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FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1922

THE GENOA CONFERENCE

The Genoa Conference is over, the representatives of the great European nations who met over a month ago with high hopes regarding the re-habilitation of distracted Europe, are returning home with empty hands, disappointed and discouraged. Nothing was accomplished at the conference except the discovery of each other's viewpoint and this may or may not prove an ultimate benefit.

Russia, from start to finish, has been the insurmountable obstacle to a settlement of the problems attempted. Her representatives cool, masters in diplomacy, irresponsible to all other nations, without honour or principle stood like adamant clinging to her original determination to repudiate her pre-war debts, in the matter of restoring confiscated property to the people of other nations she yielded, but on conditions which offered no security. Her secret treaty with Germany at Rapallo was an act of defiance at the very outset of the conference. She yielded nothing, conceded nothing and blocked every effort of the Allies at anything like a compromise.

France's action was disappointing. Living for the past fifty years in fear of Germany and with an almost equal fear of Russia she insisted upon conditions with respect to Russia's indebtedness which made the negotiations with Russia even more difficult, if possible, than they otherwise would have been.

Premier Lloyd George, always hopeful, always optimistic, prolonged the conference from day to day in the hope that an agreement with Russia might ultimately be arrived at. Time after time he averted a complete collapse of the conference. He had a stout ally in Italy but their united efforts failed. Russia stands where she stood at the beginning, irreconcilable, unrepentant, defiant, and in all probability prepared to enter into alliances with such other nations as may be inveigled into an alliance with her. She persists in her Soviet form of government and, so far as other nations are concerned, that places her outside the possibility of an alliance with any responsible government.

There is little hope that the conference to meet a month hence at The Hague will have any better results. Russia cannot without a miracle become anything but Russia before the conference meets; she has been unreliable, treacherous, crafty from the beginning; she will probably remain so till the next international catastrophe.

How is it going to end? International trade is the only hope and its operations will necessarily be slow. Nations will gradually renew their trade with each other; individual trading concerns will gradually extend their business with other countries, even with Russia and Germany. Gradually the wheels of international commerce will revolve in unison and to mutual advantage and peace will finally be re-established by trade, through self-interest. This will take years, many of them, and the only fruit of the Genoa Conference is another reading of the old, old lesson that we cannot artificially hasten the natural processes of civilization.

NUISANCES

Our city, like many others, has its nuisances but as in many other cities its nuisances are mainly things out of place. Dogs, cats, hogs, domesticated wild geese, are all respectable and useful animals

in their respective roles of usefulness or uselessness as the case may be. Out of place any one or all of them may become an intolerable nuisance. A dog, for instance that has no more sense than to bark and bay and howl throughout the live-long night to the annoyance of citizens who may or may not be entitled to a few hours sleep, should be reasoned with and, if he persists should be either locked up in a sound proof kennel or handed over to the police for final disposal. Such a dog is of no use except to be a nuisance and a corrupter of morals. Yet such dogs we have and evidently, their owners enjoy their nightly choruses; anyway the dogs keep it up from dewey eve till break of dawn and in and out of season. While all this may be comforting to the owners they should have some consideration for those whose ears and nerves have not been trained to dog music. If the owners cannot unaided take this view of it then the police, whose duty it is to prevent disturbances should interview them and adopt such preventive measures as the law provides.

The offending cats are probably ownerless and beyond control of the police. In the case where empty bottles and other such missiles fall there is probably no redress. The hog nuisance has abated somewhat since the drop in the price of pork but as the warm weather approaches they also may be well they may be perceived by other senses than hearing.

Another of the controllable nuisances is the domesticated wild goose. Everybody loves the honk of the wild goose when it is faintly heard away up in the heavens as a harbinger of spring. When organized and deharmonized chorus wells up at four o'clock in the morning from a flock of domesticated variety, tethered or otherwise confined in a back yard that appears to be everywhere it is an entirely different matter and can be classified only as an unmitigated nuisance from which the public have a right to be protected.

Complaints from several quarters have been made regarding these, particularly the all night howling dog and the early rising wild goose, and certainly something should be done.

CH'TOWN-PICTOU SERVICE

The Charlottetown Board of Trade has very properly taken up the matter of the Charlottetown-Pictou service which it was instrumental in inaugurating last summer and concerning which there is still considerable mystery. It has also very properly decided to make no recommendation as between the parties interested until further information has been obtained. Meanwhile, however, the service is being carried on by both steamers probably at a loss to one of them, probably to both.

THE REASON

Our esteemed contemporary, the Patriot, is unnecessarily worried over those alleged "garbled reports" of the proceedings of the legislature. It informs us with a sort of apologetic and reminiscent sadness that "It is impossible to give verbatim reports of all the proceedings of the legislature with out having such reports greatly belated in their procreation." We accept the explanation although an unusual one. The "procreation" of some of the speeches delivered in the legislature is an awful responsibility and if the delivery in the Patriot is "belated" we shall not blame it.

Notes By The Way

(From the Examiner)

"Oxen you know, may be sure if slow" (the farmer said as he sat and smoked) "but they ain't no good if they haul off or crowd" and then the kitchen fire he poked. Perhaps he was only thinking aloud. "Sometimes they pull and sometimes they haul, spending the strength that they get from the hay, really doing little at all, but pushing or pulling one 'nother away; almost nothin' to pull the load. Yes, their tongues lollin' out and a pantin' for breath, till bye and bye they stopped in the road, and you'd think they was almost worked to death."

"It minds me much of some government teams, on Parliament Hill at Ottawa, or here in that Gab House frontin' on Queens—funniest circus I ever saw! Motherwell's down on margarine, says its worse on farmers than seven years' itch; an' Fielding says its nice an' clean, an' it must come in till we make it here. One says out an' 't'other says in, an' they pull an' haul at each other like sin. Just such a team as Johnston an' Bell, one a wantin' another judge, just because he was young an' well, and 't'other, too old, sayin' 'that's all fudge.' Oxen, a crowdin' or haulin' off; an' doin' nothin' to pull the load; we farmers must be pretty soft to put ox-teams like them on the road."

"We pay them each four thousand a year, them that goes up to Ottawa; four Senators, sixteen thousand clear—isn't the deal a little raw?—Four members, sixteen thousand more—the price of eight farms is what they draw, an' the months they work may be three or four. Them ridin' free on the Government road an' we a payin' to make it good. Eight of 'em all an' seven of 'em Grits, pullin' an' pushin' each other away, as if tryin' to give each other fits, an' callin' it work when its only play."

Which of them introduced a bill? Sinclair, McKinnon, McLean, or Hughes? Real work might make them ill, or might perhaps give them a fit of the blues. Write a letter a day to some dear friend, and once in a session make a speech praising your leader, Mackenzie King, and your duty's done at the session's end. The price of a farm for the song you sing, or the speech you make in praise of King; why, it works like a charm, and you'll bloom like a peach when the session ends and you meet your friends.

With "the loop" blocked up by the winter snow, and Elmira shut out by drifts also, what did they do to make things go? McKinnon, Sinclair, McLean and Hughes? What have you done to widen the gauge of the railway line at any stage? or push our claims to those western lands? Did you write a letter, then fold your hands and say "all's well," like Premier Bell? Or did you ask and King refuse, backed by Cramer who he wanted to use? Messrs. Sinclair, McKinnon, McLean and Hughes?

That new ferry steamer to Borden port? Did you ask for that yet, or was it but sport, all a joke, or you did not choose to ask Mr. Fielding lest he might refuse? What! has nothing been done, nothing doing? Down here there's mischievous blank, pray whom must we thank for what looks like the Island's undoing? For the land's sake let some one who isn't a dumb one stand up and speak right away! If nothing is done let some-

Daily Selections for Guardian Reader

From the W. S. Louson collection

BE SWIFT
Be swift, dear heart, in loving
For time is brief,
And thou mayst soon along life's
highway
Keep step with grief.
Be swift, dear heart in saying
The kindly word;
When ears are sealed, thy passion
ate pleading
Will not be heard.
Be swift dear heart, in doing
The gracious deed,
Lest soon they whom thou holdest
dearest
Be past the need
Be swift, dear heart, in giving
The rare sweet flower,
Nor wait to heap with blossoms
the casket
In some sad hour.
Dear heart, be swift in loving—
Time speedeth on;
And all thy chance of blessed see-
vice
Will soon be gone.

thing be said of people down here will think you're all dead, and not earning your "hundred a day."

Make a speech praising King, or the pleasures of spring, anything! Tell how hard you are working and nobody shirking; the Organ will print it, full page and not stint it, and say it is splendid, "wit and eloquence blended"; that may stave off the trouble awhile in this most unfortunate Isle. Otherwise people may talk about your big pay "hundred dollars a day," and take you to task while they ask: "What have you done while away?"

Yes, the ox-team is slow, (when they crowd as they go) but slower than slow is a team that we know, which is stabled on Parliament Hill. There the yoke is laid by, lots of fodder is nigh, and big are the stomachs to fill. The Island's far off and there's feed in the trough, and time there is easy to kill. Just to eat and to sleep is easy and cheap, and when you awake it is pleasant to take up such sports as require little skill. "Let the Island go hang, let the 'bootleggers' booze, but don't try to hurry by any old ruse, McKinnon, McLean, or Sinclair or Hughes!"

LIFE

Having nearly arrived in the destined harbor of life, what do you think of life? Your life? Life is like a ship's voyage on the sea. The ship is equipped with manned, necessary instruments and manned by worthy, well qualified seamen and plenty of provisions in case of being driven by contrary winds or other accidents. A good cabin, and anchor, and compass. In addition to this in dangerous places it is necessary to have a pilot in order to pass through in safety. The master of the ship must be well informed, and for the safety of his ship, he must keep in touch with all signals that would warn him of danger. For in the voyage there are dangerous capes to pass, shoals, icebergs and also storms to encounter. There are narrow, dangerous channels, to pass through them one needs the most skillful pilot to guide the way. So you see all the way there is danger besetting.

So likewise in the voyage, of how our ship is manned—good, clean, pure thoughts must be ours. Jesus be our pilot. He alone can bring us safely home. And, Oh, what great consolation when we are nearing home we can say: "Yea, tho I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

"I have an anchor that keeps the soul Steadfast and sure while the billows roll. Fastened to the rock which cannot move, Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love."

It is joy instead of fear as the end approaches. Did you ever think how good the Lord is to us. How little he requires of us compared with what he does for us. How he loves us and follows and sustains us to the end.

The above was written by the late D. D. McDougal, of Rock, Kansas, a short time before his death which occurred March 5, 1922.

GUNMEN ARE KILLED

LONDON, May 18.—Five Sinn Fein gunmen were reported killed and a considerable number wounded fighting in the district of Belfast last evening in a despatch to the Daily Mail from Belfast.

MAY END LOCKOUT.

LONDON, May 18.—The outcome of the report of Sir William Warrender MacKenzie on the dispute in the engineering industry, which favored the employers, is that direct negotiations were opened at Westminster today between the engineering employers' federation and a joint negotiating committee representing all the unions involved.

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