The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1880.

A morning newspaper published every day in the year by The World Newspaper Company of Toronto, Limited.

H. J. Maclean, Managing Director.

WORLD BUILDING, TORONTO.

NO. 40 WEST RICHMOND STREET.

Telephone Calls:

Main 5308—Private exchange connecting all departments.

Branch Office—40 South McNab Street, Hamilton.

Telephone Regent 1946.

Daily World—2c per copy; delivered, 50c per month, $1.35 for 3 months, $2.60 for 6 months, $5.00 per year in advance; or $4.00 per year, 40c per month, by mail in Canada (except Toronto), United Kingdom, United States and Mexico.

Sunday World—5c per copy. $2.50 per year, by mail.

To Foreign Countries, postage extra.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 19.

Democracy is Not Bolshevism.

It is not sufficiently appreciated by men of the nineteenth century type how much the average labor man will bear before he considers a strike as a remedy. A strike is the last resort. It is, truly, a form of civil war. It is not the policy of the trades unions, with their growing intelligence and their long experience, to precipitate strikes. Where strikes occur they can almost invariably be traced to the arbitrary and tyrannous policy of some official head or other who does not understand labor or trades unions or democracy in its later developments at all.

The police union would probably never have been thought of but for the long-continued and oppressive rule of the chief of police. The recital of the police grievances is sufficient to convince any reasonable person that the men had no alternative but to combine to obtain a remedy. Complaints from individuals were ineffective, and usually brought the complainant into disfavor.

A police union was therefore a natural step. Trades unionism means organization with as keen a sense of the necessity of law and order as anyone. The trades and labor men of Canada have as much at stake as anyone, and their stake depends on the security of their position. They are no more likely to endanger it than others in a similar position. The efforts of trades unions and trades councils have been entirely in the direction of seeking means to avoid strikes, to establish boards of conciliation, arbitration councils, and other methods of solving economic problems.

Employers are recognizing this temper in the trades unions, and testify to the reasonableness of the men's representatives in all negotiations. It has remained for the Toronto police commissioners to violate every sanction of good faith and courtesy in the arbitrary and autocratic dismissal of the men's representatives on Tuesday.

Col. Denison's motives are and were good, no doubt, but in his statement he shows that he makes the prime mistake of treating the men as tho he distrusted them. He traces all the trouble to the distribution of a Bolshevist pamphlet to which we called attention a couple of weeks ago, pointing out its errors and absurdities. Col. Denison lays stress on this pamphlet and looks forward to the time when the police may come under Bolshevist influences.

With all due respect to Col. Denison's judgment, we do not think he understands the men to begin with, or that he is taking the proper way to maintain their confidence and loyalty. In the first place, Bolshevism is a revolt against the very system Col. Denison favors. Secondly, our men are not of the type that desire disorder and plunder. The Bolshevist argument does not appeal to them at all. But the policy Col. Denison believes in and has put in practice simply drives men into the ranks of the Bolshevists and gives them no chance to do otherwise. What can these men, dismissed by Col. Denison, tell their friends but that the Bolshevists had correctly estimated the situation?

We do not think that it is fair to compare the average Canadian trades unionist with Russian Bolsheviki. They are of an entirely different type. They have been bred under free institutions, and that freedom has been broadening out all the time. Col. Denison has made the mistake of confusing the broadening freedom of our system with the revolt of those who never enjoyed freedom under the tyranny of officials who never handled freemen. Freedom and education are elements that have not been considered by the police commissioners in connection with these dismissals. As treatment for Bolsheviki Col. Denison's plan might have been all right. As treatment for Toronto policemen it was ill-advised, unenlightened and reckless.

There need have been no surprise had a general strike occurred with this issue as a basis. We trust that the authorities will arrest such a development by judicious action tending to counter-check the effects of the autocratic policy of the police commissioners. The government must understand that the old domineering Legree manner is out of date, and that men have to be dealt with in civil life on the new democratic basis. Some people seem to have forgotten that we are a democratic nation and that the new era means an attempt to do business in a democratic way. Those who think this means anarchy and Bolshevism do not know the signs of the times. Any Bolshevists we have here are importations and are to be handled as imported goods, n.e.s. But the blocking of our natural and necessary democratic development, in the fear that it may be something else, is a stupid blunder.

Annexation Propaganda.

It is an agreeable shock to find our esteemed contemporary at Melinda and Bay preparing for an annexation campaign. We should have been prepared for the adoption of other successful policies we have suggested after the serene appropriation of the Bloor-street viaduct.

Last night's issue had a whole page devoted to arguments for annexation of territory adjoining the city, so that the incidence of taxation may secure some benefit for the city in return for the enhanced values that city conveniences bestow on the contiguous property.

The argument is most impressive, and is backed up with photographs and figures. The scandalous way in which city taxes are evaded by the simple expedient of living just across the city border line in the township has furnished The Telegram with the same text upon which we have discoursed for years.

We gladly call attention to this missionary work on the part of our contemporary, as it can have no other logical object than a demand for the annexation of all territories where city advantages are possessed while city taxes are escaped.

The particular district aimed at is north of St. Clair avenue and west of Spadina road, and is a proper field for the city assessor. St. Clair avenue cars run under cost to supply this district with service, while owners get off with a tax rate one-fourth of that paid by citizens.

The situation costs the city, in connection with several apartment houses cited, the sum of $12,207.15, three-fourths of which go to the owners. No wonder such annexation propaganda is making its appearance. We hail the appearance of the new missionary, and will welcome the zeal which no doubt from a new convert will be lavished on the cause.

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The Police Strike.

Editor World: The trouble with the police commissioners is that they imagine themselves to be a civil body endowed with civil powers. It would be well if they could be made to believe they are endowed with civic powers only, being a civic body. There has been a great deal of unrest in the police force, and this strike now will bring everything to a head. Autocracy and imperialism has been given a death blow in Europe, and it must not be allowed to raise its head on this continent. I had an occasion some time ago to call the attention of the chief of police to the fact that public property should not be neglected while private property was patrolled by the police. I got the following answer from the chief of police: "We have a man to look after the eastern section of the city, and he will place his men where he sees fit, without any advice from the ordinary citizen." What do you think of it?

440 Lake Front.

IDA AND THE POLICE STRIKE

BY IDA L. WEBSTER.

Last night we had the pleasure of attending one of the meetings of the police union, or rather we were there for a short while, but it was long enough to assure us, or anyone else who might care to know, that the men are going to stick together, and with the determination which they showed last night they are going to win.

Every man in the hall was the picture of fearless determination. And for that matter, why should they not be? Certainly it cannot be said that they have anything to lose, while on the other hand they have everything on earth to win.

When the police commissioners dismissed the 12 constables who were originally connected with the union, and at the same time tactfully overlooked Scott, who was president, they made the mistake of their young lives. But their action also showed the citizens of Toronto that they are not responsible men, and are therefore not competent to occupy the positions which they do on the board of police commissioners.

How dare any two or three men, who, by the way, are merely servants of the municipality, take the high-handed stand which Col. Denison and Judge Winchester have done? These men are directly responsible for whatever damage or lawlessness that might occur during the hours of the strike. Then, on the head of it, the hero of the Northwest Rebellion says that the step taken by the policemen is the first act of Bolshevism, or something to that effect. The statement was so ridiculous that we did not pay very close attention to it, and cannot recall the exact wording at the present moment.

In any case, by not taking the advice and doing as Col. Denison says, the policemen of Toronto are all liable to become wild and wooly Bolsheviks. It is so absurd on the face of it that it is almost funny, and it would be were the situation not so serious. As it is, the men have been forced to call a strike as the only means of getting part of what they should have, or rather that is their stand, and as they have threshed the matter out for days, it is hardly likely that they made a mistake.

There may be a few who are inclined to think that the men are acting hastily and without cause. Probably before they go around shouting these views to the housetops they might stop one second and remember that while the men are on strike they are not being paid a salary, and what is more, practically all of them need the money. Do you then suppose that they would deliberately take the step which they have if they did not feel that they were perfectly justified?

His worship the mayor arrived, after being duly announced, and made one of the poorest speeches which we have ever had the pleasure of listening to. His allusions to the press were disgustingly pitiful. After being mayor for four years surely he has learned that the last thing which any normal person should do is try to belittle the press. It might also be well for Mister Church to remember that the press put him where he is, and that it can take him out of there, too. If he is going to conduct the rest of his campaign speeches as he did the one last night, then there is every reason to imagine that he is going to be left panting at the post on the night of the first of January.

About the gist of his "effort" was to tell the men that they owed a duty to the public, and that they should go back and work as the commissioners desired. Unfortunately he apparently forgets that as a civic employe he too owes a duty to the public, and if he had the required courage he would take the bit between his teeth, and act. Certainly, when it comes to getting his name in the papers about writing to Ottawa regarding the military authorities he is right on the job. As charity begins at home, his worship might write a few letters to Premier Hearst about the police commissioners.

And in the meanwhile, the citizens must stay with the men, and endeavor to keep orderly. Toronto is too large to be ruled by the mailed fist of Col. Denison, and the disdainful smile of Lieut.-Col. Grasett. Also, Toronto must have police service, but first and foremost it must have democracy. Our boys died to kill autocracy in Europe, why then should it be allowed to reign here like a mocking ghost to their memory?

DON'T KNOW ANYPODY DOT WANTS A TAME COON, DO YOU?

T. E. L. BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of the Toronto Electric Light Company's Employes' Mutual Benefit Society was held on Tuesday evening. The financial report showed total receipts for the year to be $1480.85. All liabilities having been met, the sum of $218.70 was left in the treasury. The following officers were elected: Hon. president, R. J. Fleming; hon. vice-president, D. H. McDougall; president, W. Rodgers; vice-president, C. Richards; secretary-treasurer, E. Felton; directors: C. Love, G. Gibbons, J. Brown, H. McCarter, M. D. Schwegler, G. Gardiner, T. Bailey, A. Smith, J. Servos, W. A. Wilkinson; auditors, R. Manser, S. Buckell, G. Wildey.

VICTORY LOAN

INTEREST TABLES

From One Day to Six Months

We have prepared a new folder, including 5% to 5½% tables, showing how to calculate the exact amount of accrued interest to date of delivery for either buying or selling. Comparative Table showing the terms of all the Domestic Canadian War Issues is included.

A copy gladly sent on request.

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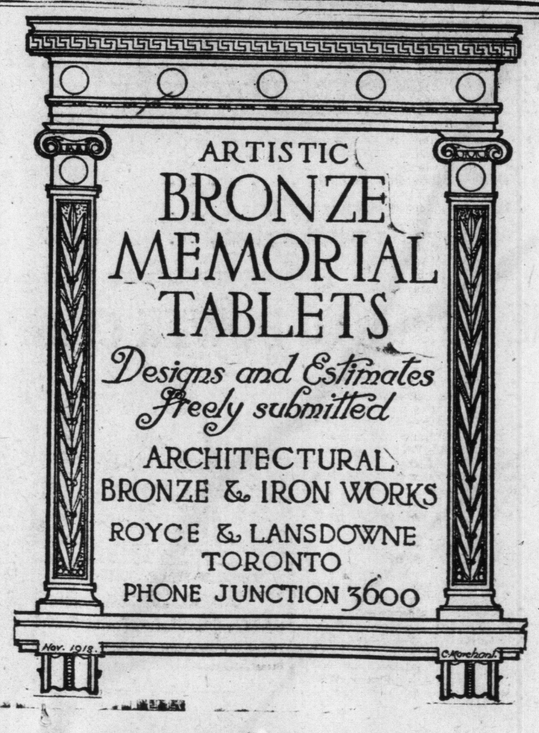

THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

Brian is Ordered Overseas.

CHAPTER CXV.

"Brian—hurry—" she gasped. He was going to leave her, and perhaps she never would see him again. Had she any right to keep from him the wonderful thing that was coming to them? Wasn't it wrong to let him go in ignorance?

Then, as she still held the receiver to her ear, she heard another voice—a woman's. As she listened, Brian's tones came to her muffled, as if he were holding the mouthpiece against some object.

"I'll hurry—yes, and—of course!" The last rather impatiently, Ruth thought as she strained to listen. Then: "Yes, it will be fully an hour—no—not if I can help it." Then once again he spoke to her. "Hello Ruth!"

"Hello"—

"I'll be up just as soon as I can, about twenty minutes. I'll jump in a taxi so that I may have more time with you."

"Wait a minute, Brian—how long will you be with me?" She had what he had said in her mind: "Fully an hour—not longer, if I can help it." Who was Brian talking to—what woman? And why was he going to hurry to get back to her?

"Just long enough to pack up and say good-bye, Ruth. Hurry orders, dear. I will be right along." The receiver clicked. She was shut off.

She sat like one benumbed until she heard his key in the door. All power of thought seemed to have been taken from her. She neither thought anything of the question which had seemed so vital to her a while before, nor did she think of anything else. Her mind had atrophied for the present.

"Hello, Ruth, where are you?" came Brian's voice with a ring of something so like joy in it. She hastily brushed her hand across her eyes before she answered.

"Here, dear, in the bedroom."

Brian caught her in his arms and kissed her tenderly.

"Isn't it wonderful, Ruth? I am going over at last. Gee! how we have chafed under the waiting; how we have longed to go! Why, you should have seen the boys when the order came. Such shouting you never heard. I tell you, Ruth, those damned Germans will open their eyes when they see us—if they do sneer at us because we are green at the fighting game. We'll show them a trick or two, even if they have been at it for forty years so they could whip us. We've a bag full of them, you know! I tell you, Ruth, all the other nations have got to get up mighty early if they are going to get anything on Uncle Sam. Not that they aren't wonderful—but just wait until we get across and give them a breathing spell. You see, Ruth, the British, the French, and the Italians, to say nothing of Belgians and men of the other smaller principalities, have got to be helped and it is up to us to do it. I'll be proud to fight on the same line with the Canadians! Think of the time the poor devils have been bucking that Hun proposition over there. Maybe they won't give us Yanks a warm welcome. I wish you were going along, Ruth."

He had not stopped talking a moment, while he was rummaging thru his chiffonier drawers, and in the closet; but that had been the first word he had said that showed he had any thought of her. The tears filled her eyes, but resolutely she winked them back. If he didn't care anything about leaving her, she wouldn't let him see how near to heart-break she was because of his going.

"No—I'll not tell ....." she whispered, her lips quivering.

"Can I go to the boat with you?" she asked when she could control her voice.

"No, dear. They won't let anyone go. We will have to say good-bye here." His voice trembled just a little.

Just then Rachel came in and Ruth told her to get Brian something to eat, and some coffee.

"You'll have to hustle, Rachel," he looked at his watch. "I shall have to be out of here in about half an hour."

"As soon as that, Brian? What time do you sail?" Ruth watched him narrowly as she spoke. The flush that dyed his face for a moment did not pass unnoticed.

"Yes, and I don't know the time of sailing or anything about it. We are told only one thing at a time, you know."

"Yes,—I have read that even the captain of the boats sail under sealed orders, but I had forgotten it." Once more her eyes filled. And as before, she would not let Brian see.

"Yo' supper am on the table, Marse' Brian," Rachel interrupted.

Tomorrow—Brian Leaves Ruth. She is Heartbroken.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

DOUBT.

Some Sages don't believe in Doubt,
And seek to wipe it wholly out,
But in my view it is a thing
That leads to honest questioning.
And Faith is stronger to my mind
That makes us search life's teachings thru
To find at last the creed that's true.

HONOR J. CROZIER.

Belleville, Dec. 18. — John Crozier, aged 11 years, was this afternoon publicly presented with a bronze medal from the Royal Humane Society for an act of bravery. In July last at Chemong Lake the lad rescued a boy named W. B. Kelly, who fell off the wharf and would have been drowned had not Crozier plunged in and rescued him. The event took place at Queen Victoria school.

REPATRIATE CAPT. E. A. McKAY.

London, Dec. 18.—Capt. George W. Little of the Patricias was gazetted a member of the Victoria Order in connection with King George's recent visit to France.

Capt. E. A. McKay, Royal Flying Corps, who belongs to Toronto, has been repatriated.

Christmas Shopping At Dineen's

There is a special sale of some particular article in Furs or Millinery at the Dineen Store every day. This special sale will be kept up throughout the Christmas Shopping Season. Special attractive bargains will be the daily feature. For Thursday and Friday the following bargains will be in marked prominence:

Special

Sweater Coats, all-wool and brush wool, colors rose, Paddy, coralette, maise, purple and many other shades, self trimmed, and white collar and cuffs. Regular price, $15.00. Special $9.75

Dresses

Ladies' and misses' crepe de chine, serge, tricolette and georgette dresses. Also a variety of others. See our display of evening dresses. Prices ranging from $25.00 to $65.00.

Cloth Coats

Fur trimmed and self trimmed. Prices from $25.00 to $95.00.

Millinery

Velours and Pattern Hats, all greatly reduced.

Waists

Georgette, crepe de chine and silk, trimmed with embroidery, lace, beading and tucks. Prices range from $4.95 to $15.00.

Collars

Satin, silk and georgette crepe, round necks and square necks, trimmed with embroidery and frills.

Hosiery

Cashmerette, also silk and lisle, in all colors. Regular price 75c. Special 49c

Silk Hose

Silk Hose, garter tops, in all colors. Prices from .... $1.75 to 2.50

Selections in Furs

Taupe Fox Scarfs,	$67.50 to $125.00
Taupe Fox Muffs,	$67.50 to $125.00
Cinnamon Scarfs,	$67.50 to $150.00
Cinnamon Muffs,	$67.50 to $165.00
White Fox Scarfs,	$60.00 to $100.00
White Fox Muffs,	$75.00 to $100.00
Georgette Fox Scarfs,	$195.00
Georgette Fox Muffs,	$185.00
Silver Fox Scarfs,	$125.00 to $200.00
Silver Fox Muffs,	$150.00 to $185.00
Opossum Capes,	$27.50 to $125.00
Opossum Muffs,	$27.50 to $55.00
Taupe Wolf Scarfs,	$37.50 to $65.00
Cinnamon Wolf Scarfs,	$25.00 to $65.00
Cinnamon Wolf Muffs,	$27.50 to $65.00
Black Wolf Muffs,	$27.50 to $60.00
Black Wolf Scarfs,	$27.50 to $55.00
Natural Wolf Muffs,	$15.00 to $35.00
Natural Wolf Scarfs,	$15.00 to $35.00
Natural Coon Muffs,	$22.50 to $35.00
Natural Coon Stoles,	$22.50 to $35.00
Hudson Seal Capes,	$32.50 to $125.00
Hudson Seal Capes—Squirrel trimmed,	$75.00 to $975.00
Hudson Seal Capes—Beaver trimmed,	$97.50

Children's Furs

Misses' Mink Coat with beaver collar. Very special, $90.00.

Misses' Mink Coat with civet cat collar, $90.00.

Children's Tiger Coney Coats, $29.00 to $35.00.

Children's Australian Opossum Coats, $22.50 to $25.00.

Thibet Sets, $5.25 to $15.00.

Mouffion Sets, $7.50 to $12.50.

Muskrat Sets, $8.50 to $15.00.

Coney Sets, $5.25 to $13.50.

Grey Fox Sets, $18.50 to $27.50.

DINEEN'S, 140 Yonge St.

Taking Over the Street Railway

The one great opportunity to secure a public-owned transportation system is presented to the City at the expiration of the street railway franchise in 1921. For years the citizens have endured an inadequate, inefficient service and have waited for the day when they shall take it over.

Toronto must own, and operate through a commission, its transportation system to obtain a proper and unified service for all sections of the City.

This important utility cannot be obtained without determined effort by the people. They will be confronted by hidden and by open opposition. The City and its representatives must needs be alert and ready to foil every attempt, however plausible or insidious, to obtain a renewal of the franchise.

Obtained, and operated by a commission free from interference and not subject to municipal politics, the transportation system will be a valuable asset financially, and an important factor in the upbuilding, progress and prosperity of our City.

Toronto must be through for all time to come with the inconvenience and inadequacy of a privately-owned public utility of such importance as her street railway.

It is your duty as a citizen to use your vote to elect the best representative to your civic government for 1919.

CONTROLLER JOHN O'NEILL MAYORALTY CANDIDATE

SEND BIG DEPUTATION.

St. Thomas, Dec. 18.—The third and largest deputation, with representatives from St. Thomas and all municipalities between here and Windsor, will be in Toronto tomorrow to advocate the southern and the double-barrel route for the new proposed provincial highway.

It is expected that fully 400 delegates will wait upon Premier Hearst, the Hon. Finlay Macdiarmid and the other members of the cabinet.

Sore Eyes Granulated Eyelids, Eyes inflamed by exposure to Sun, Dust and Wind quickly relieved by Murine Eye Remedy. No Smarting, just Eye Comfort. At Druggists or by mail 60c per Bottle. Murine Eye Salve in Tubes 25c. For Book of the Eye FREE ask Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.