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EDITORIALS

Dr. Charles W. Eliot, emeritus-president of Harvard, says that the hope of a durable peace in Europe after the war is based upon two suggestions. The first is the establishment of a supreme court, to be used not only to settle international disputes, but for inquiries into conditions which may lead to disputes. The second is the maintenance of an international force subject to the order of such a court, as a sheriff or marshal executes the orders of a court within a nation.

Dr. Eliot thinks that an international tribunal unsupported by force would be unsatisfactory. He believes that experience shows that an international force is within the bounds of possibility. He points to the present and other alliances as proofs of the feasibility of co-operation. "These experiences prove that an international army could be made effective if it were discharging a recognized duty, and were animated by a common spirit."

In Europe today there is an international force seeking to punish Germany for violation of international law, and if possible to prevent future violations. The co-operation, however, is not the result of the judgment of any tribunal, and the delinquent and the police are at present nearly matched. If the police win, is there any hope of a permanent improvement in international relations?

All the parties to The Hague convention did not bind themselves to support the agreement with force. Nations are naturally reluctant to specify the exact conditions under

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which they will make war. But if such an agreement ever could be made—an agreement providing for law and for means of enforcing the law—a long step would be taken toward the abolition of war.

Progress in this direction will be due not to one, but to several forces. Dr. Eliot, for instance, says that public opinion alone has not prevented war or the violation of international agreements intended to mitigate the horrors of war. That is true, but it does not follow that public opinion is of no value. It is upon public opinion that we must depend to carry out the very plan which Dr. Eliot advocates. There is also a growing sense that the true function of nations is not conflict, but co-operation. Although this is not universally realized or immediately effective it is none the less true of nations just as it is of individuals, and its recognition is one of the tests of civilization.—Toronto Star.

An industry with \$27,464,000 capital and employing 98,669 men, with an output valued last year at \$13,891,398, must be ranked with the most important of the Dominion. This is the record of Canadian fisheries for 1913-14. That the men employed are following their own independent impulses instead of being under industrial organization control is a wholesome and sustaining influence, although it is apt to lead to an underestimation of the industry's extent and importance. The year's record lends special interest to the proposal for an international agreement designed to avert the threatened destruction of some Atlantic fisheries by the adoption of injurious methods.

Steam trawling is a comparatively recent innovation, but it has already destroyed many important fisheries off the British coasts. A vessel steaming at ten miles an hour

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trails a gigantic purse net along the bottom by two wire cables. The net's mouth is distended by a beam or by "Otter" boards, named after their inventor. These boards strike the water at an angle and force the trailing cables apart.

All fish are gathered into the net. At first the small fish escape through the meshes, but as the purse fills all are captured and killed by the increasing pressure. Not only merchantable fish, but their immature young and others that serve as their food are caught and killed. Feeding grounds and spawning beds are disturbed and sometimes destroyed. The trawl disarranges the balance of species that insures a continuous supply, its disturbance being regarded as specially injurious to certain marine growth that serve as fish food. When the net is hoisted over the deck and the gathering-line cut, a mass of dead fish is spilled out, and all that is worthless is shovelled overboard.

An investigation by the United States Bureau of Fisheries has convinced the commissioner that an effort should be made to co-operate with Canada, Newfoundland, and France in an international agreement to prevent this destructive method of open-sea fishing. As the trawl is used outside the three-mile limit it is only under an agreement recognized by all maritime nations that preventive regulations can be enforced. Pelagic sealing has been stopped on the Pacific, and it should be possible to prevent the destruction of important Atlantic fisheries by a similar agreement.—Toronto Globe.

CITY PLANS INCOME TAX

Four New Sources of Revenue Considered in New York

New York, Feb. 6.—Four new sources of revenue to the city, the chief of which is a proposal to impose a special tax on all persons who receive an income of more than \$2,000 a year in New York City, are among the recommendations of the mayor's tax commission which go before the board of estimates today.

These new sources of revenue are proposed as emergency measures to relieve financial stress due to state taxation. The other revenue producers recommended are a land tax on "unearned" increment, a habitation tax to be applied to all who occupy dwellings or apartments, and an occupancy tax, to which all who pay rent for stores or offices would be subject.

Do it at once, and it is a matter of only a few minutes; put it off a month, and you have spent a month in doing it.

RAIL DOMINATION DENIED BY MORGAN

Banker Makes First Appearance Before Industrial Relations Board

New York, Feb. 6.—J. P. Morgan, testifying today at the inquiry being conducted by the federal commission on industrial relations into the great philanthropic foundations and the cause of industrial unrest, denied that his banking firm dominated half of the railroads in the United States.

The denial was called forth by a statement attributed to Samuel Untermyer when the latter was a witness before the commission that his banking firm had virtually controlled the railroads.

Not in Majority Control

"We certainly do not control half of the roads," Mr. Morgan said. He added with a laugh, "I don't know anything about Kuhn, Loeb & Co.'s business, but Mr. Untermyer was certainly wrong."

It was Mr. Morgan's first appearance as spokesman for the vast financial firm of Morgan & Company.

When Mr. Morgan arrived at the hearing John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America and a member of the New York state workmen's compensation commission, was on the stand.

Mr. Mitchell testified regarding conditions among the miners of Colorado and Pennsylvania and characterized as "simply absurd" the Rockefeller plan of settling labor troubles in Colorado.

Confess Lack of Knowledge

Mr. Morgan confessed his lack of knowledge regarding labor troubles in the corporations in which he is a director.

The officers of corporations as executive officials were responsible for labor conditions among the employees, Mr. Morgan declared. He was in favor of the "open shop" and considered that in labor disputes the employer should "play the part of any decent man." Philanthropic foundations had done considerable good, he believed.



HON. DAVID LLOYD GEORGE PREMIER ALEXANDRE RIBOT

FINANCING THE ALLIES' WAR.

Prime Minister Ribot, of France and Chancellor Lloyd George, of Britain, are meeting in France, together with Russian ministers, to find financial means to carry on the war to a successful finish.

CHEAP FISH.

The New York Globe has been making a contribution toward reducing the cost of living in a thoroughly practical way. It put a steam trawler to work, announcing that all fish caught by it would be put on sale at a fixed price of 5 cents a pound. The experience had with the first vessel was so satisfactory and so great a demand developed for fish at this price that another steam trawler was chartered, and The Globe believes that before long it will have quite a fleet in operation.

To bring the fish within easy reach of the purchasers it opened "demonstration stations" in different parts of the city, and finds eager buyers for all that it can supply. Moreover, it appears to be conducting the experiment at a satisfactory commercial profit.

There is always and everywhere considerable machinery between the producers—the fisherman—and the consumer. It is probable that none of the intermediaries make any exorbitant profit, but still the aggregate of the various profits increases the prices to the consumer to the extent that fish is not used as an article of diet to anything like the extent that it would be if such prices as The Globe has established could always be made to the consumer.

The local situation in Seattle is somewhat of an illustration. With a far greater supply of food fish almost at our doors than is available off any Atlantic Coast city, the actual consumption of fish in this market is very small and the prices range relatively high. There would be heavy increase in consumption if fish fresh from the water could be had here daily at the price which The Globe has established in its experiment.—Seattle P. I.

Repartee is any remark which is so clever that it makes the listener wish he had said it himself.

It is a poor neighborhood that is made up of men with liver spots on their dispositions.

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