

The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1890.
A morning newspaper published every day in the year by The World Newspaper Company of Toronto, Limited.
W. J. Maclean, Managing Director.
WORLD BUILDING, TORONTO.
NO. 40 WEST RICHMOND STREET.
Telephone Calls:
Main 5335—Private exchange connecting all departments.
Branch Office—40 South McNab Street, Hamilton.
Telephone Regent 1946.
Daily World—2c per copy; delivered, 50c per month, \$1.35 for 3 months, \$2.50 for 6 months, \$5.00 per year in advance; or \$4.00 per year, 40c per month, by mail in Canada (except Toronto), United Kingdom, United States and Mexico.
Sunday World—5c per copy, \$2.50 per year, by mail.
To Foreign Countries, postage extra.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 3.

Still Pleading for the Grand Trunk!

The Toronto Globe and The Montreal Gazette are still both fighting for the Grand Trunk. The Gazette says it shouldn't be taken over at all; that a further advance of seven million dollars be given it; that no demand ever be made that it fulfill obligations signed when it induced the Canadian government to spend half a billion of money on a transcontinental road. Let the poor old road be freed from its commitments in regard to the Grand Trunk Pacific and Transcontinental; give it some more money, and then let the old Grand Trunk have a chance to get on its feet again. That is the best The Gazette has to offer.

The Toronto Globe, while stepping down its demand for a large payment to the Grand Trunk for turning over its line in consideration of the default on account of the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Transcontinental, says that the Grand Trunk system must be turned over to the nation "at a price that will permit of its operation at a profit," and eventually liquidate the huge debt burdens accrued by the adventures in the Transcontinental of the late Charles M. Hays. It also says that in case of any further default of the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Grand Trunk must be taken over even if the question of compensation has to be left for a future occasion.

But in any case The Globe is still out for something being paid to the Grand Trunk. This seems to be the main part of its discourse in all the articles it has written for many months now on the subject. The World would think that the main topic of its discourses ought to be the fact of the enormous default of the Grand Trunk to the people of Canada, and that when its owners signed the agreement they signed with full knowledge that if they went into default they would have to take the consequences that any other person does who gives a mortgage. It will be time enough to talk of some consideration for the Grand Trunk shareholders after they have admitted default, confessed inability to pay and asked for clemency. Up to the last minute they have defied the people of Canada, on whom they have unloaded a debt of half a billion of money.

The city article of The London Sunday Observer of March 16 is also very much astray in regard to the Grand Trunk, because it in substance says that the Grand Trunk finds itself in its present difficulties "for no fault of its own." Now this is plain misstatement. The Grand Trunk went into the matter of its own accord, asked parliament to build the road for it and to guarantee its bonds and framed up the whole proposition. It is too late in the day to plead that the man who gives a mortgage gives it "for no fault of his own." This plea of the Grand Trunk really damages its shareholders and heads off any claim they might make for clemency.

Check Militarism in Canada.

Sir Henry Pellatt, who has had an association with the militia of Canada for nearly half a century, is taken to be commended on the stand he has taken to prevent unnecessary militarism in Canada. This country has always shown ability to take care of itself against invaders; and when the occasion arose to take full share of responsibility in military matters as part of the British empire, Britishers are natural born soldiers, and the recent great conflict has demonstrated that civilian Canadians can be put in the battle front with short preparation. What Canada has had and what it needs is the services of such men as Sir Henry Pellatt, who have made a hobby of peace-time soldiering, to form a substantial nucleus for the more stern business of war, should occasion arise. The government owes it to Toronto to see that the present and perhaps new militia units are properly housed and outfitted, and this involves more than one armory; but let us cut out any attempt to imitate the Germans by fastening a military service incubus on the neck of every man.

The skeleton or frame work of an army such as has carried Canada thru this far war surely do for the coming days when all civilized nations are exerting their efforts to put a check on militarism.

The United Farmers' Organ.

The Farmers' Sun is the name of the reorganized Weekly Sun, which made its appearance yesterday as the official organ of the United Farmers of Ontario. W. D. Gregory, on behalf of The Weekly Sun, publishes a valedictory, and Colonel Fraser, president of the Farmers' Publishing Company, which is the new proprietor, signs a

word of greeting as an introduction to the new venture.

Colonel Fraser says the paper will support the farmers' platform as ratified by the Canadian Council of Agriculture and any policy for Ontario defined by the provincial organization of the U.F.O.

The Farmers' Sun, in its new shape, demands the repeal of the war time elections act and all the restrictions therein contained and a return to the old-time method of parliamentary elections.

"Verboden" Regulations for "Movies."

It is reported that Ontario is to follow the example of Quebec in making the picture houses taboo for boys and girls under 15, and perhaps a year or two older.

There will be little public sympathy with the present suggestion. If the pictures are not good enough for lads and lassies of fifteen to see they should be closed up altogether. This is a matter for censorship, rather than of exclusion from the performances. The one reform that is required in the houses as a rule, that is the smaller houses, is better ventilation and more fresh air.

Except for this the average boy or girl would be much better in the moving picture house than on the street. There is little in the pictures that will anticipate what he does not already know, and children that become acquainted with the seamy side of life before they actually have to plunge into it do not as a rule suffer from the experience.

It is contended by some that an increase in the statistics of juvenile crime was to be attributed to the "movies." There are several reasons for an apparent increase and one or two for a possible real increase. More attention is being paid to the question. More prisoners are being rounded up than formerly. It is on a par with a statement made by some wiseacre in a letter to the newspapers recently when running down the health department; he said that there was actually more tuberculosis now than there had been before the proper precautions were taken.

This "increase" in tuberculosis was simply due to the greater efficiency of the system in discovering the sick and ailing and getting them on record for attention by the authorities. Tuberculosis is less, but knowledge about it is more.

The greatest cause of real increase in juvenile crime in Toronto by all odds, is Judge Boyd's court if this institution were investigated. But the war has undoubtedly increased the freedom and the lack of restraint on children. It has taught them to be independent, and the vast sums earned by munitioners has led to more pocket money than was wholesome for the ordinary child. It was more profitably spent in the "movie" probably than anywhere.

By making things "verboden" we are beginning at the wrong end. We do not want the German principle established here and our children brought up in servility to officialism. It is our business to protect both adults and children from debasing influences. We should not license degrading performances to begin with. The censorship should see to that. The surroundings of all amusement houses ought to be safe for children.

If these conditions are right, as they ought to be, and as the moving picture industry we believe wishes it to be, the idea of raising the age of exclusion for children any higher is ill-considered and inadvisable.

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The World will gladly print under this heading letters written by our readers, dealing with current topics. As space is limited they must not be longer than 200 words and written on one side of the paper only.

EARLY CLOSING OF STORES.

Editor World: I cannot see why all the stores in Toronto should be kept open to 10 and 11 o'clock at night to accommodate a few drowsies. Nine out of every ten people who come into my store after 7 o'clock could easily purchase the few things they buy before 7 o'clock, but knowing they can purchase any time they wish they don't bother, and as all trades in the city are getting shorter hours I don't see any need for stores to work after 7 o'clock. There are a good number of fruit stores who hang on all hours, afraid the other fellow will get ahead of him a nickel or two. There are about 50 stores who stay open from Dundas and Roncesvalles, down Roncesvalles and along Queen to the church which had no roof a few years ago, and I honestly believe one store could do all the trade the lot of them do after 7 o'clock.

A Grocer for 20 Years.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.
(Copyright, 1919, by The McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

ALONGSIDE.

Whatever things my ways be, I'll seize what joys lie by my side. Nor risk the loss that none can win in bliss uncertain further on. Thus shall each day provide its share Of joyousness to ease my care. And if some dawn shall be all gray, And the hoarded light of Yesterday I'll use to brighten with its glow The path beset with present woe.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



Ida re the Whiskey Investigation

By IDA L. WEBSTER.

Once again the meeting of the police commissioners went by and still a verdict in the whiskey affair was not made public. This trip, we understand, the reason given was that of Judge Winchester's illness. The same cause was used a week ago.

If you will remember it was not possible for a decision to be reached during the first part of the investigation, or rather, right after the fact had been disclosed, because his word, the mayor had not had a chance to read the evidence. Thomas L. Church was in the room, as was the other members of the commission, as well as the chief of the department; he said that there was actually more tuberculosis now than there had been before the proper precautions were taken.

Now, you know that if there is one thing which "Tommy" does well it is merely to have it in the room, or perhaps we should say, as everyone else should have.

There is rarely a day passes that some civilian officer is not hauled up before one of the magistrates and fined the usual "203," with oftentimes a fine of \$100 added to it. And all that is because the people are found with it in their possession or they are found to be selling it. In the cases of the police, the evidence was given by the police, and the evidence was given by the police, and the evidence was given by the police.

In the Pape avenue case the whiskey was the property of the government, because it had been collected and was being held in custody until such time as it would be removed to the parliament buildings or wherever it is now kept, pending the time when it is sent to the vendors to be resold at a fabulous price. The offence, therefore, was the giving away and receiving of something which belonged to the government and which could not have been for sale unless a long roundabout method had been pursued, that is legally.

It is all very well for this one or that one to say that there is nothing to be done, but the finding of the police commissioners could not have been made public before this. They owe that much to the citizens at least. And not only that but there is not the slightest doubt but what this same statement will be called for in the legislature by one of the members. So why keep things so dark?

Certainly it is too bad to have to keep "harping" on any one subject, but until we hear the finding, it is going to be our painful duty to keep right on harping this one. And that goes even though it is a tough one, and these hard times, but duty must be done and we are here to do it; so expect another essay if there is nothing doing next week.

Turning to Canada, Sir Thomas lauded the mergers in recent years by which the Royal Bank had absorbed the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Nova Scotia, but he took advantage of the occasion to demand amalgamation of the Bank of Ottawa with the Bank of Nova Scotia. The banks in question had few overlapping branches. They competed only at seven points in Canada and at all these points a number of other banks had already established branches. Each bank, therefore, was a complement to the other. Never in his experience had he known of a bank merger to which there could be so little objection.

The finance minister spoke to a resolution proposed by Hon. R. Leacock calling for a copy of the correspondence and other data in connection with all bank mergers since October, 1911. The minister might well have confined his remarks to the amalgamation of the Bank of Ottawa with the Bank of Nova Scotia, but he took advantage of the occasion to demand amalgamation of the Bank of Ottawa with the Bank of Nova Scotia.

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Mr. C. R. Harrison, Unionist member for Nipissing, made out a strong case for the government going ahead with the canalization of the French river be-

THE DAY AT OTTAWA

By TOM KING

Ottawa, April 2.—Sir Thomas White in the house of commons this afternoon made a good defence of the recent merger by which the Bank of Nova Scotia absorbed the Bank of Ottawa. He said the Bank of Ottawa was a sound and well-managed institution which admittedly served a rather limited constituency. Thru its various branches it gathered deposits to a large amount from the Ottawa valley and surrounding districts. Unfortunately it had not expanded as other large banks had done; with the result that its deposits increased out of proportion to its discounts. That the depositors of the bank brought in more money than the bank needed for the accommodation of its customers. The bank was, therefore, compelled to invest considerable sums of money in high grade securities which would have been better employed in stimulating the commercial business of the country.

This, said Sir Thomas, brought the Bank of Ottawa to the horns of a dilemma. It must either establish a number of branches in the west, or have its business taken over by a stronger bank with more extensive connections. Personally he thought the directors of the bank had acted wisely in amalgamating the Bank of Ottawa with the Bank of Nova Scotia. The banks in question had few overlapping branches. They competed only at seven points in Canada and at all these points a number of other banks had already established branches. Each bank, therefore, was a complement to the other. Never in his experience had he known of a bank merger to which there could be so little objection.

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THE PROMOTER'S WIFE

By JANE PHELPS.

Barbara is Enlightened as to Her Husband's Schemes.

CHAPTER XLIX.
After that they talked more quietly, I had to listen very closely to catch anything of what they were saying. But they seemed to be arguing. Neil spoke more loudly than the other men and I would occasionally catch a sentence.

"Others do the same thing," was one. "Why shouldn't I make a little money selling shares in oil lands as well as other men?" was another. Then: "You know as well as I do that oil has been found on that tract. Where it has been found once and so near, it is a good gambling chance it may be found on my land."

"Do you own that land?" It was Frederick who asked the question. "I have an option on it." Just then there was a scraping of chairs and I hurriedly abandoned my position and scurried upstairs.

What did it all mean? Surely, as he had said, Neil had as much right to make money as other men. But he had been found, wasn't he also justified in thinking that it would again be found on land evidently so near other wells? Yet Mr. Frederick seemed to think otherwise—had even talked of "jail." I shuddered as I recalled his words:

"I tell you, Forbes, they could put you in jail for what you have done. Then: 'For God's sake, man, stop it!' Would a man of his (Frederick's) type, say such a thing without having a good reason or what he thought one? I felt sure he was speaking honestly, yet like many other wives I gave Neil credit for being a better businessman than I. He was a bit more about making money than other men. 'Mr. Frederick didn't understand.' I thought as I understood. Neil would be up soon and he hated to see me sitting up so late, especially since baby came.

It was nearly an hour later when Neil came upstairs. I was awake and so sat up in bed to talk with him while he undressed.

"What in the world were you men quarrelling about?" I asked. "We weren't quarrelling."

"You talked awfully loud."

"Who is Mr. Black?"

"One of the company. How did you know he was here?"

"I heard the name when I passed the door."

Neil looked sharply at me but said nothing. At first I was inclined to tell him what I had heard, but Mr. Frederick had just said. Then I looked at him and I just couldn't. I could not insult him by repeating what I had overheard. He looked so far removed from a man who would do anything the least bit crooked that I felt myself blush and was glad of the half-light so that he would not see it.

"What else did you hear?" The question was so unexpected I started. Should I tell him? He himself had given me the opportunity. Then once more as I looked at him I found it impossible to accuse him of anything wrong and hastily prevaricated: "I came upstairs to you know, so while I heard talking, it was impossible to tell what you were saying."

"That means that you tried."

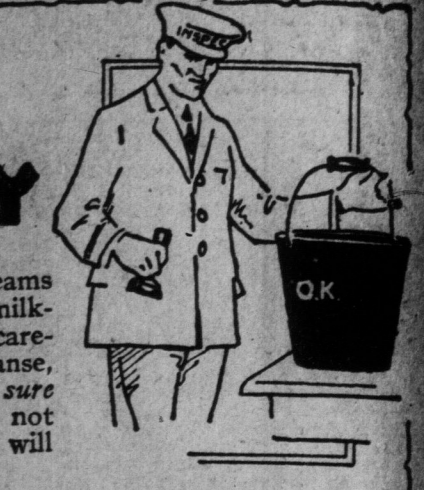
"I did not stop on the stairs, if that is what you mean. I came directly up. Again I had evaded the truth. 'Well, we had it hot and heavy. Frederick is an old crank. He is about a thousand years behind the times in his business methods. This is a hustling age, I can tell you, and you have got to get ahead of the other fellow or he will get ahead of you as sure as shooting.'

My uneasiness returned. Get ahead of the other fellow. It was such a thing as that which worried me. "But, to get ahead of the other fellow, as you say, you don't have to do anything wrong. I made the statement instead of asking a question. No, of course not. What put that notion in your head?" His tone was impatient for the first time.

"You did, by what you said."

"Don't be silly. Just because I tell you a man has to be wide-awake nowadays to get on, you jump to the conclusion that he must do something wrong if he is to succeed. Do be broad-minded enough to think new methods as good as old and to let your husband run the financial end of the family without your interference."

Tomorrow—Barbara Objects to Entertaining Neil's Business Associates.



IMPORTANT CHANGES INLAND REVENUE ACT

Federal Government Proposes New Provisions for Making of Alcohol.

Ottawa, April 2.—A number of important amendments to the inland revenue act have been given notice by Hon. J. D. Reid, acting minister of customs. It is proposed to enact new provisions governing the manufacture in Canada of alcohol without the admixture of any denaturants and denatured alcohol, intended for use in the arts and industries or for fuel, light and power purposes, with restrictions as to the place of manufacture, sale, delivery and transport.

Another proposed amendment provides that no less quantity than five thousand gallons shall be entered for export, no less quantity than two thousand gallons shall be ex-warehoused by one entry.

Acetic Acid Duty.
It is proposed to place an excise duty upon acetic acid, produced in Canada by the destructive distillation of wood or by any other process. The duty will be four per cent of every gallon of six per centum acid and it shall apply in similar proportion for any greater or less strength.

Under prescribed conditions there is to be a remission of duty on molasses used in the manufacture of vinegar and the department will be empowered to authorize the preparation of tobacco and cigars in packages of such size as may be advisable.

REPORT DISAPPEARANCE ST. CATHARINES WOMAN

Miss Gladys Kimberly, Employee of Bank, Thought to Have Slipped During Fit of Depression.

St. Catharines, April 2.—The police have been called upon to solve the mysterious disappearance of Miss Gladys Kimberly, twin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kimberly, Salina street, who has been missing from her home since last night under conditions that point to suicide. Her body and coat were found this morning on the bank of the old canal near the macaroni factory at the foot of Salina street.

Miss Kimberly, who was employed in a local banking institution, had been in very bad health for some time and it is thought that she probably drowned herself during a period of depression.

MONTREALERS FAVOR USE OF BEER AND WINE

"Committee of Moderation" Formed With Many Prominent Men Included in Membership.

Montreal, April 2.—A "committee of moderation" in favor of the use of beer and wine, was formed yesterday with many prominent men in its membership. The object of putting before the electorate the arguments for a moderate use of beer and wine, and the percentage of alcohol fixed by the provincial government.

Honorary members of the committee are: Lord Shaughnessy, Sir Alexander Lacoste, ex-chief justice of the court; appeals; Hon. A. O. David, Mr. J. T. Foster, president of the Trades and Labor Council.

Col. A. H. Todd Celebrates Fifty Years in Federal Library

Ottawa, April 2.—Col. Hamlyn Todd, chief clerk of the parliamentary library, yesterday celebrated the 50th anniversary of his entry into the employ of the government. Col. Todd, who is 68 years of age, celebrated the anniversary by a thirty-mile walk from Ottawa to Kingston, returning by way of Aylmer.

Three Hundred U. S. Editors To Tour Prairie Provinces

Winipeg, April 2.—J. Bruce Walker, director of publicity for the department of immigration, announced today that the prairie provinces will be visited during the coming summer by the most influential and largest party of United States editors who have ever come up from the south. It is said that there will be three hundred in the party, and that every state in the union will be represented.

FINNISH GOVERNMENT RESIGNS

Copenhagen, April 2.—The Finnish government has resigned in consequence of its defeat at the recent elections, it is announced in a despatch received today from Helsinki.