

The Herald

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Canada, Example and Guide.

The Boston Herald commenting on Canada's conduct of the war, and holding our country up as an example to inspire and guide the United States, at the present time, among other things has this to say:
"Canada has found itself in the past two years and a half. It has been through the fire of a test such as few dependencies have ever had to face, and it is coming out of the fire not only welded closer to the British Empire, but of empire strength itself. It has set an example and has had experiences that are very likely to prove of much value to us on this side of the border in the months ahead.

Remember that to do things on the scale that Canada has been doing since the summer of 1914, the United States would raise and train and equip an army of 5,000,000 in a little over two years, and ship 4,000,000 of them across the Atlantic. It would raise and spend no less than \$12,000,000,000 for war purposes. Yet when the warcloud burst over the world, Canada was fully as unprepared as we have been. Its army, which has grown to 400,000 soldiers was smaller than the militia of Massachusetts, and its resources and industries, now splendidly mobilized and efficiently organized for the great work in hand, were on the most peaceful kind of a peace basis.

Small wonder that our patriotic gatherings listen with much respect and with deep interest to Canadian speakers. One thing is certain, the Canada of the future is not to be looked on with anything resembling the superior air that we have habitually assumed on this side of the border. The peace that has made it unnecessary to build a fort along the 3,000 miles of border will continue, but it is not going to be the peace of the condescending kindness of a big brother. An American only belittles himself if he fails to recognize and applaud the great things that Canada has done in world crisis.

How many Canadians, and Canadian newspapers have "belittled" themselves by failing to recognize and applaud the great things that Canada has done in this connection! And all for fear the Government of Canada should be awarded its due credit of praise for its extraordinary achievements.

South Africa's Gift.

The government of South Africa has decided to make a gift of \$5,000,000 to the British treasury in recognition of the protection of the British navy. No doubt the Hertzogites and other anti-British sections of opinion will denounce this gift as a "surrender of autonomy," an acceptance of Downing street dictation, etc. These were phrases commonly heard in Canada a few years ago when Sir Robert Borden wanted to assist in Imperial and Canadian defense by contributing three super-Dreadnoughts to the British navy. But South Africa now recognizes, as do all thinking Canadians, what a vast debt of gratitude every part of the Empire owes to the British navy, and to the taxpayers who footed the bill to keep it the great safeguard of the Empire.

If the people of Canada were appealed to now for a measure of national support of the British navy, what could politicians do to

foil the proposal? It is true, of course, that war's necessities have forced Britain to almost double its navy, and that as it is now constituted, it is probably big enough to see the war through. But the protection Canada has had from it during the war, is none the less a claim on our sense of honor, as it has been in South Africa's. We have, it is true, says an exchange, raised 400,000 men, and sent nearly three-fourths of them overseas, and their military contribution has not been slight. We have also helped Britain financially and in supplies in no inconsiderable way. Five million dollars worth of small beside the expenditures and sacrifices of Canada. But it is good to see that South Africa, which has been unable to send more than half a division to the European front, has not neglected its recognition of the navy's service.—St. John Standard.

How One Sam Is Doing It.

Now that they are engaged in the war the people of the United States are displaying their customary energy in the manner in which they are going after their recruits. A vigorous campaign to fill the authorized units to war strength is already well under way and the recruiting agents are trying out some new plans which might achieve results if attempted in Canada. The New York Herald of recent date tells of the active methods adopted by the Coast Artillery of the National Guard which is in the midst of a recruiting campaign. Men in the uniform of that unit took up positions in the lobbies of New York theatres one night last week, and also visited other places where young men and women go for amusement. The military visitors were plentifully supplied with small cards which they distributed not to the men but to the women accompanying them. These cards bore this inscription:

"Is the gentleman with you a slacker? He is needed for the Coast Artillery."
The appeal of the card is made directly to the women of the nation and it has been the experience of Canadian recruiting agents that such an appeal is not without its effect.

Dominion Parliament.

Ottawa, May 1.—When the budget debate was resumed today, Sir Thomas White speaking on the amendment discussed the government's policy in placing wheat on the free list. From the attitude of the opposition it was quite evident that the question with them was a political issue rather than an economic one. Then opposition criticism was that it was a departure from the government's fiscal policy; that they had granted it now, therefore why not before the war, if during the war why not earlier in the war? that it was of a temporary character; and that the government was actuated by political expediency.

Sir Thomas White answered these criticisms one after the other. He declared that it had never been held by the government that the granting of a free wheat involved a departure from the traditional policy of the Conservative party, and quoted from his former budget statements to show that he had never taken such a stand. He went back further and showed that Sir Leonard Tilley, finance minister in Sir John Macdonald's cabinet, had gone on record as favoring an agreement with the United States for free entry of certain products. Under the "free wheat" order-in-council, Canada retained absolute control of its fiscal policy, and the objections against the proposed reciprocity agreement, that carried so much weight could not be raised against the course taken by the government.

The finance minister gave figures showing the revolutionary

change in the trade balance between United States and Great Britain and quoted Premier Lloyd George's statement that from twenty to thirty million bushels of Canadian wheat had had to go to the United States for lack of a market. Sir Thomas pointed out that in March 1916, only four hundred thousand bushels of wheat had been shipped from Canada to the United States, while in March last 2,400,000 bushels had crossed the line, or six times as much, because of the exchange situation and the shortage of ocean transportation. The third criticism, Sir Thomas said, was that the government, claiming it to be a war measure, should have put into effect earlier in the war. That criticism, he maintained, did not carry weight, because in the fall of 1914, and for some months thereafter the Winnipeg market for wheat was higher than the markets in Minneapolis and Chicago.

Sir Thomas pointed out that other arguments against free wheat did not hold force today, and mentioned the prosperous condition of the milling industry and the greater earnings of the transportation companies which enabled them to hold their own against competition from the States. The finance minister paid little attention to the argument that the government should have waited to put wheat on the free list by act of parliament. The way that the budget was dragging on was sufficient answer for that. All the time that the budget debate was going on the farmers of the west would have to be waiting. The government had the power to act, and if it was a clear case, and the government was satisfied that it was right, why should it not have acted? The finance minister expressed his satisfaction that the west was pleased with the government's action with regard to wheat and strongly repudiated the suggestion that he was the representative in the cabinet of the "big interests" and that the government was hostile to the people of the west. He declared that the government had the interest of every section of the country at heart, and fully realized the great claims to consideration of the three prairie provinces. The government had shown that by what it had done for the west. Sir Thomas closed by asserting that the amendment proposed by the opposition was not a sincere one and would not deceive the people of the west for one moment.

Ottawa, May 1.—As soon as Sir Robert Borden returns to Canada he will introduce a measure providing for the extension of the life of parliament and request a statement of the attitude of the opposition. This was made known to parliament today in the course of a splendid speech by Sir Thomas White in explanation of the government's free wheat measure. The budget debate will probably end tomorrow. Thus far the opposition criticism has been half-hearted, feeble and desultory.

There has been no real attack upon the increased taxation of big business, the Liberals contenting themselves with claiming that it had come too late or that it does not go far enough. Some of them, realizing that the government's enactment of free wheat has deprived them of an over-worked political grievance, have tried hard to give the impression that the measure is purely temporary and will be repealed by the government immediately after the war. This ground, however, was cut from under their feet today by Sir Thomas White, who announced that the measure would not be repealed except by the authority of parliament. Mr. Kite of Richmond spoke at length on the high cost of living. Sir Robert Borden is not expected back until the second week of the present month. Until his arrival legislation of a controversial character will probably be avoided.

Ottawa, May 3.—Maximum and minimum prices for wheat on the whole North American continent—such is the momentous problem engaging the attention of the United States and Canadian governments at the present time. The announcement of such a step being under consideration was given to parliament today by Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, who said that Sir George Foster,

addition would be the same as that placed on it last year, namely one shilling and ten pence in the pound. This would bring an additional 1,000,000 pounds more. The third tax will be on excess profits. He was glad to say the dominions had not only the will but the power to supply so much from their own resources that there was no increasing strain on the British exchequer during the last financial year. Loans to the Allies had been 540,000,000 pounds and to the dominions 54,000,000 pounds.

At Windsor Castle.

On Thursday last, 3rd inst., a special reception was given at Windsor Castle to the members of the Imperial War Council, by their Majesties. It was a fitting conclusion to the most momentous conference in the history of the Empire. The members of the conference presented an address of loyalty and devotion to the King. The party included Right Hon. Walter Long, Colonial Secretary; Right Hon. Austin Chamberlain, Secretary of State for India; Sir Robert Borden, Premier, Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine, and Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works of Canada; Premier Massey, of New Zealand; Sir Joseph Ward; Sir Edward Morris, Premier of Newfoundland; the Maharaja of Bikanir; Sir James Meston; Sir Satyendra Prassano, of India, and Secretary Lambert. Arriving at the castle they were conducted to the white drawing room where, a few minutes later, the King in morning dress arrived. His Majesty was accompanied by the Queen, Princess Mary and H. R. H. the Princess Albert and George. The members of the conference, all of whom were previously known to their majesties, were presented by Mr. Long. In a clear resonant voice Sir Robert Borden read the address, and the King, obviously much touched read the reply.

British Parliament.

London, May 2.—Great Britain's war budget for the fiscal year, which Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, introduced in the House of Commons today, contained no surprises, and fewer changes from the existing taxation than did the previous war budget. No new forms of taxation were proposed. The only changes were increased excess profit tax, which was raised to 80 per cent. from 60 per cent.; the placing of excess profits on munition work on the same basis; an increase of tobacco duty by one shilling and ten pence in pound, and increased entertainment taxes on the higher priced tickets. Economy in the employment of ships by government impressment of vessels, except small coasters, at fixed rates of pay also advanced.

Beginning his announcement of the budget, Mr. Bonar Law said: "There is ground for thankfulness that we are able to bear the financial strain laid upon us. These figures represent part of the price we have to pay for the greatest act of madness, the greatest crime, ever committed in the history of the world: We can still say, with our souls and consciences, that it is a crime in which we had no share." Mr. Bonar Law laid emphasis on the statement that Great Britain was paying a greater share of her war expenses from her incomes than were the other belligerents. Last year, the chancellor of the exchequer said, the total expenditure was estimated at 1,825,380,000 pounds but the actual expenditure rose to 2,198,112,000 pounds. Part of this excess was due to the unexpected increase of a hundred millions of pounds in loans to Great Britain's allies and the dominions. The advances made by England to her allies and the dominions since the beginning of the war totalled 594,000,000 pounds. The total of advances and loans was 994,000,000 pounds. If the revenue side was turned to continued the chancellor, a more satisfactory picture was presented. The estimate of 502,000,000 pounds had been exceeded by 71,000,000 pounds.

After giving the details of the increased revenue, the chancellor said there were coming new taxations which he thought it necessary to impose. He agreed that the burden of taxation already was heavy, and that in whatever form it was raised it diminished capital for after-the-war purposes. On the other hand, a heavier national debt also was a handicap. Mr. Bonar Law said the total estimated expenditure this year would be 2,290,381,000 pounds. The daily expenditure he estimated at 6,275,000 pounds. The chancellor emphasized the satisfactory character of the revenue returns for the year. The national debt, he said, now stood at 3,354,000,000 pounds, but the government was entitled to deduct the amount of expenditure being met by revenue and said no belligerent country could present such a satisfactory figure.

creation of a central purchasing committee in Washington for all supplies bought in the United States for the Allied governments was forecasted at Washington on the 3rd, by Sir Hardman Lever, financial expert of the British war mission. Sir Hardman was careful to say that negotiations to this end still were incomplete. The British expert expressed the opinion that Germany will be practically bankrupt in the credit markets after the war. He predicted that the end of the war would find the Allies in very good shape financially.

Sir George Home Again.

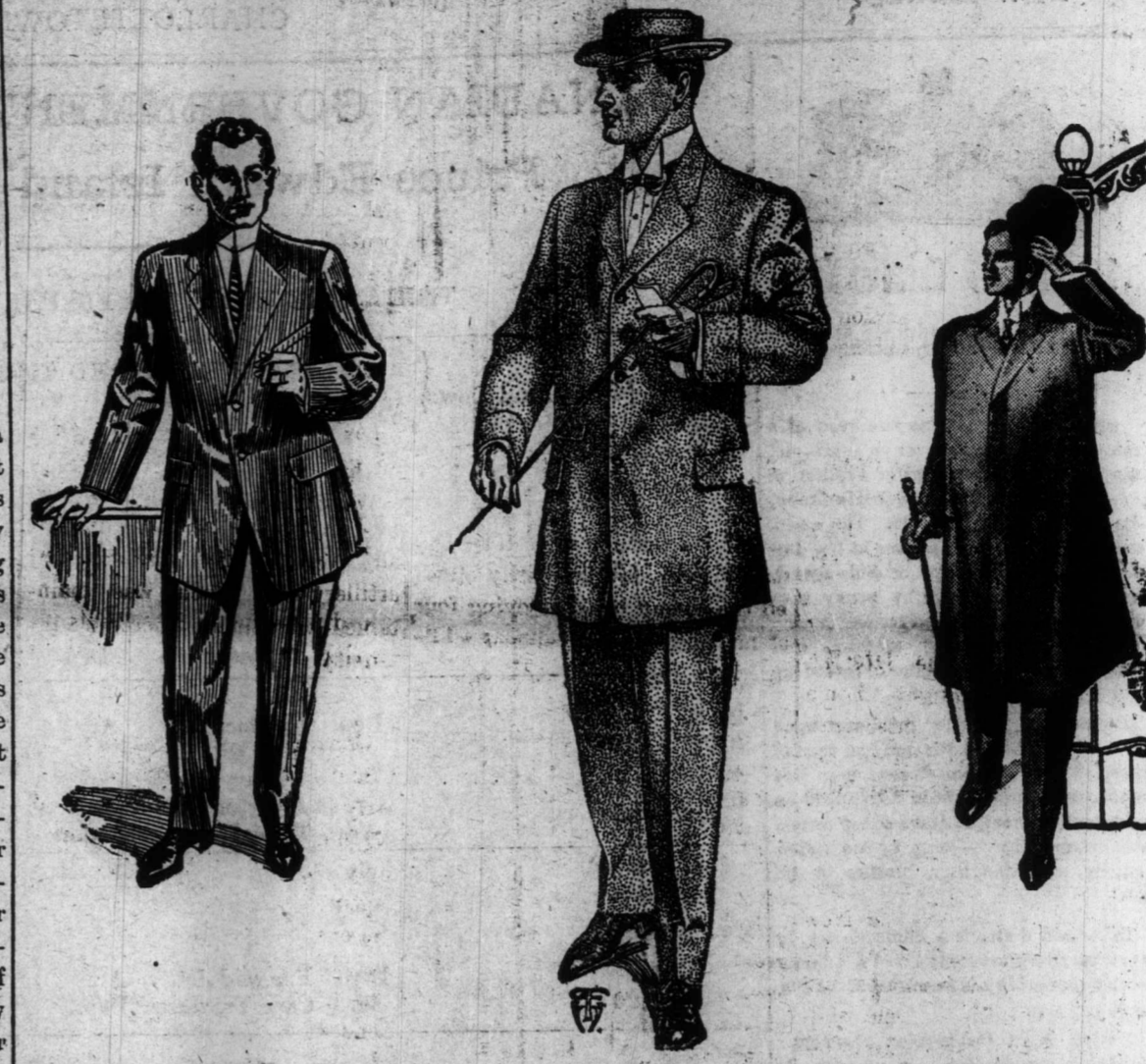
Sir George Foster returned to Ottawa from Washington on Saturday, and Sir Thomas White left Ottawa for Washington on Saturday. Sir George attended international conferences at which food production labor supply and the regulation of prices were discussed. As a result, it is anticipated that supplies will be pooled for Canada, the United States and the Allies. For the next harvest, an effort will be made to keep the labor supply moving northward as the crop ripens. Beginning in Texas in June, farm labor will be sent north to Kansas, then to the Dakotas, and then to Canada as the wheat crop becomes ready for the binder. As to prices no agreements yet been reached. But it is expected that joint action will, ere long, be taken. While absent Sir Thomas White will attend conferences and try to effect a loan at a low rate of interest for the purpose of counteracting, to some extent Canada's adverse balance of trade with the United States.

All the mails at Point du Chene were transferred to Cape Traverse and were brought across to the Island by three-motor boats. Three hundred and fifty-one bags reached the city about 2 o'clock yesterday.

Efforts made by the Newfoundland government to provide against a threatened shortage in supply of salt for the curing of the great codfish catch in the Colony have been successful. The British Admiralty has arranged a number of ships to bring cargoes of salt there under the plan which is expected to stock Colony with 50,000 tons needed this year and with adequate amount to start next year's operations.

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