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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH THE EVENING TIMES

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 3, 1912.

LORD ROBERTS SOUNDS ANOTHER NOTE OF WARNING

Anxiety because of the danger of war is probably confined to a comparatively small proportion of the population of the United Kingdom, but there is no doubt that within a well-informed circle this anxiety is keenly, largely because of a feeling that the country at large does not realize its position, and also because of a feeling that preparation by sea and by land has not been sufficient. Lord Roberts, who will complete his eightieth year in September, is one of the most conspicuous and earnest of those who have been sounding the warning note. At the annual meeting of the National Service League held in London a month ago, and at which the aged Field Marshal presided, he repeated with renewed emphasis his opinion that war is probable, and that Great Britain is by no means ready for it.

Lord Roberts said that the general British public continued to be apathetic, is, in fact, as indifferent as ever to what is taking place in other countries and to the effect these changed conditions may have on Great Britain's position as a world power. Long years of immunity from war in their own country, he thought, had made the people skeptical as to the existence of danger, and he complained that the government had refrained from sounding the lightest note of warning to those who were not so well informed concerning the situation as were those in official circles. This address of Lord Roberts, which was made some weeks before Mr. Churchill's recent pronouncement on the naval situation, which surely contained a note of warning clear enough even to satisfy the octogenarian soldier.

Lord Roberts referred to the fact that Great Britain was "within an ace of being engaged in a war so lately as last year," and he said that war, had it come, would have brought down to the most careless and least far-sighted of our people the perilous position in which we are placed, and would have enabled them to understand that it is no longer possible for Great Britain to keep clear of continental complications without losing her place amongst the great nations of the world.

He was not inclined to regard as effective the efforts of Lord Haldane to increase the strength of the army, whether by volunteer or regular, and he referred again to the fact that no steps have yet been taken to carry out the policies advocated by the Royal Commission headed by Lord Elgin and the Duke of Norfolk, which policy is expressed in this resolution:

"That a Home Defence Army capable, in the absence of the whole or the greater part of the Regular Forces, of protecting this country from invasion, can be raised and maintained only on the principle that it is the duty of every citizen of military age and sound physique to be trained for the national defence, and to take part in it should emergency arise."

This resolution was passed in 1904, and Lord Roberts points out that nothing has really been done since that time to give it effect; although he says this form of preparation is now more necessary than ever. He insists that Great Britain must adopt compulsory military service, involving every able-bodied man, high and low, rich and poor, or, if she refuses to adopt this system, which is now in force in all other leading countries except the United States, then she must resort to greatly increasing her paid army. He strongly urged upon his hearers the necessity for reorganizing the army that it will be strong enough to prevent even the contemplation of invading the British Isles, and to enable Great Britain in case of war to dispatch a sufficiently large and properly equipped army to the continent to assist in main-

aining the balance of power in Europe. Other speakers at this meeting of the National Service League joined Lord Roberts in warning their countrymen concerning the need for additional preparation, and General Wood, who served on Lord Roberts' staff in South Africa, said that of all the great services that soldiers had performed none was perhaps greater than the work he was doing now in "calling on the men of England to rise up from their lazy, slothful, easy-going ways, and to do their duty to their country."

The recent speech of Mr. Churchill, containing, as it did, announcement of Great Britain's determination to increase its naval strength, will by no means satisfy Lord Roberts and those who stand with him in insisting for the adoption of compulsory service or some other policy which will result in giving Great Britain a powerful army. In spite of the work of the National Service League, it is most probable that Great Britain will adopt conscription, or anything approaching it, but it is already settled that the fleet will be increased and no doubt some systematic form of army expansion will also be adopted.

THE NEXT CONTEST

The Halifax Chronicle, which predicts a victory for the Liberals in the next Federal contest, is publishing some figures in support of its view. The Chronicle says in part:

"The Loyalist-Nationalist aggregation now has twenty-seven followers in Parliament from Quebec to thirty-eight Liberals. In the last Parliament Sir Wilfrid Laurier had fifty-four supporters to eleven opponents from that province. The Quebecer has definitely returned to its Liberal allegiance in an extent as anything political can be. This means, that in the next Parliament, whether elected sooner or later, Mr. Borden will not have more than eleven Quebec followers. He may quite possibly have less. But even at eleven, it will involve a loss of sixteen government seats and a corresponding Liberal gain, or a reduction of thirty-two in Mr. Borden's majority."

"That majority, at present, covering every available vote, is forty-nine. By the coming change in Quebec alone it will thus be reduced to seventeen. The loss of nine seats elsewhere in Canada would have it in a minority in Parliament."

"In the last Parliament Ontario was represented by thirty-five Liberals and fifty-one Conservatives. In the present Parliament there are seventy-two Conservatives from that province to fourteen Liberals. The means by which this change was brought about are well known, and need not be specified again. Their potency has been exhaustively demonstrated. The Chronicle points out that there is generally admitted reaction in Ontario, and it says that it is not to be doubted that more than nine seats will be changed in that province in favor of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the next contest. It contends that the Conservatives cannot well hope to carry more than fifty-one seats out of the eighty-three which Ontario will have after redistribution. This, with the change in Quebec, will be more than enough to defeat the Borden government. The Chronicle says Mr. Borden is likely to lose rather than gain in the Maritime Provinces, and to lose heavily in the West with the exception of British Columbia. As the Chronicle expresses it: "But Quebec and Ontario by themselves can and almost certainly will defeat him. The other provinces—leaving out British Columbia—will help to make the defeat smashing."

A GREAT RULER

When the Emperor of Japan fell ill some time ago and it was seen that he was beyond recovery, a well-informed observer spoke of his reign as one of the greatest in all history. This is a remarkable estimate, but it is just. His death struck the world's critical attention to his strange life and the wonders wrought by his country since he mounted the throne. Let us repeat a part of the story as the Montreal Witness told it a few days ago:

When Commodore Perry forced open Japanese ports in 1854, a young prince was an infant. "It so happened that a very progressive prime minister was at that time administering the affairs of a very weak Shogun, and he took upon him to sign a treaty with a number of the powers. For this he was assassinated. The Samurai, the ancient nobility, induced the Mikado, that then was, to assert his own authority, and led by them, and with the complicity of the emperor, they broke out an anti-foreign fury. The assassination of an Englishman caused the bombardment and utter destruction of a seaport. Then the Japanese nobles took to firing on all foreign ships within gunshot, which was answered by a joint expedition of four powers, which dismantled all its offending batteries and exacted an indemnity of three million dollars. This was in 1869. After years of confusion the revolution was complete, and in 1889 the Mikado's authority was established and was recognized by the powers. "Mutsubito had acceded to the throne the year before, at the age of sixteen. Instead of being used as a sort of sanctity for the acts of despots, as his ancestors had been, he found himself under the tutelage of a committee of progress, a body of some fifty-five remarkable men, who instructed him in western ways. He was pledged on oath to establish representative government, to abandon worthless traditions, to make ability and not birth the path of promotion, and to seek throughout the world for men of talent to assist in the work of transforming Japan. Then a very wonderful thing followed. The Daimios, or landed nobles, who had been so terrible, each in his territory, that no man dared look him in the face, they disappeared. He hid his face on the ground, and many a second laid their hands and their vassals and their revenues at the Mikado's feet, accepting pensions. They had in some way come to realize that the safety of their country required this sacrifice, and resolved that the old era would pass away in high honor. Instead, from the date of the accession of Mutsubito, the history of Japan has been one continuous transformation scene of brilliant successes. The country was full ground for the seeds of all culture. It has a several people, living in fairy-fancies, it has come forth not only one of the most robust, but one of the most advanced of nations, with an educational system that casts our own far into the shade. What part the monarch has taken in all this the world does not know, except that he has been loyal to it, and that his loyalty and sanction have been the chief factor in it. It could not have taken place without his conditions had been proposed to it. To the Japanese, whether daimio or noble, it was enough that the Mikado wished it. To the warrior it was enough that he was fighting for the Mikado, and that the Mikado would care for his family if he was killed. It would be hard to find in history a more remarkable reign."

MR. MACLEAN GROWS INQUISITIVE

Mr. W. F. Maclean, M. P., lord of Donlands and proprietor of the Toronto World, is a Conservative of an independent turn of mind who occasionally exploits the troubles of his own party to the horror of the faithful who desire that no rift in the party line shall become visible to the enemy. Mr. Maclean is at it again. This time the story is a curious one. It introduces the sinister figure of Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of the Interior, an exceedingly practical politician whose methods are sometimes crude.

When the Conservative government appointed Major Leonard to be chairman of the National Transcontinental Railway Commission, and subsequently entrusted him with all the powers formerly distributed among four members of that commission, the Conservative press generally voiced its hearty approval. Major Leonard is supposed to have been appointed at the instance of Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways. A few weeks ago the Winnipeg Telegram, which Hon. Mr. Rogers is supposed to control, printed a bitter and violent attack upon Major Leonard. Then came an article in the Liberal Regina Leader purporting to explain the reason for the Telegram's attack, which article the Toronto Globe promptly re-published, demanding an investigation of the charges contained therein. The Leader intimated that Major Leonard had incurred the hostility of Mr. Rogers and his friends because he had refused to locate some railway track near Winnipeg in such a way as to benefit a subdivision in which the Rogers clique was interested.

The World now expresses the opinion that the insinuations concerning Hon. Mr. Rogers are unjustified, and it also declines to credit the report that the standard of the Transcontinental on some portions of the line is to be lowered by permitting heavier grades than four-tenths of one per cent. But Mr. Maclean goes on to say, significantly enough:

"Nevertheless we believe that explicit statements are due to the public; from the minister of the interior and the minister of railways alike. And in this connection there is some curiosity to know what has been done, and what is being done, by Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Lynch-Staunton, who have gone over the line under a commission from the government. It is said that this commission is confined to recommendations for the future, and that no investigation into the past history of the construction of the road is to be made. Upon this subject also the public is entitled to hear from the government."

Hon. Mr. Cochrane does not talk so frequently or so evasively as Hon. Mr. Rogers, but if the Minister of the Interior is detestable to believe that the Minister of Railways would oblige him with considerable alacrity. Mr. Maclean, it will be observed, believes the public interest demands an explanation from both ministers. Certainly the article published in the Regina Leader and reproduced in the Toronto Globe would seem to make an explanation from the Minister of the Interior clearly imperative.

A DARING ACT

When the British Insurance Act became law on July 15 last, 14,000,000 people out of a population of 45,000,000, became compelled by law to insure against illness. This surely is an astonishing legislative and sociological feat, and one quite justifying the language of a writer in the New York Independent who describes the insurance Act as "probably the most daring and complicated scheme of national betterment ever proposed and carried in the single parliament."

Such Canadians whose news from London comes chiefly from newspapers which are continually misrepresenting the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, and which exaggerate the opposition to the new measure, have, perhaps, failed to grasp the tremendous scope of the legislation. The British people have a reputation for hostility to legislative interference with their rights or their habits, and when we recall that this legislation directly reaches almost a third the entire population we get some idea of its astonishing character and of the force of its author, Lloyd George.

friction and irritation among employers, among doctors, and among women who objected to having their servants insured, or to contributing toward that insurance. As the salient facts gradually emerge, it is found that some of the most violent objections to the plan are so well founded as one might suppose at a glance. In industrial districts, for example, doctors have been in the habit of rendering bills for medical services, but the practice was for the workman to pay those bills in instalments averaging about one dollar, and if he did so the physician never pressed for the settlement of the balance remaining. But under this system the workman who had much illness in his house always remained in the doctor's debt. Under the new plan this shiftless and wasteful relation would be done away with.

In the main objects of the Insurance Act are two: (1) to provide insurance against sickness, as well as to prevent and cure sickness, and (2) to provide insurance against unemployment. The act makes it compulsory upon all persons between sixteen and sixty-five years of age to insure against illness. This part of the act is to work mainly through friendly societies, trade unions, and other profit associations. The act applies to those who earn less than \$800 a year and who are between the ages mentioned, and this covers really almost the whole range of industrial employment, including mechanics, miners, clerks, shop assistants, domestic servants, sailors in the mercantile marine, employees of local authorities or railways which do not have pension schemes, and the like. Those who do not insure through a friendly society do not go to the friendly and kindred societies which secure a greater return for the premiums they contribute, but no friendly society is compelled to take their risk if it does not desire to do so. If they are unhealthy, and are rejected by the societies, they can still insure through the post office, in which case they receive smaller benefits.

The fund is made up by contributions from the worker, the employer, and the government. The employer pays his own contribution and that of his insured workmen, and deducts their share from their wages. The ordinary weekly premium for male workers is eighteen cents, and for female workers sixteen cents. Where wages do not exceed thirty-six cents a day, the employer pays twelve cents for a workman, ten cents for a work woman, and the government pays six cents. In this class the wage earners, whose earnings are small, do not contribute at all. As wages rise the employer and the government contribute less and the worker more. For example, if the daily wage exceeds sixty cents the employer pays six cents for a workman and the cents for a work woman, while the government pays eight cents for a workman six cents and the government four cents. Further contributions are made by the insured person and (if the woman is insured) by her husband, or his wife and children if she is suffering from a scheme of compulsory insurance against unemployment in the following seven trades: Building construction of works, shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, iron founding, construction of vehicles and saw-milling. It is estimated that some 2,400,000 workpeople of sixteen years and upwards will come within its provisions at the present time, and that the fund will be raised by weekly contributions from the employer and employee of five cents each period of a week or less. The Government contribution to the fund will be one-third of the total contribution from the workman and employer. No contribution is required while the workman is unemployed for any cause. The benefits provided consist of weekly payments to workmen, while unemployed, of \$1.75 a week up to a maximum of fifteen weeks in any twelve months. A workman who does not receive any benefit if he has lost employment through a strike or a lockout or through misconduct, or has voluntarily thrown up his job without any cause or in receipt of sickness benefit. This part of the scheme is to be worked principally through the labor exchange.

Lloyd George has set a swift pace in social legislation. Many predict that his scheme will end in national disaster, but many more have faith in him and his plans. The British people are, however, not yet fully aware of the scope and extent of the scheme, and the fact that the government has so far succeeded in carrying out its plans with such alacrity and energy, and that the public interest demands an explanation from both ministers. Certainly the article published in the Regina Leader and reproduced in the Toronto Globe would seem to make an explanation from the Minister of the Interior clearly imperative.

AWKWARD QUESTIONS

The gentlemen who are attempting to persuade the people of Great Britain to adopt a protective tariff are encountering no little difficulty. Many awkward questions are being addressed to them. One of these questions has to do with a matter which was recently under discussion here, that is, the proposal to benefit the Empire by removing the duty from tea and tobacco in the United Kingdom country. With this proposal Mr. John Robertson, M. P., deals in a recent pamphlet which is having a wide circulation in the United Kingdom. He writes with admirable force. Let us hear him on this question of the tobacco duty:

"If there is one deeply honest inspiration at work in the tariff movement it is the desire to 'hit back'. The principle of retaliation is the wind that best fills the tariff sails, though profit-seeking is the fuel for the steam power that primarily propels the vessel. Mr. Chamberlain, accordingly, took good care to appeal to the indignity of his countrymen in starting the movement. But when it comes to showing that retaliation will do to cheapen both whisky and tobacco—that it, to make narcotics cheap while it makes food dear, all the while professing to be a hot patriot, an empire-builder, and a champion of national defence. Such are the moral and scientific lights of the Large Engländer. He would tax the child's bread and butter and cheapen the father's smoke and drink, thus breeding an efficient race of fighters. "But it is as a retaliationist that he most triumphantly exhibits his sagacity. The main source of our tobacco supply is the United States, the industrial country which has the highest tariff against our manufactures. If, then, we lower the tobacco duties we shall positively be limiting the chief existing means of retaliation which we possess against America. Claiming to be allowed to hit back, our tariff plans to curtail the hitting power that we have actually ready. "It is such unaffected displays of impotence that form the best available defence for the tariffist against all imputations of deliberate deceit. Can such folly, also, it has been most entertaining in developing its resources and in securing new population by means of immigration. But here in the East, after a period of inaction, the people have begun to take stock of their resources, and have remembered that New Brunswick will grow even better fruit than British Columbia, and that the

HERE IN THE EAST

Judging from the way they are talking down in St. John, it will soon be on the cards to exclaim, "Go East, young men, and grow up with the country."—Victoria Column.

Our neighbor in British Columbia, distant though he is, has properly interpreted the news he has been reading from this part of Canada. British Columbia is rich in climate, in minerals, and in timber, and it has much land that will grow good fruit. Also it has been most entertaining in developing its resources and in securing new population by means of immigration. But here in the East, after a period of inaction, the people have begun to take stock of their resources, and have remembered that New Brunswick will grow even better fruit than British Columbia, and that the

land requires less preparation and less expense after the trees are planted. "We are remembering, too, that we have a tremendous advantage in being a week's journey nearer the United Kingdom than Columbia. Naturally, our fellow-Canadians are, our enterprising friends in British Columbia. Naturally, our fellow-Canadians fit from the construction of the Panama Canal, which should be open to traffic by 1915. In all probability it will be of benefit to this whole country; but, after all, the Orient provides no such market as Europe. The white population of Britain and the Continent constitutes a wealthy and hungry market for Canadian natural products and manufactures, and Eastern Canada is closely in touch also with thickly populated New England. As compared with British Columbia, New Brunswick is a small place, but we have not yet begun to fill proportionally more than a small portion of our land.

Moreover, this is one of Canada's principal gateways, and here will converge the ships and the railways which must carry the traffic of the whole country. In recognition of these things we have begun to spend money lavishly upon terminal facilities, and are now engaged in making St. John one of the best equipped ports on the Atlantic seaboard.

The Victoria Colonist is quite right about it. From this time forward we shall be inviting westerners to come east and share our comfort and prosperity.

GOING AHEAD

The C. P. R. does things. News that the railway has awarded a contract for the construction of a one-million-bushel grain elevator here, to be completed for the winter port season of 1913 at an approximate cost of half a million dollars, is a welcome addition to recent announcements having to do with the forward movement in this city and province.

If the C. P. R. would abandon its policy of drumming up so-called harvest excursions in the Maritime Provinces and carrying away to the West the native sons we need at home, and who would be quite as well off here, the road would be much more popular in this part of the country. But while condemning the harvest excursions which the railway is even now organizing, the fair-minded observer will not withhold his admiration for the manner in which Canada's premier railway forges ahead.

The C. P. R. is now carrying on extensive operations on the West Side, in expanding its terminal facilities there, and a noteworthy feature of this work is that it is spending much money for the express purpose of saving time in order that its facilities may be kept abreast of the great traffic that will pour in from the West. Thus on the west side of the harbor as the workmen are busy carrying on most important work is being carried on, and very heavy expenditures are being made, in order that the port may be ready to handle the constantly growing stream of traffic that comes to tide-water here.

BETTER BE SURE THAN SORRY

"Harvest hands cannot be obtained," cries the West. Yes they can if they get decent wages. But they cannot be kidnapped.—Toronto Globe.

There is a great future ahead for the scientist who will invent a harvest hand so constituted as to be able to work twenty-four hours a day in August, September, and October, and "suck his own paw" like the bear during the winter and spring.—Toronto Globe.

NOTE AND COMMENT

New York's police case is providing the sort of fact that is stranger than fiction—Even Old Cap Collier's fiction at that.

Princess Edward Island gave their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Princess Patricia, the warmest welcome.

If St. John claims 100 acres from the sea for industrial sites, with deep water frontage, its enterprise will bring ample reward. This plan, which has previously been hinted at, now seems to be gaining headway.

Montreal bears that Hon. F. D. Monk is likely to leave the Borden cabinet as a protest against the Borden naval policy. But as the public does not yet know what the Borden naval policy is, and so it is most improbable that Mr. Monk yet knows the report about his forthcoming retirement must be regarded as premature.

The manufacturers of shoes in Canada announce an increase of prices to the extent of from ten to twenty per cent. Their explanation is that the price of their raw materials has advanced greatly during the last few years. If this sort of thing is continued some traitor will suggest that the duty on shoes ought to be reduced or removed.

One of this morning's cables quotes a London journal, one supporting the Asquith administration, as saying that Mr. Borden's plan to have the Dominion share in

deciding the issues of peace and war is not quite safe or practicable. There is a yet no hint as to what Mr. Borden intends to do this year in the matter of defence. And time passes. . . .

The Montreal Shareholder says that a wise man "will heed the warning conveyed by the Saskatchewan voters and will be advised in time." The West, the Shareholder remarks, is going to be much more powerful politically in the near future. The people of Saskatchewan, it adds, "are most insistent in their demands that they should have wider markets and secure every possible opportunity for the outlet of their grain."

Mr. J. R. Boscé, secretary of the Royal Colonial Institute, will spend the months of August and September in visiting the principal cities of Canada, with a special view to the formation of local branches, and the enlistment of new fellows. A deputation representing the Institute will attend the inauguration of the Halifax Memorial Tower on August 15, when the ceremony will be performed by H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught.

The new Emperor of Japan announces that he will administer the affairs of the country "under the protection of our Imperial ancestors, and under the provisions of the constitution." But what he means is that he will give the Japanese government and see that they have plenty of Dreadnoughts to pay for, and a whacking big army in order to meet the needs of the better half of Manchuria and the respect of the other fighting nations.

An interview with Mr. Burton-Stewart, vice-president of the Norton Griffiths Company, which is published this morning will be read with no little interest. It indicates that the forward movement in St. John is developing rapidly and that the great steel project referred to some time ago is likely to see the light. There is a definite word, too, about the work to be done at Courtenay Bay this year and next—and what is said is of a most encouraging character.

A few head lines from the Halifax Herald:

"FOUR YEARS TO COME IMMIGRATION TRAFFIC MUST BE HALTED BY NEGLECT."

"Those Who Saw in Their Mind's Eye a Splendid New Million-Dollar Pier on the Shores of Halifax Harbor, By the First of December of This Year, Must Awake to a Realization That It Was but a Mercurial Dream."

The London Daily Mail addresses the British Premier and the First Lord of the Admiralty to come to Canada in a Dreadnought and land at Quebec. Mr. Borden also may find it necessary to speak to Mr. Borden about this matter. Aside from that, such a visit would look like a theatrical attempt to hurry Canada into some particular form of contribution, and that is not necessary. Canada intends to carry its share of the burden of Imperial defence so soon as the politicians formulate some reasonable plan by which this thing can be done.

Several Canadian newspapers have been directing attention to the fact that the senior Conservative journal, the Montreal Gazette, is not very enthusiastic over Mr. Borden's London speeches in regard to the navy. The Montreal Star has appealed to the Gazette to become more warlike, but without result. This is the paragraph in the Gazette which has been causing Conservatives uneasiness:

"The Manchester Guardian, which may be counted as the leading paper in England outside of London, deprecates what it calls the note of alarm in Mr. Winston Churchill's new speech and urges instead of the government's course a constructive policy of friendship with Germany without the sacrifice of the friendship of any other country. This view, it can be believed, will be more strongly asserted, as the sober part of England's people find their voices. It is not in the nature of things that Englishmen should either shrink at the thought of war or that they should without cause seek war with a power with whom their country has no real cause of quarrel. Evidently the wise people in the United Kingdom are seeing that there is need for the restoration of statesmen to the care of the Empire's affairs."

FATHER KLAUDER IS DEAD IN ANNAPOLIS

Many in St. John, particularly of the cathedral and St. Peter's parishes, will be sorry to learn of the death of Rev. Francis E. Klauer, C. S. R., which occurred in Annapolis (Md.) on last Thursday. Word of his death was received by His Lordship Bishop Casey last evening. Father Klauer was attached to St. Mary's church, Annapolis. Ten years ago he was in St. John in charge of a very successful mission conducted in the cathedral. Associated with him were Rev. Fathers Parr and Hamel. It is thought that Father Klauer's death must have been sudden.

ABE MARTIN

It's too bad poets have 'er born. Some fellers 'll take anything but a joke.