

The Charlottetown Guardian

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DANGER IN ORGANIZATION

Organization, in theory, has every possible argument in its favour. The strength of union has been proverbial through the ages; bearing one another's burdens is one of the chief cornerstones of Christianity; mutual helpfulness elevates and strengthens a community or a nation. For these and many other reasons the principle of organization in communities, in countries, in nations is sound and unassailable, but it by no means argues that organization, per se, is infallible or invariably crowned with success.

Organizations are made up of individuals, and individuals are human, some of them especially so. The success of the organization will depend upon the character of its individuals. One or two well-developed cranks or kickers can ruin any organization. Unfortunately it is a difficult matter to get any considerable number of individuals together who are all free from human weaknesses, who are all altruistic enough to give the other fellow the same consideration as they give themselves. The safety-first characteristic, provided it is not too pronounced, is pardonable and if not carried to extremes may do little mischief. Selfishness, in so far as it aims at one's own advancement without injury to others, is commendable; it is a worthy ambition and without it the world would make but little progress. The man, or the woman, who is utterly unselfish, may be a beautiful and a loveable character, but it is not through this virtue alone that the fabric which we call civilization has been built. When selfishness reaches out beyond its legitimate bounds it becomes a menace. By this sin Germany fell and brought the present deluge of suffering upon the world.

In our organizations, all designed by progressive and well-meaning persons, there is danger from the extremely selfish from the cranks, from the chronic objectors. Many an organization, launched with every prospect of usefulness has been demoralized and put out of business through the mischievous activities of these. In forming organizations extra precautions against these are necessary. The chronic kicker, the man who knows it all and who will accept no opinion but his own, the man with the perpetual grouch, the man who is careless of his neighbour's reputation—all these should be either rigorously excluded from organizations or so unmercifully sat upon by the sane membership that they can do no harm.

This is an age of organization. In our own province we have quite a number. Our farmers are organized, our women, our teachers, our soldiers, have all banded themselves in groups for mutual protection and helpfulness and while they follow the same path for which they were organized their course is clear and their success is assured. A little doubt aroused as to the bona fides of the institution, a slur cast upon its management, discontent created regarding the relation of the organization to the community or the government, may grow sufficiently to wreck the institution. These are among the dangers to which all organizations are subject and the remedy is in the hands of their level headed members.

AUTO DANGER

One of the greatest dangers in connection with automobiling is the running of autos at night with full lights on, dazzling into almost complete blindness the eyes of autoists, drivers and pedestrians. What might have been a very serious accident resulted from this cause on Prince Street Saturday night when a lady chauffeur was unable to see her way because of an auto standing on the side of the street with its full lights on. Her auto was run too close to the side of the street with the result that it collided with the wire stay of a telephone pole, the auto being turned completely over. Fortunately it was proceeding slowly, otherwise the accident might have been a very serious one. Quite a number of cars are being run nightly without dimmers with great discomfort and danger to all on the streets. The regulation with reference to dimmers should be strictly enforced.

PEACE ON TERMS

The lot of Rumania stands out as especially noticeable in comparison with that of

Belgium and Serbia because Rumania "made terms." The fate of Belgium and Serbia is that which Germany deals out to the weaker nation which refuses even in weakness to acknowledge the rule of might. Rumania, rendered helpless, took what Germany offered as the only chance of avoiding such fate, the alternative of making terms with the powerful enemy. Perhaps she has assisted the Allies by doing so—and to have done otherwise would not have helped them—because her treatment has shown what terms with Germany mean.

The case of Rumania is undeniable proof that to whatever extent she can, Germany will follow the rule that might is right, and that whatever Germany may profess to the contrary is deception. Rumania could have been crushed as Serbia was crushed, but, although she was trapped, she had a formidable army and it would have been expensive for Germany to crush her. Germany avoided this expense by inducing Rumania to law down her arms on the strength of fair promises. Had Rumania rejected the offers contained in Germany's promises her fate would have been inevitable, but having accepted them she is little better off. The promises were broken as soon as Germany could break them.

Rumania, which was to benefit by abandoning useless opposition to German might, has been robbed of territory in ruthless and wholesale fashion, she has been despoiled of her oil fields and other natural resources. The peace Germany promised was to be without indemnities. The peace Rumania has got gives her no indemnities for damage done in her territory by German armies, but she is forced to pay indemnities to Germany at every turn. To make certain of payment, Germany has taken all the balances and deposits of the Rumanian National Bank as security. Rumania is forced to send her food products and live stock to Germany.

About all that Germany failed to take under terms of peace was nominal title to the territory she left to the Rumanian crown. She would have got little more through actual conquest. No other promises or peace offers by Germany would be any more trustworthy than those through which she despoiled Rumania.

SALVATION LASSIES UNDER FIRE

Salvation Army girls were in the battle of Seicheprey, under fire, intrepidly about administering to the needs of the American soldiers resisting the terrific German attack. Up to that time probably many Americans did not even know that the Salvation Army was at the front, though they ought to have known it; the Salvation Army is always at the front, whether the battleline is one of war or peace. It does not fear pain, disease, or death. It does not advertise, and there is no reward to be got for helping it, except the reward that comes from conscience.—New York Times.

NOTES

Most of the charity of the world consists in donations from those who can't afford it. It's hard to loosen up when you can afford to.

The Entente refuses to recognize the Roumanian peace treaty, and Roumania has the right to expect such action. It must not remain shackled forever to the German industrial machine.

Have you ever considered how slowly but surely, all this talk against the Hun is influencing people's minds. It is going to result in a prejudice which will last many years no matter how the German people may conduct themselves after the struggle is over.—Gloucester (Mass) Times.

When any German is inclined to comfort himself by the thought that the submarines are compassing the downfall of the Allies he would do well to stop for a moment and consider the fact that the exports of meat from the United States in April of this year totalled 359,000,000 pounds as compared with 161,000,000 pounds in April, 1917. A fact like that ought to take some more of the joy out of life of Fritz.

In his will, disposing of a fortune of upwards of a million dollars, John Marston an Alderman of Wolverhampton, England, expressed the hope that his sons and grandsons would take up municipal life, "from which," he wrote, "I have derived so much pleasure and information since I had the honor to become a member of the Wolverhampton Corporation." This is the recommendation of a very prominent manufacturer after 33 years' membership in his Town Council. It is deserving of consideration by business men in every city.

NEUTRALS ENSLAVED AT KRUPP PL

How is it that Germany, in spite of repeated "comings-out" to meet her pressing needs for "cannon fodder," yet manages to keep her munition works well supplied with labor. In part by drafting into the mines connected with Krupp's Roumanian and other prisoners of war, but principally by a monstrous system of slavery—a system by which a stream of flesh and blood is drawn from Holland and other neutral countries. In those countries she has labor agents, who promise men field or transport work at Dortmund, Dusseldorf, or anywhere else in Germany, except Essen. But as soon as these dupes have crossed the frontier they are straightway got to Krupp's somehow. A favorite trick is to persuade an immigrant to sign a paper which, though ostensibly nothing more than an acknowledgment that he has arrived in good condition, is really a contract with Krupp's, and writes a "Neutral" in the London Ideas, notwithstanding that the man's mind does not go with his signature, the law upholds that contract.

In an Inferno

"When the newly-caught immigrant arrives at Essen he soon realizes that he is in an inferno. He finds huge colonies of imported labor one consisting of about 4,000 Dutchmen—housed in acres of wretched, unsanitary huts, some of which contain more than 500 men, who at night are packed like bloated. In them, too, everything is verboten (forbidden), even sickness. If a man is ill he is visited, as a matter of routine, by the doctor; but that functionary almost invariably pronounces him fit for work, and should he hold a different opinion the mattress is pulled from under him. In case of any further resistance, moreover, his rations are promptly stopped. No less satisfactory is the food, which now consists of two slices of dry bread in the morning, potato soup at midday, and another two slices of dry bread at night. This is all, and for it the worker is stopped 10s. 6d. a week. To live on this diet is impossible, and consequently those who can afford elect to take their meals with private families—a much less satisfactory, though more expensive arrangement than attempting to live on the official rations.

Not Enough Pay for Food

The pay also is, judged by English standards, grossly inadequate. Throughout neutral countries bordering on Germany glowing tales are circulated as to high wages at Essen, where, it is said, a careful man can soon save a small fortune. But, as a fact, the highest paid toilers at Krupp's—those who do heavy work at the blast furnaces—receive only £3 a week, not enough to keep them in health, having regard to the present high prices of food and clothing in Germany. Certain commodities, notably fat, are almost unobtainable, and to make

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

A LOVING TRIBUTE

I called the following verse from a magazine recently published. Truly when one is brought up at the altar of the mother's knee, it is not easy to wander far away. If for a time the influence of that sacred spot is forgotten, it will assert itself most assuredly and the wanderer will return:

My Altar

I have worshipped in churches and chapels,
 I've prayed in the busy street;
 I have sought my God and have found Him
 Where the waves of the ocean beat;
 I have knelt in the silent forest
 In the shade of some ancient tree;
 But the dearest of all my altars
 Was raised at my mother's knee.

The things in my life that are worthy
 Were born in my mother's breast,
 And breathed into mine by the magic
 Of the love her life expressed.
 The years that have brought me to manhood
 Have taken her far from me;
 But memory keeps me from straying
 Too far from my mother's knee.
 God make me the man of her vision,
 And purge me from selfishness!
 God keep me true to her standards,
 And help me to live to bless!
 God hallow the holy impress
 Of the days that used to be,
 And keep me a pilgrim forever
 To the shrine of my mother's knee.
 —John H. Styles, Jr.

up for them, as far as possible, workers consume every grain of sugar and of starchy foods—all very expensive—that they can get. Even tobacco is scarce and dear, costing as it does about four times the pre-war price. "Speeding up," moreover, is practised to an extent unknown in other countries. All the foremen and other officials are determined to secure as great an output as possible, and urge on their subordinates day and night. Many a man consequently drops at his work dead beat.

Hard to Get Out of Essen

The pressure is so great, in fact, that numbers of immigrants are worn out in a few months, and are then either cast away, or, if they are skilled, permitted to make periodical visits to their own country to recuperate and obtain food. Unless, however, a man is scrapped, it is difficult for him to get away from Essen. Swiss, and still more Scandinavians—many of whom, now that communication with America is interrupted, go to work in Germany—cannot easily break their chains, while indignities are heaped on Hollanders who attempt to repatriate themselves. Not long ago some Dutchman attempted to return to their own country; but they were held up at the notorious live wire, imprisoned for a fortnight, and then sent back to Krupp's. Worse still was the experience of some men from Delft. After spending only two days in Essen they had had quite enough of it; so they made tracks for home. At Cleves they were arrested and clapped in prison, where they remained for nearly a month. They were then taken back to Essen, and there compelled to work for 14 days, whereupon, with a great deal of trouble, they obtained passes.

Unemployment Among Neutrals

In some cases home-coming immigrants are subjected to a further trial. As there is much infectious disease in Germany—several outbreaks of typhus have occurred at Essen—men returning home are not allowed in the waiting-rooms, etc., at the stations, or, if they have been at Krupp's are kept in quarantine. Still, there is so much unemployment in the neutral countries adjoining Germany that the number of men who enter that country is constantly on the increase. Not infrequently a batch of 70 or 80 leave a small village to work in Germany, and though the majority return as soon as possible, their story does not deter others from chancing their luck.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From our own Correspondent)

OTTAWA, May 29.—The first session of the Union Parliament was brought to a close on Friday night, or, to speak more correctly, on Saturday morning, for it was well after midnight when the Governor-General performed the interesting ceremony. In the closing hours of the session many millions of dollars in the way of estimates were passed. Naturally a few of the estimates were productive of discussion, and members

had to be appealed to to limit their remarks in order that prorogation might be expedited. The session, though comparatively short, was a lively one at times, and on at least two occasions the Opposition tried to catch the Government napping by the introduction of snap resolutions. The latest issue on the last day of the session, when, on the motion of Sir Wilfrid, the repeal of the War Times Election Act was proposed. The Opposition leader took advantage of the measure being before the House for a slight amendment to introduce his resolution, but the Government was able to muster a sufficient following at the moment to vote down the proposition. An excellent feature of the session was the good feeling apparently existing between the Island members. Whenever any matter of interest affecting the province came up they stood together as one man, irrespective of their political leanings. This was especially true in the matter of the broadening of the gauge of the Island railway. In this connection there is a report current here that while there is nothing in the estimates for this purpose the Minister of Railways is shortly to make a personal examination of the route, and there is a possibility that the work may be undertaken this year as a war measure, the cost coming out of the war appropriation.

In connection with the foregoing paragraph it may be pointed out that under the War Times Election Act, that much-discussed and much-abused measure, four weeks intervened between the nomination and polling because of the time required to give the military vote. The Act is still law, and this provision would apply to bye-elections, so the Government amended it by providing that, as usual, one week instead of four should be the time between nomination and polling. This brought the measure before the House, and Sir Wilfrid availed himself of the opportunity to present an amendment to wipe out the whole Act. In the event of this amendment carrying the old Elections Act would stand. The proposition came very much like a thunderbolt, and was obviously most disconcerting to some Ministers and members on the Unionist side of the House who are against the principle of the Act, and, supposedly, have the intention of eventually wiping it off the slate. These had to swallow their opinion, however, and, by voting against the amendment, go on record as favoring the bill. There are two ways of looking at this little bit of political strategy. It embarrassed the Unionist Liberals all right, but it also angered them to such a degree as to tend to promote solidly when their warmth towards the new alliance admitted of being intensified.

The Cost of Living Branch of the Department of Labor has just made public a report dealing with milling profits in Canada. The report tells a story of big war-time profits by large Canadian milling corporations. The period covered by the report is between 1913 and 1917, the pre-war year being for purposes of comparison. It shows that in 1917, as compared with 1913, the large milling companies heavily increased their profits, even after allowance had been made for the war tax. It indicates, further, that the limitation of profits to 25¢ per barrel of flour does not effect the purpose for which it was intended, in that with increased production even were the profits per barrel limited to 15¢ ample dividends might be paid and reserves set aside. "It is clear," the report concludes, "that the only way to reach the profits of the milling companies is to increase the tax on the net profits or total investment for the year." Increased profits, the report indicates, are due largely to increased production and increase in turnover, which, in 1917, was two to three times that of the pre-war year, although in most cases there was

some increase in the profit-per-barrel of flour.

Mrs. Donald Nicholson, who spent the closing weeks of the session with day for Saskatoon, Sask., where she will visit her daughters, Mr. Nicholson accompanied her as far as Toronto, from which point he proceeded to Cobalt.

Captain Read was the last of the Island members to shake the dust of the Capital from his feet after the session. It was not until yesterday that he was able to tear himself away. The old sea-dog had the "time of his life" in Ottawa.

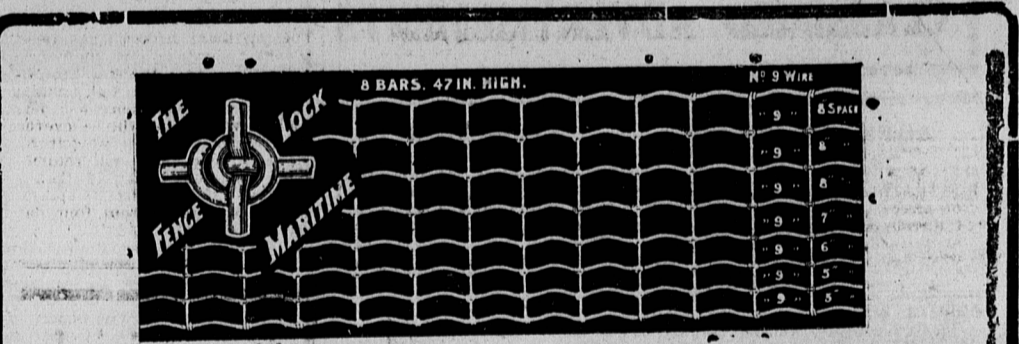
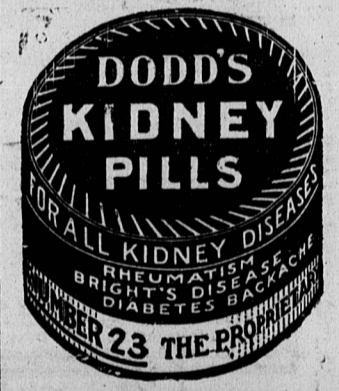
YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSKOTT, D. D. (All rights reserved)

Dr. Linscott in this column will help you solve your heart problems religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious care that perplexes you. If a personal answer is required enclose a five cent stamp. No names will be published; if you prefer, sign your initials only; or use a pseudonym.

A CIGARETTE ADDICT:—"An Anxious Mother" asks, "How shall I stop my little boy from smoking cigarettes?" You must neither threaten nor scold him, for that, as a rule, will arouse a spirit of stubbornness and fight. Talk to him lovingly of the danger of the habit; furnish yourself with facts which will convince him of the danger of his course. It will not be enough to simply tell him it is a bad habit, you must give him evidence of the strongest character which will convince his judgment. When this is done there is a chance that you will get him to quit, but he is in the grip of a terrible enemy.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:—"New Thought" asks, "What should be the qualification for membership in a Christian church?" All children are qualified for church membership and should be enrolled in infancy as birthright members. As they get older mother and father should teach them about Christ and the gospel, that they may realize the privilege of being members of the church. All adults are qualified for church membership when they repent their sins and believe the gospel.



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