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DAILY EDITION

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EDITORIALS

The question of an election in British Columbia is a subject for live discussion. Some quarters indicate that an appeal will be made to the country immediately the Redistribution Bill is passed. The trend of events, indeed, seem to indicate that course notwithstanding the Attorney General's denial. At any rate, it is quite certain that this is what they would do if they can see any chance for a win. The way things have been going in the last few weeks, however, makes the political roads look so bad to the government that it is possible they may fear to make the trip. This horn of the dilemma, on the other hand, has its difficulties in that it will show the weakness of the government in refusing to face the issue.

One thing is certain, that Sir Richard will shortly retire from the Premiership. It is well known that for some time he has had his mind made up to either secure the High Commissionership or a seat in the Federal Cabinet. Sir Richard is enough of a prophet to see that defeat was staring his government in the face. The Premier, too, is not the man to face defeat. He has not fortified himself for any serious reverses. When the Dominion Trust exposure was made the Premier almost collapsed. The trouble, too, was not the wrong that was done but the exposure of it. It appears now that this is another incentive to his departure. He will likely demand that, since the Attorney General has got the government into this mess, he be put in charge of the sinking ship. In the meantime, Sir Richard will try to get a berth on a safer ship, where he will try to forget the mistakes of the past.

One of the worst cases of waste of public funds is re-

ported from Revelstoke. At the time of the last election, the Minister of Public Works promised that city connection with the C. N. R. After the election he found this was impossible, and to sooth his supporters he offered them an automobile road to the top of Mount Revelstoke above the clouds. The only way to get an auto into Revelstoke is over the railway, and there were only one or two machines in town. Notwithstanding this the road was proceeded with, but only reached a third of the way, when the money ran out—and there it stands with its unfinished end facing an open precipice. Seventeen thousand dollars of the public money was sunk in it at a time when other parts of the province were suffering for actual necessities.

There are about thirty-six government horses scattered along the Interior from Kispiox to Telkwa. These horses are used for a few weeks in the summer for government purposes, when the horses of the settlers could be secured for a reasonable fee. All the long winter they are left idle in their stables, with a couple of men at four or five dollars a day each at the different centers to look after them. In this way they about use up their worth in keep every winter; so that thousands of dollars are actually thrown away. What do the people think of a government that would countenance such a wasteful use of public funds?

NO FULL MOON IN FEBRUARY.

New York, Feb. 15.—There will be no full moon this month. February is the only month in which such a lack can ever occur, and 1846 was the last year with a moonless February.

Prof. Jacoby, of Columbia University, says full moons follow one another at intervals of about 29 1/2 days, and thus it can happen only occasionally that February, with its 28 days, hasn't time for a new moon to become full. There were two full moons last month and there will be two next month.

PROTECTION!

The protection principle of preventing people from doing what they want to do in order to force them to do something else has a good exemplification in Quebec. An alderman who owns some news stands wants to prohibit the sale of newspapers in the streets.

CHESTERTON SCORED IN DEBATE ON WAR

Cecil Chesterton Tells of His Recent Experience in New York

Toronto, Feb. 13.—A typical Englishman, with ruddy face and built after the manner of John Bull, is Mr. Cecil Chesterton, editor of the New Witness, London, who is in Toronto to speak at the Canadian Club and to lecture on the war at Massey Hall for the Belgian Relief Fund.

Mr. Chesterton has been in the United States for several weeks lecturing on a number of topics, though not often on the war. However, with great gusto, he told of his meeting in public debate, a few days ago in New York, Mr. G. S. Viereck, editor of the Fatherland.

One point which Mr. Viereck had laid particular stress upon was the way in which England dominated the sea, and that the people of the United States could be assured that Germany, when she conquered, would guarantee the neutrality of the oceans. This argument Mr. Chesterton had completely shattered, merely by recalling what Germany had done in the case of a country which had always been neutral. The remembrance of the utter and complete discomfiture of his German antagonist was altogether too much for Mr. Chesterton, and his hearty peals of laughter showed how he enjoyed the point he had made in the debate.

Regarding the feeling in the United States, Mr. Chesterton said that he had found in New York, with the exception of the professional German propagandists, almost unanimous sympathy for the allies. In Chicago, however, he had noticed quite a distinct cleavage.

As for the military situation in England, Mr. Chesterton was certain that the recruiting was entirely satisfactory, though he could not say how many had joined the army. In several cases men who were employed in factories for munitions and equipment had to be refused by the officers because they were needed to keep the factories going.

COST OF THE PANAMA CANAL.

The Panama Canal, according to Colonel Goethals' annual report, has, so far, cost \$353,558,949, or nearly \$20,000,000 less than the total appropriation for the work. The report also shows that the total amount of material removed in the dry from Culebra Cut, from the beginning of operations to June 15, 1914, aggregated 110,261,882 cubic yards, of this amount 25,206,100 cubic yards being removed because of slides, or 22.86 per cent.

The giant locks and dams of the canal have also successfully withstood during the past year the most violent and most numerous earthquake shocks that have occurred since the work was begun, eighty-seven distinct shocks being recorded at Ancon alone.

"Could you call Zeppelins dogs of war?" interrogated Mr. Blink. "I think you could," I answered, "for they're Skye terriers, I think."

MADE-IN-CANADA IS KEEPING WORKS BUSY

Eight in Toronto, in One Line of Business, Employ Large Number of People

No less than eight factories are helped by the offer of the T. Eaton Company to sell men's Made-in-Canada shirts and underwear at cost of production if the manufacturers would keep their normal working force employed. Neither makers nor retailers were to add a cent of profit the plan being suggested by Mr. J. C. Eaton, as a measure of aid towards the problem of employment during the winter. These eight factories will have extra orders under this agreement sufficient to employ a considerable number of factory hands, who might have otherwise been displaced or put upon short time. In the shirt factories alone, 100 extra girls are assured of employment until the end of February and the beginning of the new season, about 40,000 shirts having been ordered under this agreement. The knitted underwear factories, which have nearly finished on government work for the military, have 12,000 garments to make. Tie collar and suspender factories have orders in proportion, orders in some cases of decided helpfulness under the existing circumstances.

PLUCKY FEAT BY A BRITISH OFFICER

For sustained pluck, the feat of Lieutenant Davidson, of the 119th Field Battery, would be hard to beat. Discovering that the only way to locate certain German guns was from the steeple of the church at Lourches, Lieutenant Davidson, in spite of the fact that the Germans, recognizing that the steeple was the only point of vantage, were pitching yddite shells into the church, coolly climbed the tottering tower and, seated at the top, proceeded to telegraph information to his bat-

80 PER CENT DEATHS ARE DUE TO DISEASE

Gunfire in Present War Is Causing Only Twenty Percent of Deaths.

London, Feb. 15.—Notwithstanding modern medical science, 80 per cent of the deaths in the present war are due to disease, as against 20 per cent due to gunfire. These are the figures compiled by Dr. F. N. Sandwith, writing in the Hospital. This same proportion obtained during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78. During the American Civil War there were three deaths from disease to every one from wounds; that is to say, a mortality due to disease of 66 2/3 per cent.

During the French expedition in Madagascar in 1895, according to the writer, only 29 deaths occurred in action as against 7,000 who died by disease. In the Boer War the losses from disease were enormous, notwithstanding the improvements in military hygiene then in force.

The Japanese, however, during the war with Russia, were able by exercising the most scrupulous care to reverse the ratio. In the case of their troops, only one man died of disease to every four who died from wounds.

For seven hours he stuck to his post, with the result that our gunners were able to hold an overwhelming force of the enemy. At dark the lieutenant's task was done, but not until then did he come down to join his battery.

Judging from the junk offered as new styles in men's hats, the hat manufacturers must have imagined that this country was crowded with male sopranos.

After a man has been up against the gaff long enough he quits looking for knocks and spends more time dodging knocks.



DRIVING THE AUSTRIANS OVER THE MOUNTAINS.

A report says the Russians have regained all the passes in the Carpathians, in which case the Austrians are in trouble once more. The figures on the map indicate: (1) Russians' advance over the principal mountain ridge from Jaslika to Mezo-Laborc; (2) An offensive movement by the Austrians southeast of Uzsook Pass was repulsed with tremendous losses; (3) Southeast of Beskid the Russians destroyed a German battalion.

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