

The Herald

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Canadian National Railways.

Much has been said and written in criticism of the acquisition by the Dominion Government of the Grand Trunk Railway. But not one of those who have criticised or opposed the Government in this connection has suggested an alternative proposition, worthy of consideration. Absolute ignorance of actual conditions, in relation to the question, has been manifested in very much of what has been said and written in opposition to the Government's attitude in the case. One phase of the opposition had relation to the possibility of trouble with the Government of the United States, regarding the portion of the road that operates in that country. On this point we quote below an expression of opinion emanating from the United States, which must be taken to voice in a general way the attitude assumed, regarding the subject, on the other side of the international boundary. As to the feeling in railway circles in Canada, we herewith quote some expressions of the President of the Canadian National Railways:

Mr. Hanna, President of the Canadian National Railways, indulged an optimistic note in his recent address before a meeting of the associated Boards of Trade of Ontario. Having been identified with the Canadian Northern from its inception and seen it grow from a line of a hundred miles to a transcontinental system, calling into being seven hundred towns and cities in Canada, he speaks as a man who has reasons for the faith that is in him.

"I have infinite confidence in this property of ours," he declared, "and I know it can be made a success from beginning to end. Development is beginning again in a way that is simply astounding. Our good American cousins are coming in, and they are bringing their good money with them. If you can solve this labor trouble, there is nothing to prevent us from having a magnificent traffic."

The Canadian National Railways can be made a success, because they have the location, the equipment, the organization, competent, loyal and energetic men, many of them young men who have grown up with the railway since they were lads, and no one knows better than I do that they can give the service, and it would be a distressing thing if some of these men were displaced. The Government and the country are to be congratulated to-day, and must feel that they have in the handling of their railway men who are trying to do their best regardless of dollars and cents."

Mr. Hanna's belief in the future of the National Railways is a belief in the future of Canada. He pointed out that the C. P. R. now the biggest enterprise in the British Empire, will with the acquisition of the Grand Trunk be overshadowed by the National Railway system, and lined up with this by the end of the year will be the Government's merchant fleet of 380,000 tons of shipping. An interesting statement made by the President was that because of Union Government this immense public enterprise is going to get the advantage of freedom from politics to an extent that would have been

impossible of attainment under the old line governments.

The expression of American opinion which we quote, is found in Boston intelligence under date of November 14th, and is as follows:

That the bill which passed through the Canadian House of Commons and Senate at Ottawa, calling for the purchase by the Canadian Government of the 2,000 miles of Grand Trunk Railroad lines in several States of this country, and which is receiving bitter opposition from some of the most prominent Canadian statesmen, is receiving widespread attention and considerable comment throughout New England, was emphasized by George K. Lowell, of York, Maine, one of the leading railroad authorities of this country, especially New England and the east, in an address made before the local Chamber of Commerce this afternoon.

Senator Bostock, of British Columbia, and Ross of Nova Scotia, were bitterly scored for their attitude towards the bill by Mr. Lowell, who stated that these senators had a perfect right to oppose the bill for any legitimate reasons that they might have, but they had no right to father the "ridiculous, narrow-minded and anti-American" arguments which they were so emphatically making. Mr. Lowell, who throughout the war acted as a confidential adviser to the administration at Washington, and who a few years ago refused the receivership of the Boston and Maine Railroad, said in part:

"Senator Bostock states that the Canadian Government should never operate a line to build up the business of the port of Portland, Maine, in competition with the ports of Halifax and St. John. He is an Englishman with large interests in British Columbia, and we can readily realize the reason for a supposition in his mind so evasively put forth. Senator Ross need never fear any so-called hubbub in this country which he states would occur should the case be the other way around. His other reason, his fear of the purchase and operation of those lines causing trouble between Canada and United States, or between the United States and Great Britain, is indeed ridiculous. One of the greatest causes for trouble or ill-feeling between the United States and Canada is the attitude, statements and propoganda spread in this particular case, and Senator Ross should realize that he is doing no small part in it and is causing more ill-feeling between the two countries to-day than there ever was or I hope ever will be."

This should be sufficient indication of the view taken by our American cousins on this question. It certainly does not afford much comfort to those who strove to raise the bugaboo of trouble from Uncle Sam's country.

Sixty-Sixth Congress.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1.—Most of the features usually attending the opening were lacking to-day at the convening of the second session of the sixty-sixth Congress. After perfunctory sessions at which the annual appropriation estimates aggregating \$4,865,000,000 were presented, both Senate and house adjourned until to-morrow when President Wilson's message will be read and legislative work started in earnest. There were no outward developments to day regarding future disposition of the German peace treaty and leaders were informed that the president probably would not discuss it in his message. It was understood that upon resubmitting the treaty, a special message would send a special message to the Senate. Senator Lodge, the Republican leader and chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, said he hoped soon to press his resolution to declare the war with Germany at an end, but indicated that immediate action was probable.

Hymeneal.

The marriage of Mr. Philip Patrick Healey of St. Teresa to Miss Mary Wilson of Summerville, was solemnized in St. Joachim's Church Vernon River, at 8 a. m., on Wednesday morning Nov. 12th, Rev. P. D. McGuigan, P. P. officiating. Miss Estella Dunn of Summerville was bridesmaid and Mr. Joseph Campbell of St. Teresa supported the groom. The bride carried a pearl rosary and wore a tailored suit of navy blue serge with hat of pearl grey felt and fox fur, the gift of the groom. The bridesmaid was becomingly attired in a suit of black velvet with hat of black velvet and grey silk and also wore a set of fox furs. After the ceremony the bridal party drove through Avondale and Elliotvale to the home of the bride's mother where they were welcomed by a number of invited guests and all sat down to a beautiful dinner prepared by Mrs. Wilson and several other ladies. After dinner the bridal party went for a drive in the beautiful weather through Greenfield, returning home to be welcomed by a party of young folk. Dancing to lively violin music was then indulged in until 11 o'clock, when supper was served. After all had partaken of the good things with which the tables were laden dancing was resumed and kept up for some time longer. Their songs were sung and a farewell speech delivered by an eloquent young gentleman. The company then went home after expressing their feelings of good will to Mr. and Mrs. Healey by many useful and beautiful gifts of china, linen, glassware and silverware etc. and of envelopes filled with cash. On the following evening Mr. and Mrs. Healey accompanied by the bridesmaid and groomsmen drove to their home in St. Teresa's where they were greeted by their neighboring friends and well enjoyed a delightful supper. Congratulations and gifts were then showered on the happy couple, whose cheerful and unassuming manner has made them deservedly popular. Their friends then departed, rejoicing that another of our young men has settled down to farming on good old P. E. I.—Com.

The following despatch has been received by Sir Robert Borden from Lord Milner, Secretary of State for the Colonies: "Now that the repatriation of the overseas workmen who volunteered their services for the production of ships and munitions during the war is contemplated, I am commanded by the King to request you to give publicity to His Majesty's appreciation of the value of the services rendered by the men who volunteered from Canada. He understands that the excellent behavior of these volunteers and the sustained and steady application displayed by them in their work has earned the highest praise."

The Christian Science Monitor says: "The truth of the matter is that the Canadian soldier is already being dealt with on a scale of quite unprecedented liberality. As was pointed out in the Canadian House of Commons, some time ago, by Hon. N. W. Rowell, Canada is distinctly in advance of all other countries as far as the generosity of her dealings with her returned men is concerned. There is, of course, a point beyond which a gratuity becomes a dole. No Canadian soldier, worthy of the name, has any desire to trade on what he has done for his country and for humanity, and he should not be placed in a position of doing so."

Lionel Clark, chairman of the Toronto Harbor Commission, has been selected to succeed Sir John Hendrie as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Mr. Clark is prominent in the world of trade and commerce, and is a former president of the Toronto Board of Trade. In 1896 he contested North Wellington in the Conservative interest. The appointment of a new Lieutenant Governor for the Province of British Columbia will also likely be announced within a day or two. Col. Prier, who was Minister of Militia in the Tupper administration, A. C. Plummerfelt of Victoria, and Walter Nichol, proprietor of the Vancouver Province, are among those mentioned for the post.

Local and Other Items

Colonel Grant Morden announced in London that the English group which purchased 50,000 shares in the Dominion Steel and Iron Company has completed its buying.

Twenty-two alleged I. W. Ws held in Tacoma jail on a charge of syndicalism have refused to eat meals offered them or to talk with their jailers.

A plot to assassinate Premier Venizelos of Greece and overthrow the monarchy has been discovered at Athens and many arrests have been made by the authorities.

Vicount Milner, Secretary of State for the colonies, left London last Saturday morning for Egypt with the seventeen members of the commission appointed to investigate the unrest in that country.

Sir Robert Borden was at his office last Thursday morning and went through the voluminous correspondence. Afterwards he met the Cabinet Council and discussed the general situation as it had developed during his absence.

There was a decrease of over \$800,000 in the value of sea fish caught during the month of October as compared with the same month of last year, according to the department of the naval service.

According to recent Roman advice King Victor Emmanuel will go to the United States next summer, and will also visit South America, especially the republics Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Peru unless the political situation prevents him from carrying out his desire.

Sleeping sickness has claimed two more victims in Winnipeg, making the total deaths from this disease since its first appearance there eight in all. Two more cases were reported to the city health authorities recently bringing the number of cases reported to 32.

The C. G. S. Arammore sailed from here Sunday morning at 6 o'clock for Belle Island Strait with light house supplies. She called at Georgetown at noon for some firemen and left there at 4 p. m. She takes a full cargo for the light house keepers, including cattle, horses, sheep and poultry.

Parisians did not dance the last few nights and all dance halls were dark as a result of an edict of the authorities closing the places to save fuel. Exercised at the closing order, managers of dancing establishments visited police headquarters and the minister of the interior asking that the mandate be removed.

The group of buildings formerly occupied by John Hopkins University and about a score of other structures in the square bounded by Howard, Ross, Monument and Eataw Streets, Baltimore, were either destroyed or wrecked by fire early last Saturday, entailing a loss roughly estimated at \$1,000,000.

It is stated in a telegram from Victoria, B. C., that the raising of the wreck of the Princess Sophia, which sank in Alaskan waters thirteen months ago, with heavy loss of life, will not be attempted before next spring. Bad weather and intense cold made it impossible to proceed this year.

Robbers a few mornings ago drilled into the safety deposit vault of the Freebank State Bank near Vincennes Indiana and escaped with Liberty Bonds valued at \$20,000. About half of the bonds were registered. The safe in which the bank's money was kept, had been tampered with, but the robbers had not effected an entrance. No clue has been found.

Announcement was made by Hon Arthur Meighen Saturday that a million dollars' worth of agricultural lands on Indian reserves in Alberta and Saskatchewan have been purchased from Indians in recent months and handed over for soldier settlement. The Indians have been compensated and the money applied to the trust fund which now aggregates \$11,000,000.

Local and Other Items

The Quebec Government is preparing a bill which will be presented at the next session, opening on December 10th, which provides for an expenditure of five million dollars for colonization. The period in which this amount will be spent has not yet been announced.

A report received at Geneva from Lugano is to the effect that King Alexander of Greece has been exiled as a result of the recent plot against Premier Venizelos. The report adds that Alexander is expected in Lugano and will join his father who is at Zurich. There is no confirmation of the report.

Herbert E. Easton of London England, secretary of the British Empire Land Settlement League, died suddenly in San Francisco on Nov. 25th of heart failure immediately after concluding an address before the California development board on British plans of aiding former soldiers to become farmers.

A large quantity of chemicals, which could be easily converted into explosives, were found in a secret room in the headquarters of the United Russian Workers in East 15th Street, New York, raided the other day by detectives attached to the bomb squad. One bottle which was found was labelled T. N. T.

Sir Robert Hadfield announces that the largest calibre of armor piercing shell has been driven in recent British tests through the thickest of modern armor plate. This feat in gunnery he says will render the British big guns, weighing something like 180 tons, useless in naval engagements of the future.

The Supreme Council at Paris has adopted the British suggestion for partition of the German war fleets. Under the arrangement, Great Britain will receive 76 per cent of the total tonnage, France ten per cent, Italy ten per cent, Japan eight per cent, and the United States two per cent.

The first locomotive on a French railway to use oil as fuel was sent out on an experimental trip on the 28th November and hauled a heavy train with complete success. It is announced that railways in that country have planned to alter their engines so as to use oil-fuel instead of coal and that 250 locomotives will be thus changed.

Unless severe weather upsets the present expectations the Canadian Government Merchant Marine fleet will number twenty-three vessels before the end of the present year according to Mr. Alex. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Marine. It is hoped that sufficient vessels to bring the total to the above number will have been delivered before the end of this month.

One man was killed and several persons severely injured in a terrific gale which swept Toronto on Saturday night, and many thousands of dollars' loss was entailed in the wreckage that followed in the wake of the wind. It was one of the worst storms of its kind ever experienced by the citizens of Toronto. Yet the material damage was comparatively light in view of the severity of the gale.

That a meteor of tremendous size plunged into Lake Michigan last Wednesday, causing earth tremors felt in a dozen southern Michigan cities and sending a pillar of flame hundreds of feet in the air which was visible for a radius of more than fifty miles, was the theory generally accepted in Detroit in explanation of the earth shock which at first was believed to have been caused by a terrific explosion at some industrial plant.

According to the revised figures recently submitted to the administrative commission of Montreal by City Comptroller Pelletier, the available revenue for the City next year amounts to \$20,504,172. The intention of the commissioners is to vote numerous increases of salaries this year is reflected in the summary of the proposed expenditure which shows that the total amount under this head is \$5,034,187, being an increase of \$30,254 over last year.

Local and Other Items

After visiting Woolwich Arsenal to inquire into the question of a reduction of the staff there, Premier Lloyd George recently said the arsenal probably would be developed as a railway centre in order to meet the world shortage in locomotives.

One hundred million crowns, contained in twenty-one cases buried deep in the cellar of Count Michael Karolyi's palace, Budapest, has been discovered confiscated by the Hungarian police. The treasure consisted of stocks, bonds and silver and gold, representing the former Premier's total finances.

Nearly one hundred factories have recently changed hands in Lancashire, England, for amounts several times what they were worth before the war. Cotton mill shares have been sold for as much as seven times their normal value. Britain is still without tariff protection, but she has the protection of a heavy discount in sterling exchange in the United States, and the protection of limited shipping service. Further, she has the benefit of Germany's prostration. In due course she will have tariff protection.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Portsmouth on board the Renown at nine o'clock last Monday morning from his visit to Canada and the United States. He was accorded a splendid reception. The Renown left that port on July 5. Upon entering the harbor the customary twenty-one gun salutes sounded from the flag bedecked ships which were decorated in honor of the birthday of the Queen Mother Alexandra. Earlier in the morning it was feared that rain might interfere with the reception which had been planned for the Prince.

A new sleeping record was established in New York on Thursday last by Mrs. Dora Mintz, whose long periods of unconsciousness then numbered 51 days. Dr. Robert J. Wilson, superintendent of the hospital where her case has puzzled the medical authorities, said that her minutes of wakefulness are increasing and the patient appears to thrive on a diet of milk and ginger snaps. Violin music may be resorted to in an attempt to arouse the sleeping woman. Dr. E. Gidding, one of the doctors interested in the case, said that in a similar instance last year a woman who had been asleep for six weeks had been rescued from her lethargy by a violinist who played to her for several hours.

SEPALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, 16th January, 1920, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Souris and Railway Station, from the 18th April next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Souris East, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector, Post Office Inspector's Office, Ottawa, Dec. 4, 1919.

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Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of St. Mary's Road, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

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