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LONDON TO INDIA WITHOUT CHANGING

Details of the Proposed Channel Tunnel Given by Sir Francis Fox

Fascinating details of the Channel Tunnel and what it means in travelling were given by Sir Francis Fox to the Royal Geographical Society in London.

Sir Francis said that owing to the necessity of keeping the Channel Tunnel well within the thickness of the grey chalk (the most suitable material of all through which to bore a tunnel), there would be a slight curve. The maximum depth of water over the Channel would be from 160 to 180 feet, and the roof of chalk over the structure had been fixed at a minimum of 100 feet. The tunnel would consist of two tubes of 18 feet diameter. All the work would be done by electrically-driven machinery and excavation and other operations would be carried on simultaneously at many points, and a record speed would be reached. The tunnel could be worked and ventilated and pumped by electricity from a Kent power station ten miles inland. The tunnel would have a dip in the level of the rails forming a water-lock by which the tunnel could, in case of emergency, be filled with water from floor to roof for the length of a mile. This would be under the control of Dover Castle, and the entrance and exits of both tunnels would be under the gun-fire of the Dover forts. Trains would be run direct from

London to Paris in less than six hours, and passengers would be able to go from London to Constantinople, Petrograd and by the Siberian express to China and India without change of carriage.

Not Too Dear

After a long discussion with a parliamentary church building committee which had done its best to cut down his estimates, Pugin, the great ecclesiastical architect, explained with a fine irony: "Say eightpence more, gentlemen, and have a nice tower and spire!"



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Selective Draft is the Government Plan for Filling Thinning Ranks

Cheers From Both Sides of House When Premier Announces That Definite Policy Has Been Decided on—To Provide for Probably 100,000 Men

Ottawa, May 18.—Conscription is coming. After nearly three years of war Sir Robert Borden announced in the commons this afternoon that the voluntary system had been exhausted and that the government had decided to bring down a measure providing for "compulsory military enlistment on a selective basis."

Conscription will apply to the reinforcements needed at the front in order to keep up Canada's present army of four divisions and the number set by the premier for the first call is at least 50,000—"and it will probably be 100,000."

The announcement was made at the end of a speech of over two hours' duration dealing with the results of the premier's two months in the Old Land. It was received by cheers in which members on both sides of the house participated.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who rose at once when the premier concluded, declared that the measure when brought down would be considered from the attitude of the opposition had taken from the outset of the war.

"We are determined," said the Liberal leader, "to do our full duty to the best of our judgment and in such a way as to secure that the best methods are adopted to bring about that victory for which we are all longing, and which we all hope will come certainly, whether it comes early or late. To the government proposals, when made known in detail, we promise due and fair consideration."

GOVERNMENT DECIDED ONLY ON THURSDAY

The government's decision on the conscription measure was made yesterday after an all-day sitting of the cabinet, and after Sir Sam Hughes had notified Sir Robert that his resolution for compulsory service would be brought up next week. It came as a surprise even to the government's followers in the house. The abandonment of the voluntary system, as Sir Robert explained, was the response to the message given to the premier by the soldiers overseas to the people of Canada. The war, he declared, could not, in his opinion, end this year, and "a great struggle still lies before us." Germany has put 1,000,000 more men into the western front this spring than she had last spring. The Russian condition could throw her full weight into the conflict. A greater effort still was needed by Canada. The conscription measure will be brought down to the house almost immediately and it is understood that it will be based on the plan just adopted in the United States.

ONE CONCRETE ANNOUNCEMENT

The greater part of the premier's speech was taken up with his reference to the proceedings of the imperial war cabinet and its outgrowth, the imperial cabinet, or cabinet of governments of the overseas dominions, which is to be an annual conference in London hereafter to consult upon matters of common interest to the empire. As Sir Wilfrid Laurier pointed out, this was about the only concrete thing which Sir Robert was able to announce as a result of his London mission.

The imperial cabinet, Sir Robert explained, is to be a purely consultative body with no executive authority and its recommendations, before coming into effect, must be accepted by each of the self-governing dominions. The reconstruction of the constitution of the British empire is apparently still in a decidedly nebulous state and any definite action is to be left over until after the war.

One thing, however, Sir Robert was emphatic about—483 in this he endorsed the policy for which Sir Wilfrid has always stood—the absolute preservation of local autonomy in each of the self-governing dominions. On the question of imperial preferential trade the premier also fell in line with the Liberal leader by declaring that any fiscal arrangement must be left to each of the contracting parties and should not be made a question of barrier or of interference from outside. In any event, there was no question of free taxation in England. The main proposal, he added, concretely referred only to better, cheaper and more economic facilities of transportation.

Concerning the after-the-war conference on the remodeling of the empire's constitution Sir Robert made the somewhat vague announcement that he would "ask the leaders of the opposition party to go with me to that conference."

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USE DUMMY U-BOATS AT ZEEBRUGGE NOW

London, May 19.—According to dispatches from Amsterdam the intensive bombardments by British seaplanes of the German submarine base at Zeebrugge, on the Belgian coast, have forced the Germans to use many tricks to escape serious damage. One method discovered is the construction of dummy submarines of wood, which act as decoys while the real submarines scurry up the canals and hide under bomb-proof shelters built in the canal banks.

The British aviators now carry their raids inland until they find the U-boats' refuge. Hereafter when the British machines appeared the Germans hid their boats out of harbor and took up positions just inside the outer mine fields, but during the last raids these decoys have occupied the airmen only to run into a heavy fire from a British flotilla, which shells them back into harbor. There they came under the fire of the sea planes.

Zeebrugge is heavily defended with sand dunes, and there are subterranean railways by which great naval guns are carried from one emplacement to another.

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MORE EVIDENCE THAT HOTELS CAN DO WITHOUT BAR

Americans Coming to Canada Prove That Lunchroom Counters and Cafeteria Service Can Make Big Profits

(Financial Times.) In view of the changed conditions in regard to hotel investments in the Province of Quebec, it may be interesting to holders of hotel securities to review the fact that similar legislation has had upon the hotel business in the United States and in other parts of Canada. The hotel-keepers of the United States evidently recognizing the detrimental effects of prohibition, are rapidly preparing themselves for dry conditions and Ontario and Quebec hotelkeepers could well afford to read a page from the book that the American hotelmen are writing.

The American hotelman has no hopes of the return of the bar in districts which are now strictly temperate. It is not because he thinks that governments are opposed to liquor, but rather that he understands that public opinion is opposed to the sale of alcoholic concoctions.

A visitor to the States nowadays finds two distinct classes in the hotel business. The most noticeable class, of course, is the saloon-keeper, who is rapidly being wiped out of business. The saloon-keepers aim to make their money from the bar. The other class is the bona fide hotel man, who builds handsome and beautiful structures and not only aims to, but actually does, make his money from the rental of accommodations to the travelling public.

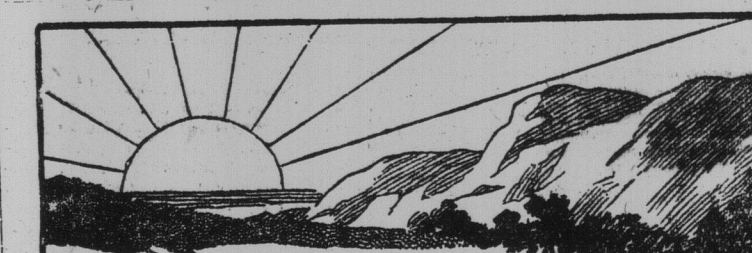
Prefers Lunch Room to Bar. An idea of just how keenly business-like are the real hotelmen of the U.S.A. can be gathered from the observations of the manager of one of the biggest hotels near the border. This manager, recognizing the approach of prohibition, recommended the transformation of the grill room into an artistic cafeteria, giving the assurance that it could be made highly profitable. He points out that the bar has been taking care of the losses of the restaurant, but he advises that it would be much better to have a lunch counter than a bar, and says that light wines and beer could be served at the tables instead of over the bar. This manager believes that the installation of first-class cafeteria service and the changing of the bar into a lunch counter would double the profits. He notes that many hotels are abolishing bars, and serving wines at the table, but not at a public bar.

Travellers interviewed, after visits to the United States insist that the bar there is a thing of the past, and that even in cases where conditions are still wet, hotel proprietors are abolishing the bar of their own accord, and are simply serving refreshments at the tables.

Ignored Source of Profit. For many years hotelmen throughout North America paid no attention to the restaurant business, but counted on the bar to pay the total cost of operation of the whole hotel. They developed their bar business, but did not try to raise the restaurant and accommodation departments of the concern out of its infancy; neither did they spend any money for nourishment for this end of the hotel. Since the advent of prohibition in parts of the States, changes have occurred, and hoteliers find that the restaurant and accommodation of not only dry hotels but also wet hotels, are being highly developed.

There is money in the restaurant business. Numerous Americans have demonstrated that on Canadian soil. In the last decade we find eating places of the style of Howles, Thompsons, Childs, Walthos, and others springing up and flourishing, even in war times, when the cost of food stuffs is much higher than under normal conditions. These American restaurant keepers come to Montreal and Toronto and pay \$10.00 per foot for land (as in Toronto), \$50,000 on

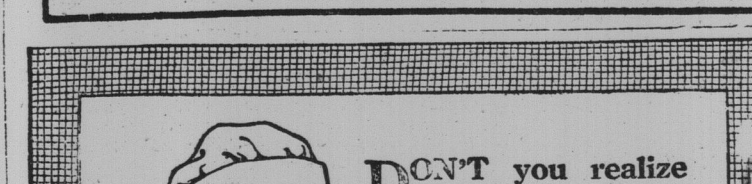
buildings, and install the latest cooking and serving devices, sell food at moderate prices, and yet make money, despite the heavy taxation levied by the municipalities, but Canadians seem to lack the initiative to go into a venture of this kind, especially when they have the advantages of accommodation to link up with the cafeteria. The whole trouble seems to be that the hotelman, up till the time of prohibition's advent, devoted his intelligence and his energy to the development of his bar. Now that the bar has been removed, it is incumbent upon upon the same hotelman to devote his energy and his intelligence to the restaurant end of the hostelry, and to carry that business on without subjecting the travelling public to inconveniences due to mismanagement.



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