

Journal of Commerce

Published Daily by
The Journal of Commerce Publishing Company,
Limited,
35-45 Alexander Street, Montreal.
Telephones:—Business: Main 2682. Reportorial:
Main 4702.
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Journal of Commerce Offices:
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Telephone Main 7099.
New York Correspondent—C. M. Withington, 44
Broad Street, Telephone 333 Broad.
London, Eng.—W. E. Dowling, 25 Victoria Street,
Westminster, S.W.

Subscription price, \$3.00 per annum.
Single Copies, One Cent.
Advertising rates on application.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915.

No Election - Work for the Two Party Leaders.

The old saying that "no news is good news" finds many illustrations now. Not to mention other cases, the fact that there is no announcement from Ottawa of a dissolution of Parliament may well be regarded as good news. As our readers know, we have all along contended that there is an entire absence of any sound reason for a dissolution of Parliament; and our conviction that there has been so strong that, in face of the admitted efforts of certain influential public men to bring on the election, and in the face of the undisputed arrangements for an election campaign, we have refused to believe that there will be a dissolution now or in the early future. The Cabinet has been sitting at Ottawa. Journals in close relation with the ministers have stated the question of the election is the foremost one for consideration. The early dissolution of Parliament has been treated by many papers as a settled thing; the only question to be considered being the choice of an election date. All these things have certainly pointed strongly towards an early election. Nevertheless, we have refused to believe that the election is coming, and we refuse now.

Apart from a few people who consider the question only from the point of view of party, there has been no demand for an election. The sober-minded citizens of the country have had no sympathy with the movement. Such citizens are too often slow to give expression to their views. We are glad to find that they are now speaking out. We know that many of these men who see the matter in precisely the same light as we do are taking steps, in private communications to ministers, to strongly advise against the dissolution of Parliament. Even in the party press we see some signs of an awakening to the unwisdom of what is proposed. The single call from Montreal favoring an election has come from a party or gazette. Against that may be placed the resolution just adopted by the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade, a body largely composed of citizens of Conservative tendency. The Council have summed up the reasons against an election at this time in terms which we are sure will have the approval of the vast majority of the people of Canada of all shades of politics:

"Resolved—That the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade notes with regret that the advisability of asking that the present Parliament be forthwith dissolved is being discussed.

"That the holding of a general election at this unprecedented time of stress, when this Dominion, in common with the mother country and other countries of the Empire, is engaged in strenuous warfare against a powerful enemy, and when Canada should be a unit in directing its energies towards providing men and supplies for the war, requirements of the Empire, would, in the opinion of the Council, be most deleterious both from a patriotic and business standpoint;

"That the political strife, inseparable from the holding of a general election, might at this time occasion such division of opinion as would seriously interfere with the provision of the assistance that all Canadians are so anxious to give towards securing victory for the Empire and its allies, and, further, that the business of the country, now showing signs of recovery from a period of depression, would receive a serious setback by the holding of a general election."

The elements that are calling for a dissolution do not yield readily to the voice of independent public opinion. Reasons for an election, entirely of a party character, will no doubt still be advanced, and they may for the moment have influence upon men who are hesitating as to the line they should take. However, we regard the fight concerning the early holding of the election as about over. We believe the better judgment of the country will prevail, and that there will be no election at present. The country will heartily rejoice in this result.

But something more will be needed to complete the good work of those who have been opposing the holding of the election. To merely drop the matter now, leaving it to be revived a few months later, will be a most regrettable position. That will leave the two political parties to continue their campaign work. The political machinery cannot be stopped while there is the prospect of an autumn election. There will still be conventions and party meetings; there will still be the distribution of party campaign literature; there will still be the many other features which, unfortunately, seem to be inseparable from our party conflicts. While the sons of Canada are shedding their blood on the battlefields of Europe, we in Canada will be fighting one another with all the bitterness of political party strife. Is this a desirable condition of affairs in the present time of trial? Should the sorrowing relatives and friends of the brave fellows who are gone be asked to turn from their mourning to engage in the bitter conflict of our political parties? Surely such things are not to be desired. Surely every patriotic Canadian will wish to prevent them. But if there is still to be the prospect of an election in the autumn, these regrettable conditions will be unavoidable. While there is uncertainty concerning the election, the political campaign will go on.

All the reasons which are against an election now will be of equal force in the autumn, and perhaps next year also if the war continues. It is desirable, in the interests of Canada and in the interests of the Empire, that while this war lasts our people shall, as far as possible, avoid the unhappiness of party strife. It is in the power of Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, by concerted action, to prevent such misfortune. The Prime Minister should take the first opportunity to make a public declaration that he will not advise a dissolution during the present year; and that there will in any case be another session of the present Parliament, at which the two political parties will have a further opportunity to confer as to what measures will be required for the prosecution of the war. If, unhappily, the European conflict should be in progress when Parliament meets next winter, it may then be wise to consider whether, as is proposed in Great Britain, the Parliamentary term should be extended. The thought is worth keeping in mind, though it need not call for action until our Parliament meets again. An assurance from the Prime Minister that there will be no election this year will be a ground upon which all parties can be asked to suspend the campaign preparations which are now in progress. Stop the flood of campaign literature. Stop the party meetings. Let the men who are now preparing their party speeches put away their material. Let their public meetings be devoted, not to the strife of party, but to united patriotic effort to arouse Canadians to the full appreciation of all that is involved in the war, and to a full sense of their duty as citizens of the British Empire. The sons of Canada are freely giving their lives to the Empire in France and Belgium. There is work for those Canadians who remain at home. What nobler service could be undertaken now by our leaders than to lay aside all party strife and unite our people in every patriotic effort for Canada and for the Empire? This good work can be performed by Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the leaders of the two political parties in Canada. If they approach the question in the right spirit.

A Vicious System.

The Hon. L. O. Taillon, postmaster of Montreal, has resigned, and has been succeeded by Mr. J. G. H. Bergeron, ex-M.P. for Beauharnois. Doubtless Mr. Bergeron is an excellent business man, and will make a good postmaster, but this whole system of appointing politicians to such positions is wrong. Neither Mr. Taillon, who resigned, nor Mr. Bergeron, who takes up the position, have ever had a day's experience in the management of a post office. These positions should be filled from within. Promotion should be given to officials who have shown themselves competent and trustworthy. The bringing in of an outsider and placing him above men who have made a life study of a particular line of work is not conducive to efficiency.

It is important that the Government should have the best men possible manning its post offices, its customs houses and all the other departments of the civil service. It is almost impossible to secure the best type of men as civil servants when they see that the highest positions always go to some outside politician.

If the head of a great railroad corporation or the general management of a bank were to fall vacant tomorrow, the position would not be filled by an outside man who had never spent a day in a railway office or one who knew absolutely nothing of banking. The positions would be filled by the promotion of trained and trustworthy officials. The management of a post office in a large city like Montreal is an important position, and one which calls for both initiative and experience. Mr. Bergeron may be an excellent politician and a good business man, but he knows nothing about post office management.

This criticism is not leveled against Mr. Bergeron or against this particular instance, but against the whole vicious system of appointing politicians to take charge of important departments of the country's business. The whole civil service should be placed under a commission and promotions should come from within and only given to those who have shown themselves worthy. Until this is done, we can never expect to have efficiency in the management of the country's affairs.

It is fortunate that those thousand asses landed on the Gallipoli peninsula were not related to Balaam's quadruped or the Turks would have heard them coming.

In Europe there is not likely to be the usual May Day disturbances formerly conducted by the Socialists and Labor Parties. All the disturbances there will be found on the line stretching from Switzerland to the English Channel.

The call for recruits to fill up the depleted ranks of the Princess Patricia's and the 5th Royal Highlanders was quickly answered by Montrealers. Every man and officer in the 42nd Battalion offered himself when volunteers were called for. This is the right spirit.

Geraldine Farrar, the prima donna, thinks the government should pension artists—even before they are wounded.—Kansas City Star.

We would suggest that John McCormack and Promoter Veitch apply to the German Government for a pension. The former has a wounded throat, which it is rumored he sustained singing the "Chant of Hate" for German-Americans. The latter, we hope, has wounded feelings.

The Montreal Gazette, usually very fair both in its editorial comments and in its news despatches, publishes this morning a despatch from Ottawa which looks as if it were inspired by the Government. The despatch charges the Liberal Party with hampering the Government in its efforts to raise and equip Canadian soldiers. This is manifestly unfair and untrue. The country knows well that the Opposition co-operated with the Government in their efforts to raise and equip an army to fight the battles of the Empire. Whatever criticism made was directed against the grafting army contractors. If the Government holds an election while the war is in progress, it will rightly be branded as one of the gravest crimes in the history of the nation.

FACING THE CRUEL FACTS.

Whatever evil the war has brought to the countries of Europe, it has at least done them people one service: it has taught them to face facts as they are and not as they would like them to be. Those peoples are learning that the nation has a right to expect and demand some sacrifices in return for the services it renders, that it must be given sacrifice and service, else it soon will cease to exist. We admit it is not a pleasant thought that mothers must bear sons to be killed in battle; but where mothers refuse this task and this sorrow there soon will be no nation.—Detroit Free Press.

WARS MADE IN GERMANY.

We all know from all the documents, says Sir Edward Grey, that it was Prussia that planned and prepared the three great wars of Bismarck's time. Bismarck himself confessed it, to the astonishment of Busch, who thought his hero should look back upon his deeds and creations with something of the feeling with which God the Father on the seventh day regarded the world he had made. But the evening in 1877, at Varsin, Bismarck owned that he had gained little satisfaction from his political life. "He had made no one happy thereby, neither himself, nor his family, nor others." "But for me," he continued, "three great wars would not have taken place, 30,000 men would not have been killed and would not now be mourned by parents, brothers, sisters, and widows. I have settled that with God, however." Did he succeed in squaring the Court of Heaven?—London Chronicle.

THE AFTERMATH.

Perhaps there will not be so much rejoicing in Berlin over submarine sinking of merchant vessels peacefully ploughing the high seas when the German people are called upon to pay the bill.—New York Herald.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

Shopkeeper—"Candles are up in price to-day, y' know, Mrs. O'Flynn—on account of the war."
Mrs. O'Flynn—"Ooch! Bad cess to them Germans! Why can't they be fightin' be daylight?"—Woman's Journal.

Dolly—"At last I have met my ideal! Kind-hearted, modest, patient, self-denying. But, alas, married!"

Daisy—"Don't worry; no woman will live long with such a freak. You'll get a chance yet."—Exchange.

Customer (at his tailor's)—But look here! You really ought to take a little discount off this account. The Tailor—I shall be pleased to meet you, sir, in any way, but why should I do so? Customer—Well, supposing I didn't happen to pay you, you wouldn't be so much out of pocket!—London Telegraph.

I just wished to investigate a noise heard in the night. With extended arms, he crept toward the door. Suddenly, "Shades of St. Patrick!" he cried, with an ominous bump. He had come across an open door, and, of course, his arms had gone each side of the door, bringing his nose into contact with it. "What's the matter?" said Mrs. Pat. "Shure, it's the biggest surprise of my life!" answered Pat. "It's the first time I knew that my nose was longer than my arms!"—Answers.

English men-of-war have no ice-making machines on board, as do our ships, and everybody knows how the English fail to understand us on the subject of the use of ice, especially in our drinks, observes Harper's. An English officer was aboard one of our ships of the Asiatic fleet, and on being served with an iced drink, commented on the delights of having cool water aboard. The American officer responded with an offer of a small cake of ice, which was sent the following morning. Meeting the Englishman ashore a week later, the American asked him if he had enjoyed the ice. "Enjoyed it, old top? Why, do you know, that was the first cold bath I've had since I left England!"

Will Irwin, the novelist, sailing for a second war visit to Belgium, said to a reporter:

"The Belgians accept their condition philosophically, but sometimes they show how they really feel. Here is an instance:

"A German officer asked the conductor of a street car in Brussels if it would take him to the army headquarters. The conductor hardly understood German at all, and, finally in his exasperation at not being comprehended, the officer took the man by the back of the neck and shook him violently.

"But at this point a Brussels woman interrupted. "Take care, No. 37, sir," she said to the officer. "That is the car you need."

"The officer thanked her and jumped off. After he had gone, the lady smiled and said to the assembled passengers:

"Car No. 37 won't take him to the army headquarters. It will take him to the hospital. I think that is the most suitable place for him!"—Washington Post.

A BRITISH HYMN.

The following hymn was written in August last by one of the Church of England's noted divines, a man of prominence throughout England, the Rev. R. P. Downes, LL.D., Vicar of Selby Abbey, Yorkshire, England, and was sung for the first time on a Sunday in the latter part of August by about 2,000 troops. The voices of the men, full of pathos and patriotism, and the sentiments of the hymn, were most inspiring to the large congregation assembled.

Tune: "Melita." "Eternal Father, Strong to Save."

God of our fathers, at whose call
We now before Thy footstool fall;
Whose grace has made our Empire strong
Through love of right, and hate of wrong;
In this dark hour we plead with Thee
For Britain's cause on land and sea.

Not for the lust of war we fight,
But for the triumph of the right;
The strife we hate is on us thrust,
Our arms are pure, our cause is just;
So strong in faith we plead with Thee
For Britain's cause on land and sea.

Asleep beneath Thine ample dome,
With many a tender dream of home,
Or charging in the dust and glare,
With war-bolts hurtling through the air;
In this dark hour we plead with Thee
For Britain's cause on land and sea.

If wounded in the dreadful fray,
Be Thine their comfort and their stay;
If dying, may they in their pain
Behold the Lamb for sinners slain;
In this dark hour we plead with Thee
For Britain's cause on land and sea.

And soon, O Blessed Prince of Peace,
Bring in the days when war shall cease;
And men and brothers shall unite
To fill the world with love and light;
Meanwhile, O Lord, we plead with Thee
For Britain's cause on land and sea.

RUSSIA'S GREAT WAR PORT.

"Archangel, the oldest port of the Russian Empire, in a few weeks more will awaken to vital war importance; for, when the Arctic ice clears from the White Sea, Russia will be able to communicate with her Allies through a free western port and to receive much needed war supplies and other manufactures over a route thousands of miles shorter than that via Vladivostok.

"Archangel is situated at the head of the Dvina delta, as far north as the northernmost shores of Hudson Bay. It is the largest and most important city in the world placed so near the Arctic Circle," says the National Geographical Society's bulletin. The harbor of Archangel is optimistically said to be open from May to October.

However, it is only entirely free from ice during the months of July and August, although, in the average year, it is free for navigating purposes for a period some weeks longer.

The city lies on the Dvina River, twenty-six miles from the White Sea. It is connected with the distributing centres of the interior by railway and canal.

Not only is Archangel interesting as a city in the extreme Far North, but it is still more interesting as one of the most ancient cities built upon the fringe of eternal arctic wilderness.

Before the year 900, the Norsemen came here and traded. They laid the foundations of the present city, a city that has grown slowly, but almost without halt, preserved in peace by its isolated position in the north. The city has achieved its present-day importance as an outlet for the products of the far northern and western parts of the Russian Empire.

During its short season for navigation Archangel is the busiest port in all the north. Between 800 and 1,000 vessels call here through the brief season. The total value of imports and exports of Archangel amounts to about \$5,000,000, and this year, under war conditions, should amount to much more. The chief articles of traffic in peace times are fish, skins, furs, timber, wax, iron, tallow, bristles and caviare.

OUR LAND OF SUNSHINE.

Money is easy in London and Paris as well as in New York, and as far as is known, it is easy in Berlin. Europe is financing its waste of war with little apparent trouble and the United States is doing the same for its trade and industries. Capital is available wherever confidence is felt, and the way in which it is supplied in these days when half the world is at war in a marvel almost beyond belief. Money put out in New York releases money in Kansas and the whole country suddenly finds itself in "Easy Street." Much will be forgiven Wall Street for teaching the rest of the country that the sun is shining. This improvement in trade and investment securities began in the grain states of the West, but the East could not see it until Wall Street smiled.—New York Commercial.

BEGINNING OF "REUTERS."

Baron Reuter long nursed an idea for organizing the supply of foreign news in identical terms to all the newspapers, but the editors gave him no encouragement. At last he determined to risk things, and arranged with correspondents all over Europe. When their messages began to come in he took them round personally to the newspaper offices and offered them for nothing, on condition that his name should be printed against them. "Try them for one month," he urged. "If they do not satisfy you, yell, to you it signifies nothing." One editor after another did try them, with such results that when Reuter broached the subject of subscription rates his demands were readily complied with.—London Daily Chronicle.

YOU NEVER CAN TELL.

Easy-going people in the United States are accustomed to say that Germany has no idea, and has never had any idea, of combating the Monroe Doctrine. But these same people would have said a year ago that Germany would respect the Belgian neutrality treaty.—Providence Journal.

SOME REPORT.

A group of ice houses went up in flames and, according to a newspaper report, "twelve hundred tons of ice were reduced to ashes."—Boston Transcript.

THE COST OF WAR.

The Panama Canal has cost us \$53,000,000—ten days' cost of the great war.—New York World.

The Day's Best Editorial

MORAL FORCE IN POLITICS.

From now on the moral note promises to grow more and more important in our politics. The old idea of public affairs as a cold business transaction is rapidly being tempered with newer ideas of public responsibility and wide humanity. The human element is coming into its own. The tendency is to answer more and more emphatically the age-long question: "Am I my brother's keeper?"

This does not mean that politics will become sermonesque. It does not mean that what one side assumes to be the exclusively moral view of any question will necessarily triumph over views no less sincerely held by thousands of other citizens. It does not mean that the morality of an issue always will be absolutely clear. There still will remain division on moral questions more or less responsive to temperamental or acquired differences of people.

But it does mean that the day of the mere politician—the national leader who bases his claim to leadership on his skill as a strategist and his opportunism as a statesman—is at an end. Henceforth the man who expects to impress himself on the great American public must ground his appeal on wide sympathy, on lofty aims and moral earnestness.—Chicago Herald.

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BRITAIN'S GREAT ARMY.

Lloyd George's declaration that the British troops "across the Channel" number at present 750,000, is the first clear official statement of the amount of Great Britain's contribution to the Allied armies in the Western arena of the war. Such a force is many times stronger than any army heretofore mustered under the British flag in any contest of which we have record. In past wars British troops have fought bravely, but Great Britain has more frequently worked by great quantities of gold than by great numbers of men. In the great wars of a century ago Great Britain was seldom able to put 50,000 British troops into campaign. At Waterloo Wellington's army was a polyglot host in whose ranks English, German, Dutch, French and Flemish were spoken. Some authorities have placed the number of his English-speaking troops actually present as low as 25,000. Great Britain subsidized foreign organizations, and had besides in its regular pay the German Legion, which greatly distinguished itself at Waterloo.—Boston Transcript.

RECENT EVENTS.

Recent events seem to confirm the views of official and unofficial observers that the Germans have been put on the defensive permanently in France, and the ablest British critic, Belloc, finds warrant for the belief that the strategy of Joffre is really an imitation of Grant's method, which ultimately disposed of Lee, a policy of attrition, for which "milling" is but a euphemism, as the casualty lists disclose.—New York Tribune.

NOT UNDERSTOOD.

(You in England don't know.—Letter from a soldier.)

Here no roar of cannon sounds,
Here there falls no shrieking shell.
Somnolently on his rounds
Drones the sentry "All is well."
Peace is brooding o'er the land;
How should England understand?

Scarce an echo of the strife
Reaches our protected ears.
Dimly through our cloud of life
Death, a passing dream, appears.
Near is comfort, distant woe,
Sightless, how should England know?

Brothers, wake! 'Tis but that ye
Stop the ear and close the eye;
Though you neither hear nor see
Spirit answers spirit-cry—
Tear the veil, and loose the bands,
Tell us, England understands.

—A. W. B., in London Chronicle.

WAR STOCKS OF ACTIVE N.Y.

Trading Showed Increase and Return of Public Evidenced

WAR NEWS CAUSED

Pressure Was Resumed But Good and Decline Did Not go to Inghouse Advanced 6

Exclusive Leased Wire to Jour

New York, April 30.—Not only active and active at the opening, as increase of breadth compared there was evidence of a return of which had been scared away by R. ship.

Pressed Steel Car was the strong ing 3 1/2 up at 59 and immediately g fraction in response to the news th received from the Russian Governme order amounting to between \$35,000,000. American Loco. opened 3/4 up house started unchanged at 98, first sale and double it by selling after opening. M. K. & T. announcement that 85 per cent. deposited and that the plan had be tin.

New York, April 30.—Trading fir half hour but an unduly larg was in the war order stocks and e were inclined to avoid these, altho as in the commission houses join movements.

Westinghouse was the most ad vanced to new high records at 1 Thursday's best figure. General Electric rose 3 points to expected a definite announcement house war order in the near future was also strong, advancing 1 1/2 to Wisconsin to prevent the company's materials out of the State not be the market as serious matter.

Rock Island, after selling down to support and soon regained a point was quieter, awaiting outcom service inquiry regarding new plan vestment buying in consolidated G dividend and price advanced 2 1/2 to

New York, April 30.—The report of Dunkirk by German warships c action but stocks met with good su end of the first hour the list was trading was less active. The fact t & Co. who had been notably heavy in the early stages of the sold 10,000 shares without making r on the price was regarded as an indit from some quarter, was very con Copper stocks were heavy, affecte of 2 1/2. In the price of metal in Lon on Washaw reorganization plan was r refunding and extension 4 1/2, while strong at an advance of a fraction closing price of 30 1/2. Republic Stee 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 and Lackawanna Steel, w to 4 1/2, were among the issues which count of war orders.

New York, April 30.—Early the s pressure on the market was resumed was again met with and the declin of Westinghouse continued strong and up to 104, a net advance of 6 points. When the bears found that the s brought out they turned around and their shorts with the result that a r set in.

Steel sold down to 58 1/2, which wa over 2 points from Thursday's high f Maxwell issues were strong in respo that the company is now turning out of nearly 300 a day, an estimate if mean a much larger output than that ago when 1,250 cars in a week was great record. It was suspected, there was considerable exaggeration in the Street was of the impression u on Dunkirk resembled that upon r on coast towns last winter when the after firing a few shots dashed back to their own waters.

COTTON PRICES STEADY
New York, April 30.—On first cal were steady up three points. The v reductions estimate indicating sma compared with the acreage sown last been previously anticipated had little Mas Giles estimates the reduction in pared with last season at 15.6 per ce case in the use of fertilizers at 30

TORONTO HAS BIG BUDGET
Toronto, Ont., April 30.—The estim ed by the Board of Control yesterday, penditures amounting to \$36,646,172, follows:—

Provided for by special receipts, capit etc.
Uncontrollable
Controllable

The current expenditure will be t which, \$3,938,063 will be raised by reve \$11,433 by taxation at the rate of 23 cents.

The tax rate last year was 19 1/2 mills, in 1912, 18 1/2, in 1911, 18, and in 1910, 17 1/2.

NEW YORK COTTON RAN
May 10.12 10.12 10
July 10.31 10.31 10
October 10.62 10.62 10
December 10.89 10.89 10
January 10.81 10.81 10

WOOLLEN CO. GETS WAR OR
New York, April 30.—The American has booked an order for blankets and t direct from the Belgian Government. This order is in addition to \$7,500,000 ready received from Great Britain and