

THE DAILY MAIL

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1916

WANT CLEANER POLITICS.

"I believe that we have arrived at a time when the people of Canada want cleaner politics. I have never believed it necessary to be dishonest in public life, while being honest in private life. I believe the people of Canada are looking for better things, and are expecting service from the public men, men who occupy positions of trust in the different. And never in the history of Canada has there been a more opportune season than while this struggle is on. Let us have cleaner politics and more honest business in the conduct of our public affairs."—Premier Norris, of Manitoba, at London, Ont.

MESSAGE TO YOUNG MEN.

"After a long life I shall remind you that already many problems rise before you; problems of race division, problems of creed differences, problems of economic conflict, problems of national duty and national aspiration. Let me tell you that for the solution of these problems you have a safe guide, an unfailing light, if you remember that faith is better than doubt, and love is better than hate.

"Banish doubt and hate from your life. Let your souls be ever open to the strong promptings of faith and the gentle influence of brotherly love. Be adamant against the haughty; be gentle and kind to the weak. Let your aim and your purpose, in good report or in ill, in victory or in defeat, be to live, so to strive, so to serve as to do your part to raise the standard of life to higher and better spheres."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier at London, Ont.

THE NICKEL QUESTION.

Mr. Hartley Dewart, a prominent Toronto lawyer and member of the Legislature, has rendered a notable public service by the exposures he has made from time to time in connection with the nickel question. Not long ago Mr. Dewart was a candidate for a vacant seat in the Legislature in Tory Toronto. He made the nickel question an issue and made such an impression on the public that a constituency which had previously returned a Conservative by a majority of 2,000, returned Mr. Dewart, a Liberal, by a majority of over 600. Since his election to the Legislature Mr. Dewart has been giving further attention to the nickel question, and recently he discussed it before a large audience at a public meeting in Toronto. He pointed out that the editor of the Providence Journal—a Britisher by birth and a man in close touch with the British Embassy at Washington and the British secret service in the United States—had shown that on both her trips from the United States the German undersea freighter Deutschland had carried as part of her cargo several hundred tons of Canadian nickel. There was proof that Canadian nickel is reaching the enemy.

But Mr. Dewart's later statement shed new light which must come as a shock to the Canadian people and rouse their anger. As is well known, the great nickel deposits in Ontario are controlled by the International Nickel Co., which has received many favors at the hands of the present Ontario Government. Acting for Russian officials, Mr. G. G. S. Lindsay, K. C., of Toronto, wrote the International Company at New York in March, 1915, asking for certain information with a view to obtaining nickel for Russia from the company. The company referred Mr. Lindsay to "Messrs. Henry R. Merton & Co., Ltd., London, who are handling all our export business at this time." On November 7th, 1916, the Iron & Metal Supply Co., Montreal, wrote the International Company in New York, and was informed in reply, November 9th, that "Messrs. Henry R. Merton & Co., are still acting as our agents in the sale of metal nickel for export."

Now, who are Messrs. Merton & Co., who, as late as Nov. 9th last had control of the export business of the International Nickel Company? The question is answered by the record of some court proceedings in London. In September, 1915, Messrs. Merton & Co. set up a claim in the Admiralty Prize Court for £5,000 for a cargo of metals which had been seized by the Admiralty on the ground that it was "enemy property." The Solicitor General of Great Britain, the Right Hon. F. E. Smith, appeared for the Admiralty and in the course of the case he described Messrs. Merton & Co. as "fingers on the hand" of a great German corporation, the "Metallgesellschaft, of Frankfurt, Germany." The vessel

which had been seized, he said, was actually under charter by this enemy corporation. Sir Samuel Evans, president of the court, gave his judgment against Messrs. Merton & Co., and declared that their claim had been made "in order to preserve the goods for the owners whom they knew to be enemies and to gain some possible advantage for themselves or their principals or co-adventurers, the Metallgesellschaft."

More than a year ago, then, Messrs. Merton & Company were seeking to help a German corporation and at the same time they were in charge of the export business of the International Nickel Company, which controls Canada's nickel. And more than a year after a British court found that they had been trying to "preserve goods for the owners, whom they knew to be enemies," the Merton company is still in charge of the International Nickel Company's business!

While the rabid Conservative press is constantly stating that there is nothing in this nickel question, we have, on the other hand, the Toronto World, the organ of Mr. W. F. McLean, M. P., taking the ground that the way in which it has been handled by the Dominion and Ontario governments is absolutely beyond defence. In regard to the defence recently put up by Solicitor General Meighen we have it on the authority of the World that "nearly all of the arguments and statistics and correspondence produced by Mr. Meighen was handed to him by officials of the International Company; that they prepared his brief and he appeared as their advocate." These strong statements are made by a paper edited by a Conservative member of parliament.

If the British airmen keep on destroying German Zeppelins, the Germans will soon tire of making air raids on British coast towns. So long as the Germans, by dropping bombs from the skies could murder innocent women and children, and get away with it, they regarded Zeppelin raids as great sport. But now that it has become a horse of another color, they will probably make the discovery before long that there is no military advantage to be gained from air raids.

The Borden Government has lost no time in issuing the writ for the by-election in East Toronto, where Hon. A. E. Kemp is to seek re-election. At the last election Hon. Mr. Kemp had a majority of 4,000, so the Government, in opening the constituency, is not taking very desperate chances. There are sixteen other vacant seats in the House of Commons, but so far the Government has not shown any feverish anxiety to fill them.

Brantford Expositor: The only reply the members of the Dominion and Ontario governments have to make to the damaging disclosures of Hartley Dewart, K. C., is that the governments have done all that was asked of them by the British Admiralty. What of that, if conclusive evidence is forthcoming that this is not enough to keep Canadian nickel from reaching Germany?

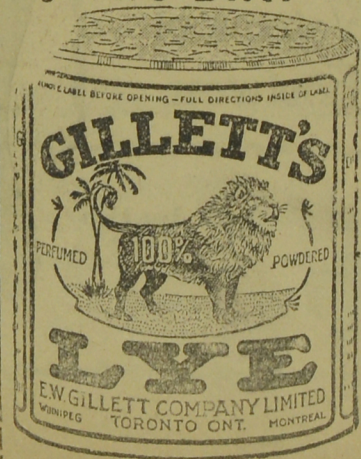
If a further extension of the life of parliament is granted, the western provinces will have to get along without the twenty-odd additional members to which they are entitled to, according to the last census. There are sixteen vacancies in the House, all except two of which are in eastern Canada. This would indicate that the present Parliament is not, strictly speaking, a very representative body.

An American war correspondent who has just returned from the front is authority for the statement that Canadian soldiers were the instigators of the trench raid in modern warfare. Just like Canadians; when life gets a bit monotonous—even in the trenches—they start something.

The "war-time election" talk, said Mr. Hartley Dewart, M. P., in Toronto the other night, "is the death cry of a dying government." It sounds like it.

PROVISIONAL INFANTRY SCHOOL.

It is announced that the Provisional School of Infantry for New Brunswick will be located in Fredericton during the winter.

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SUMMARY OF MORN-
ING'S WAR NEWS

Although the Russians, probably as a diversion, have started and are carrying on with great intensity an offensive in the Carpathian region around Kirilbaba, northwest of the Roumanian border, the advance of the Teutonic allies all along the line in Wallachia toward the Roumanian capital of Bucharest apparently is meeting with little impediment.

The Central Powers have now captured the important railroad junction of Petechi, 65 miles northwest of Bucharest. In the centre the Roumanians are reported to be retreating eastward in disorder, while the right flank of the Teutons, composed of the army of Von Mackensen, which crossed the Danube, is carrying out manoeuvres in co-operation with the other commanders to the north.

The Petrograd War Office, in admitting a continuation of the retreat of the Roumanians, says Mackensen has advanced along the road to Kluhugrona, 20 miles south of Bucharest. Turks are fighting with the Germans and Austrians in this region.

Russians Gaining in Moldavia. The Russian official communication asserts that the Russian attack east and south of Kirilbaba has resulted in the capture of ridges and the taking of 700 prisoners. The Berlin War Office admits that slight gains were made, but says the Russians suffered heavy casualties.

In France and Belgium there have been artillery duels and small attacks by raiding parties.

The latest German communication says quiet prevails on the Macedonian front, but Sofia reports desperate fighting with heavy losses to the Allies.

The Serbian statement speaks of a general artillery battle along the whole front.

The Russians admit a further advance by the Turks south of Van, in Turkish Armenia.

Through Our Sieve

No man can expect to be happily married unless he's a good listener.

A man isn't a coward because he is afraid to argue with a woman. He may merely have good sense.

Oh, yaas, it's awful interestin' to read long despatches from three or four war offices sayin' there's nothin' doin' on the whole front.

This increased cost of livin' is goin' to fairly fill the land with useless old bachelors.

What has become of the old-fashioned novel with half its scenes laid in the poorhouse?

Berlin reveals that Monastir was as unimportant as Verdun, but not why it should have made such a great sacrifice of life for either.

This is the time of year when a bachelor gets that "Nobody-loves-me" feeling; but after New Year's he will perk right up again and begin to resent it if anybody dares to love him!

Still speaking of old-fashioned things—what's become of the old-fashioned man who used to wear sleeve-garters and carry a memorandum book?

Some men buy a motor car for comfort, some for convenience, some for show, some for play, and some just for instance—pretty much the same motives for which they marry a woman.

PERSONAL

Mr. F. R. Taylor, of St. John, is a guest at the Barker House.

Mr. A. C. Thompson, of St. John, is in the city.

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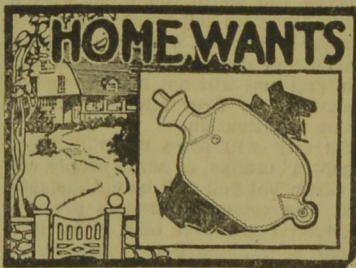
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MARTINUS T. STEYN.

Bloemfontein, South Africa, Nov. 29. (via London)—Martinus T. Steyn, President of the Orange Free State from 1894 to 1900, died suddenly to-day while addressing a Woman's congress.

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