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MONDAY MORNING, SEPT. 3.

Labor and the Exhibition.

By common consent the success of the Canadian National Exhibition during the past week has proved that the influence of the war for the past three years have been overborne, and with the present Exhibition the enterprise passes into a new phase of development. It is more Canadian, more popular, altogether on a higher level.

Reports from business interests engaged in the various departments indicate an altogether livelier commercial activity than for years past. One firm stated that their business in the first week was double the total of last year, which was a great improvement on the previous one. Good harvests, plenty of work, have provided good times for Canada, and the Exhibition shows the result.

Today is dedicated to the forces that are mainly responsible for all this abundance and prosperity. "Man goeth forth to his work and to his labor until the evening," says the Psalmist. Today he will spend his toil and take his pleasure in the fruits of his handiwork.

Our economists remind us that all the capital in the world is replaceable every year by the toil of man's hands, and it is an inspiring thought for all ranks of society to know that the potentiality exists in man's effort. In our developing democracy, with its broader and deeper intelligence, labor is being yielded a juster place in the social economy, and a truer value is being placed upon its priceless contribution.

More and more as labor gains intelligence it will come into the possession of power—social and political power. "It is excellent to have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant," and if labor preserves its humanity and governs its head by its heart, the glory of the empires of the past will wax dim before the light and the beauty of a society in which order and effort find their perfect balance.

Taxing Public Utilities.

One of the grievances that the anti-public ownership corporations cherish is the failure of the government to tax public utilities. The Financial Times in an article, "The Pampered Pet," once more ventilates this particular grievance against what it calls "the craze for public ownership." What would be thought of one who talked of "the craze for private ownership?" The Financial Times is years behind the times, either financial or secular, or it would not approach the subject with such manifest prejudice.

The Times speaks of the public ownership advocates as "forms of enterprise," which indicates another error of the fault of the public utilities, a one-sided point of view. Public utilities are not "forms of enterprise" in the commercial sense. They are essential factors in the social and national economy. There is nothing of a speculative character about them. They are not run for profit, and it is out of profits that all taxes theoretically come. The one point upon which the Financial Times could rest any reasonable argument is the allegation that they are "carrying on a competitive business." This, however, is entirely the fault of the private corporations. In practically every case there have been offers to take over the private plant at reasonable rates. In Toronto, especially, the corporations have no right to complain of competition. They have refused all offers made to them, and declined to negotiate terms of purchase on any reasonable basis. Moreover they have done this and continued to do this on a speculative basis, grounded on their own expressed conviction that public utility activities could never be successfully carried on. Most of us remember the doleful prophecies of 1908 when engineers and experts of all kinds were engaged to give opinions and write letters showing the impossibility of the Hydro-Electric Commission ever arriving at success. We were told that 10,000 horse-power was the utmost limit of the consumption of the Hydro-Electric Commission could ever expect to use. The Financial Times and its clientele do not seem to have learned anything in the last twelve years, or know any more than when they refused \$125 a share for Toronto Electric Light.

Private ownership of public utilities, since the announcement of a public ownership policy in Ontario, which goes back thirty years, is the rankest kind of speculation. The Financial Times might ponder over that fact. If there be any competition it is the private corporations that are responsible for it.

The taxation of public utilities has never been a disputed question. To tax a public utility is a government service is merely to multiply book-keeping. As well leave of taxing the army and the navy. Every regiment

and every battalions under The Financial Times theory should contribute income tax to the national exchequer. The police force ought to be taxed also, if we are to honor The Financial Times' idea of consistency.

If this is too grotesque a suggestion for The Financial Times, let us consider the postoffice, which is a public utility in the standard sense, which does not serve all the public, but merely those like the Hydro-Electric Commission, who patronize it; which is supported by the taxes of all the people, nevertheless, and in Canada, at any rate, has not always been as successful in showing profits as the Hydro-Electric Commission. If The Financial Times' views are sound then the postoffice should certainly be taxed on its income. This is a reductio ad absurdum which the most ardent private corporationist can scarcely ignore.

There is one more point, however, which settles the matter. Whatever profits a public utility makes are turned over to the public. There are no profits aimed at, but in order to maintain a status of solvency a nominal profit is usually shown. It is on this fundamental feature of public ownership policy that the case against taxing public utilities may be rested. They seek no profit, there is no watered stock and no superfluous capital, and should profits accrue they are turned over to the public.

When the private corporations cease to water their stock, inflate their capital, give service at cost, and turn over all their profits to the government we shall all be ready to remit their taxes.

Canadian Women Are Loyal.

We publish elsewhere a letter from Mrs. Ormsby protesting against the assertions of a few dames errant that the women of Canada as represented in leading women's organizations are in favor of peace, and by implication against continuing the war and the measures necessary to that end. Mrs. Ormsby does well to place her organization on record. There is no doubt about the loyalty and good sense of the vast majority of Canadian women. Of the dissentients we can only say, when there is so much patriotism, Frisianism, militarism abroad, it is a wonder there are not more misguided people sympathizing with it and active against those who would suppress it. There is no use arguing with such people. They just feel that way and reason guesses them by. Their convictions bear a charmed life in the face of the most deadly facts. What are broken treaties, violated Hague regulations, desolated Belgium, ruined Serbia, and all the horrors that have followed in the train of Germany's forty years' meditated infamy to them? Less than nothing at all. They are convinced that it is all wrong to attempt to stop the Germans in their dastard schemes. We have heard of one woman and her daughter who have resolved that whatever outrage the Germans might attempt upon them or any others they would not lift a finger in self-defence. Such a fatalistic doctrine as this has been the ruin of many nations, notably the Turks, and may be regarded as a reaction from some current theories of religion which are best summed up in the old proverb, "God helps those who help themselves." It is not a comfortable doctrine for those who prefer the supine attitude of non-resistance to war and the other evils that mar life's harmony.

Some of the dames errant are strong for reform in a small and not altogether Quixotic way, but the gigantic effort of war appeals them. There is no one still in them the old-time slave sympathy, which refuses to fight for itself or its nation, not yet having identified itself with the larger fellowship of national life. As Mrs. Ormsby's protest indicates, the women of Canada have entered into that larger life without limitation or restriction. The few who single themselves out by their failure to identify themselves with the efforts of the nation for human liberty and justice only emphasize the devotion of the host that do.

The Price of Bread.

There is some talk of a fourteen-ounce loaf for five cents in the United States, and this would mean seventeen cents for our large loaf of 48 ounces, or say nine cents for a small loaf. We are now paying eleven cents. When we asked the food controller to knock ten per cent. off the price of bread some weeks ago we were asking a moderate reduction.

It would appear from what Sir George Foster has been saying that the Canadian Food Controller is not expected to do anything of his own initiative, but that everything waits for official consultation with the United States controller. If this be so we shall probably have nothing to object to but the delay. It appears strange, however, that the Canadian authorities could not have got into action simultaneously with those of Washington, and in the matter of bread it is just so much more out of the public pocket.

The price of flour depends upon the price of wheat. There is no such ratio between the price of wheat at \$2.20 (or \$2.40) and the price of flour and bread as existed in days before the war. Higher prices are to be expected, but they should only be relatively higher. It seems to us that one function of the food controller would be to preserve this relation between

The War Needs of Canada

THE NEED FOR OPERATION OF INDUSTRIES FOR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT

By Benjamin Apporhp Gould

The questions arising under this caption are closely allied with questions of profiteering, and must be considered both in their relation to financial cost and to promptness and quality of production. This article will deal chiefly with those industries which were already in existence in 1914, and similar questions in regard to new industries which are being created by government control of munition plants is taken up, as they fall into much the same category.

The imperative demand for supplies incident to war have those industries in a position to meet it a strategic position of great power. The government had to get what was needed at once, and the question of cost was of less importance than that of time. It is fair to state that as a whole the Canadian manufacturer responded promptly and patriotically, and made every effort to furnish the requirements with the utmost speed and at reasonable prices. There were, however, a few instances of profiteering and of forcing undue profits out of the needs of the country. It would have been impossible to expect anything different for not all men are patriots, and the history of every war shows that the selfish sinner and the selfish contractor have always existed.

There were undoubtedly a number of cases which were exploitations of the needs of the nation. These scandals have in most instances been hushed up, very properly as it seems to me. No good can come of recognition of what is past and dead, and so long as those responsible for them are not in a position to repeat them more harm than good would come from such exposure as would tend to destroy the confidence of the people in the purity of administration. Worst of all is the attempt to make a political capital out of the inevitable mistakes which any government, no matter how well intentioned, must make when such unprecedented conditions have to be met. The last three years have been singularly free from suggestions that those in authority have profited in pocket by the war, and the wonder is that there has been so little cause for accusation of dishonesty. We must recognize that a great war cannot be carried by the aid of a few profiteers. It is of necessity expensive and extravagant; it seeks destruction of enemy resources more than conservation of our own.

The above considerations do not, however, mean that the best results have been obtained. At the beginning, or that even now, better methods cannot be put in force. The cost of raw material and the manufactured product, and the relation between the farmer and the bread consumer there has been an undue inflation of the price of bread. It is suspected that the miller and the baker between them have explanations to make, and it is the business of the food controller to establish this point.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, 1917.

Extra trains for the accommodation of Exhibition visitors will be run from Toronto as follows on dates shown: September 3rd and 4th, leave Toronto to Union Station 4:30 p.m., Exhibition grounds 4:35 p.m., Sunnyside 4:40 p.m., for Brantford, Paris, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London.

September 3rd, 4th and 6th, leave Exhibition grounds 10:45 a.m., Sunnyside 10:50 p.m., for Port Credit, Oakville, Burlington, Junction, Hamilton, Dundas, Colborne, Lynden, Brantford, Paris, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London.

September 3rd, 4th and 6th, leave Exhibition grounds 11:00 a.m., Sunnyside 11:05 p.m., for Port Credit, Oakville, Burlington, Junction, Hamilton, Dundas, Colborne, Lynden, Brantford, Paris, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London.

September 3rd, 4th and 6th, leave Exhibition grounds 11:10 p.m., for Brantford, Paris, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London.

A crowd of about 25,000 people visited the Exhibition grounds yesterday to attend the concert by the Innes Band. Seventy-three women collectors were present in behalf of the Red Cross Society and the total contribution amounted to about \$700.

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system of accepting the best obtainable quotations without a due investigation of their fairness has in some cases opened the door to collusion and combination, and is an incentive to attempts to assure greater profits than could be obtained from private business.

It is not possible in the great majority of cases for the government to take over and operate the essential industries of the country. A technical knowledge is needed which the government could not supply, and it is evident that those managers who have acquired their knowledge in the pursuit of profit are more likely to be efficient in the management of a business than those who have acquired their knowledge in the management of a public utility.

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It would, however, be a comparatively easy matter to decree that certain plants in the essential industries should be operated by the present management for government account. Every considerable business in Canada has its own accountants and their audits are as a rule fair and full. These audits can easily be made the basis for computing the proper compensation payable to the owners of the plants operated for government account. No manufacturer could justly complain if during the war he be compelled to operate his plant for the government, and to accept a percentage of profit on investment or output. The government would be compensated for the sacrifice of the business, and the owner would be compensated for the sacrifice of the business.

Another great advantage of such operation for government account

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The Toronto World invites correspondence on subjects of current interest. Letters must be short and to the point—not more than 200 words. The editor reserves the right to cut any letters to make them conform to the requirements of space. Names will not be published if the writers wish them withheld, but they must be signed with writer's name and address, to ensure authenticity.

Ontario Citizens' Association for War.

Editor World: On behalf of the women of this province organized under the name of The Ontario Citizens' Association, I ask you to permit me to begin to the end of our association in certain letters emanating from the Ontario Equal Franchise Association and now being organized under the name of The Ontario Citizens' Association.

The league of organization, which Mrs. Prenter or Miss Hughes is said to be associated, has no authority directly or indirectly to speak on behalf of the women of this province in regard to their relation towards the war. They withdrew completely their affiliation with the Ontario Equal Franchise Association in the month of February last, and well knew that the women of Ontario were represented by our organization, were strongly and emphatically opposed to joining in any peace propaganda, either in Canada or in the United States or elsewhere.

The ladies mentioned and every member of our former equal franchise association well know that from the beginning to the end of our association has stood for conscription, and has done everything within its power to help to win the war at all costs and help to win the war within the power of this country. The members of our association have discussed this question on numerous occasions, both publicly and privately, and have passed unanimous votes, again and again, declaring that they were in favor of the Canadian Government and of the military authorities within the power of the women of this country.

The women forming The Ontario Citizens' Association alone have power to speak on behalf of the Ontario Equal Franchise Association, and on their behalf I desire now publicly and emphatically to state that this association has been from the beginning and is now and intends to continue doing all within its power to help our government and our soldiers and our allies to carry on the present conflict until Teutonic barbarism is wholly and finally destroyed.

Mrs. E. E. Ormsby, President.
Toronto, August 29, 1917.

One of the first inmates of the Davies hospital for babies in connection with the Weston Sanatorium, with its nurse.

CHARACTER-MAKING A NATIONAL NEED

Country's Physical Resources Second in Importance to Her Manhood.

THE WAR'S LESSON

Rev. Dr. Ribourg Preaches Labor Day Sermon at St. Alban's.

Rev. Dr. Ribourg preached Sunday morning at St. Alban's Cathedral a Labor Day sermon on "The Transfiguration of Man," showing that the development of material resources by capital and labor should not be an impediment to the production of noble characters. Dr. Ribourg said in part: "The only way to make the country clean and pure is to make clean and pure citizens. Material resources must be developed to the fullest extent for the benefit of the community, but they will be truly beneficial only as they are used for the best, noblest and highest motives, that is in helping to produce the highest type of manhood and citizenship."

"Character in citizenship is the only legacy worthy to be bequeathed to posterity. The whole political, social and educational machinery of the country must be directed to that end, even if this requires many radical and fundamental changes in our methods, whether in the state or in the church. As it is class faces class in sullen distrust. Men have learned to make wealth much faster than they have learned to distribute it justly. Their eyes for profit were keener than their ears for the voice of God and humanity. That has been and is still the great ailment of modern society, and unless we repent we shall perish by that sin. A very far-reaching and profound study of the lines on which our economic and industrial life is to be re-built after the war is an imperative necessity. This may mean an industrial revolution, but revolution let it be if it is to bring about a better type of manhood in the world."

"The ultimate purpose of the life of the church is the making of noble characters. The first need of the church today is the perfection of this as her supreme ideal. She is in danger of losing herself amidst her traditions and the machinery of her organization. This ideal needs to be fixed afresh and irradically in the mind of each member. The church can only recommend herself to this age as she makes the humanitarian ideal her supreme one."

"The church must be the incarnate-

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD BOY DROWNED WHILE BATHING

Body of Victim Found by Mait. Ackroyd After Thirty Minutes' Search.

The body of an unidentified boy, 14 years old, who had drowned while bathing with companions in the bay off John street wharf, was recovered after a half hour's search by Mait. Ackroyd at 2:45 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

News of the accident was given to James Dible of the island pumping station by two small boys who had been swimming with the third. They ran on after saying their companion had drowned to tell the boy's mother before their names could be obtained. The body was taken to the city morgue, where it awaits identification. It was recovered 25 yards from the wharf.

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tion of the Christ spirit on earth, the organized conscience of Christendom. It should be the writer's to awaken to every undeserved suffering, the bravest to speak against every wrong and the strongest to rally the moral forces of the community against everything that threatens the better life among men."

HELD SPECIAL SERVICE IN MEMORY OF SOLDIER
Congregation of Dale Church Remembers Robert McAllister, Who Died in France.

In memory of Robert McAllister, a young member of the congregation, who died while fighting with a Canadian battalion in France, a service was held yesterday morning at Dale Church, Queen street and Bellwoods avenue, when an eloquent tribute was paid the late hero by the pastor, Rev. Oswald J. Smith. The late soldier was a son of Samuel McAllister, an elder of the church, and a well-known civic employee.

During the service letters from Pte. McAllister, written previous to his death, and others from officers and men of the unit to which he was attached, were read, the letters telling how he met his death and of the esteem in which he was held by his comrades.

He was two years at the front and was one of a bombing company. During his term of service he was wounded twice, but on each occasion his life was saved by a pocket testament, the bullets being diverted and causing wounds which soon healed.

In honor of their dead comrade the choir sang "One Sweetly Solenn Thought" and the young man's favorite hymn, while the soloist, Miss Devrie, rendered "He Wipes a Tear From Every Eye."

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