

The Toronto World

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FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 1.

What of the Men at the Front?

To hear the bitter complaints of Canada debating whether certain railway metals would go to France, while the fate of humanity trembled in the balance, is enough to make one despair of the people that tolerate such trifling. Have fifty years of nationality produced nothing of the temper of national character, nothing of the magnanimity and breadth of world stature?

Every mail brings news from the front of the death of men and material, and one wonders what the men in the trenches think of those who make a political issue out of the despatch of indispensable railway iron from Canada to the point where Canadian lives at the front hang in the balance with Canadian convenience at home.

On the top of this comes the report that the party politicians, or the more bitter among them, would be satisfied to let the war and the Canadian troops in Europe go to perdition, while they squabbling and about each other in the furor of a malignant election contest. We should have the anti-conscriptors and anti-war men, backed up by the anti-prohibitionists, the anti-railway nationalists, and the anti-everything else in local, provincial or federal affairs, that would afford an opportunity for the stacks and blood appeal giving for help. The artillery, especially, has been suffering heavy casualties for want of men sufficient to keep the roads in order. When the wagons or guns are halted, they are a fair mark for the enemy. If the roads could be repaired rapidly, there would be no halting. But what do the professional politicians and the bitter partisans care for the men at the front, or what can we imagine they care, if they are willing to halt the necessary measures that would keep our ranks filled?

We have sent 320,000 men overseas, according to Sir Edward Kemp's latest statement. We are asked to keep reserves sufficient to fill the ranks of the four divisions at the front, so that one man has not to do two or three men's work. It is a fair labor principle, this, but there are some labor men who do not seem to care how long the overtime, nor how dangerous the service of their mates abroad, as long as they have an easy time at home.

There has been a great outcry for conscription, until the prime minister declared that it would be adopted by the government. The greater part of that outcry was genuine. The political gamblers, however, have swung around now, and have raised another cry, several other cries, in fact, most of which are plausible, and even reasonable, but unfair, when intended to supplant or displace or hinder a response to the first, and the still urgent necessity.

The men at the trenches, under fire and dropping dead daily, need the help. Some labor men and some politicians stand aside now, and swear to heaven that the first necessary thing is to conscript wealth to relieve the burden of their taxation at home. Until wealth is conscripted, and their taxation relieved, let the Canadians in France go to perdition.

This is the attitude which 320,000 men abroad, and their friends and relatives at home, have to meet. We and they know that wealth and much else must be conscripted, but the men in France come first. We have faith enough in the people of Canada to think that the greater part of them, whatever they may think of the war and its issues, or were there no other issue, would stand by the Canadian boys who daily stand under the rain of Prussian shells and bullets.

If Canada deserts these men in the day of trouble, the Lord will do so to her, and more also.

all week making calculations about how much bread we eat. Most of us only eat 7 1/2 slices of bread per day—the ration being nine slices. We don't use sugar except what is put in cooking, and the ration is 6 teaspoonsful. So you see we are economizing all right. Today—speaking in gold terms—I'm three slices up and six to go.

The spirit that lies behind this attitude is what may be called upon to bring the empire through the great tribulation, but we should have more of it in Canada and a fuller realization of what is needed, both in action and in restraint, to make us worthy of the fellowship of the entente alliance.

A Win for the People.

Toronto has reason to be glad of the decision of the committee revising the Railway Act to refuse permission to corporations seeking to distribute electric or other power in municipalities without first gaining their consent.

No kind of bribery or robbery is allowable to a person, male or female, but corporations hold the theory that it is perfectly legitimate to flim-flam the public to its very face if it can get an ingenious lawyer to draft an act which means something different from what it appears to mean. Judges who are afterwards enlightened by astute pleaders as to the presence and power of the "joker" appear to be unable to do anything but sanction the flim-flam, on the grounds that the public should have been smarter. Occasionally, as in the present instance, parliament intervenes, and justice has her bandage removed for a little.

For Toronto the relief is important. Many of the citizens are unaware and seldom forget that the Toronto Electric Light Co. and the Toronto Independent Light Co., after solemnly undertaking not to amalgamate, did this very thing, thereby depriving the city of the competition which the more or less simple aldermen had anticipated. The franchise of the Toronto Electric Light Co., with the independent franchise somewhere in its maw, expires in two years and the city has the right to take it over then. But the city fears that the company may have sold itself to the Toronto and Niagara Power Co., and that the city would be flim-flammed by some such assumption as that the Electric Light Co. had ceased to exist and was merged in the purchasing corporation. This would mean that if the claim were allowed to stand a perpetual franchise would have been flim-flammed out of the city in the usual legal style.

The amendment passed by the railway committee is made retroactive and in the respect in question prevents the corporation taking an undue advantage. The corporation party lines, New Conservatives against three Liberals who favored the corporations.

Real Estate Notes

Building operations continue briskly. For the month of May permits amounting to \$400,000 were issued by the city architect, which is nearly double that of a year ago, for the corresponding month, when permits aggregating \$200,750 were issued. One hundred and fifty new dwellings are represented in the permits for May of this year, compared with seventy-two the year ago.

Building permits issued yesterday: S. Garaway, pair stores, 1255 St. Clair Avenue, \$110,000; J. E. Rowland, garage, 198 Grenadier road, \$300; Toronto Carpet Manufacturing Company, corner King street and Fraser avenue, factory chimney, \$6000; also foundation for new chimney, \$1200; W. J. Small, alteration to bank front and store, 101 corner Gerrard and Main street, \$700.

POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN PURCHASING A RAILWAY TICKET.

A Canadian Pacific Railway ticket does not represent merely a means of transportation between given points. It, in addition, provides the passenger with every comfort and convenience developed by modern railway science, "Safety-First," with up-to-date equipment, unexcelled dining service, partial sleeping cars, in a word everything that a railway can provide for the comfortable and convenient travel of passengers, including courtesy. Further information may be had on application to Canadian Pacific Agents, or to Mr. Howard, District Passenger Agent, Toronto.

PAYMENTS MADE TO LEGISLATORS IN KHAKI

By World Staff Reporter.
Ottawa, May 31.—The military pay separation allowance and expenses paid to the twenty-six members of parliament who are or were members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force is as follows: That any member who has not been killed, received nothing as Lieut.-Col. Blomfield and Hon. Lieut.-Col. Cockburn received \$4,000 each; Lieut.-Col. G. W. Fowler, \$4,951; Lieut.-Col. G. H. Brudenell, \$3,955; Lieut.-Col. E. R. Hepburn, \$4,118; Lieut.-Col. H. P. McLeod, \$5,735; Lieut.-Col. G. W. White, \$4,233; Capt. J. H. Burnham, \$2,423; Lieut.-Col. John Standfield, \$4,707; Lieut.-Col. H. E. Tremaine, \$5,628; Lieut.-Col. S. S. Sharpe, \$5,977; Lieut.-Col. G. H. Baker (killed in action), \$4,853; Lieut.-Col. W. R. Boyd, \$4,585; Lieut.-Col. W. E. Smith, \$4,584; Capt. D. B. Neely, \$2,481; Capt. L. P. Gauthier, \$1,678; Major Donald Stewart, \$2,163; Brig.-Gen. H. H. McLean, \$6,085; Lieut.-Col. S. J. Donaldson, \$5,990; Lieut.-Col. J. D. Taylor, \$4,071; Lieut.-Col. E. J. Doherty, \$4,071; Lieut.-Col. E. L. Schaffner, \$1,642; Lieut.-Col. J. L. Chabot, \$3,311; and Lieut.-Col. W. F. Carroll, \$1,571.

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THE RETURN OF IVAN THE PRODIGAL



HIGHWAYS BILL UP THIRD TIME

Cochrane Reintroduces the Measure Twice Thrown Out by the Senate.

DULL DAY IN HOUSE

Duty on Bran, Middlings and Shorts Subject of Brief Debate.

By a Staff Reporter.
Ottawa, May 31.—Members of parliament today spent most of their time in the corridor discussing the over-shifting political situation. After a brief discussion respecting the duty on bran, middlings and shorts, the house went into committee of supply. It is not likely that the conscription bill will be introduced or much business of any kind transacted until the government is ready to make an announcement about cabinet reconstruction.

Hon. Frank Cochrane this afternoon introduced for the third time the government highway bill. This bill, which extends national aid to the construction and betterment of highways, passed the house in 1912 and again in 1913, but was killed each time in the senate.

Bill Aims at Aliens.
Col. J. A. Currie (North Simcoe) introduced a bill to amend the criminal code. It makes it a penal offence for any person to vote, be a candidate, canvass, or take any part in an election now or at any time of any country now or at any time during the past five years at war with Great Britain or her allies, or who was a subject of any country allied with Great Britain or her allies, who does not permit its citizens the rights of expatriation, or holds the doctrine of dual citizenship, or who was exiled or banished from any allied country even the such person may have been in Canada or Great Britain or her allies or her name on the voters' list. The penalty is two years' imprisonment and forfeiture of all civil rights and property. One-third of the forfeited property goes to the informer. Persons serving in his majesty's military and naval forces or who have resided for 25 years in Canada are not within the provisions of the act.

Hon. Frank Oliver asked whether the reply of Dr. Bruce to the Baptists report would be laid on the table of the house and printed.

Sir Robert Borden replied that it certainly would not until it had been submitted to the overseas minister of militia. His impression was that the communication dealt with a great many matters not included in the Baptists report whose publication would not be in the public interest.

Confederation Celebration.
Sir George Foster laid upon the table of the house the report of the

RIGHTS OF PUBLIC ARE WELL UPHELD

Municipalities Score in Fight Against Aggression of Electric Interests.

VOTE, NINE TO THREE

W. F. Maclean Secures Clear Statement on Express Delivery in Toronto.

By a Staff Reporter.
Ottawa, May 31.—The house committee which is revising the railway act held an important session here this morning. In the course of which it adopted by a vote of nine to three the safeguarding clauses designed to pull effectively the teeth and claws of the Toronto and Niagara Power Company. The vote came after a spirited debate, in which Mr. Macdonell (South Toronto), W. F. Maclean (South York), Richard Blain (West York), and Hon. Frank Cochrane defended the position of the Ontario municipalities and upheld public rights, while Mr. Nesbitt (North York), Mr. Sinclair (Guyborough) and Mr. Carvell (Carleton Place) defended the rate of investors in public utility corporations that served the City of Toronto.

The power bill was the first order of the day, but before it was taken up W. F. Maclean brought up the matter of city-wide express delivery in Toronto, and obtained a clear statement from Mr. Johnston, the draftsman of the government's bill, and the legal adviser of the committee, that the bill would not treat the City of Montreal, for instance, in just the same way which they treat the City of Toronto.

In other words, while they give free delivery over the whole of the City of Montreal they do not extend that privilege to the whole City of Toronto. I think it is only just that there should be a provision that in handling goods the express companies should give equality of treatment to all parties and to all cities, and I would like to know if the board of the City of Montreal they do not extend that privilege to the whole City of Toronto. I think it is only just that there should be a provision that in handling goods the express companies should give equality of treatment to all parties and to all cities, and I would like to know if the board of the City of Montreal they do not extend that privilege to the whole City of Toronto.

Mr. Johnston: Section 260 gives the board complete power. In the first place, all express tolls shall be subject to the approval of the board. Subsection 2 provides: The board may disallow any express tariff or any other unreasonable tariff which it considers unjust or unreasonable, and shall have power to express tolls and such tariffs as it has or may exercise under this act, with respect to freight, tolls and freight tariffs. So that it seems to me that the board has just as complete jurisdiction with regard to express tolls as it has with regard to railway tariffs.

Mr. Maclean: Do the words "equality of treatment" occur in the act?
Mr. Johnston: Yes.
Mr. Maclean: Where?
Mr. Johnston: No discrimination.
Mr. Maclean: I would like the words "no discrimination" put in this clause if it is not there now. That is the very phrase I want put in there if it can be put in.

Mr. Johnston: We have to look at section 219, which reads: Whenever it is shown that any railway company charges any person, company or class of persons, or the reverse from any

AUSTRIA NOT YET READY TO SUBMIT

Emperor Charles Boasts That "Iron Resistance" is Being Offered.

PEACE TERMS VAGUE

"Mutual Recognition That Positions Have Been Gloriously Defended" Wanted.

Amsterdam, via London, May 31.—In his speech from the throne at the opening of the reichstag at Vienna today, Emperor Charles said in part: "Summoned in a factious manner to direct the state, I from the beginning have been conscious of the immense seriousness of the task Providence has laid on my shoulders, and I have, within me the will power and loyalty to discharge my duties as ruler, following the example of my illustrious predecessor, and to do justice with God's help, to my sublime office."

"The interests of the state shall no longer be deprived of that effective and to respect violently liberties according to the fundamental law and to preserve unbridled to the people that share in the formation of the state's will which the prevailing constitution provides for."

"I trust that recognition of your serious responsibility for the formation of political conditions and your belief in the happy future of the empire, splendidly strengthened in this terrible war, will give you strength, in union with me, speedily to create conditions giving scope to free national and cultural development of equally privileged peoples. From these considerations, I decided to postpone taking the constitutional oath until the time, which I hope is not far distant, when the foundation of a new, strong and happy Austria will again for general peace come, by firmly consolidated internally and externally."

"We are still in the midst of the mightiest war of all times. Let me, from your midst, with thankful heart, offer my imperial greeting to all the heroes who for nearly three years, on our far-flung fronts, have joyfully discharged the heavy duty, and on whose iron resistance between the Alps and the Adriatic, the renewed desperate enemy attack even now is breaking to pieces."

"Our group of powers did not seek district, lower tolls for the same or similar goods, or lower tolls for the same or similar services."

Mr. Maclean: And "tolls" covers express charges, does it not?
Mr. Johnston: Quite so, that section 319 is incorporated in this section as to express rates.

After some further discussion it was agreed, upon the suggestion of Mr. Maclean, that the words "No discrimination" should be placed in the bill, if there were any possible doubt as to its meaning so as to prevent in the future any discrimination in favor of Montreal or any other city as against Toronto by the express companies.

Macdonell's Good Fight.
A. C. Macdonell, a laborer long and faithfully to safeguard the city's interests in respect to the power companies, then addressed the committee in support of the amendments to the Railway Act which forbid any company to enter upon the streets of any municipality or distribute electricity therein without the consent of that municipality being first obtained.

Mr. Carvell said the question before the committee was whether the hydro-electric should have free delivery. He favored the widest possible concession as the best way to get good service and cheap electricity. He said he would advise any city to sell out at any sacrifice any stock he might have in any public utility corporation serving the City of Toronto.

W. F. Maclean said that the City of Toronto was carrying on no selfish contest, but was acting in behalf of the municipalities in Ontario and for the benefit of the province. He said that matter of Toronto was not a desire to injure investors, but Toronto did not desire, on the other hand, that any loss should fall upon people who had invested in the securities of the hydro-electric.

Vote Nine to Three.
Hon. Mr. Cochrane defending the restrictive feature of the proposed clause, said that if parliament had done wrong in granting unrestricted powers to the Toronto and Niagara Power Company, parliament should now repeal the wrong done to the municipalities.

After some further discussion, the statement was carried on the following vote: Yes—Cochrane, Maclean, Blain, Macdonell, Wetzel, Hart, Donaldson, Bradbury, Bennett (Calgary)—9.
No—Carvell, Nesbitt, Sinclair—3.

When that clause of the bill was reached which requires a railway company when erecting or rebuilding a bridge to permit a municipality to join in the construction on terms to be fixed by the board so as to provide a vehicular or bridge or passage way for pedestrians along side of or below the track, Mr. Chryse, a member of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, objected on the ground of public safety. He thought it would expose foot passengers and people in vehicles to great danger. He also thought that the municipality should not only pay for its portion of the bridge, but construction as the bridge as a whole should also pay its share of the total construction, as the bridge as a whole would have to be built with wider abutments, stronger piers, with girders and cables that could stand greater strain. Hon. Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Maclean wanted the clause passed as drafted. The committee approved of the principle of the clause, but it was referred back to Mr. Johnston.

The legal adviser of the committee, to be so redrafted as to give wider powers to the railway commissions as to joining

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the sanguinary trial of strength of this world war. An opportunity that it has, from the moment when, thanks to the imperishable achievements of the allied armies and fleets, the honor and existence of a noble empire no longer appear seriously threatened, openly and without ambiguity, made known its readiness for peace, guided by the firm conviction that the true formula of peace can only be found in the mutual recognition that the positions have been gloriously defended.

"The future life of the peoples should, in our view, remain free from animosity and thirst for revenge, and for generations there should be no need to employ what may be called the law of the jungle. This high aim of humanity can only be attainable by such a conclusion to the war as will lead to that peace formula."

Allusion to Russia.
"The great neighboring people to the east, to whom old friendship ties and a gradually increasing coming conscious of its true aims and tasks, and it lately appears to approach this standpoint in the interest of humanity. This process of the public mind will also extend to the other enemy countries."

"While our group of powers is fighting with irresistible force for the restoration of peace, it is our wish toward everyone who honestly abandons the intention to threaten us, ready prepared to cease hostilities, and who wishes to cooperate during the war, we shall remain ready to force, if necessary by arms, a good end to the war, which we would like to be able to attribute to a victory of reason."

In true co-operation with our old ally, the German Empire, and the allies whom our just cause won during the war, we shall remain ready to force, if necessary by arms, a good end to the war, which we would like to be able to attribute to a victory of reason."

The meeting was entirely free of any signs of violence. The resolutions asserted that the Russian provisional government, in repudiating all imperialistic purposes, had cleared the way for peace negotiations on the basis of "no forcible annexations, no punitive expeditions, and free development of all nations." The resolutions ended with the following:

Fellow-citizens of the United States, make known your demand: Join hands with free Russia, save our own nation from the horrors of the war and help bleeding Europe to return to the ways of sanity and civilization. Forward for democracy and peace!"

Thousands of persons were turned away from the meeting at Madison Square Hall.

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BRITISH MISSION BEGINS RECRUITING MEN IN U. S.

Gen. White Will Try to Enroll His Majesty's Subjects.

New York, May 31.—A campaign to enroll some of the 800,000 British subjects in this country for the "British Recruiting Mission" began today. The mission will not be started, however, until Brigadier-General W. A. G. White, K.C., has been able to deliver a statement which is expected on Monday. The mission includes recruiting stations in other cities of the United States which will depend on the success achieved here, it was said.

FOE REPORTS FIGHTING NEAR SAN GIOVANNI

Vienna, via London, May 31.—The Austrian official communication issued today says: "On the Isonzo front yesterday there was a fierce fighting. During the day the Italian forces were engaged here. Actual fighting was not started, however, until Brigadier-General W. A. G. White, K.C., has been able to deliver a statement which is expected on Monday. The mission includes recruiting stations in other cities of the United States which will depend on the success achieved here, it was said."