

day Viscount Ishii, head of the Japanese delegation at the peace conference, said it was the poignant regret of the Japanese Government and people, that the framers of the covenant were unable to accept the Japanese proposal that equality before the law should be assured to all men, irrespective of their nationality, race or religion. The Japanese delegates declared they would continue their insistence for the adoption of their just demand by the league. In view, however, of present circumstances, Japan is strongly persuaded that the League is as yet in a stage when the consolidation of its organization should be accorded greater attention than questions that might involve a revision of the covenant.

Ottawa, Nov. 30th.—Action by the Government to restrict immigration of certain classes, in order to alleviate the condition of unemployment now prevailing in various parts of the dominion, was taken by the passage of an order in council today raising the money test of immigration of the mechanic, artisan or labourer classes from \$50 to \$250. The new order provides for the suspension of paragraphs 1 to 3 of the former order in council applicable to these classes of immigrants and the substitution of 4 other paragraphs. The first provides that "no immigrant of the mechanic, artisan, or labourer classes, whether skilled or unskilled, shall be allowed to land in Canada unless he possess, in his own right money to the amount of \$250 and in addition transportation to his destination, in Canada." The second paragraph provides that if an immigrant belonging to the classes named and is accompanied by his family he must possess in addition to transportation for the members of the family to their destination a further sum equivalent to \$125 for every member aged 18 years and upward and \$50 for each child of 5 years and under 18 years. The new regulations come into effect along the international boundary on the 15th December next and at ocean points on January 1st. They do not apply to other classes of immigrants than those specifically set forth, nor tourists, travellers or returning Canadians. The order states in opening that a considerable amount of unemployment prevails in parts of Canada and that the prospects for employment are not likely to improve during the next few months.

1800 RED CROSS MEMBERS IN SAN JUAN

Campaign for Membership and Funds Continuing Throughout the Island

Upwards of 1,100 memberships had been registered in San Juan at the Red Cross headquarters up to yesterday as a result of the drive, which started throughout the island this week.

Up to yesterday there had been no returns from the various towns of the island, where intensive efforts are being made to enroll as many people as possible as members for the coming Red Cross year, for which ambitious plans for charitable and social work are being prepared.

San Juan has been considerably brightened throughout the week by the presence of a number of young ladies, dressed in Red Cross uniform, and who have combed the town for subscriptions and memberships.

At the entrance to the Post Office building there was established a receiving table, presided over by various ladies from San Juan, and scarcely a man obtained his mail this week without being reminded of his obligation to renew his membership in the Red Cross—and no man became exempt from this reminder until he could—and did—wear the little button which released him from further importunities.

The office and stores throughout the city were similarly invaded by the bright eyed workers for the Red Cross and it is expected that by the time the drive is through and all the returns made to Headquarters that San Juan will have at least filled its quota.

Similar drives have been proceeding throughout the island and it is safe to say that thousands of new memberships have been recorded in every district.—*Porto Rico Progress, Nov. 19th.*

USE OF ELECTRICITY IN DYEING CLOTH.

Among the tasks imposed upon that busy servant of man, electricity, is the acting as an assistant in the operation of dyeing. When cloth soaked in aniline sulphate is placed between two metal plates connected with the opposite ends of a dynamo and an electric current is passed through it the sulphate is converted into aniline black. By altering the strength of the solution and the current shades varying from green to pure black can be obtained. In the case of indigo the cloth is impregnated with paste of indigo blue and caustic alkali. The electric current converts the insoluble indigo blue, by reduction of oxygen, into indigo white, which is soluble, and on being exposed to the air becomes oxidized once more and turns blue, thus thoroughly dyeing the cloth with that color.—*Ibid.*

RADIO CONTROLS WAR ENGINES

C. S. Price, a British engineer, has produced an aerial torpedo which it is claimed, can be controlled and maneuvered thousands of miles away by wireless impulses. It was intended primarily for war purposes and was used to some extent for bombing the Germans

in the late war, being known to them as the "devil's airship." The torpedo can travel from 175 to 200 miles per hour. It is also capable of taking aerial photographs when desired in time of war. A recent improvement, the inventor declares, will instantly record the effects of the bombs dropped even when the machine is thousands of miles distant from the operating base.

The torpedo, it is said, can be put to a number of peace-time uses, including carrying mail, exploration, observation etc. No crew is carried and none is needed as the craft can be guided and controlled for thousands of miles from any properly equipped wireless station.

The U. S. navy a short time ago completed experiments which showed that big battleships can be successfully operated by wireless from land stations four or five miles distant. The apparatus used is so designed that the radio impulses act directly on the ship's steering gear. Naval authorities predict that the invention will revolutionize sea fighting. The recent tests, they declare, prove that crewless ships, loaded with high explosives or burning materials, can be directed unerringly against enemy fleets.

Working along similar lines the German navy developed apparatus for the control of fire ships and ships carrying explosives. In the world war they succeeded on one occasion in steering a crewless 300-ton ship loaded with dynamite against a British squadron off Zeebrugge. The radio control apparatus developed by the American navy, however, is considerably more effective than theirs.—*The Pathfinder, Nov. 20th.*

SILICATES TO DEPOPULATE EARTH?

A scientist has figured that all organic life will disappear from the earth some 200,000 years hence. The principal cause of this catastrophe, he explains, will be the absorption of carbonic acid gas from the atmosphere by the silicates. Other scientists poo-poo the idea; let us hope they are right. Anyway, 200,000 years is a long, long time.—*Ibid.*

THE TOMATO OR 'LOVE APPLE.'

For a long time after the tomato was introduced to the world by explorers from Peru it was regarded as poisonous. It was cultivated in gardens only for ornamental purposes and was known as the "love apple" or "Jerusalem apple." A reader of the *Pathfinder* at Griswold, Iowa, writes that his father used tomatoes as food as early as 1856. In a few instances the fruit was eaten prior to that date but it did not come into general use until about 1870.—*Ibid.*