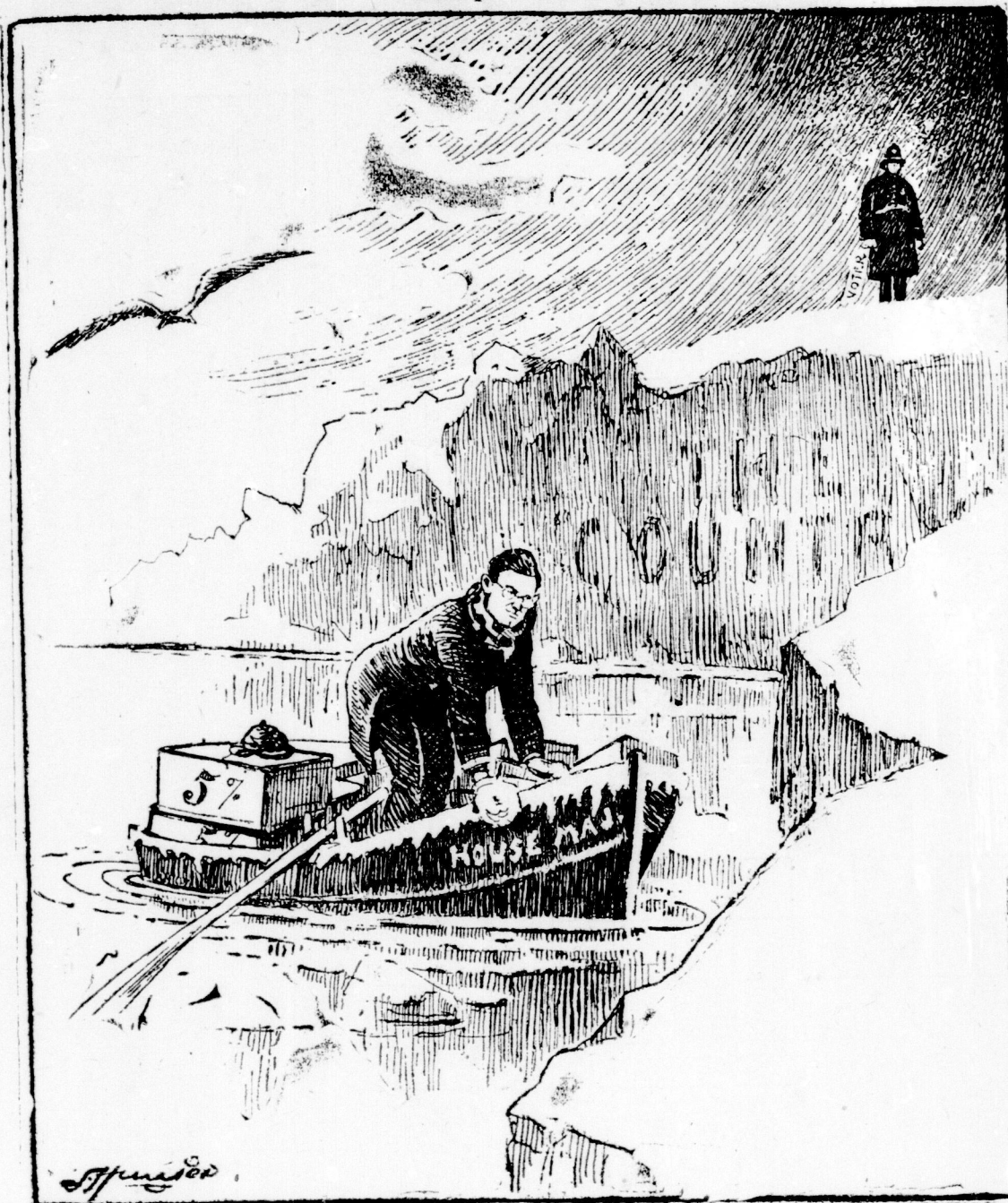


An Inhospitable Coast



Mr. Nickle—"No trouble to get it into the boat—but can I land?"

Poetic Folk

I am delving into verses
How intently every day!
Verses by our present writers
And from some who've passed
away.

Shakespeare, Goldsmith, Scott and Byron.
Kipling, Service, Mason, Guest,
Taylor, Southcott, Ward and Campbell.
And "oor Rabbie" with the rest.
Oft I'm stirred with deep emotions
As I read their products fine;
Then I've contemplated hiding
Almost every "squirrel" of mine.
Honor to these clever women
Who so ably wield their pen!
Nor has there arisen greater
Than true-born poetic men.
Ne'er to these the debt we're owing
Can our grateful hearts repay;
But their names we'll fondly cherish
Till from earth we've passed away.
Scott's and Shakespeare's well-won
laurels
Shall endure from age to age;
Kipling's name and that of Goldsmith
Ne'er shall fade from mem'ry's
page.

Kipling earned undying plaudits
When he penned, without a quail,
"That the female of the species
Is more deadly than the male."
Goldsmith's one "Deserted Village"
Has immortalized his name;
Sad, unhappy, gifted Byron
E'er shall live with men of fame.
Service penned, in glowing colors,
Much about "the golden west";
While for quiet, homelike pictures
Scores have turned to Edgar Guest.
Amy Campbell has a vision
That is far, and wide, and clear;
Aileen Ward oft hits a rhythm
That is pleasing to the ear.
Ethel Southcott sways her readers
By the magic of her hand;
Beatrice Taylor woos verse lovers
By the gifts of her command.
As a bard of rustic beauty
Burns holds some retreats alone,
And Walt Mason coins his verses
In a mint that's all his own.
But upon the broad horizon
There's looms up a "horse what's
dark."

And applauding crowds are guessing
Who's the poet what signs—ARK.
—MACK.

TWO LONDONERS MAKE
DIVORCE APPLICATION

Ottawa Considers Appeals of
Arthur Gooden and Peter
Houghton.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, March 6.—The following applications for divorce appear in the week's Canada Gazette: Arthur M. Gooden, London, from Cora Gooden, Peter W. Houghton, London, from Jean Houghton; Archie C. McIntyre, Hagersville, from Phoebe E. A. McIntyre, Hamilton, and Andrew Toulouse, Kent county, from Eva Toulouse of the same place.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
SHOWS DROP IN CANADA

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, March 6.—The index number of wholesale prices compiled by the dominion bureau of statistics, and weighted according to the commercial importance of the 236 commodities included, fell 7 points in February, being 164.5, as compared with 165.2 in January.

The London Advertiser

Founded 1882.
London Advertiser Company Limited,
Publisher and Proprietor, London, Ont.
JOSEPH E. ATKINSON, President.
H. B. MUIR, Managing Director.
C. A. M. VINING, Managing Editor.
Morning and Evening Editions.
Subscription rates: Delivered, 15 cents weekly; 65 cents monthly. By mail: In Canada, \$5.00 yearly; in the United States, \$7.00 yearly; foreign subscriptions, \$13.80 per year.
Special Representatives:
J. B. RATHBONE, Toronto, 110 Church street.
Montreal, 1013 Transvaal Building.
C. H. EDDY COMPANY, New York, Park Lexington Building.
Chicago, Wrigley Building.
Boston, Old South Building.
The Advertiser is a Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1925.

Piling On the Taxes.

Provincial Treasurer Price estimates that the deficit for this year will be \$3,000,000 instead of \$8,000,000 in the preceding period, that being an estimated reduction of \$5,000,000. The reduction is a simple matter of arithmetic and planning how to take the extra amount from the people. Stripped of all explanatory notes it means that the Ontario government will take about \$2,500,000 additional from the people in the form of a gasoline tax, and an estimated \$2,300,000 tax on beer. Adding these two new taxes together, it claims to be able to reduce the deficit to only \$3,000,000 for the year's work. The result is to be achieved by adding taxation rather than by decreasing expenditure.

In order to show that the government has some regard for the municipalities the poolroom tax will be relinquished, and that can be taken up as revenue for the various places concerned. The province drops \$100,000 in this way, but takes care to add new taxes estimated at about \$4,300,000 in its place. Or, to bring it down to simple comparison, the provincial treasurer drops \$1 in taxes and adds new ones to bring \$48 in its place.

The Ontario government has been proceeding for years on the principle of making the people pay. Apart from the usual revenue of the province from sources that have long been recognized as normal, the people of Ontario in 1924 paid the following taxes of comparatively recent origin:

Amusement tax, licenses,	\$ 1,922,570
Law stamps, transfer taxes,	310,664
Succession duties,	4,175,197
Race tracks, corporations, etc.,	5,511,407
Motor vehicles,	4,756,323

Total

To that amount can now be added the estimated tax on gasoline and beer, \$4,800,000, bringing the total levy up to practically \$22,000,000.

Provincial Treasurer Price intimates he has a plan in view for the paying off of the provincial debt by establishing a sinking fund for that purpose. He would be well advised to work out this plan carefully and well because no province can go on and keep borrowing with no hard and fast plan for repayment. In order to create a sinking fund Mr. Price will find that more money is necessary, and he and his government are certainly at the point where they dare not take any more from the people. The provincial government, the federal authorities and all the municipal bodies are drawing their taxes from the same people, and in the exercise of this power these taxing lords lose sight of the fact that those on whom the burden of new levies falls are already paying tribute elsewhere.

Provincial Treasurer Price may be meeting the situation according to his light, but he is walking along the same old path of more levies and new levies. His one cure for deficits is taking more money from the people.

The Cost of War.

The allied nations paid one hundred and sixty-three billion dollars—\$163,000,000,000—for the world war. This is the total presented in a statistical report which has appeared in the London Morning Post.

Of this staggering sum the British Empire's share alone was nearly one-third, the figures for the four chief allies being:

British Empire,	\$50,270,000,000
France,	40,633,195,000
United States,	27,597,970,000
Italy,	17,510,000,000

The most interesting feature of this estimate is that it includes not merely property values but figures which are intended to represent the value of lives destroyed. For this purpose the social value of an individual in Great Britain is placed at \$4,140. An American life is valued higher, at \$4,720, while a citizen of France is worth \$2,900.

To the average person this astonishing attempt probably serves chiefly to prove the impossibility of calculating the result of war. To the individual the value of one human life is not written in dollars; it is written in tears, and lost hopes and heartaches and the weariness of lonely hours.

No—the statisticians and the actuaries will never tell us the cost of war, and no single generation will ever know its full result.

The Five-Cent Fare.

Londons street railway problem remains unchanged for another twelve months.

This is the real significance of the city council's resolution to grant one's year extension of five-cent fares, and it appears to be the most sensible course for the city to follow at the present time.

There will be a very natural disposition in some quarters to feel that the city has surrendered from the strong position which it might occupy by insisting on adherence to the provisions of bylaw 916, and that therefore the company has gained and the city lost a decided advantage.

The facts of the situation, however, do not support that view. Bylaw 916 is still there. It will not do to overestimate the value of bylaw 916. The poor old thing has been so frequently ignored in past years that much of its effectiveness is a matter of pretence. But in any case it has not been destroyed; it is still as much a weapon in the hands of the city as it ever was.

There is nothing unreasonable in the five-cent fare itself. The public has made no protest against paying it and it is generally recognized that a lower fare would mean deficits for the company. Proof of this recognition lies in the fact that the sole object of insisting on lower fares would be to place the company in such financial difficulties that it would be ready to sell out to the city at a favorable price.

Whether or not such manoeuvre could ever be justified, today is certainly no time to attempt it. In the first place the company could meet it by simply refusing service and leaving the city with the same or higher fares under railway board operation. In the second place, and this is the real heart of the situation, the people of London show no desire to buy the street railway today at any price.

There is therefore no justification for an attempt on the part of the council to precipitate a crisis with purchase as the objective, and in The Advertiser's opinion the sensible course to follow is to leave things exactly as they are until there is a change in the public mind.

The present duty of city officials is to watch with vigilance any attempt on the part of the company to turn a sharp corner in order to evade existing obligations, and to avoid committing the city to any permanent course until the situation is made more clear.

Drifted Into Another Strike.

After drifting more or less aimlessly for weeks, negotiations between miners and operators in Nova Scotia have ceased, and a strike has been declared. The miners call it a lockout, but the effect is the same—the men cease work and production comes to a standstill.

This is simply a reversal to the old method of doing business. The privy council in its wisdom removed from the authorities the one good weapon they possessed for meeting such a situation when it said the Lemieux act, in force and operative for seventeen years, was not a legal document.

The dominion government refuses to act and the Nova Scotia authorities have so far showed no evidence of taking the situation in hand. The coal company presses for a ten per cent wage reduction; the men ask for an increase of like amount. The usual exchange of curt letters has taken place, and the answer to the whole mess is 12,000 men out of employment.

The men and their families are in a bad way to begin with; their condition has been made worse by the company stores refusing them any more credit. The province of Nova Scotia is in no position to stand a long drawn-out and bitter strike, neither can the industrial life of the dominion accept such a situation complacently.

There is a canker in the situation that is spoiling the system, and neither a strike nor a lockout will improve it. We are not much impressed by the attitude of official Ottawa that nothing can be done, because Ottawa found it possible to issue orders for troops from this district to go down to that district when the last strike was on. Neither is there anything particularly impressive about the steps taken by the Nova Scotia government. Investigation, thorough inquiry, and all the rest of it has been plentifully spoken about, but once more the answer is that negotiations have been muddled and 12,000 men are today entirely out of work.

Governments have very wide powers if they have the courage to use them. The coal areas of a country are primarily the property of the people, and a government, if it is anything, is the agent of the people to see that these great natural resources are developed in such a way as to build up communities where the people who work in these industries receive decent wages for good work. No government is called upon to sit idly at one side while these great resources become the cockpit for industrial disputes, or the places where the workers are unfairly disputed.

The Nova Scotia government should act, and Ottawa should make it clear that it is ready to go in with the idea of cleaning up a situation that lends itself to one blunt word—a mess.

Note and Comment.

The well-to-do are those where you see eggshells on the garbage can these days.

The provincial treasurer is travelling on the G. B. & R. line this season—gas, beer and race tracks.

Sault Ste. Marie is organizing a ski club, and last week the Sault Star was calling for its share of tourist traffic.

The queen of Belgium has had her hair shingled, wearing an elastic under her chin to keep her crown on.

A patriot is a man who buys government bonds because the security is high and the interest rate very fair.

A road in Boston is being paved with some sort of rubber. Very trying on motorists, because it's much nicer to have a pedestrian lie quiet after he's been hit.

Single men in the district of Vilna, Alberta, are sending a commissioner to Britain to bring out prospective wives for them. The people who are looking after this trade-in-Canada campaign should wake up.

A bill is before the commons at Ottawa to stop raffles in Canada. If the member who brings that bill in ever won a Christmas turkey on a 25-cent ticket he'd see how harmful his legislation will prove.

Farmers in the western wheat pool have so far received \$1.35 a bushel, with another payment due in July. The idea has worked well, and July is a month when the average western farmer needs money.

McMaster, from Brome, suggests that Canada have a national flag. The average citizen, after he gets through paying toll to provincial, federal and municipal taxes, imagines a frayed old dollar bill with the corners bitten off, would make an ideal emblem.

Doctorin' At Hi

They yanked the teeth from off his jaw, they took and carved his tonsils out, but Hi he be a-limpin' yet, complainin' much about the gout.

I met Hi Rickey on the street, not seein' Hi for quite a spell, remarkin' how I think how Hi he don't be lookin' none too well. Hi sayin' how as this was so, him sufferin' much a-nursin' gout, and so he'd gone to bed a spell and had his tonsils both took out.

Hi says the sawbones said to him his tonsils they was good for naught, him holdin' on for quite a spell that talk like that be just plain rot.

Some time gone past when Hi was sick they says like how his teeth was bad, him sayin' that his teeth was not, they bein' the ones he'd always had. But they got Hi to go one day when he was grumplin' with his gout, he took some gas and 'fore he knew he had most of his teeth yanked out.

Well he went back 'bout sixteen times, the dentist workin' in his face, a-makin' bridgework by the yard to keep Hi's six odd teeth in place.

Hi havin' little rest just then and raisin' up an awful kick, because since they had gassed him once his china teeth they wouldn't click.

But that was not the worst with Hi, if he could be a-walkin' 'bout, but even with his teeth yanked off he still was sufferin' from the gout.

Well when they found his gout still grew, him seekin' more to find relief, they 'lowed as how his gout was not a-comin' from his rotten teeth—Hi feelin' much upset at this, him callin' it a dirty crack, and yet not knowin' of a way to get his pulled-out teeth set back.

They picked upon his tonsils then, a-sayin' how they was a wreck, and Hi's sawbones he took a knife and carved the tonsils from his neck.

Now Hi be limpin' out again, his teeth be gone, his tonsils too, him wonderin' if the doctor has some other carvin' for to do.

But Hi was sayin' how'd he try to doctor at himself somehow—he would be takin' for a spell some sulphur and molasses now.—ARK.

Open Letter To

Ontario Government

Society of Friends at Coldstream Say Government Should Be Loyal to People in Matters on Which the Voters Have Spoken.

We, the Society of Friends at Coldstream, Ontario, in our preparative meeting convened on this 1st day of March, 1925, in weighty deliberation, do view with doubly profound alarm our government's proposed change in our temperance laws.

First, by the increase of the alcoholic content permissible in beer from 2.5 to 4.4 per cent, a change from a non-intoxicating beverage to one that may intoxicate, we fear for the youth of our land, and for every one who travels the highways.

Secondly, we are amazed and alarmed that our elected rulers should so violate their sacred oaths and pledges and lightly destroy our prized democracy and popular rule as to legislate in opposition to the expressed will of the majority.

In a true democracy patriotism works both ways. The people must be loyal to the government and the government must be loyal to the people. In the proposed change of the O. T. A., in view of the results of the recent plebiscite, is our government loyal to the people?

We appeal to our fellow-citizens everywhere to resist this high-handed invasion of our sacred rights, and prostitution of our higher patriotism by the very men in power.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,
EDGAR M. ZAVITZ,
ISAAC HAMACHER,
SAMUEL P. BROWN.

To the Editor

Less Talk and More Work.

Londoner Comments Advertiser Editorial and Gives a Case Where Rumor Ran Its Course—Says It's Time to Quit It.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—You are to be commended for your editorial of Tuesday re the gossip of failures, supposed ones. But what can anyone expect these days, with the Tories running all over the country spreading blue ruin these last three years?

The other day an old friend of mine called in my shop and in discussion said his takings in business had not averaged \$11 difference in the last three years, during January and February, so I looked up my own and found I had a fair average for the past four years, this year \$4.20 over last. Of course we are not blind to actual facts, but I think if anyone takes the trouble to find out they will come to find as I did.

The poison spreaders have done their work well, and have all the public scared stiff. That is the cause of the depression. Canada will right itself by the strictest economy and less pessimistic talk. Only recently the writer heard from a man who did not know him, "I hear So-and-So is in low waters and in only a few days he will shut up shop."

Now the facts were the writer mentioned that he had only 72 cents in his bank to a so-called friend, and the poison spreaders got mixed up somewhat. It's true I had only that much, but I told the liabilities were article \$82.68, that most of this amount not due, and assets in property and machinery of \$1,500 all paid for, with absolutely no strings on, and a business of long standing that money would not buy. No doubt on the strength of such a rumor a firm I had done business with for years refused credit. Now I would never buy another article \$82.68, that most if I got to be a millionaire and they were the only firm of the like in Canada. So you see the harm that has been done all round by such pessimistic talk and gossip about firms.

Poor old John Bull has been a dead-broke old man very often, but he has a nasty habit of coming up and living on again, and can laugh at the world. I was very glad to read your opinion and trust its good might be taken to heart by the sensible people of Canada for their own benefit. LESS TALK AND MORE WORK.

March 5, 1925.

COL. FECHET IS NAMED
AS NEW U. S. AIR HEAD

Selection As Successor To General Mitchell Awaits Senate's Confirmation.

Associated Press Despatch.
Washington, March 6.—The name of Col. James E. Fechet was sent to the White House today as the war department's choice to succeed Brig.-Gen. William Mitchell, assistant chief of the air service, whose public utterances in the controversy over air power have kept official Washington on edge for several weeks.

General Mitchell will revert to the rank of colonel on April 27, the day his successor takes office. The nomination of Col. Fechet, who is now

County of Oxford Has Not Lost
Cent of Taxes in Twenty Years

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Correspondent.

Woodstock, March 6.—The county of Oxford has a remarkable record for tax payment. County Treasurer McIntosh stated today that there were no taxes outstanding for 1924. He further stated that since he became county treasurer, twenty years ago, no citizen had neglected to pay his or her taxes. There had been a few cases of late collections, but a letter from the treasurer of the township had always been sufficient to ensure payment, he declared.

Mr. McIntosh doubts whether another county in the province can equal the splendid record set by Oxford citizens.

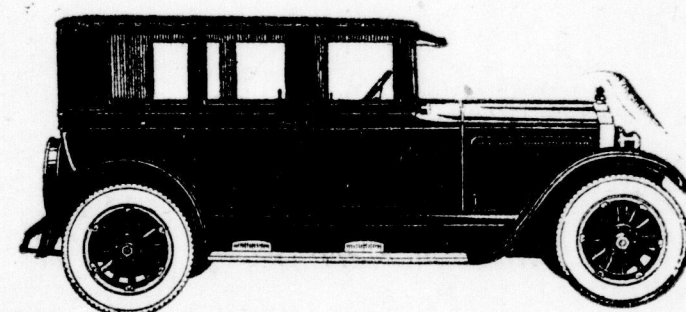
commanding the air advance flying school at Kelly Field, Texas, must be confirmed by the Senate.

Following the announcement that Col. Fechet had been chosen as assistant chief, General Mitchell issued a prepared statement, in which he re-

peated many of the charges that began the aircraft controversy. He declared that the United States is spending too much money and getting nothing for it in aircraft, and that there is no organization capable of handling the problem.

The New WILLYS-KNIGHT

with an Engine You'll Never Wear Out



Brilliantly Engineered..
New Beauty... More Power
Greater Smoothness... \$350 Lower

People everywhere are realizing the great advantages of owning this car. Its engine is free from noisy tappets; actually grows more powerful with use. No carbon trouble—no valves to grind—

and the celebrated Lanchester Balancer, built into the new Willys-Knight engine, prevents vibration at any engine speed. See this new and more powerful Willys-Knight.

J. W. McLAUGHLIN
DUNDAS AND WATERLOO STREETS, LONDON.