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Since the signing of the armistice we have made a general survey of business conditions as brought about by the cessation of hostilities. The changes noted are practicably negligible. Outside of the cessation of work in the spruce lumber camps for the logging of spruce for aeroplanes, and a few other isolated cases, business has not been effected in any way since November 11th.

The general consensus of opinion is that for a considerable period in the future there will be no marked decrease in prices of commodities. All the trend is in the direction of further increases. This is particularly true of woolen and cotton goods and general lines affected by pronounced shortages in world supplies. There does not appear to be any lack of confidence in what the immediate future holds forth. The general opinion is that business will go on as at present, except that changes which are inevitable will be of a gradual nature, and will extend over a number of years.

There does appear to be, however, considerable uncertainty and more or less concern with regard to social conditions. The speech by a labor leader here, a paragraph in the newspaper by council of workmen there, and some evidences of Bolsheviki propaganda, are causing considerable mental cogitation as to what it is all about.

Without attempting to offer any solution or any suggestions as to its possible course, we think that its gravity is at this writing much over-rated. In local labor councils leadership of labor does not carry with it the confidence of the wage earner, nor does it outline any programme of considered demands. In consequence the views expressed at these local councils do not carry a weight among the membership that records of their meetings as published in the press would lead one to believe. So while it is not safe to say that there is a tempest in the tea-pot, nevertheless there does not appear to be the cause for alarm which some are taking.

Social changes are brought about by two conditions, one by the uprooting of the existing order by revolution and the establishment of a new order upon a fresh foundation, or by the slow change of the organic law of the State. In Anglo-Saxon countries revolutions have occurred, but they have generally been bloodless revolutions and revolutions which in many cases have taken over a half century to effect. In Canada, with the ingrained idea for law and order permeating the nature of the entire population, with the exception of fire-eating labor representatives, is such that a subversion of the existing system cannot be effected over night.

While we cannot venture any slight suggestions at this moment as to the probable changes that will occur in the present social order, we think we can with safety assure our readers that the changes to be made and which now

The services of this journal are offered through an inquiry column, which is open to subscribers and the public generally without charge, for detailed information or opinion as to financial or industrial affairs or institutions throughout the Province of British Columbia. Wherever possible the replies to these inquiries will be made through this column. Where inquiries are not of general interest, they will be handled by letter. We think that we can assure our readers that the opinions expressed will be reliable and conservative, and that all statements will be as accurate as possible.

can only be dimly discerned, will occur, not next month or next year, but will perhaps take a decade or two to be worked out. Where there is this ingrained conservatism in Canada the past will always be a heavy governor in regulating the advance of the future, and no important change in the existing organic law will occur without the considered judgment of the population.

It may be necessary, and it is undoubtedly the duty of business men, to take in hand those irresponsibles who are preaching disruption and the subversion of law, and to counteract these movements by co-operation with labor and show a willingness to understand labor's point of view and the ends that labor has in view.

Stambury R. Tarr, managing editor of Canadian Finance, Winnipeg, died recently at his former home, Woodstock, Ontario, after a short illness. With his death financial journalism in Canada loses its outstanding personality. For nearly nine years Canadian Finance, which he established, has been breathing the personality of a sound, and progressively conservative mind on business and civic questions in Canada, the beneficial influence of which has been felt from coast to coast. An analyst of no mean reputation and ability he sought the weak spots in financial and business affairs and never hesitated to point them out with emphasis, yet kindness, which were productive of great good. All the spare time he possessed from his main duty of editing Canadian Finance he devoted to the civic betterment of his beloved Winnipeg and had a marked influence on the progress which this important city has made in its municipal administration. The clean life and strong moral character of the late Mr. Tarr pervaded everything he touched and exercised a powerful influence during the boom days of the west in retarding all that was reprehensible in the character of that rapid development. His errors were errors of judgment, for his heart was in the right place. The late Mr. Tarr was a personal friend of the Editor whom he had befriended on numerous occasions. He used to be Mr. Tarr's correspondent in British Columbia and in late years wrote his year-end reviews. The Editor has frequently called upon Mr. Tarr for opinion and advice and that opinion and advice has been so freely and candidly given that nothing was wanting. He gave his all to his friends without stint and without self interest, and anyone having at heart the improvement of conditions, both business and government, could command his services unreservedly. The untimely death of this young man, about 42 years old, takes from Canadian business life a strong exponent of business efficiency and business morality which it will be difficult to replace. It is to be hoped that Canadian Finance may be able to find another leader who will take up the principles of our late brother Tarr and propound them to and enforce them on business as carried on in Canada.