

## THE PROVINCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1914.

## INSPECTOR HOPKINSON.

The assassination of Inspector Hopkinson by a Hindu is unfortunately one of the prices a man has to pay sometimes for doing his duty. Inspector Hopkinson was known to a great many citizens and he was liked by all. There were very few Hindus here whom he has not befriended in one form or another and his work at the immigration department was of immense value to the whole community. He was absolutely fearless and although he knew his life had been threatened again and again by some of the men who deemed him an enemy he went on doing his work without taking any special precautions. He knew the men he was dealing with and took his chances as so many of our police officials have to. He could not have done his work if he had been afraid of the men with whom he had to deal and had taken any special precautions against them. He had served the British Government in India as a member of the police department in Calcutta and his work here was much appreciated by the authorities. His loss will be keenly felt and it will be extremely difficult for the government to replace him.

As The Province pointed out at the time of the shooting affray in the Hindu Temple the ordinary procedure of our courts is not understood or respected by the Hindus. They have no conception of the value of an oath as administered in our courts, but if sworn under their own sacred oaths might tell the truth. Mr. Hopkinson knew these men and knew they were lying. He had a very shrewd perception of all the undercurrents governing their lives and he knew the men who were conspiring against the British Government in India. But to convict them of conspiracy was another matter, altogether. Political conspiracy of such a kind is not only difficult to prove but extremely hard to eradicate. It was to this conspiracy that Inspector Hopkinson fell a victim.

But because he fell a victim to a conspiracy of which he was well aware, it is no good branding the whole of the Hindu community here as assassins. There is a small number of men on this coast carrying on a revolutionary political propaganda. Perhaps they are not known to the rest of the Hindu community and move backwards and forwards endeavoring to enlist recruits in their cause. There are others who are known to all their comrades as men who are discontented and willing to listen to these emissaries. Others, again, are absolutely loyal. The latter have naturally incurred the enmity of the disloyal. It is exactly the same in all communities. These Hindu agitators and political revolutionaries are dangerous only to the men who take an active part against them. They had marked down Inspector Hopkinson because he was loyal and did his duty.

It is easy of course to jump to conclusions and feel strongly on this subject. The very fact that Inspector Hopkinson was such an excellent official and a good friend to so many of the Hindus rouses indignation to boiling point against his assassin. One man appears to have done the actual deed, but under the circumstances it looks distinctly as if more than one had plotted it. Let it be admitted that a dozen men are mixed up in

they as a whole will not be responsible for their own agitators the end will be that they will all be condemned and punished.

## THE BACKBONE OF THE ARMY.

The non-commissioned officers of the British army have often been called its backbone. In the case of the petty officers of the navy the same thing might be said. There are many of these men out here who directly the war broke out offered their services to the government. Some enlisted here and undertook a good deal of work at a time when their services were most useful. These, in common with the rest, were demobilized and thrown back on their own resources, which in many cases was extremely hard on them as they had left jobs to serve the country. Most of these men are now anxious to obey Lord Kitchener's call for non-commissioned officers and make themselves useful to the authorities training men. In some cases they are unable to return to Great Britain because they have been sworn in here and in the case of the naval men have signed on for three years. They can not now get their discharge and are wasting their time and all the training they have had because the authorities apparently can not make use of them. Something seems radically wrong when such men are allowed to stand idle while Lord Kitchener is calling for their services in training others to do the work of the Empire. If they can not be used here in the best manner possible, that is in training others, they should be sent to headquarters, where they will at once find all the work they want right at their hand. In order to try and get the matter settled it would be as well if all non-commissioned officers who are qualified instructors would communicate with Mr. Gilbert Hall of the Customs House of this city.

## THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.

Among the many reports of the fighting proceeding on the eastern battle front there was one which stated that the Jews among the Polish population between Warsaw and the Prussian frontier had materially assisted the Germans by lighting fires and showing them where the Russian batteries and positions were. Naturally these reports have raised a good deal of anger among the Jews all the world over, for if there is one thing that the Jews pride themselves upon more than another it is their loyalty to the land in which they live. There are, of course black sheep among the Jews as there are among other nationalities, but taking the Jewish race as a whole there is no more patriotic people in this world.

It would perhaps be natural if under the circumstances the Jews in Russia had revolted against the race which has oppressed them for so long, and helped the enemy. But there are over 400,000 Jews serving in the Russian army, and the Czar has no more loyal subjects. In a sudden burst of sanity and enlightenment, the Czar, when the war broke out, gave all Jews in the Empire of Russia ordinary civil liberties and rights, and what this has meant to this race can only be imagined by those who know something of the conditions which have hitherto prevailed in Russia. What with pogroms and "Black Hundreds" massacres and rapine, confinement in the ghettos of cities, and other methods of a like nature, it is wonderful that there are any members of the Jewish race left in Russia. It is hoped now that these days are for ever past, and

he told her that she was good enough to eat.

The Kaiser says that Uncle Sam is an ingrate for not declaring war on Japan and contemplates issuing an ultimatum to the United States breweries to close up.

North British mill owners are advertising that they are prepared to supply yarns to replace those hitherto imported from Germany. Got busy Mr. Censor, get busy.

Well, anyway the Kaiser can take some satisfaction out of contemplating that there is a place provided for him and that his innocent victims will not be there to annoy him.

The members of the Vancouver social club who were made to shell out at the point of a revolver, night before last will be able to sympathize with Burgomaster Max of Brussels.

Col. Roosevelt says that the crime of those who make treaties looking to peace is greater than that of those who violate them. Taft's views on this ebullition of Teddy would be interesting.

The Catholic Tribune states that 500,000 man-eaters of the South Sea Islands (Oceania) are clamoring for Catholic missionaries. The Biblical injunction: "Feed my lambs" does not seem to apply in this case.

Mrs. Pankhurst denies that the Kaiser belongs to her league even if he is an adept at destroying cathedrals and historic paintings. Panky should not be jealous of the Kaiser's success along that line. He had better equipment for the purpose.

The German-Canadian Alliance of Saskatchewan has sent a petition to Premier Borden asking him to restrict the English press from making derogatory remarks about the Kaiser and his army. It would be hard to keep silent about them altogether.

## SEE GREAT CONFLICT THROUGH TO BITTER END

## Liverpool Rotary Club Endorses Open Letter to International Association.

In an open letter to the International Association of Rotary Clubs by Gilbert Y. Tickle, J. P., of the Liverpool Rotary Club and British representative on the international rotary committee on inter-city trade relations, a letter which was recently endorsed by the Liverpool club, the writer thus in part replies to the rotary manifesto "Let There Be Peace," issued on September 12:

"The predominant note of this really beautiful appeal is that if America was to make her voice sufficiently clear, she has influence enough to secure an immediate cessation of strife and the laying down of arms. To us in Great Britain, struggling as we are for our national honor, nay, for our very existence as a nation, the question of strife really means peace to us? and secondly, is America strong enough to guarantee to us that this peace, even if secured, would be properly and lastingly maintained? To both of these questions we feel constrained to offer a respectful but emphatic negative as a reply.

"In Europe today, the Allied nations realize that to make peace with the invaders of Belgium or to arbitrate with the vandal debauchees of Louvain and Rheims, until their power for evil is destroyed, would be an outrage against the common humanity of the world. The Allies believe, in the midst of this terrible war, that

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