



NO USE, MY FRIEND, THE CURRENT'S TOO STRONG FOR YOU

CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM THROUGHOUT CANADA

Every optimist in Canada ought to take a pessimist in charge. The cheerful man should gently lead the disciple of calamity to some quiet corner, and there impart to him as kindly as only the true optimist can, the knowledge that this country will still be distinctly visible on any good map of the world when peace is concluded in Berlin. The pessimist is not a thinker, and his imagination flourishes only in grooves of gloom. It is necessary that he be trained to walk upright in the sunshine among the people who are adapting themselves to new conditions before he can be expected to shake off his adopted convictions and take his proper place in the daily toil of the nation. The national machinery in this country did not stop when the first German vessel stepped across the borders of Belgium. Canadians did not take to their cellars nor cease to eat as usual. Neither did the products of the fertile fields of Canada disappear from the bins and the elevators of the divested ships on the mounds. Few manufacturing plants of consequence had to close because of the imminence of hostilities, and those that did will be started again before long. Admittedly, the war has disturbed business, but not beyond the possibility of rapid and efficient adjustment, and those adjustments have in large measure been already achieved. As the first shock is always the hardest to bear, it is reasonably safe to assume that the problems of the future will be as capably handled and that day by day the nation will progress to a position of steadiness and contentment.

There were not lacking pessimistic pedants to preach that dark days were dawning when Canada's volunteers began to gather for service overseas. Yet, because of that mobilization, factories throughout the country were soon running with full staffs, and in many cases, running overtime, to furnish the equipment required. Boots, socks, underclothing, uniforms, rations, rifles and ammunition had to be acquired. As the government has announced that a second contingent will follow the first and that men will be constantly in training here, while the war lasts, it is likely that these self-same factories will continue to operate, as a result of the war, with the conflict lasts. In addition, quite out of a clear sky, came orders for saddles and harness for the governments of Great Britain, France and Russia, in large quantities, because the manufacturing plants of those countries could not produce the supplies needed quickly enough. The harness business is always rather dull in the fall and the demands of the armies of the allies were gratefully received. Canada is being called upon to furnish horses at good prices, and beef at good prices, and other foodstuffs at good prices, and in bulk considerably greater than is customary in times of peace, so Canada's portion of the war surely has not been an unmitigated evil.

The markets of a few manufacturers were upset by the old world fighting, but they will find that their products may be diverted to other markets. As a matter of fact, producers so placed are not numerous in Canada. The majority of our manufacturing plants are devoted to the production of goods essential to the daily routine of the people and the demand in the home market is sufficient to enable them to maintain operations.

The last Dominion census, that of 1911, is authority for the statement that there were in Canada, 1910, some nineteen thousand odd manufacturing plants. Of those, 6,985, or more than a third of the manufacturing plants of the Dominion were devoted to the production of foodstuffs. As the people have to be fed, most of these plants should be able to carry on their operations as usual. The employees on the pay rolls of these factories in 1910 numbered 52,730. The wages paid totaled \$11,492,568, and the cost of materials stood at \$175,453,469, the whole constituting a considerable item, the spending of which is calculated to stimulate activity in other lines of industry.

In timber and wood products the census gives the number of plants as 4,999, employees 110,049, the wages paid \$39,379,739 and the cost of materials \$94,052,429. Speculative building has largely ceased, but Canadian woods may be made an essential feature of specifications for buildings going up for the governments and for municipalities throughout the Dominion. There will, possibly, be a decrease of output in furniture. The lumber mills ordinarily enjoying an export business ought to be able to continue operations much as usual, though they will not have access to Germany and Austria, and there is some opportunity for many of the other lumber men to seek outside trade as well.

REMARKABLE TALE OF GERMAN FORETHOUGHT

Paris, Dec. 31.—A remarkable tale of German forethought and royal politeness comes from Choisy-An-Bac, near Soissons.

When the Germans retired from the town, the story goes, Emile Thurneyssen, a well known Paris stockbroker, visited his chateau, which was unharmed but stripped of pictures and furniture. He found on a hall table was a visiting card with the following message engraved in French:

"Prince Eitel Friederich of Prussia begs to inform M. Thurneyssen (name written) that he ought to have stayed in his chateau to receive the visit of Le Marquis."

The owner of a neighboring property, Count Doria, a Paris art collector, declined to leave his chateau at Orrouy at the approach of the enemy. Ignoring the risk he persisted in his usual morning stroll in the neighboring forest of Hallatte. Returning, he found a German colonel installed at his dinner table. Unruffled, the count addressed the intruder politely: "Bon jour, monsieur. You see I have stayed to greet you, but I did not expect you so soon."

With equal politeness the colonel replied: "I am delighted to meet you, sir, and to find one host not afraid to receive me personally."

When the Germans retreated Count Doria was left in possession of his chateau, which had not suffered at all.

EX-PRES. TAFT HAS NO FEAR OF WAR BETWEEN CANADA AND THE U. S.

Boston, Dec. 30.—Referring to the amicable relations between Canada and the United States in an address at the annual banquet at the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts last night, former President William H. Taft said:

"I have no fear that American and Canada will not always maintain peace and I believe that any differences that may arise will be settled by arbitration."

The hope that "the two great English speaking nations may never again meet in armed conflict, but that if they do it shall be in the sacred cause of humanity," was expressed by Grand Master William D. McPherson of the grand lodge of Canada.

MONTREAL MAY HAVE TO ELIMINATE CELEBRATION

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Nobody knows yet whether there is to be the usual New Year's eve celebration here in the hotels and restaurants. The dominion alliance and anti-alcoholic league have asked in an open letter that the places of public entertainment restrain the usual gaieties this year because of the war, and the matter has been put up to Chief of Police Campeau.

He has given no decision yet. The hotel and restaurant men claim the public wants the usual celebration and that they have made all their arrangements.

ties numbered the iron and steel shops in 1910 at 324, employees 48,568, wages paid \$25,792,388 and cost of materials \$82,453,103. The industry is most prosperous when countries are doing a great deal of new construction, when the skeletons of big office buildings are etched against the sky, and confidence is rampant in individuals. But a pleasing feature is that orders for this class of work are placed usually a long way ahead. Then, too, the Federal government proposes to go on with a vast amount of construction work and provincial governments and municipalities, as far as they are able, will proceed with similar enterprises.

The leather goods trade has already been touched upon. It is bigger, probably, than most Canadians imagine, the Ottawa officials giving the number of plants in 1910 as 399, the number of employees 22,742, the wages paid \$9,644,408, and the cost of materials \$34,394,189.

The clay, glass and stone products are produced in 771 plants by 17,699 employees, the pay roll amounting to \$7,745,342. It is in much the same position as the iron and steel industry, and mostly with building.

but this should provide excellent opportunity for makers of brick, stone and cement to stock up in order that they may be in a better position to make prompt deliveries when the demand starts in earnest again.

These are our chief industries. They total 16,373, or within 2,845 of all the factories enumerated by the census man in 1911. The employees number 352,618. They are concerned with the making of essential products. The people need the goods they manufacture. Today they are concerned with the making of essential products. The people need the goods they manufacture. Today, even after all the prophecies and calculations, unemployment has not increased to anything like the proportions expected when the war began. It is unlikely that it will, and there will be the added solace that this year because extraordinary conditions prevail, legislative aids will be provided which were never available before.

As for the manufacturers, they are following the advice of Sir George Foster and are studying the position from every standpoint. Up to the commencement of hostilities we had been importing from other countries more than \$600,000,000 worth of goods a year, goods coming in large measure from the United Kingdom, United States and from Germany. Great Britain herself had been accepting from Germany and Austria-Hungary imports to the value of \$350,000,000 a year. The German and Austrian trade to Australia

and New Zealand is a trade of quite considerable value. Without going any further there is nearly a billion dollars in trade open for competition. Some of it ought to be secured by Canadian manufacturers. Great Britain is sympathetic; so is Australia; so is New Zealand. If our people are in earnest now is the time for manufacturing ability and capital to get together and work the problem out.

ITALY'S QUICK MOVE CAUSE OF IRRITATION IN AUSTRIA HUNGARY

Rome, Dec. 31.—Italy's momentous move in occupying Avlona, Albania, and the surrounding hill country has aroused intense irritation and discontent in Austria-Hungary.

A correspondent of the Il Secolo, telegraphing from the Austrian frontier, says Germany has intervened in Vienna in an endeavor to prevent a possible Austro-Italian incident at this delicate juncture.

Count Berchtold, foreign minister, had a lengthy conference with Emperor Francis Joseph on the matter and on returning to the foreign office the count at once sent for the Italian ambassador, who, it is reported, was requested to secure from Rome a fresh statement of Italy's declaration of October that her move was merely a police measure for the time being, applied in virtue of the decisions of the London conference.

TORONTO'S MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN CONCLUDES

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 31.—Tonight will see the close of the hottest municipal campaign in Toronto's history. The fight for the mayoralty chair will be a close one between Controllers Church and McCarthy, while the list for board of control honors is hardest to pick. The feature of the campaign has been the fight made by Alderman Sam McBride against the socialist candidate, James Simpson, for the board. McBride, who is running in ward three, has stumped every part of the city against Simpson, making his cry "Simpson is a dirty socialist."

Simpson, however, is awarded a place on the board, despite the campaign.

HOLDING OF WINTER FAIR INADVISABLE DECLARES PREMIER

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 31.—To hold the Brandon winter fair as usual this season would not be advisable because it would cost a lot of money that might well be devoted to patriotic purposes and would entail considerable inconvenience to the troops now housed in the winter fair building.

This opinion was expressed today by Premier Roblin to an influential delegation of Brandon citizens which asked the government to increase its annual winter fair grant from \$4,000 to \$7,000. Mayor Hughes, of Brandon, as chief spokesman, gave the reasons for the request. He pointed out that on account of the financial stringency the winter fair board needed the extra money in order to handle the exhibition. It would be a pity, he said, to let the fair drop this year, because continuity was the life of such an institution. By substituting business the expense would more than justify itself, even from a patriotic point of view.

At the present time the great winter fair building is occupied by troops. If it were absolutely necessary the delegation said, the winter fair could be housed in the summer fair buildings. But this would mean a big drop in the gate receipts. It was therefore desirable, although not essential, that new accommodation be found for the troops.

Sir Rodmond promised consideration of the request but he distinctly discouraged the holding of the winter fair this year. It was the duty of everyone, the government included, he said, to save as much money as possible. Moreover, he thought nothing could be allowed to interfere with the comfort of the troops or the plans of the militia department. He could not see how the fair could be held without seriously impeding the military operations.

In addition to Mayor Hughes several other members of the delegation spoke. They were A. Shewan, president of the Brandon board of trade; W. I. Smale, secretary of the Winter Fair association; Wm. McCurdy, of Napinka; D. W. Beaulieu, of Brandon; and J. S. Willmott, representing the banks at Brandon; Ald. Bourke and Ald. Coleman; W. E. Roberts; John Scarr, of Hartney; Archibald McPhail, of Elton; and John Graham, of Carberry, were also present. The last named delegates represented various parts of the province.

REPORTED BOMBARDMENT OF POLA BY BRITISH AND FRENCH WARSHIPS

Copenhagen, Dec. 31, (Bulletin)—via London.—A private despatch from Berlin, received here, says that over thirty French and British warships are at present engaged in bombarding Pola, the Austrian naval base on the Adriatic, and also the caport of Rouigno, 15 miles away.

INTERESTING PRESS COMMENT ON SPEECH BY PREMIER BORDEN

London, Dec. 31.—(C.A.P.)—The Times editorially today draws attention to the significance of the fact that both Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, and Right Hon. Andrew Fisher, premier of the commonwealth of Australia, the same day made speeches which looked forward to the end of the war and estimated the effect on the status of the empire. Premier Fisher said that the ray had already come when self respect should persuade Australia and New Zealand to abandon her policy of reliance on the British taxpayer and bear at least her full share in their own defence.

The same thought, says the Times, was evidently in the mind of Sir Robert Borden when he said that if the war continues another year the dominions will have to put into line a quarter of a million men and he justly remarks that even the results already obtained must mark a great epoch in the history of inter-Imperial relations.

The Times agrees with Premier Borden that the problem of developing our relationship one to another, though complex, is such that no one need despair of a satisfactory solution. "We are bound to face the problems involved in the adolescence of the dominions' peoples. We have put it off quite long enough," says the Times, which proceeds to argue that it ought not to be assumed too lightly that the imperial conference should not meet as arranged next year because of the war. The speeches of Sir Robert Borden and Right Hon. Andrew Fisher show that the premiers of Canada and Australia are willing to come. If the surface difficulties can be overcome the meeting would show the world that the British people in the midst of war prepare themselves for new works of peace, adds the Times.

MARCONI MEMBER OF ITALIAN HOUSE

Rome, Dec. 31.—Guglielmo Marconi, of wireless telegraphy fame, today was appointed member of the Italian senate by King Victor Emmanuel.

DARING BANK ROBBERY

Winnisboro, La., Dec. 31.—An unmasked white man covered the assistant cashier of the Winnisboro state bank with a revolver and seized \$1,500 in currency from the cash drawer yesterday. The man broke the phone connection and made his escape on a horse rented from a local livery stable. The assistant cashier was alone in the bank.

PARTNER IN REAL ESTATE FIRM AWARDED DAMAGE

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Judgment was rendered in the Findlay-Howard suit yesterday by Mr. Justice Lafontaine, who awarded Sidney P. Howard \$90,000 to cover loss and damages incurred by the sudden dissolution by John Findlay and Howard. The action taken by Howard was originally for \$350,000, but the claim was reduced to \$100,000. The defence produced by Findlay's lawyers was that Howard had been disloyal to the firm. For this reason the partnership had been dissolved, it was contended.

In commenting on the defence, Justice Lafontaine remarked that no partner gave a guarantee not to commit errors of judgment. In the present instance, he continued, the disloyalty had been on Findlay's side.

BLAZE AT FORWARD, SASK.

Forward, Sask., Dec. 31.—Fire which store entirely destroyed contents; also the post office building, W. G. Neeland's clothing and general store and D. K. Dryhurst's auction room. The loss is estimated at \$20,000, partially covered by insurance. The mail was saved from the post office.

SAYS FRANCE BUILDING FLEETS OF AIR CRAFT

New York, Dec. 31.—France is building two great fleets of air craft, armed with cannon, darts and bombs, with which to invade Germany in the spring, according to Pedro Chapa, a Mexican aviator who has been in Europe for the last four years, and who arrived here last night on the Cunard liner Carpathia. Hundreds of armored biplanes, each carrying a small cannon and bombs, and numerous monoplane equipped with bombs and steel darts, will be ready to sweep across the German frontier when winter is past, he said. The monoplane are intended mainly for scout work, and will make a speed of 120 miles an hour. All the aeroplanes will have a cruising radius of 130 miles from the centres, said Chapa, and their attack will not be in the form of raids by a few machines, as hitherto, but by large divisions. The aviators to man these machines are now being trained in several large camps established for the purpose, he said.

Chapa, who is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, is to go to Mexico City to construct aeroplanes for the Mexican government.

CHATHAM, ONT., DEC. 31.—SEVENTY-FIVE VALUABLE HORSES AND COWS PERISHED IN A FIRE WHICH YESTERDAY DESTROYED THE BARN AND RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM O'NEARA OF RATEIGH TOWNSHIP.

AND COWS PERISHED

Chatham, Ont., Dec. 31.—Seventy-five valuable horses and cows perished in a fire which yesterday destroyed the barn and residence of William O'Neara of Rateigh township.

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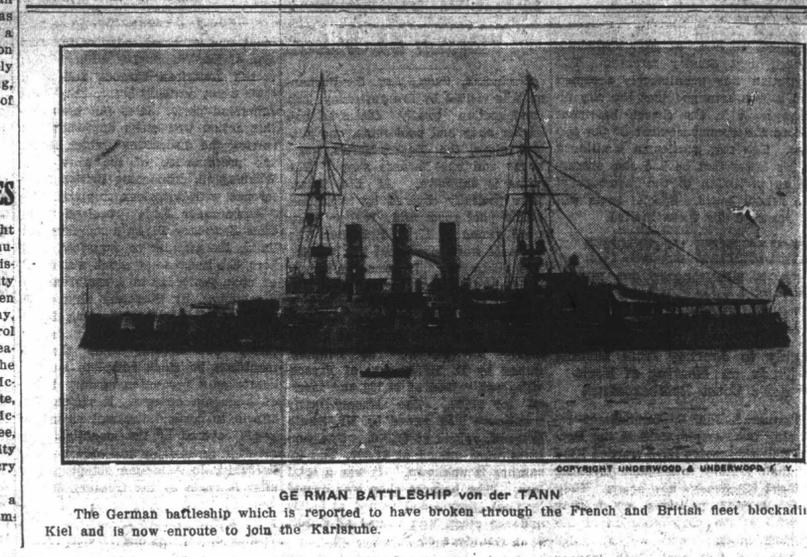
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Wm. FERGUSON

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GERMAN BATTLESHIP von der TANN. The German battleship which is reported to have broken through the French and British fleet blockading Kiel and is now enroute to join the 'Karlshuë'.



The Best Part of the Cake Is its icing—**Mapleine** gives an exquisite "maple" flavor to cake frostings and fillings. And for flavoring sugar syrup it is unsurpassed for goodness and economy. Grocers Sell Mapleine. Crescent Manufacturing Company, Seattle, Wa.