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MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1915.

KHAKI CLUB

It will be observed in another column of this issue that an interesting departure in connection with the presence of so many soldiers in our midst, will be inaugurated in St Dunstan's Hall to-night. A representative committee of citizens has resolved to form a Khaki Club, similar to those in Halifax and other large cities, for the purpose of providing indoor recreation and amusement for the gallant young men who have enlisted in the 105th Highland Regiment. Apart from the picture theatres and the various church institutions there are few facilities for entertaining soldiers in Charlottetown and the consequence is that they have to spend their evenings walking about the streets. The nights will soon be too cold and stormy to permit of this with any degree of comfort, and a club such as the Khaki Club will fill a felt want. In this connection it may be mentioned that the City Council has given permission to the Patriotic Society to use the ground floor hall so that there will be at least two places in addition to the church organizations where the boys will have opportunity of meeting together, writing their letters hearing good music and enjoying themselves in pleasant surroundings with congenial companions. The Khaki Club will be formally opened to-night by His Excellency the Governor, and a hearty welcome is extended to the general public as well as the soldiers to be present..

OUR DEFECTIVES

We have no data by which comparison may be made with former years as to the percentage of physically unfit in our manhood. There is no denying the fact, however, that the number of defectives to-day, as shown by the number of rejected volunteers for military service, is very much greater than it ought to be and very much greater also than it might be if the physical wellbeing of our young people were as carefully guarded as we should expect in a supposedly enlightened age like the present.

Defective eyesight is by far the commonest trouble and it is worthy of note that this defect is more common in city than in country life. The reason is obvious. The city child, enclosed between walls of houses, with no long distances within range of vision, has no opportunity of using his eyes as they should be used. They are constantly fixed on objects near at hand; the optic nerves become, to a certain extent, atrophied and short sightedness naturally is the result. In the country where miles of landscape are within the range of vision and where the eye is naturally trained to pick out objects at a long distance the sight is strengthened. The "eagle eye" of the Indian is the natural result of constant training on the prairie, where self-preservation demands that all objects be carefully scanned to guard against surprises by an enemy or to provide food. The lesson for us in this is that children should be given an opportunity to use their eyes on long distances and that they should be carefully trained in the use of their eyes. If they habitually see only the few yards between them and the opposite side of the street or the roofs of adjoining buildings they cannot be expected to be anything but short sighted. Their eyes were made for seeing to the horizon and we cannot restrict their use without injury.

There are other defects as well and the great majority of them may be traced to preventable causes. There are fewer defectives among our domestic animals than in the human family. True in the former case we weed out the obviously unfit, a process that will not be available for us unless Germanism wins in the present war, but many unpromising specimens among our lower animals are made fit and useful by careful and intelligent nursing and dieting. Equally good results could be secured in our human families if we only took the trouble, but it is one of the disgraces of our civilization that we are more careful of our horses and cows and hogs than we are of our children. We feed our animals with "balanced rations," carefully compounded on the advice of specialists trained and sent among us as agricultural missionaries, and we can figure out the number of dollars and cents we may reasonably expect from a certain animal under certain conditions of feed and care. We allow our children in too many cases to balance their own rations, we compel them to study or work far beyond the limits of exhaustion without a thought as to whether their food or their sleep or their hours of work and recreation are calculated to help or to injure them. As a result we have, as already stated, a larger proportion of unfit among our children than among our domestic animals.

These things are not as they should be. At the bottom of the trouble there is both selfishness and ignorance. We see the dollars and cents that are growing up in our barns and stables, and we forget that destinies are being forged in our homes, fettered by our thoughtlessness or our penuriousness, or given an opportunity to expand into usefulness and greatness by our thoughtful and intelligent care.

A "TRENT AFFAIR"

It is not an easy matter to play the game of war with strict impartiality. In carrying out their various moves and in countering the moves of their opponents trouble may easily arise even with neutrals. There is a slight difference at present between the United States and French governments. It will be remembered that some time ago the captain of the French cruiser Descartes stopped mercantile United States steamers and took off six Austrian and German subjects. This took place on the high seas. The United States government has sent a strong protest to the French government and the matter is now under consideration. The whole affair is, in general detail, a repetition of the incident and diplomatic exchanges between the United States and British governments in connection with what became the Trent affair. In 1861, when the Civil War was in progress the Confederate States government despatched to Great Britain a civil mission, including Messrs Mason and Slidell. Captain Charles Wilkes of the U.S. war steamer San Jacinto, learning of the fact, stopped the mail packet Trent at sea, sent an armed party on board and took off the Confederate delegates, bringing them to Boston as prisoners. The proceeding created excitement both in the United States and Great Britain. For a time it appeared that war between the two powers might follow. There was no Atlantic cable in operation, and the time taken to exchange views was lengthy. United States popular opinion approved of Captain Wilkes's conduct, which was even commended by members of Congress. Mr Seward, the Secretary of State, whatever he thought as an individual, saw that an error had been committed. He remembered the ostensible causes of the war of 1812-15, and he foresaw disaster if an honorable and peaceable understanding was not reached. In a despatch to Lord Lyons, the British Minister, Mr Seward said the U.S. Government could not deny the justice of the claim (for the release of the delegates) presented on behalf of Great Britain. Messrs Mason and Slidell were set free. There is little doubt that the precedent will be effective in the present case, in which France occupies the place held by the United States fifty-four years ago.

NOTES

Lord Kitchener has always had the reputation, rightly or wrongly, of being a "woman hater," and the emphasis with which the report of his engagement to the Dowager Countess of Minto is denied, suggests that he is "of the same opinion still." And just now he is wedded to the War Office.

The special national defence report, as made public by Secretary for War Garrison, provides for a mobile army for the United States of 1,500,000 men, divided into three parts, a regular army with reserves of 500,000 men, and a continental army under training and later on furlough of 1,000,000 men. The whole is to be in addition to the organized state militia. The estimated cost is $353,460,000 for all services. There is no doubt that if Congress approved of the plan such an army could be raised, for the population of the Republic is near the 100,000,000 mark, and the financial wealth of the nation is equal to any demands. The legislators are governed by public opinion, however, and in the United States that is still strong against great expenditures on armaments.

HAND WAS SPARED BY THE GERMAN DOCTORS

Surgeons Were Going to Perform Amputation on Corp. Dan Simons, Port Wood, P.E. Island, but Avoided it.

OTTAWA, Dec. 15.—In a letter to friends of Corp. Dan A. Simons of this city, who was wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans at the battle of Ypres in April last, Sergeant B. Abbot, of the 1st Mon. Regiment, Wales, who was a prisoner of war at Sennelager camp, Germany, and was recently exchanged, gives an interesting account of how his friend received his many wounds and fell into the hands of the Huns.

Corp. Simons, previous to enlisting was a member of the staff branch of the Post Office Department, and was one of the first members of his old company in the Governor-General's Foot Guards to enlist for active service. He sailed for overseas from Valcartier with the first contingent. He was wounded and taken prisoner of war, and for four months remained in a German hospital, following which he was interned in a prison camp. He came to Ottawa five years ago from Port Wood, Prince Edward Island, where his parents and little daughter still reside. He is well known in the Capital, and was a prominent member of the Britannia Boating Club.

The letter from Sergeant Abbot in part says:

"In regard to Dan's injuries, he had two bullets through his left hand, one bullet and a piece of shrapnel through his back, and one bullet through one of his feet. I cannot remember which foot. His hand was in a very bad state, and the doctors thought they would have to take it off. Dan was taken down to the operating theatre, put under the anesthetic, and they went so far as to shave the wrist in readiness, but as the result of a last consultation, they decided to try and save the hand. Exactly what they did I do not know, but there was no one more surprised than Dan when he woke up and found that he still had two hands left. The doctor took a particular interest in his case, and now the hand is all healed up. It is deformed slightly, and no great power in it, but it is still very useful and getting stronger.

"The bullet and shrapnel through his back chipped his spine and he has a couple of pieces of the spine which he is keeping as souvenirs. (Not very pleasant ones I expect you will say.) The wound in his foot was no trouble. That healed up right away. The greatest change that you would see in him is in the face, as he has grown a full beard, and swears that he will not shave again. For a man who has been shot up in the way he was, he has made a marvellous recovery. Now about the battle. After being kept busy for about three days by the different types of amusement our friends the enemy had invented, the remainder of Dan's company had the order to retire to another trench behind. In crossing an open space Dan got a bullet through his left hand. He half stopped and turned up his hand to look at it, when another one tore across the palm, tearing it pretty badly. Dan dropped down into a crouching position and started to bandage it, when he got two in the back. He rolled over and then got another in the foot. I think he thought it about time the game stopped then, and he lay there, unable to move, until picked up by the Germans, either that night or the next. I'm enclosing a bill of fare from Senne. Just follow the diet for a month, and Dan won't know you when he comes home. Books, etc., would be acceptable to Dan and the rest of the prisoners, and would help to pass the time, and I can assure you that time does drag."

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

GO STEADY.

When victory is in the air—
Go steady.
When caps are flying everywhere—
Go steady.
When running newsboys shrilly pipe
A triumph in a two-inch type,
Don't eat the fruit before it's ripe—
Go steady.

War brings its glory and its dread—
Go steady—
In either case don't lose your head—
Go steady.
Wave, but don't throw your caps away,
Keep hold of them, because you may
Require them for a rainy day—
Go steady.

We'll beat the Germans, never fret—
Go steady.
We've not entirely done it yet—
Go steady,
Don't be at Chance's passing beck,
Don't put on sackcloth at a check,
And, when we get them in the neck—
Go steady!

Jessie Pope in London Express.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING.

By Harvey Peake.

1. Thou shalt love the giver of the gift, because he has sent the gift.
2. Thou shalt remember first the very young and the very old.
3. Thou shalt buy within thy means, remembering the spirit of the gift and not the value.
4. Thou shalt not become a party to the mere exchange of gifts. Let thy heart go with each and every greeting or present thou sendest out.
5. Thou shalt make such gifts as thy skill may warrant, inasmuch as the work of thy hands gives added value to the offering.
6. Thou shalt tie up no bitter remembrances with a gift, but only peace and good will.
7. Thou shalt have thy gifts ready several days before the time of delivery, that the immediate days before Christmas may be filled with peace and happiness, and not with turmoil and frenzy.
8. Thou shalt seek the abodes of the poor and friendless with such wholesome gifts as may cheer and nourish their hungry bodies and hearts.
9. Thou shalt not gust over thy gifts. Thou shalt show thy gratitude in more sincere ways.
10. Thou shalt, at earliest opportunity give written or verbal thanks for such kindness as thy friends may have bestowed upon thee at Christmas.

RED CROSS SHOPPING MADE EASY AT PATONS

Plenty of Grey Red and Khaki Flannel, English Flannelettes in stripes and plain, suitable for Night Shirts, Pyjamas, etc.

Twill Cotton, single and double width.

Blanketing for Convalescent Robes.

BUTTERICK PATTERNS FREE for all kinds of Garments suitable for Red Cross use.

KNITTING YARN

Red Cross knitters will find Patons yarns the best in Grey and Khaki, suitable for Sox, Mufflers, Balaclava Caps, seven in one Crochet Garment, also Berlin Wool for Caps, Wristlets and Mufflers.

Knitting Needles, Crochet Hooks in bone and steel.

All goods for RED CROSS Work at special prices.

BUTTERICK PATTERNS
WAIST 8044, SKIRT 8028

Capricious and lovely things have evolved from fashion's recent revival, and foremost among them are the present reincarnation of the draped skirt with the wing drapery falling in cascade effect and the surplice waist draped to suggest the bodice. The new fuller sleeve should be noticed. A combination of fabrics, such as velvet or broadcloth with taffeta or satin, is delightful for the model illustrated, or charmeuse, faille or gros de Londres is effective used with chiffon, lace or Georgette crepe.

Khaki Goods

NOTE.—Also ready-to-wear Military Shirts, Khak Gloves, Ties, Socks, Body Belts, Money Belts, Handkerchiefs, Underwear, Pyjamas at special holiday prices.

Phone 9-6
Victoria Row

PATONS

Yuletide Gifts

If you want to give a good present to a man, you will find it here in our line of Safety Razors, Old Style Razors, Pocket Knives and Skates.

Women will be pleased with a present, such as these: Pearl Handle Pen Knives, Cased Carvers, Skates, Food Choppers, Bread Mixers.

And the boy would like a Puck, Hockey Stick, Pair of Skates, Shin Pads, or a small Chest of Tools.

Fennell & Chandler, Victoria Row

"The Haberdashery"

Gift Suggestions

Armlets 15c, 25c and 35c up.
Cuff links 25c up.
Excelda Hdkfs 2 for 25c.
Linen Hdkfs 20c, 25c, 30c and 35c.
Silk Hdkfs 35c, 50c, 75c, $1.00.
Garters Boxed 25c, 30c, and 50c.
Mens Suspenders 35c, 50c and up.
Tie Clips 20c, 25c and up.
Tie Pins 50c, 75c $1.00.
Mufflers 50c, $1.00, $1.50 and up.
Ties 35c, 50c to $1.25.
Kid Gloves $1.00 to $2.25.
Wool Gloves 60c to $1.25.
Angora Gloves $2.25.
Silk Knit Gloves $2.25.
Men's Chamois Gloves $1.50.
White Pique Shirts $1.50.
Pecale Shirts 85c, $1.00 and up.
Mens Wool Hose 35c and 50c.
Blk. Cashmere Hose 3 prs. for $1.00.
Silk Hose 75c to 85c.
Caps 75c, $1.00 to $1.50.
Tie Sets $1.85
Suspender Sets $1.00, $1.50.
Mens Kid Mitts 50c to $1.50.
Mocho Mitts $1.25.
Umbrellas $1.00 to $5.00.
Mens Sweaters $1.25, to $7.50.
Boys Sweaters 85c to $3.50.
Mens Underwear $1.00 suit up.
Pyjamas $1.65 up
Club Bags $2.65, $3.25 to $17.00.
Suit Cases $1.25 to $9.75.
Smoking Jackets $6.75.
Fancy Vests $3.50 to $5.25.
Khaki Hkfs 2 for 25c.
Khaki Puttees $2.75 pr.
Balaclava Caps $1.00.
Money Belts $1.00.
Trench Gloves 50c up.
Khaki wool Gloves 65 and 85c
Khaki Silk Hkfs 60c.
Leather Collar Bags 60c, 75c, to $1 50.
Leather Hkfs Bags 75c to $1.00.
Wool Mufflers $1.00.
Fur Lined Gloves $3.25.
Real Buckskin Gloves $3.75
Boys Overcoats $3.95. to $8.00.
Mens Suits $10.00, $12.50, to $20.00.
Mens Overcoats $10.00, $12.50 to $20.00.

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Always Be Prepared

It's the only **Safeguard**

Carry Insurance against every contingency with

Hyndman & Co., Ltd.

Established in 1876
61 Queen Street Charlottetown
The Oldest Insurance Agency in the Province.

ONE OF THE BUSIEST WOMEN IN VANCOUVER

Mrs. Chesman Takes Active Interest in Practically Every Progressive Women's Movement in City.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 15.—Perhaps one of the busiest women in Vancouver today is Mrs. L. D. Chesman, the popular honorary secretary of the Women's Canadian Club, and convener for the Dime day, which met with such splendid results that every Canadian prisoner in Germany will have a Christmas parcel, and the fortnightly parcel of food has been raised in price from four to five shillings, which will mean much to the men, as so much can be purchased with the extra shilling. The club is now collecting old kid gloves and has a large consignment ready to go immediately, for lining the vests of the men in the trenches. The members have also been busy knitting socks and have forwarded over 300 pairs through the Red Cross Society.

Mrs. Chesman, who was formerly Miss Edith E. MacKay of French River, New London, P. E. I., is also deeply interested as a member of the joint committee of the Canadian Club for furnishing and providing a club for the returned soldiers. The club is situated on Cambie Street and Georgia Streets, and the committee of management is expecting to have everything in order by the end of this week.

Organized Benevolent Guild

Mrs. Chesman was also one of four women who organized the Kitsilano Benevolent Guild with Mrs. A. H. MacNeill as president. This organization was formed at the beginning of the war to look after needy families of soldiers and others, and has cared for every needy case in Kitsilano as well as many outside cases in a practical and business-like way.

Recording secretary to the board of management of King's Daughters of Vancouver for the past two years, is only one more office Mrs. Chesman has filled. The King's Daughters are engaged in relief work throughout the city and work in co-operation with Mr. Ireland to prevent overlapping.

Mrs. Chesman is also a member of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, and last but not least she is an ardent suffragist, for, as she says, "the more I am engaged in women's work the more I see the need of women having a say in the laws of the country and particularly in the laws governing women and children.

"Of course the girls expect a box of Chocolates for Christmas. There's almost an endless assortment here to choose from, ranging in prices from 35c. up to $8.00 per box. JOHNSON & JOHNSON, Druggists, Cor. Kent and Prince Streets. 5957-12-17Metf.

IMPORTANT

Relatives of soldiers returning from the front are asked to communicate with the Secretary of the Provincial Committee of Wounded Soldiers Commission, Miss Nellie Gillespie, Charlottetown, intimating the date of expected arrival, cause of return and any other particulars, in order that preparation may be made for a fitting reception.

Men's and Boys' Boots for Mud and Wet

Made by the Wry Standard Factory, Sackville, N.B., are the right kind of boots for hard wear. This Company tan their own leather and make the boots of solid leather throughout, so you can depend on this class of footwear. We also carry a full stock of Merchant's Rubbers including Overshoes, Rubber Boots and plain Overshoes for Men, Women and Children. PRICES RIGHT.

We have a pair of Rubbers for every member of the family.

GOFF BROS.

The Rubber season is here we sell the best