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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1917.

PRBSIDENT WILSON'S PROGRESS

President Wilson, after a conference with his cabinet and members of the Senate, gave German Ambassador Bernstorff his passports on Saturday. This signifies that friendly relations are broken off, and that a state of war exists between the United States and the German Empire. The rupture was inevitable though long delayed by the almost inexhaustible patience of President Wilson. When Germany at length deliberately tore up the agreement between President Wilson and Count Bernstorff with reference to neutrals, President Wilson had no alternative but to refuse to have any further dealings with Germany through her accredited representative. But though the President has taken this extreme action, he evidently still cherishes the apparently vain hope that the United States will be kept out of active hostilities. "God grant," he told Congress, "that we may not be challenged to defend them (their rights) by acts of wilful injustice on the part of the Government of Germany."

It is difficult to appreciate at its true value this attitude of the President. He surely cannot hope to extend the eleventh hour of neutrality after having ignominiously kicked out Kaiser William's personal representative! You cannot insult an Ambassador without insulting the ruler who sent him, and you cannot give an Ambassador his *congé* without offering him a deliberate and intentional insult. The result may be richly deserved, as it is in the present instance, but nevertheless the man who administers it ought to be fully prepared for the consequences instead of praying to be delivered from them.

A potential state of war now existing between the Republic of the United States and the Germanic Empire, what is the least we may expect from the new, if reluctant member of the Entente Allies?

The first offensive move that the United States could make against Germany would be the impounding and seizing of seventy-two German and Austrian ships tied up in that country, including the cruisers Prinz Eitel Freiderich, and Kronprinz Wilhelm, interned at Norfolk; a gunboat held at Honolulu, sixty-eight merchant steamers, aggregating 527,298 gross and 302,299 net tons in various ports, and the merchant steamer Odenswald in San Juan, Porto Rico. The total tonnage of these ships is about 400,000 net tons, and their value has been placed by experts at \$100,000,000. Fifteen of these ships are owned by the North German Lloyd and twenty-five by the Hamburg-American Line. The largest of them is the Vaterland of the Hamburg-American Line, which has accommodations for 2,264 passengers and a crew of 923 men, and a speed of 24 knots. The George Washington is second in size, with accommodations for 2,775 passengers and a crew of 525, and a speed of 19 knots. Fifty-four of the ships are German and the remainder are Austrian.

The cruisers Prinz Eitel Freiderich and Kronprinz Wilhelm could be placed at once in active service as battleships along with the other ships of the United States Navy.

In the United States Navy there are thirty-four battleships listed as first class, ten armored cruisers, five cruisers of the first-class, six cruisers of the second class, thirteen cruisers of the third class, nine monitors for coast defense, three scout cruisers, forty-six torpedo-boat destroyers, nineteen torpedo boats. As a matter of fact, there are practically only five first class battleships in the United States Navy, the others so listed being second class. There are under construction, however, six first-class battleships. The twenty-nine vessels listed as gunboats may be said to be utterly useless.

There are five first-class battleships that could be used in home waters for emergencies. There are forty-six torpedo-boat destroyers that would be of great assistance on the high seas protecting merchant ships on their way to England and France, and these boats are the finest and best equipped of any in the world. The ten armored cruisers and five cruisers of the first-class are up to date and efficient. They could be used to great advantage as convoys to merchant ships and ships for the transportation of troops of the Allies to different scenes of the war, and for the transportation of supplies. After the Lusitania was torpedoed the British Admiralty stated that it could not spare the ships to convoy merchantmen sailing to England. These cruisers of the United States would be very useful in this respect.

The United States is weak on transports. There are only seven of them. But suppose they commandeered the sixty-nine merchant ships of Germany and Austria and used them for transports and ships for passengers and general merchandise, and utilized the two German cruisers now interned in conjunction with their own cruisers as convoys—wouldn't that be a great help to the Allies, and wouldn't these additional ships increase the supplies for the Allies and facilitate the movement of their troops, and wouldn't the additional warships tighten the blockade around Ger-

many and Austria and make it more difficult than ever for supplies to get into those countries?

That is what we conceive the United States may do without waiting for Germany to commit any "Overt Act" of war in reply to President Wilson's own "Overt Act" in kicking Ambassador Bernstorff out of doors.

It may appear that the United States would be unable to bring an offensive land movement against Germany, owing to the fact that her army is lamentably and ridiculously weak. Also that her navy—perhaps efficient enough for a war game—is not strong enough to appreciably assist the Allies in a naval warfare.

But while it is true the United States has only something like 92,000 men in the regular army, we have no doubt if President Wilson bent his shoulders—instead of his knees—to war he would get responses from enough loyal Americans to send an army of at least 2,000,000 fully trained men over to Flanders inside of eight months. And judging by what we have done in Canada, given the necessary enthusiasm and encouragement, the United States manhood might easily respond with 5,000,000 men inside of a year.

President Wilson has come up almost to the sticking-point, who is going to lead the country to arms? Is it Ex-President Roosevelt's opportunity?

PROUD OF THEIR COUNTRY

The Guardian has received from one of the members of the Canadian Society of New York a copy of the program and menu of the dinner, given by the Society on Saturday, January 27th, in honor of the Honorable Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance. The program, an artistic brochure, contains a list of the members of the Society, in which are included the names of many Prince Edward Islanders, the names of the guests present, the menu, and the list of toasts. The latter as showing the high quality of the intellectual part of the feast, is worth quoting in full: "The President; The King; Canada;—Hon. Sir Thomas White, M.P., Ottawa; The Womanhood of Canada;—Miss Constance Rudyard Boulton, Toronto; The Evil that men do lives after them,—Mr. Darwin P. Kingsley; The Imperial Outlook,—Hon. Rudolph Lemieux, M.P., Montreal. The guests included representative citizens of the United States, representing the Supreme Court, the universities, the British Consulate, and the various societies in the city of New York. Dinner was served at fifty-one tables, each seating from six to twenty-two guests.

Accompanying the program was a short letter from the member to whom The Guardian is indebted for the copy. From this letter we quote the following sentence which is bigger than the toast list, bigger than the elaborate menu: "I wish it were possible for you to attend one of our dinners; you would be gratified, in fact, elated in seeing how heartily Uncle Sam's subjects cheer the speeches of all Canadians." Special reference is of course made to the address given by Sir Thomas White and compliments paid to the Borden government, which it is not necessary to quote; the outstanding feature is the pride of Canadians in their country. Every Canadian in the United States, that is, every real Canadian, looks with pride to the country of his birth and the place it is making for itself among the nations of the world. Even the slacker who has crossed the border to escape military service, or rather to escape the accusing eyes that meet him wherever he goes, even he, although not to be found in the membership of any Canadian Society, feels proud of his country, and probably ashamed of his lack of loyalty to it.

And there is much that Canadians have to be proud of. The word, Canadian, has a ring to it in the battlefields, carries weight in the councils of the Empire. Looking back over the past two and a half years, what Canadian is there, and especially what Canadian in the United States, who does not feel that his country and his countrymen have played their part manfully in the world's greatest struggle for freedom, for righteousness, for the rights of the weak? Well might the Canadians at that banquet listen to the story told by Canadian statesmen, not with arrogant pride or boastfulness, but with the grateful pride of men who and whose countrymen had acted the part of men, who were proud of the ideals they cherished but not too proud to fight for them.

Canadians in the United States are well maintaining and perpetuating the name and traditions of their country. It would be well if Canadians at home paid more heed to these. The "fly in the ointment" is that while Canadian statesmen were telling their fellow-countrymen in a foreign land of their country's glory and its promise, some little Canadians at home were befouling the nest they were nurtured in; seeking, not glory or honor for themselves and their fellow-countrymen, but political jobs for themselves and their friends by slandering and falsifying what Canada and Canadians have done and are doing in the war. Surely no greater shame can fall upon any country than this, that while its best men are falling in thousands to save their country and the world's civilization from savagery and barbarism, these little people can find no better employment than slandering them for doing it. We in Canada have, at present, big things to think about, and to engage in, and our politicians, lay or professional, should find, at least occasionally, something constructive rather than destructive and harmful to talk about and to write about. The opposition that is being set up in Parliament and in the Grit press today to the efforts that are being made by the government and by the country is unworthy of men who have a country and a civilization to save. It is to be hoped that the justifiable pride of our fellow-countrymen across the border or elsewhere will not be clouded by the reflection that our country's best efforts are being hampered by mean and selfish and self-seeking critics and fault-finders.

Roadmasters' Fund

Sir,—In the Guardian of January 20th, there appeared a letter signed "Farmer" criticizing the laxity of Roadmasters' Patriotic Fund. I believe the reason for this is not through any lack of patriotism on the part of the roadmasters, but about the time Mr. Bruce made his appeal the Patriotic Committee for the province inaugurated a whirlwind campaign for this worthy fund, whereby every citizen of the province was given an opportunity to contribute, and roadmasters, like others, I presume, found it more convenient to place their contributions in an envelope provided them and hand it to the collector instead of mailing it to Mr. Bruce, Mr. Binning, or the editor of The Guardian, and I hope and trust that when the contributions are made public that a large majority of the roadmasters will be found to have contributed more generously to this worthy fund than Mr. Bruce would have supposed to give according to our means, whether or not that means be derived from Roadmasters' salary. Prohibition prosecutor's salary or otherwise.

Again, "Farmer" finds out of nineteen roadmasters taken at random, only two have sons in the front. Whether or not Roadmasters have a greater or less percentage of sons at the front than other fathers, I am not prepared to say, but I will ask "Farmer" to accompany me on a tour among his brother farmers and I can assure him we will find some, but right at home with them, making all the money they can out of the fabulous prices caused by the war, while some one else is doing their fighting, and it is just possible that it is a roadmaster's son that has been doing his share of it.

I am, sir, etc.,
ALLAN ROBERTSON,
Road Master,
Mt. Hope, Feb. 2nd, 1917.

THAT TIGNISH RACE

Sir,—I have read the two letters in your paper of the 30th, in reply to me, of the 26th. Well, sir, to begin with, my letter was a straight, honest statement, and though my eyesight may be bad as "No. 2" puts it, it was strong enough for me to read and write. He also adds that the fight of a dozen others must have played them false too, and furthermore, I gave no abusive language, and I'll take none, so here goes.

P. C. Murphy, Jr., challenged me to put up. I now challenge P.C. Murphy, Jr., with "that \$400.00 and more on top of it, and I'll race him any day at all and give him his choice of either two horses, too, to race against. Foley may please himself about the challenge with "Colon," but that's my answer.

I still hold my opinion that "Semicolons" is a horseman's say, "Semicolons" is a horseman's say, and gets a fair chance, he has speed enough to trim Angie any day. By the way, I notice "Angie" is changed to "Augie." Beg pardon for the mistake I made. I did not know what her name was till I saw that first account of the race in the paper. She ought not to be a maid or a name to sign his name in full to that statement. But I think Mr. Foley ought to come forward now and settle that question. Why he kept silent so long I cannot understand. Frisco's driver said (putting it mild) that "he did not know what he was doing." Queer place for anyone to be and not know what he was doing. Queerer still that he knew just when to cross over and do the dirty work. By the way, since letter writing is the style of the day, why does not Frisco's owner, who is certainly a gentleman in every way, give us his opinion of that race. As far as I am concerned, I simply gave a plain statement all through my letter, and if it comes to that, I don't imagine Christopher was asked for boots. In my experience of horse racing, I never knew the horses carried their boots on them, always thought the boots were put on them when they started to race.

I am, sir, etc.,
FAIRPLAY.
(Letter No. 2 referred to was signed by "John B. Christopher," but the signature was unintentionally dropped in making up the column.—Ed. G.)

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by
W. S. Louson,
RELIEF COMING
(By Walt Mason)

The winds are blustering and rough, the frost keeps at it, steady; a little winter is enough, you've had your share already. You're tired of winter, grim and drear, you're tired of all his poses. Cheer up! The spring will soon be here, with nightingales and roses! You're tired of blowing in your roll that you may keep from freezing, for cords of wood and tons of coal—it surely isn't pleasing. You're tired of toting day by day, the heavy hangers. Cheer up! The spring is on the way, with meadow larks and skeeters! You're tired of falling half a block, when streets with ice are slippery; you're tired of cleaning snowy walks, and others labors dippy. You vain would sound a note of grief, with emblems, umbrellas, comets. Cheer up! The spring will bring relief, and bobolinks and hornets. Cheer up! Through gloomy be the day, the darkest day will vanish; there's something traveling our way that will our troubles banish. Today may be a thing of dread—we're banking on to-morrow; there's always something just ahead that's bound to knock out sorrow.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 30.—Well, the seventh session of the twelfth Parliament is now in full swing. Talking with some of the earlier-arriving members of the Commons and the Senate quickly developed the fact that not a few were obviously bewildered as to what the future had in store for them. Change of Speakers, the Governor-General not meeting, the members until Friday, the first time this has occurred since confederation, the doubt as to the extension, the possibility of a general election, the prospect of Sir Sam stirring up both sides and the centre, Ross rifle and National Service, assuredly promoted the main numbers came to Ottawa with the sessional program and the possible date of prorogation tucked away in the backs of their heads. But with the opening of this year no one knew anything, not even the length of time for which he should secure his furniture apartment. On only one point did there appear to be definite knowledge. Members and Senators were all aware that Ontario and their own restaurant were dry and desolate, but that made little difference with Hull just across the way. To the initiated it looks as if the international bridge would be a popular parliamentary promenade with the entente cordiale in force and effect throughout the session.

The attitude of Parliament towards the coming Imperial conference, as expressed by Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Commons, will undoubtedly commend itself to the good sense of the electorate throughout Canada. Both political parties recognized the great importance of having the Premier attend the conference. The matters to be discussed at the Imperial meeting, as Sir Robert Borden pointed out, are the prosecution of the war, the terms of peace, and the problems to be taken up when the war is over. There can be no question as to the supreme importance of having Canada represented by her Prime Minister at a meeting dealing authoritatively and comprehensively with these things, and there can certainly be no domestic concern so pressing that it cannot be subordinated to the vital necessity of dealing competently with the larger questions arising from the war. Sir Wilfrid Laurier offered to facilitate the Premier's departure for London by voting war credits and other necessary methods for the conduct of the government, questions of vital public concern being held over. Sir Robert Borden, in expressing gratification at this offer, placed high importance upon the work of the conference, and indicated a disposition to accept the opposition leader's proposal. Canada is in a position, fortunately, to have Sir Robert Borden attend the conference in person, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the necessary arrangements may be made forthwith. There will be general agreement with the Premier's definition of the mandate he will carry with him from Parliament and the country, which will enable him to give added emphasis to the attitude on war and peace of the democratic nations.

The bitter Liberal opposition to the reelection of Hon. Mr. Severyn in Dorchester, Quebec, as a Cabinet minister, the first Dominion election light since the war broke out, gave the impression that the present session of Parliament will be a fighting one followed possibly by a general election. No matter how much the Conservative party may dislike the idea of a general election with bitter political strife at home while Canadian soldiers are falling under German bullets in Europe, the party if forced into an election can face it with the serene assurance of having undertaken their responsibility in the war from the start to the present time, with courage, capacity and energy. Under the leadership of Sir Robert Borden, Canada has played a great part since August, 1914, a part far beyond what most sanguine or imaginative Canadians could have previously dreamed of. Dominion to be likely or able to do. And this was accomplished despite the bitter partisan sniping of the Liberal politicians and their press. That this political sniping is not approved by the people is evidenced by the result of the election in Dorchester the other day. Assuredly this is no time for out-throat politics. There is far more serious business on hand than playing the game of politics. In the words of that patriotic Liberal, Hon. Michael Clarke, uttered in the Commons on the first day of May last: "This is the time to stand under the flag that we all love, and for the greatest cause that ever animated our people and our people's allies, and behind a government of whom history will record that on the whole it has done well."

That the Canadian government has the power to enforce the Militia Act, notwithstanding the British North America Act, is the general belief among military officers in Ottawa. The British North America Act does not give Canada power to send men overseas, but the Canadian government has under the authority of an order-in-council. Similar measures might be adopted with reference to the Militia Act. Whether or not this Act shall be enforced, to call out all single men between the ages designated as "First Class" for military training, as advocated by the three hundred officers of Militia District No. 2, has caused much comment here. Some have expressed the opinion that in view of the British North America Act, which states that conscription cannot be enforced unless the conscripts are needed for home defence, the Militia Act cannot be put into effect. Others have pointed out that the North America Act does not give Canada authority to send soldiers overseas and yet an order-in-council is the authority for them. The general opinion seems to be that if the Canadian government sees fit to enforce the Militia Act, it has full power to do so. Local military officers seem entirely favorable to the enforcement of the clause of the Act which would call out the first class men, that is the men between 18 and 30 years, for training.

Senator Boyer announced in the Senate the other day that he had a welcome piece of news to communicate. (Continued on Page Five.)

Typewriter Speed Secrets

Told by the
Mistress of the Keys

HOW TO MAKE YOUR MACHINE SING AT THE RATE OF ELEVEN STROKES A SECOND OR 137 PERFECT WORDS A MINUTE—A PANDORA BOX OF GOOD ADVICE TO THE FRATERNITY OF FLYING FINGERS.

STORY TWENTY-TWO

Forgetting things and failing to follow them up are two of the worst deficiencies in office practice. It is rarely indeed that in the routine of office work you will find an employee who is gifted with a good memory. There is, however, no reason why they should not be, and there is one way to cultivate a business memory that is invaluable. This is by keeping memorandum slips of everything that should be recalled later. There is nothing that disturbs a business man so much as to tell one of his force something and then, when it has not been done, to get the excuse that it "was forgotten."

FAILURE OF CLOCK WATCHERS

Don't be in such a hurry to get away from the office. Many times something comes up that really ought to receive your attention just at leaving time. I know girls who are in such a hurry to get away that, as soon as the clock points to quitting time, they drop their work as though it were red hot and had burned them. Clock watchers and hurry-home people, who have both these habits to the detriment of their work, do not stay in one position for any length of time. You hear them say that they "would rather substitute than hold a permanent position, anyway." They don't hold any place long because they can't, and go from office to office until soon they drop out of sight and are heard from no more. Show an interest in your work by staying a few minutes overtime is necessary, and this may bring you a day or so vacation when you need it most. If there is work to do, do it and take an hour now and then or a day occasionally when the dull season comes around and you will soon be indispensable.

JOGGING YOUR MEMORY

A good plan is to have on your desk a pad and when you are told to do a certain piece of work and then you are called away for something else, go back to it and finish it up first, if it is important. If it cannot be done at that particular moment make a memorandum of it and do it later when there is more time. But don't forget it. In order to be sure that it is "covered" keep the note of it on your desk until it has become an accomplished fact.

ON FAMILIAR TERMS WITH WORDS

Just a few words about the "dictionary habit." If you are afflicted, get away from it as quickly as possible. In the first place you never should have encouraged it. When you take your first position you are supposed to be able to spell correctly and not be compelled to fly to Webster every time an unusual word is given you in dictation. Going to the dictionary every few moments is not only a loss of time; it may become a habit, and soon you never feel absolutely sure of the spelling of any word. So, as I have told you before, read newspapers and books more frequently to become better acquainted with words and how to use them. Inability to spell correctly is often said to be inherited. How ridiculous that is! The truth is that you probably were inattentive when the foundation of your education was being laid, and that little saying about "if our foresight was only as good as our hindsight" is just as applicable here as for the stock market.

MARGARET B. OWEN
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BETHOVEN

The Shakespeare of music is counted Ludwig van Beethoven, born in 1772, and his birthplace at Bonn is considered a musical shrine. He was the son of a tenor in the King of Saxony's Chapel, and his musical education was begun at five years of age. Before his eight birthday he was an accomplished violinist; at the age of thirteen he published a book of popular marches and sonatas, and his music has such a wide scope and variety that many of the phrases in his sonatas and piano selections have become popular melodies and songs. His entire loss of hearing did not prevent him from continuing to achieve exquisite compositions, and it was his versatility and wide range of every form of musical expression that made him famous.

Some of Beethoven's matchless melodies are to be found in "Heart Songs"—and enhance the value of that volume to the true music lover. This paper is placing it before its readers on terms that amount to a gift. See the coupon in today's issue for explanation.

PREPARATION
"My daughter has obtained a position in a lawyer's office. She starts on the first."
"And in the meantime is she doing anything to fit herself for the work?"
"Yes, she is reading 'Bertha, the Beautiful Blond Stenographer.'" — Louisville Courier-Journal.

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