

CURRENT COMMENT

A BUSINESS MOVE.

In all the discussion of Prohibition and the Referendum the big factor that has operated for a number of years past in favor of prohibition has been apt to be overlooked, and is overlooked as a matter of fact by most of the people concerned. There is nothing more remarkable about prohibition than about electric street cars on agricultural machinery or telephones or anything else that facilitates business. That is to say prohibition is purely a business move. Some have made it a religious question; some a moral question; some a political question; some a personal question. But passing all these phases of it and the consideration it is given from these points of view the matter has resolved itself into one of cold cash. Experience has proved that liquor does not pay. The banker cannot do business with the unreliable drinking man, and an intemperate clerk has no chance at all in modern business. The grocer and the dry goods man, the shoemaker and the baker, all know that business is better since the saloons were closed. These gentlemen figure it out that if there were less money going to Quebec there would be more coming into their pockets. The amusement man estimates that if there were no queues lined up in the post office waiting to get post office orders for Montreal there would be longer queues at the ticket-windows of the theatres. The tailor knows that he is selling more clothes and better clothes since the 16th of September that closed the bar. The tobacconist is selling far more, even than he ever did in the old days. All these men are voting for prohibition because it means money to them. The children are wearing better clothes, better boots, eating more candy, getting more toys. Incredible almost is the record of people who can afford motor cars now and buy gas instead of guzzle. The cessation of the liquor business means the turning of untold millions into other and more profitable channels which add to the general prosperity. That is why prohibition is a business move; and business is behind it.

NOBLES IN PEACE AS BRAVE IN WAR.

An unusual and very laudable thing has occurred in connection with the recent assembly of V. C. heroes in Toronto for which the Veterans received a grant from the city and from the Provincial Government. After all the accounts had been made up it was found that a considerable sum of the grants that had been made had remained unexpended. The Veterans resolved to return the balance to the original donors and accordingly \$1,500 was handed back to Premier Drury and \$1,043 to the city. Premier Drury was quite impressed with the action. He might well be, for in a moral way it compares well with the many acts of courage and daring done in France and Flanders. Nothing could serve better to impress citizens in general with the continued public spirit of the men who were willing to give their lives at the front. There has been a fear on the part of some that the soldier lads would develop such class consciousness as to become a menace to the rest of the population. This act is a welcome reassurance that no such alarm need be entertained. The ordinary citizen who by reason of age or other disability had to stay at home, has nothing to fear from his fellow-citizen who went overseas to help him to preserve the liberty that for the nation is dearer than life. The moral triumphs of such constructive citizenship are as great and as fine in their way as anything that was done in those tragical years among the trenches. Ontario soldiers are making a fine record in peace as well as in war.

A BLOT ON SPORT.

It now appears that the Brandon team of hockey players that competed with the Varsity champions for the Allan Cup were not true Brandonites at all, only two of them being genuine residents of the Manitoba town. After the final match and a reception at Brandon they set out for their respective homes, in Winnipeg, at the head of the Lakes, in Midland, Ont., and elsewhere. The Association intends to deal with the matter, and such a gross violation of the amateur code cannot be ignored. Brandon has no reason to be proud of such an attempt to win a triumph over its neighbor by such unwarranted means. Had the Allan Cup been secured by this hired team it would have been no credit to the club that authorized or tolerated such proceedings. In nothing does the national character come out so clearly as in its sport. If sport cannot be kept clean and straight there is little

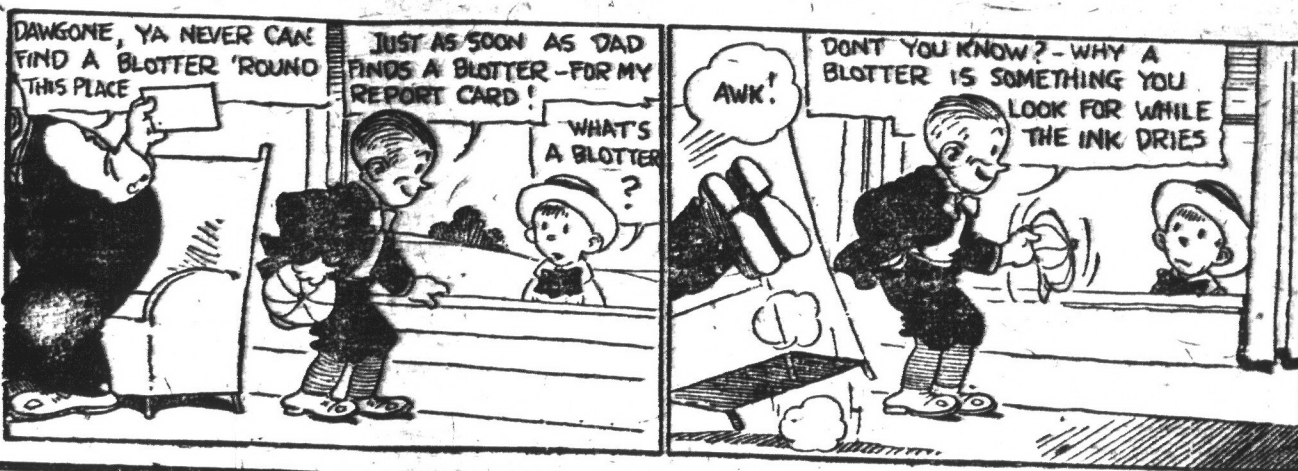
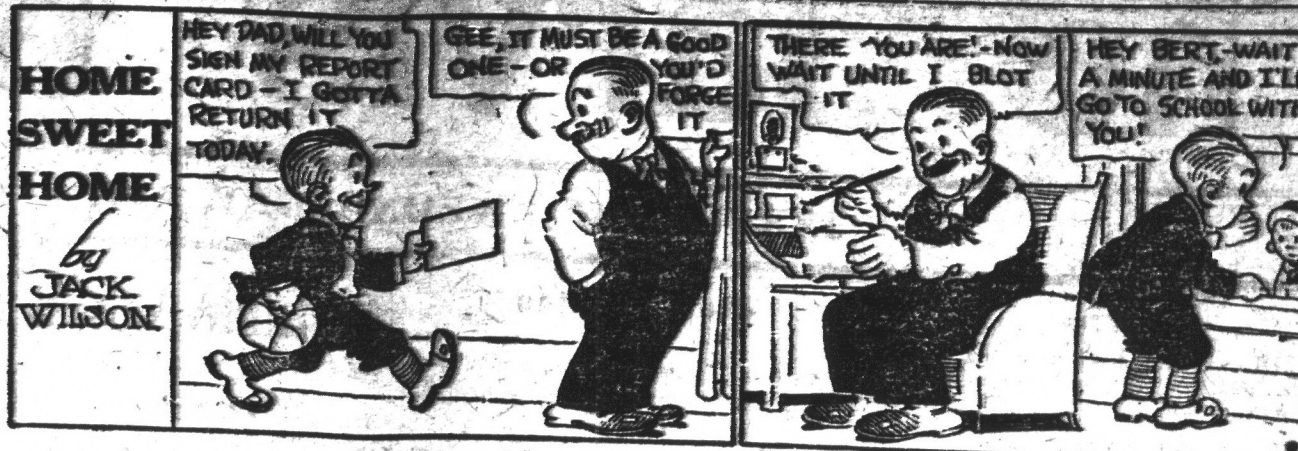
chance for business to be square. There is need for all the influence available on the part of amateur associations of all kinds, of boy scout camps, of organizations of every kind in which young men participated, to set up high standards in such matters, to purify the practice of sport, to boycott all foul play and sharp practice, and to establish it as a principal that to win unfairly is far more disgraceful than to lose honorably beaten. For a great bulk of Canadian sportsmen subscribe to this creed, and all decent chaps endorse it.

JOHN BURROUGHS, NATURALIST.

There are very few people who read at all who have not at one time or another read the poem "Waiting," beginning of "Serene, I fold my hands and wait." For, lo! mine own shall come to me." The writer, John Burroughs, died on a railway train near Kingsville, Ohio, while on his way home from California, on Tuesday morning, March 29, and was buried at his birthplace, Roxbury, in the Catskills, on Sunday, April 3. This day would have been his 34th birthday, and his passing removes one of the outstanding literary figures of the continent. He was as popular in Canada as in his own land, and he spent many vacations in Ontario, the last being a few years ago, when as the guest of G. A. Warburton of the Y. M. C. A., he visited John Firstbrook's trout-pond at Acton and enjoyed fishing there. John Burroughs began his literary career, with a study of Walt Whitman and he remained one of the leading exponents of the good gray poet and his robust outdoor philosophy of immortality, liberty, and brotherhood. Burroughs was devoted to the study of nature and in the lives of the birds and insects, and of the trees and the flowers he found a ritual of worship in which he served the Highest. The spring should not pass before the unacquainted reader should go through one or all of those dainty and delightful little volumes with the quaint names, a knowledge of which will lead "to a desire to know still others of his works. There are Wake-Robin, Birds and Poets, Larks and Wild Honey, Winter Sunshine, Fresh Fields and Pheasant. His first essay in Emersonian vein appeared in the Atlantic Monthly in 1890 and he has written constantly since. In recent years his intimate friends with whom he had always celebrated his birthday were Thomas A. Edison, Henry Ford, Hudson Maxim and Henry P. Firestone. During the lifetime of Theodore Roosevelt Burroughs and he were on terms of intimacy. The significance of Burroughs' life consists in his exposition of the Whitman gospel of a sweet and wholesome love of nature, a clean life, a devotion to democracy in practical and humane ways, an avoidance of the devious ways of politics, a reliance on hard work and self-support as the cure for all ills. In religion Burroughs followed Whitman who followed the "Great Companions" and looked forward to the perfecting of character through many successive rebirths on earth with periods of rest in the heaven world between.

CAN THE UNITED STATES BE PERSUADED?

Sir Auckland Geddes has been deputed by Britain and Rehe Viviani, a former premier, by France, to enter upon negotiations with the Washington Government with a view to bringing the League of Nations into harmony with the principles which President Harding has expressed himself as favoring in the pursuit of world peace. To make this statement boldly is perhaps to outrun the surface indication of the facts. But there appears to be strong hopes that President Harding's hostility to the League will be largely overcome by the willingness of Britain to eliminate Article X from the covenant, and there can be no doubt that the powers would go a long way to obtain solidarity among the nations in determining a policy of peace. The real difficulty is the reluctance of the United States to commit herself to any undertaking involving a joint responsibility with other or any other nation or nations. This policy of aloofness is an established one and if diplomacy can circumvent it in some way so as to gain the same uncommitted to any other power a triumph will have been achieved for the League of Nations. The pledged undertaking of the United States would be sufficient in itself without any joint covenant. The League of Nations can continue, it is believed, on its present basis, and achieve considerable success as it grows in moral power, even though the United States should not join it. All that the United States appears to be willing to



GOOD JOKES

A CLEVER HUSBAND.

Wife—Mrs. Jones has another new hat.
Hubby—Well if she were as attractive as you are, my dear, she wouldn't have to depend so much upon the milliner.

NOT THE SAME.

"Why did you go back and give that beggar a quarter?"
"Because," said Mr. Dubwaite, "he looked like a man I used to know."
"Maybe he's the same man."
"No, if he had been he would have asked me to lend him \$10."

THE UNION MEETING.

"Say, pa?"
"What's on your mind now?"
"I see that there is to be a union church service tomorrow. Is that intended especially for labor organizations?"

WHEN THE COW MOODED.

"That's a cow, my son."
"And what are those things on her head?"
"Horns."
"And the two then moved on. Presently the cow moode, whereat Tommy was surprised.
"Which horn did she blow, father?" he asked.

FIXED COLOR.

Mother—You must stay in, dear; it's raining.
Elsie—But, mamma, I'm not painted.

ANSWERED, HOWEVER.

The witness for the defense was being cross-examined. In answer to a question put by counsel, instead of speaking he nodded his head.
Whereupon the court stenographer, who was not looking at the witness, demanded: "Answer that question."



Investure at Buckingham Palace, London. The King conferred the honor of Knighthood on Knights Bachelor designate at Buckingham Palace. Sir Harry and Lady Lauder leaving the palace after the investiture.

The History of Your Name

COX

VARIATIONS—Coxon, Cook, Cooks, Cookson.

RACIAL ORIGIN—English.

SOURCE—An occupation.

It might appear, at first glance, that some of the family names in this group had their origin in some reference to the cock, or rooster. There is a rare possibility that in some instances the name Cox may have had such an origin.

In such cases it would come as a shortened form of "Cocker-son" that is, "the son of the cock-fighter," for cock fighting is a very ancient sport, and was well established in popular favor in medieval England. Or it might be derived from the form "Atte Cock," or as we would put it today, "at the Sign of the Cock," for in their lack of ability to read, the English of olden times called upon the full range of the animal and vegetable kingdoms with which to illustrate the signs by which they identified their shops and their inns.

But in the vast majority of cases, the forms of the foregoing family names indicate that they come from "cook." There was no uniform method of spelling this word in the middle ages, and it was often necessary to judge whether the writer meant "cook" or "cock" by the sense of his writing. But such a form as "Roger le Coc" or "le Coc" or "le Cok" occurring in the ancient lists of names kept for taxation or other purposes, has only one reasonable translation, "Roger the Cook." And that form of name occurs with such frequency as to insure its perpetuation as a family name. At that period "Roger le Coc" could never have been used with the meaning "Roger Atte Cock."

POEMS

You Should Know

FAITH.

O God, whose thunder shakes the sky,
Whose eyes this atom globe surveys
To Thee, my only rock, I fly
Thy mercy in Thy justice prays.
The mystic mazes of Thy will,
The shadows of celestial light,
Are past the power of human skill;
But what the Eternal acts is right.
Oh, teach me in the trying hour,
When anguish swells the dewy tear,
To still my sorrows, own Thy power,
Thy goodness love, Thy justice fear.

If in this bosom aught but Thee
Encroaching sought a boundless sway,
Omniscience could the danger see,
And Mercy look the cause away.

Then why, my soul, dost thou complain,
Why dropping seek the dark recess?
Shake off the melancholy chain,
For God created all to bless.

But ah! my breast is human still;
The rising sigh, the falling tear,
My languid vital's feeble rill,
The sickness of my soul declare.

But yet with fortitude resigned,
I'll thank the infliator of the blow;
Forbid the sigh, compose my mind,
Not let the gush of misery flow.

The gloomy mantle of the night,
Which on my sinking spirit steals,
Will vanish at the morning light,
Which God, my cast, my sun, reveals.

—Thomas Chatterton.

Scientific Naming.

New species of plants and animals are usually given a form of the name of the discoverer, and the suffix, for instance, hides quite profitably in its Anglicised pronunciation the fact that it was christened after a gentleman of the name of Puchs. The naturalist who named the family of Crustaceans followed an original plan, having many names to bestow. His wife's name was Caroline. He took the letters of that name, put them in a hat, and drew them out again in every combination that would yield a pronounceable name for the shrimps and their cousins. Another naturalist reversed the process. He had a boundless admiration for the sea-worms, on which Greek names had been bestowed, and he had also seven daughters. So each daughter, as she arrived, was named after one of the worms.

The highest average number of hours of sunshine in a year occurs in Manitoba. In 1917, the record in Winnipeg was 2,175.

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Lesson IV.

POVERTY

Lesson—Isa. 5: Luke

Golden Text—

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Isa. 5: 8 Woe

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Amos 8: 4 He

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Luke 16: 19

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