaven and earth to get back there with his men, but that he was in command was impossible. If he liked, however, he could have the command of a garrison battalion shortly leaving for the Dardanelles. Not being of an idle disposition, he took it. After landing at Lemnos one of the first to fall ill with dysentery was the colonel. He had sufficient strength to warrant his being taken to a hospital ship, however, and so, for the second time, he returned to England under the Red Cross. The hospital ship docked in England on a Tuesday, and at midday on Wednesday the colonel was carried into the train which was leaving for London. He never reached that city, for he died just half an hour after the train had left. Now the extraordinary part of the story is that at the exact moment that the colonel died on the hospital train, a company of his old regiment saw him in their trench in Flanders. There was nothing out of the ordinary happening at the time and beyond the usual number of exploding shells the "tick-tack" of a machine-gun, and the occasional bursting of a

Couldn't Faze Her

Nellie, aged four, was gazing intently at her aunt's bonnet. "Well, dear," asked the aunt at last "what do you think of it?" "Oh," replied the small observer, "I think it's all right. Mother said it was a perfect fright, but it doesn't scare me a bit."

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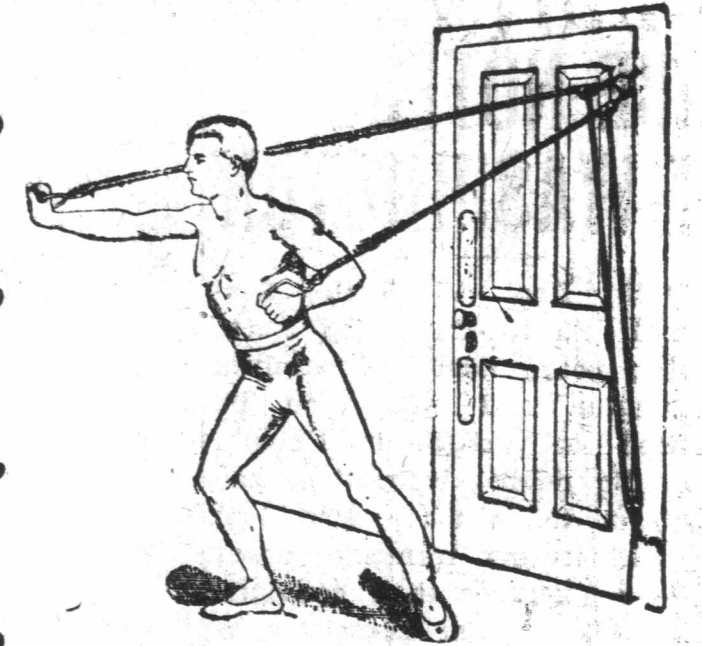
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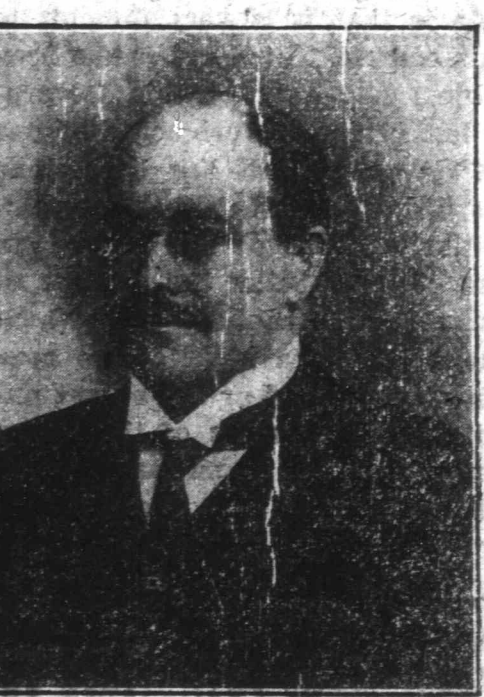
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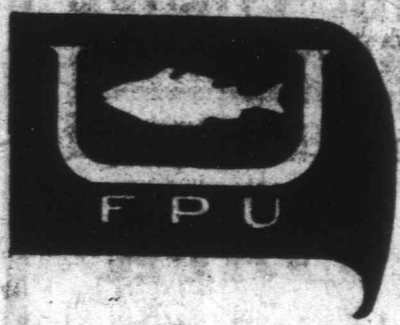
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("To Every Man His Own.")

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, DECEMBER 15, 1916.

PEACE

THERE is no one, who, in his heart of hearts, does not wish that the present proposals of peace will be continued until the nations can agree as to the actual conditions. It is hardly to be expected, taking human nature as it is, that Germany is going to acknowledge in one breath that she has been wrong and has acted unworthily of a Christian nation.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS

THERE is one Fund during the year that should have the sympathy and help of all. We refer to the Christmas Dinner Fund, which the Salvation Army have taken upon themselves to collect in order to supply to the poor of all creeds such food and fruit as will give them the "something extra" that we all think we want at this season.

POVERTY

WE HEAR a great deal of the extent of poverty in our midst, and by that term we do not mean destitution, though many confuse the two terms. There is poverty when a family cannot obtain the necessities of life with the weekly wage that is theirs.

THE COAL SHORTAGE

Yesterday the Tonnage Committee which consist of representatives of the Government, Board of Trade and the F.P.U. met at the Premier's office to further consider the coal shortage. It was found that coal is unobtainable at present at Sydney.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 15 Days past—348. To come—16. New Moon 24th. Isaac Walton died, 1683. George Washington died, 1799. A temperance appeal published to the people of Newfoundland, signed by James J. Rogerson, R. J. Pinsent, L. T. Chancey and others, 1853.

REVELLE BY CALCAR

NEWFOUNDLAND has a total area of forty-two thousand square miles. Much of this is covered by water, some of it is absolutely barren, but aside from this barren area and this area covered by water we possess a great deal of valuable land that is highly fit for the production of farm crops.

We had a splendid forest area at one time, but how much of that we can boast of to-day, seeing the destruction that has been going on during the past few years, and particularly during the past decade?

Our agricultural lands are capable of producing more than the needs of this country demand, and should be so producing were a wise agricultural policy to be introduced. It should be the aim of the Government to advance the farm productions of the country as to place them in a position to admit for the benefit of those not engaged in agriculture all farm productions free of duty.

This cannot be done at the present day without crippling entirely the struggling industry. But we repeat it should be the aim of the Government to advance the status of farming to that degree where even with duties removed the farmer would still be in a better position than he is to-day, and this can be done, by improving agricultural knowledge, and by helping the farmer to introduce modern methods on his farm.

This we think is the very best way by which agriculture may be advanced, and at the same time bring about the day when it will be possible to wipe out the duty on farm products without in any way placing an undue burden upon the shoulders of the farmer.

The greatest need upon most farms is horse power and adequate machinery. Place these two items upon the farm and you place in the hands of the farmer a means by which to increase the productivity of his lands.

We have the soil, we have the intelligent men, introduce horse power and education and you have the greatest forces possible to conceive for the advancement of agriculture. If this were done it would soon result in every available acre of land being under cultivation.

Our so-called barren lands and lands not suitable for agricultural purposes can be made useful too, in great measure. We have herds of caribou whose chief habitat is the barren and scrubby land. Let us take measures to conserve the herds of deer. They are an asset to us, if we but take care they be not ruthlessly destroyed.

A great tourist traffic may be built up in this country if we intelligently work about it, and one of the first essentials towards this is the preservation of such wild life as we possess. At present there is grave danger that our caribou are soon to go the way of the buffalo.

CHRISTMAS NUMBERS

"The Nfld. Quarterly" We acknowledge receipt of the Christmas Number of "The Nfld. Quarterly," an interesting number, dealing particularly with the War, with a great many "cuts" of our boys at the Front as well as of those who have died in action.

We have also received "The Distaff," edited by Miss Mabel LeMessurier, which is devoted to the account of the work done by energetic wives and daughters in Newfoundland towards Red Cross work. It is a magazine, as the title denotes, and the articles and "cuts" show, in which men have little part, though they will be expected and doubtless will feel glad to do their share in buying the magazine.

A MAN

"Down with ambition, avarice, pride, jealousy down! Down, too, down at your own fire-side, With the evil tongue and the evil ear, For each is at war with mankind."

ren grounds are among the assets that may be made to pay some of the revenue. Let us see that they are cared for and preserved that they may prove an asset worth having.

There is scarcely a square mile of this Island of ours that could not under a wise administration be made of some value and a help in the matter of revenue production. The more attention we pay to these matters the better it will be for the country.

It should be our aim to first of all get the duties knocked off of the necessities of life, and then to follow up bit by bit the entire relinquishment of this cheap way of getting revenue. It is a cheap way in that it is a brainless way, it is the resort of brainless men.

There is no reason why this country could not support in every degree of comfort a population ten times the size of that which it present obtains.

Even the very spaces occupied by our waters may be in large measure made a source of profit. How much power is locked up or going to waste in our countless streams? This is the age of the engineer, the age of utility. Where are our engineers, and why are we permitting horse power to run to waste when it is so badly needed to run the machinery of our factories and our farms, or to light our streets and homes?

Does the Government not realize that after the war we may be face to face with industrial problems that are to upset all preconceived notions of what those problems are?

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto, (noon)—Moderate to fresh winds; fair to-day, Saturday: Winds increasing to gales from E. to S.E. with rain or snow.

Why Of Course.

"What are the twins called?" asked one neighbour of another. "Henrietta," was the reply. "But not both of them surely?" said the first in surprise.

VARIA BY GALE

THE FOOD PROBLEM

SOME days ago the representatives of some 2,000,000 housewives of the United States forwarded to President Wilson a formal appeal to regulate the prices of foodstuffs in the United States. Governor Whitman of New York has already taken State action; and the result is awaited with a good deal of anxiety and curiosity.

At the same time an egg boycott was inaugurated, and the cold storage people are already gnashing their teeth. It would seem that the cold storage people have been garnering an egg harvest for a very long period with the result that it has been officially announced that about 25 per cent. of the eggs sold by dealers are unfit for use.

We wish our readers to take this into consideration, as we believe that certain dealers in this city taking advantage of the situation have been stocking large quantities of cold storage eggs. People should be particularly careful in their purchasing of the ancient egg, as it is not only an undesirable article, but it is absolutely unfit for use, even in the making of the Christmas cake.

At the meeting of the Women's League in New York an unexpected bomb was thrown into the food profiteers camp by a visitor to the American Metropolis, namely Patrick E. Quinn, Esq., Government Commissioner for New South Wales who explained the Australian system of food control. As we are in about the same condition as is New South Wales we give the reported address of Mr. Quinn in order to show just where we are behind our fellow colonists in the Antipodes, and to prove to our people that the high prices obtaining in this country should not exist.

Any weakening I spurn; From an omelet I turn. Till the prices downward slide

YOUTHFUL THIEVES SENTENCED

The three boys convicted a couple of days ago for a series of petty thefts, viz.: Wm. and Isaac Murrain and John Jones were up before Mr. F. J. Morris in court to-day. They had entered several houses and stole a revolver, rings, &c. In their possession was found at least 12 door keys which they had stolen at various times from doors and which they effectually used later to get into the houses from the doors of which the keys had been extracted.

What about our prices in St. John's? We are almost ashamed to say what they are; but we do say that we sympathize with the poor invalids who are forced to part with almost an entire day's earnings to secure necessary sustenance. Such cases have come under our observation.

"The American egg barons," said Mr. Quinn, "would like to hit me with some of their cold storage eggs for saying what I have said, no doubt, but the reason that eggs are not selling here for 25 cents per dozen is that the speculators are holding a pistol to the consumer's head."

Mr. J. J. Rossiter has received the following telegram to-day from Gibraltar: "Ford River dismasted and abandoned; crew here."

Mr. J. Dwyer, M.H.A., who was stricken with paralysis two months ago, is now able to take a little outdoor exercise. His rapid recovery is unusual at his advanced age.

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PERSONAL

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NOTICE! There remain for sale a few quarter casks of "Newman's" Port Wine APPLY TO Baine Johnston & Co AGENTS. m.w.f

Reid - Newfoundland Co. XMAS and NEW YEAR EXCURSION Return Excursion tickets will be sold between all stations and ports of call at ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE. Good going December 23rd, 24th, and 25th, and good returning up to December 27th; also good going December 30th, 31st and January 1st, and good returning up to January 3rd. ONE WAY AND ONE THIRD FIRST CLASS FARE. Good going December 21st to January 1st, and good returning up to and including January 4th. Reid - Newfoundland Co.

