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DAILY EDITION

Monday, March 10, 1924.

Disappointment At
Condition Of Affairs.

Disappointment is being voiced by many men who fought in the war at the turn which affairs generally have taken in the world. At the time of the war they had high hopes. They thought that they were at war to end war. They had a notion that after the war the world would be changed; that selfishness would disappear, greed be eradicated and that a condition something like the millennium would be ushered in. Instead of this the world is in worse condition today than it was before the war. Today has come forcibly home to people the great illusion. It is found that instead of violence ending violence, violence begets violence. The deception used in the winning of the war is now being used in commercial and political life. In many cases the rich have become richer and the poor poorer, and the men who fought see no sign of betterment.

There Will Be Betterment
But Not Through War.

There will be betterment in the world condition, but it will not be brought about through war or injustice or deception. It will gradually develop through the arts of peace. We all went wild at the time of the war and the next generation will do the same under similar conditions—perhaps. People are changing but not very quickly. It will take time for men to see the foolishness of killing each other in order to bring about improved conditions. Victor suffers about as much as vanquished. It will take time for men to evolve a better condition of living under which eventually there will be no poor and destitute, no out of work, no professional agitators, no grasping capitalists, no soulless corporations, no deceitful politicians. It will not come in our time but we can all do a little to bring about such a condition.

Pulling Selves Up
By Boot Straps.

To improve the condition of the people in any country by continually raising the tariff is like trying to raise oneself by pulling at the bootstraps. The ideal condition is one in which no nation in the world will have a tariff against any other. Only under such conditions can there be freedom of action. The customs walls and the walls against people entering or leaving a country are temporary palliatives. They are not permanent and cannot be so. There can be no true democracy while such a condition lasts. The difficulty is that today we are so deeply in debt as a result of war and extravagance that we have to raise money to pay the interest on our debts. Nobody has even suggested the paying off of the principal. People refuse to pay direct taxes, so it has to be taken from them subtly by way of customs and excise charges. By collecting the money that way the people who pay are apt to blame the merchants and manufacturers and dealers for the high cost of living. What they should know is that they have spent the money and now they must pay the bills and some of them are paid through customs duties and some through a sales tax. It is passing the buck, but the people demand that some such method be adopted. It is like pulling on the clock in order to get up earlier in summer. We are all so set in our ways that we have to delude ourselves into doing things.

WALKING ALONE
FOR PLEASURETwo Distinct Types of Pedestrians
Entertained in Different Manner

SEEING ODD THINGS

By H. F. Pullen

There are two distinct types of walking both of which are enjoyable but which engage the attention of two distinct types of people. The first and most popular is the brisk walk taken with one or two or more companions. This kind provides good exercise, is exhilarating, gives splendid opportunity for conversation and is the best kind of appetizer.

The second type is usually done alone or with a particularly congenial companion and is taken in a leisurely way so that none of the sights are missed. It is what I call the intensive walk, because while the exercise and consequent exhilaration are missed more is obtained from the surroundings. Let me illustrate what I mean.

Stroll to Port Edward

Yesterday I walked to Port Edward and it took me five hours to do it. Had I been walking with a companion and moving briskly I could easily have made the trip in three hours or possibly less, though much of the road is rough. Why then did it take so long? The reason was because there was so much to see. Perhaps it might be well to tell a few of the things that interested me so that those who are in the habit of making rambles of that kind may be able to compare notes.

Just as I got beyond the city limits one of the first things that I saw was two ravens fighting. They were high in the air and there was plenty of room for both yet they had to fight. It was no desire to annex territory or to secure markets, nor was it for financial reasons they fought, as most of our wise friends tell us human beings do. Doubtless they had a reason but it was none of these. I watched them for a minute or two until they were out of sight and then, pondering these things tended to slow down the pace and set me to ruminating on the oddities of life, including cause and effect. Those ravens could have fled off into different hemispheres but they were drawn together so that they might try to injure each other.

Oyster Catchers

Very soon after the crows had gone I heard a strangely familiar cry over the water and looking saw a small flock of black birds flying in regular order close to the surface. They were larger than plovers, possibly as large as a crow, but quite different. As they flew they uttered a strange weird shriek, plaintive and different from any other. I felt that I had heard it before but could not recognize it. The birds flew on down the beach and alighted near the edge of the water. When I reached them I turned the binoculars in their direction and at once recognized the oyster catchers. There were seven of them, all black with long red bills curved slightly downward and they were all standing in the shallow water and sticking their bills under as if feeding. I remembered finding an oyster catcher's nest on Bare Island in the Gulf of Georgia and hearing the old birds utter that queer cry. The nest could hardly be designated as such. It was simply a slight indent in the loose gravel with a few pieces of clam shell included in the material and the eggs were laid in the centre. I had never noticed them on their feeding grounds before, but I found a nest on a small island in Skidegate Inlet last year, and saw a few of the birds there.

Several Wrens

Another thing that interested me and delayed me a little was the wrens. There were several at different points along the route. The first was singing but was not in sight. I climbed a bank to try to find it but failed. It was apparently in hiding. Then as I was returning to the railway track I heard the song again and this time discovered the little fellow in a little gully down which a stream was trickling. He was almost hidden but was giving vent to his joy in life. It was the western winter wren that is so common in this north country. It is usually known as a non-migratory bird as it is just as common in winter as in summer but I think it must migrate, for I have never found a nest here.

about, yet the birds are everywhere in the winter and spring. While not the smallest of the wrens this variety is a good deal smaller than the ordinary house wren. The wonder is that a bird so small can pour out such a volume of sound.

There were two grouse, one of which seemed very tame and which the crab catcher at Port Edward told me stayed around his place most of the time. One of these was a willow grouse but the other was too far away to identify.

Clever Bird

There was a flock of possibly a thousand gulls at the mouth of a little creek to photograph and there were all sorts of beauty spots to admire and boats to identify through the glasses. One interesting thing was watching a gull break open a clam by flying into the air with it and letting it fall on to the rocks. Then taking it to the shallow water and rinsing it.

There was little sign of spring movement in the vegetation. The catkins on the alders are in bloom but nothing else interesting was noticed. While I left town at ten o'clock it was three when I reached Port Edward and I was glad to sit and chat and smoke for awhile with a couple of fishermen there until the train came at four.

Not many people care for that kind of walking, if walking it may be called. For those who like it, however, it is time well spent and is decidedly recreational. It gives time and opportunity to think.

The Man in the Moon
SAYS:—

THE only thing that never changes is the flavor of restaurant soup.

A GIRL ran away from one of the Skeena River cities the other day and was reported missing. The question is just how much is she missing?

WHAT a man can't understand is that a girl must be both beautiful and wicked.

WHAT a girl can't understand is that a man may tell the same story to half a dozen girls.

THE value of a gem depends upon its setting. The best kind of gem in raisin bread is a raisin.

FORGET yesterday and start anew today. That is if the police and the sheriff will allow you to do so.

A MAN in the west is taken at his face value and, judging by some of the faces one sees, his value is often not very great.

THERE are people in this world so blind they cannot see the wonderful combination of cloud, sky, mountain and water that daily paint pictures of wondrous beauty here.

THE only time a man realizes the economic value of a bootlegger is when he feels he must have a drink and the liquor vendor's store is closed.

NEVER argue with a fool or a woman, the fool can't think and the woman can't stop.

DAD is going to be just as hard up as ever this spring. The new models cost just as much as last year.

A HICK town is a place where you spend all your time thinking up things about your neighbors to entertain your neighbors with.

THE difficulty of saving up for a rainy day is the short time there is to save.

Ten Years Ago
in Prince Rupert

March 10, 1914.

Mayor Newton has appointed a committee consisting of himself, Ald. McClymont and Ald. Morrissey to arrange for the celebration of the official opening of the G.T.P. this year.

William W. Rush of Stewart, in a letter to the press, complains of the iniquities attending road construction in the Port-land Canal district.

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