

STIRRING SPEECH IN DOMINION HOUSE

Continued from page 14.
to these guarantees he purposes giving us with regard to a future peace forevermore. I like the sound of that; it is a great and glorious phrase: glorious peace forevermore, and no more great wars.
Mr. Burnham: Is that the peace that passeth all understanding?
Mr. Cocksbutt: The hon. gentleman is getting up into the seventh heaven; I was dealing with the present war. I say that the peace which has been proposed is a Utopian idea that has never been established in the world, and I think that President Wilson will have been long forgotten before it is established. Theodore Roosevelt reminds him of one fact, in this article that I have read, when he talks about guarantees for the future. He says he is ready to join every one of the nations in a guarantee for future peace for all time. That sounds mighty big and mighty good; but unfortunately Theodore Roosevelt calls his attention to the fact that the United States is one of the signatories to the Treaty of the Hague and to the neutrality of Belgium; and if their guarantees for the future do not prove to be more valuable than their guarantees of the past, I would not advise anybody to put much faith in them.
The Peace Talk.

My friend beside me (Mr. Middlebro) says that theirs is the first signature with regards to the neutrality of Belgium—the very first signature. Have they now, after two years of war, raised one single protest against anything that Germany has done either in Belgium or in northern France? Outrages that are unspeakable have been committed by the enemy, but I have yet to hear that President Wilson, from his high seat, has ever raised his voice or made one protest to Germany with regard to the outrages which have been inflicted on these people in Europe—and that the signatories of the neutrality of Belgium! They appear to think that pen and ink is all that is necessary to use. President Wilson is evidently a thorough believer in the idea that the pen is mightier than the sword; but I think that in a war like this he will find, if he gets on the battlefields of Europe, that the sword is still supreme, and that the pen which may be very mighty in the office of the President of the United States will not cut much of a figure on the battlefield. This is a war of iron and blood; there are more men engaged in war since the world began. Our Finance Minister made some time ago an estimate that if all the wars of all the ages were added together they would not make a war of the size of this war. I have shown you that the casualties have run up to nearly 20,000,000, and there are perhaps 20,000,000 of men in the field at present. I tell you that in my judgment all this talk about peace, and all this talk about the enemy being starved to death, is, at the present time, simply moonshine, and is calculated to stop us in the enterprise of getting our recruits in line and continuing the war. We should not pay any attention to such talk, but should prepare to go on with the work and to fill up the ranks. We are a long way from the present position, and we cannot afford to take any chances with regard to this war. All we have is at stake. I have been asked many times what I thought we should do after the war. I have been asked by newspapers to give my opinion as a business man as to what I think is going to happen in every case I have been obliged to say that in my judgment there is only one question for me to think about at this time, and that is the winning of this war and the relieving of the world from the terrible load that it is carrying of the tyrant's heel that is simply pressing on the neck of every nation, big and little, that he can put his foot upon, and grinding out their life, their liberty and all that stands for right. I say there is but the one question. To talk today of peace and what will be done after the conclusion of the war is simply to ignore the conditions with which we are confronted at this moment. If I may for a moment, for illustration, place myself in the position of my children, all my possessions, including the heirlooms that I have inherited from a long line of ancestors, were in my house, and my house was on fire, while I and all my friends were straining every nerve and using every means at our disposal to extinguish the fire, some foolish man from the street rushed in and said to me: "I have a plan for a new house for you, what do you think of this? If I had the strength, I would chuck him out of the front door as fast as he came in—that would be his answer. We must know what we are going to have left after this war is over before we can chalk out any plans, and the winning of the war is the first necessity of the case. We will have no land to give away if we do not beat out the enemy; we will have no invitations to send overseas for people to come from here, there and everywhere, from all quarters of the earth, if we let ourselves go down under the heel of the enemy under that condition these would all be his possessions, and we would be taxed for generations to come to pay an enormous indemnity, which some of our enemies have already set at a figure as high as twelve to fifteen billions of dollars. We know the way the enemy have taxed Belgium and the allies of northern France and Serbia and Rumania. Everything movable in the way of valuables, everything in the way of art, everything that can be removed has been removed and in addition to moved and in taxes have been imposed on all the towns and cities of which they have obtained possession. All that has already taken place.

Recruiting.
Now are we going to let the enemy beat us out? Because that is what it means if we stall now, and



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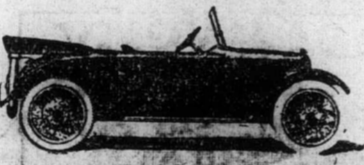
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For herein we set forth the achievement toward which the Willys-Overland organization has aimed for the last eight years.
This achievement in a word is the completion of the gigantic Willys-Overland organization to a point where a complete line of automobiles can be made and marketed under one head.
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All of which means a substantial saving for you on the next car you buy.
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Overland Light Four Models



Roadster, 104-in. wheelbase . . . \$ 910
Touring, 106-in. wheelbase . . . \$ 980
Sport Model—Country Club—(Illustrated) \$1050

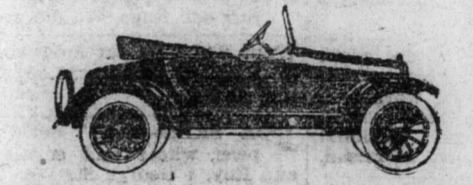
Overland Big Four Models



Roadster, 112-in. wheelbase . . . \$1170
Touring, 112-in. wheelbase—(Illustrated) \$1190
(See also Closed Cars)

Willys-Overland, Ltd.
Head Office and Works
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Overland Light Six Models



Roadster, 116-in. wheelbase—(Illustrated) \$1300
Touring, 116-in. wheelbase . . . \$1380
(See also Closed Cars)

Willys-Knight 7 Passenger Models



Four Overland Touring, 121-in. wheelbase \$1800
Eight Overland, 125-in. wheelbase—(Illustrated) \$2730
(See also Closed Cars)

Overland and Willys-Knight Closed Cars



Overland Big Four Coupe, 112-in. wheelbase \$1750
Overland Big Four Sedan, 112-in. wheelbase \$2090
Overland Light Six Coupe, 116-in. wheelbase \$1940
Overland Light Six Sedan, 116-in. wheelbase \$2220
(Illustrated)
Willys-Knight Four Coupe, 114-in. wheelbase \$2370
Willys-Knight Four Sedan, 121-in. wheelbase \$2730
Willys-Knight Four Limousine, 121-in. wheelbase \$2730
All prices f. o. b. Toronto

We seem to have become somewhat stalled. I am sorry to say it; I am sorry to confess it, but recruiting is today almost dead. The feeling that was rampant a year ago with regard to enlisting exists no more, and we have not done our part, and we have not won the war. Great Britain is training every nerve. There they have reconstructed two governments already, and men, no matter how good they were, such as Asquith and Sir Edward Grey, have been put out of power. The name of Lloyd George is on the lips of every man today, and we hear such expressions as: Here is a victory government and a victory loan. We want a victory government and a victory loan. I believe that our Government is doing everything possible, but if anything can be done to strengthen their hands, let us all do it. If anything can be given to increase their resources for carrying on the war successfully, let us all give it, let us not hang back, because there will be no place of repentance found though they seek it, and we are heartily with them. I am referring now to the control of food prices. This is carried on in almost every country that is at war. I do not know of any country except Canada that has not done something along that line; if anybody does know of such a country I should like him to mention it. Every country has been obliged to do it. I am not sure that the Minister of Labour (Mr. Crothers) has not committed himself somewhat along that line. At any rate, a good many of the people whose interests he looks after have done so, and I have received documents from several labour organizations with whom the pinch in regard to food is a live question now. The pinch is being felt in some of our cities and towns. And this is not a question in relation to food alone. If clothing is too high I am quite prepared to have the Government take any measures they may think necessary to control the prices, during war time. Let me mention one item, one that appeals to the heart of every Irishman particularly, as well as to us all—potatoes. The situation in regard to potatoes seems to have become very acute not only in Canada, but throughout the world. Prices that were never before dreamed of are being obtained for potatoes in these days. I am sorry that my hon. friend from Carleton (Mr. Carvell) is not here to tell us about the New Brunswick potatoes. An hon. member: He is here.
Mr. Cocksbutt: We have had New Brunswick potatoes in the district from which I come for the first time in our history, and I am sorry to say that the people of New Brunswick are not sending the best they have. If they are, then their best are not so good as the potatoes we can grow in Ontario.
Hon. Mr. Hazen: Perhaps my hon. friend is prejudiced.
Mr. Cocksbutt: I may be pre-

judiced, but fifteen bags of New Brunswick potatoes were got recently for a small Home of which I happen to be chairman. They looked nice and red and rosy, and appeared to be perfectly sound, but the matron telephoned me the other day that she regretted to report that about half of the potatoes were bad. I only mention potatoes as one item, but it is a big item in the working-man's daily food, and I think that, if the Government could make a few suggestions to our friends who sell potatoes that two dollars, or two and a half dollars per bag is too high a price, they might have some effect. I for one believe that if we were to prevent the export of potatoes the same as every other item necessary we could control the prices. We are a food exporting country, and are in exactly the opposite position from that of Great Britain, which is a food importing country. She produces very much less than she requires for the people, she grows only from thirty-five to forty per cent of her requirements, while we in Canada grow far more than we require. All we have to do to regulate prices is to prevent too much of our food going out of the country.
Mr. Carvell: What about the home market that we heard so much about some years ago?
Mr. Cocksbutt: I am finding fault because you are not supplying potatoes at a reasonable price. You are supplying them at two and a half dollars a bag from New Brunswick, and that price is too high.
Mr. Pugsley: My hon. friend talks about the Government taking charge of potatoes and regulating the prices which the farmers would get, would he also approve of the Government taking charge of the flour mills of the country so as to regulate the price of flour?
To Prevent Export When Necessary.
Mr. Cocksbutt: My idea is, as I set it forth in a resolution over eighteen months ago, that whenever any of the necessities of life are unduly advanced in price either by speculation, or by the holding of immense quantities, the Government should say that no export should take place of any of these articles until such and such a price is reached. It has been done in Australia; it is being done there now. It has been done in India, and in Great Britain, and in other countries of Europe. There the prices of food are being controlled by government. It is a proper proposition, and the workmen in Western Ontario are very much concerned about it at present. I have had several communications in that regard. The Government may be a little hesitant; it is a drastic measure, but in war time you cannot expect everything to go on the same as in peace times. We are at war, and we must adopt war measures. If it is necessary to prevent exports, we must take the necessary action. What ever is necessary ought to be done, because the winning of the war should be our first object. The Government have interfered a little, but only a little, with exports. Let me give one example, the exportation of electricity. That is a matter which we would like to see a little further in our section of the country. The hon. member for Wentworth (Mr. G. C. Wilson) referred to that. About ten years ago I delivered a speech in this House on this very question. That was in May, 1906. I think, and you may find it by reference to Hansard. A full discussion took place with regard to the exportation of electricity from Niagara

to the United States and the handing of the power from Niagara Falls. We in Western Ontario have been denied the necessary power because the Americans are getting what ought to be coming to Ontario. That is not as it should be. The power is wanted in the munition factories, and in other ways. The Government have a regulation; they issue licenses from time to time, and these are regulated from the Department of Inland Revenue. They are within their rights in doing that. This Government have the power to regulate the export of electricity, and my contention is that it would be proper for them and competent for them to exercise that power in regard to other matters. I look for a very acute crisis with regard to some foods in the near future, and particularly with regard to potatoes. Where the farmers in our section of the country are going to get their seed spring is a problem. Many farmers who had from two to three acres of potatoes in our district did not dig enough potatoes to give them the seed, owing to the conditions that prevailed. I live in a part of Canada that grows in normal times an enormous quantity of potatoes for export. Some farmers grow eight or ten acres of potatoes and make an excellent profit at seventy cents or seventy-five cents a bag. This year the price is two and a half dollars a bag, and potatoes are almost unobtainable. What is going to happen in the spring in regard to the seed, I do not know; it cannot be found. I make the suggestion to the Government that they consider the necessity of regulating the export. We have heard a good deal about pulp and paper. I am not sure that

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