

The Toronto World

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SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 25.

Christmas in Wartime.

I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war, and on his head were many crowns, and he had a Name written, that no man knew but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his Name is called the Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
—Revelation, xix, 11-16.

Whether in the story of the birth of the Saviour of Bethlehem or the narrative of His exaltation, there is such stress laid upon the ministry of angels, and such an atmosphere of their presence with Him, that Christmas would lose most of its glory without the memory of the heavenly host singing to the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of goodwill," or of the white companies marching with the Faithful and True against those of evil will arrayed against the armies of heaven.

The world has reached a stage when not only the infancy but the manhood of Christ must be recognized in His Godhood, and there can be nothing better for us in these days of patient, undraining but undecided strife, to remember that if Christmas means anything it means the reign of Emmanuel. Let us be sure that we are ranged on the side of His armies, and that we follow His hosts, for there can be no excuse for the man who stands aside while victory is in the balance.

Their Craft is in Danger

It is sufficient comment upon the action of the council of the board of trade to read the "Message to the voters of Toronto" which they have published to delude the people who are supposed not to be able to think for themselves. President Woods of the board stood up last Tuesday and told the meeting assembled to hear Sir Adam Beck that whatever the fate of the bylaw, if the board condemned it the bylaw would be defeated. If the board approved the bylaw would be passed. Caesar is getting mighty fat again, and the people must crawl around between the Colossus' limbs if they wish to get the proper slant on facts.

The board of trade has heard the bylaw discussed for more than a year, and is still crying for information. When the same bylaw was up for consideration in Newmarket a year ago, the members of the board and council that was to be said pro and con, if they had any interest in public affairs, Newmarket defeated the bylaw, and now President Woods desires the people of Toronto to follow the example of Newmarket and throw Sir Adam Beck and his bylaw out on the street.

The proclamation of President Woods and his colleagues has a "For instance" in it, which is well worth considering. The statement is that

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"In this time of trial and suffering for many people in Toronto may the true spirit of the festive season be with everyone on this Christmas Day," is the wish of Controller Tom Foster.

NOT WHAT HE WANTED



Toronto is to guarantee one-third of the cost of the road and is only to have one vote in thirty-one, that is to say, equal voice with each of the other municipalities concerning the operation and building of the road. This is as misleading as any statement made by any public body of men in recent times. The insinuation is that Toronto is to have less to say in managing the hydro radial road, the people's own road, than it has in managing the C.P.R. or the G.T.R. or the C.N.R. or any other road into which the people have poured their franchisees and their subsidies, and get no voice whatever in the management, and nothing but rebuffs from one year's end till another.

The hydro radial bylaw provides for the building of a terminal on the lake front as soon as the project is begun. The steam railways have been going to build a Union Station for ten years or more, and they can have any concession they ask for from the board of trade, mud wall included, and then build their terminal. But when the people's road is to be built and managed by the people for the people obstacles are at once placed in the way. Is the board of trade aware that the people of Ontario are all one kind of people, and that when they agree upon a project like the hydro-electric system or the hydro radial lines they manage it entirely themselves, and the people of Hamilton and London and the other cities and municipalities have exactly the same interests in the road and the same motives for managing it in the people's interests that the people of Toronto have? If the president and council of the board of trade are to be taken as representatives of Toronto, it is no wonder that the city has gained from outsiders the title of Hogtown.

The fact is that the men of the board of trade are so soaked in corporation principles of plunder and self-seeking they cannot understand the principles of public ownership. The hydro-electric has been running for four years and in that time no differences of opinion have arisen in the managing of the system. The fat profits which have been distributed in dividends every year to private pockets now go into the pockets of the public in an annual adjustment of rates, and the board of trade men cannot understand how such things can be tolerated. The corporation-bred man regards dividends as sacred, and any interference with the operation of their sequence to private advantage is simply sacrilege. Sir Adam Beck has laid his sacrilegious hands on this time-honored principle which the board of trade is out to defend, and the councillors call upon Toronto taxpayers to say whether they are going into partnership with the same people with whom they have co-operated to run a hydro-electric system to add a radial railway to their enterprises.

The board of trade is against, at the moment, more dividends might be paid into the pockets of the public. The bylaw actually contains a clause which says that the street railway franchise shall not be renewed. Will the people of Toronto vote for such things? They will not, says President Woods. If the board of trade says they won't. These franchisees should be made over to private parties who would look after the dividends carefully and prevent the public from being contaminated by contact with them. They would also take care that rates would not be reduced from year to year in the splendid bribe which Sir Adam Beck has inaugurated. He is going to reduce

the electric rates in Toronto next year by \$122,000. This, says President Woods, ought to be disbursed in dividends to private persons who would look after the business, and who would not give the people one voice in 31 nor one voice in a million and one, in the management of affairs.

The radial railways would benefit the retail merchant at the expense of the wholesaler, and naturally the wholesaler of the board of trade objects. Mr. Woods objects, and all his wholesale brethren object because they have made arrangements for special privileges in shipping and rating, and these would all be upset if radials run by the people began to operate. The radials are to be run at cost, while the steam roads are to be run at a profit. Therefore the board of trade, which believes in profits for the few, declares that the people of Toronto shall vote against the bylaw because it would give service at actual cost to everybody.

It is not difficult to see why it is that the board of trade cries aloud against Sir Adam Beck. They are like the makers of images at Rheims led by President Demetrius who declare that the craft was in danger, and not only that but the local board of trade was in danger of being set at naught and despised. There was a great hubbub, and St. Paul had to leave the city. The Toronto Board of Trade wants a hubbub here and it wants to drive Sir Adam out of the hydro-electric business. The people of Toronto will let President Demetrius see whether they are to be led out against their own interests. The people will go in for cheaper rates and a reduced cost of living, confident of the same success as they have had with hydro light and power.

To Beat Wilson

There has been another "Gary dinner."

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ner." This time Theodore Roosevelt was the guest of honor and \$12,000,000,000 were represented. Standard Oil, Kuhn, Loeb & Co., the Anthracite Coal Trust, the Bakers, the Belmonts and the Vanderbilts were all there. The United States Steel Corporation was of course the host. The purpose of the dinner was to form another "gentlemen's agreement" to defeat President Wilson for re-election.

About this time four years ago a rumor got abroad that Wall Street was going to support Roosevelt against Taft for the Republican nomination. It seemed incredible, because the big stick more than once had descended upon the malefactors of great wealth. Mr. Roosevelt for one thing had put an end to railway rebating and thus struck a hard blow at crooked business in the railway world. As a matter of fact, the contest of 1912, altho George W. Perkins and Frank A. Munsey did all they could to secure Mr. Roosevelt's election as president.

Now, however, it seems that big business wants to use Roosevelt to beat Wilson. The tariff is the excuse, altho everybody knows that the war has automatically built a tariff wall around the United States more effective than any congress could devise. Big business will get the president if Roosevelt can be dissuaded from running as a third party candidate or if by chance the Republican nomination can be secured for him.

GERMAN CONTEMPT FOR WOMEN.

Editor World: Every American woman, in view of the present war, should read the interesting article on the German Kaiser by Octave Mirbeau which was translated by Ann and Julian Street and published in the "American" magazine about three years ago, which gives an insight into the Kaiser's despicable character in the treatment of his mother, from the time she became a widow and Dowager Empress and before his father's body was cold. His contempt for his mother, in the incident referred to, is beyond the comprehension of American womanhood and manhood.

The most sacred word in every language is "MOTHER," and yet comes the word "Mother," so beautifully depicted in the following old saying, "God could not be everywhere, therefore HE made mothers," and which evidently is beyond the Kaiser's understanding.

It is a well-known fact that he is credited with saying that women are only good for three things—Kochen—Kirchen—Kinder, which translated into English means—Cooking—Church—Children—which please observe is some of the Kaiser's "kultur" we have heard so much about.

In Germany the man is master and the woman is slave or servant; he commands and she must obey. The German Kaiser showed his poor widowed mother of a few moments that he was "Lord and Master" even of her for he placed her under arrest, as the article shows; more evidence of German "kultur."

The German has utter contempt for the American man's considerate treatment of American women, ridiculing it as shown by the article of The Berliner National Zeitung of the late Price Collier's book on Germany. Please note that the article was printed fully two years before war was declared, which makes it all the more interesting now. It impressed me so deeply that I obtained permission from the "American Magazine" to reprint same for distribution for the prethrust of the country and I am enclosing you a copy of the same.

Trust you will print it, for without doubt it will make highly interesting reading for many of your readers, particularly American women and especially American mothers. I am enclosing you a copy of the same.

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ROBERT WALDRUM DEAD
WELL-KNOWN SCOT
Celebrated Fifty-Eighth Year of Married Life Only a Week Ago.

Robert Waldrum of 59 Westmoreland avenue, Toronto, died Friday night in his 58th year. For over a quarter of a century Mr. Waldrum has been prominent in Scottish circles and has taken a keen interest in all that affected Scottish life and literature. He was a prominent member of the Caledonian Society and of the Sons of Scotland, and took a keen interest in the affairs of both organizations.

CLERGYMAN ENLISTS.
COBBOURG, Dec. 24.—Lieut. J. E. Penning, rector of Newcastle and Orono Anglican churches, has enlisted with the 136th Durham Battalion.

GREETINGS TO PROVINCE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of himself and the Ontario Cabinet Premier Hearn extends the warmest of greetings to the people of Ontario, and wishes them a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. "The war cloud still hangs heavily over us, and there is scarcely a family in the province that has not a relative near or remote in the armies of the empire. We don't know when the war will end, but our hope is that another Christmas will see a rift in the cloud heralding the dawn of a brighter civilization," he said.

ADD INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

No Power to Withdraw. Sir Adam Beck, when questioned yesterday over the long distance telephone concerning the action of the Board of Trade in opposing the bylaw, declared he had neither the power nor the inclination to withdraw the bylaw. "Why I have been under discussion for a year, and the Toronto bylaw differs on no essential point from the radial agreement, considered and debated on for months, I shall speak in Toronto all next week and do my utmost to carry the bylaw," he said.

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