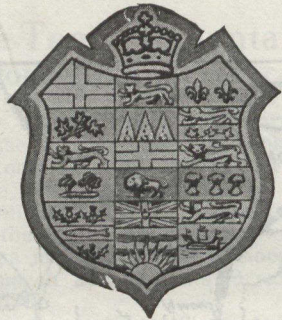


THE CANADIAN COURIER



PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY
COURIER PRESS, LIMITED
181 SIMCOE ST.
EDITED BY JOHN A. COOPER

TORONTO, JULY 31, 1915

Bourassism

MONTREAL French hooligans have broken up several recruiting meetings with the cry, "We won't have conscription." If this misrepresentation is the result of the teachings of Mr. Bourassa, the Government should take steps to put that gentleman and his lieutenants where they can do no harm. We do not shoot men for such crimes as they do in Europe, but the highest interests of the State demand that this agitation shall stop immediately. Do the Archbishops of Montreal and Quebec approve this feature of Bourassism?

Those Who Cannot Go

MUCH sympathy should be extended to those citizens who would like to go to the front and are prevented by age or physical disability. Some of these are suffering intensely, if silently. They are looked at askance by those who have been lucky enough to be accepted for active service, and they must bear these side-glances and shrugs with patience. Even though they bite deep.

Yet those who stay at home can do their part. They can make it easier for some who have gone and are preparing to go. They can encourage and stimulate. They can help to buy machine guns, field kitchens, ambulances and Red Cross supplies. Because money and encouragement is all they may give, they must be the more liberal in their giving. They must give and give until their giving becomes a real sacrifice. In this matter, every man's conscience must be his only guide, but he should be careful to assure himself that his conscience is not hampered in its operation by selfishness or self-interest.

Further, every firm in Canada that is making money on war orders should give a percentage of the profits. This should be done on a carefully prepared plan, so that when the war is over they can show a record which will withstand any possible criticism.

Better Times Coming?

WHILE the Minister of Finance is selling Canadian bonds at a marvellously low price, Canadians themselves are straining every nerve to put the country on a sound business basis. Despite the small amount of grain Canada had to sell last autumn, the total exports for the year ending April 30th increased \$24,000,000 over the previous year. Our sales abroad were the largest in our history.

On the other hand, our purchases abroad decreased \$60,000,000, as compared with the preceding twelve months, and \$226,000,000, as compared with the same period ending April 30th, 1913.

Again, in 1913, we bought \$287,000,000 more goods than we sold. In 1914, we reduced this to a balance of \$155,000,000 against us. In the period ending April 30th, 1915, we wiped out this adverse balance and had a surplus of \$27,500,000 in our favour.

Instead of spending money abroad like drunken sailors, we are now selling the world more than we buy. This is the first step towards Better Times.

Who Will Get Command?

CANADA'S First Contingent went to France under General Aldersen, an English officer. That was necessary, because Canada had no man with sufficient experience. A mistake was made, however, in not appointing a Canadian as Chief of Staff to General Aldersen, so as to have some one in training. The mistake was due to another mistake on this side in sending the First Contingent over with-

out a commanding officer. The Courier pointed this out at the time, as did other commentators.

When the Second Contingent went, the mistake was not repeated, and Colonel Sam Steele was in command. He is still in command and has done well. When the Second Division goes to France, Col. Steele will not be its chief officer, but will probably be its second officer. The commandant may be another British officer with experience in France, or one of the brigadier-generals of the First Division. The man spoken of more than any other is Brigadier-General (Temp.) M. S. Mercer, formerly in command of the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. He has had charge of the First Brigade of the First Division and has made an excellent record. If he is given the chief appointment, with Colonel Steele as second, Canada will be both proud and satisfied.

In Their Defence

A CORRESPONDENT sends a criticism of our article, "Is the Opposition Alive?" in which he expresses his conviction that Hon. George P. Graham and Dr. Michael Clark were unfairly dealt with. If this correspondent will read the article again, he will find that there was no direct criticism of these gentlemen in particular. Their names were mentioned in a constructive suggestion as to what they might do.

Nevertheless, it is only fair to point out that the two gentlemen mentioned have been active in making recruiting speeches. Dr. Clark has spoken several times in the West, and last week addressed a big gathering in Kingston. Hon. George P. Graham has also spoken at a number of patriotic meetings and is booked for several more.

It should also be mentioned that, since the article appeared, Sir Wilfrid Laurier addressed a large meeting in Ottawa, and is to attend a series of meetings through Quebec. Mr. F. F. Pardee, Liberal Whip, spoke at a big meeting in Toronto last week.

This is as it should be. The best interests of the Liberal party will be served in this way, and, what is more important, the best interests of Canada and the Empire. The publicist who remains silent or who makes partisan speeches at the present moment is not doing his duty. That is the only lesson that the Courier is emphasizing.

Could We Foresee

HAD any one told us a year ago to-day that Canada would have 150,000 men or more on active military service, the man would have been promptly shut up in an insane asylum. The old cry was that Canadians would not soldier, and the shortage in the United States regular army was quoted as an instance. It was all well enough for the British workingman, earning from \$6 to \$8 a week, to go soldiering, but Canadian workmen earned \$12 to \$20 a week, and have higher ambitions than to be a "Tommy." Yet to-day Canada can get all the soldiers it wants to fight in the battle for liberty and freedom.

So it was with the navy—men wouldn't enlist, it

was said. The "Niobe" was put out of commission because there was no crew. The "Rainbow" was dismantled for the same reason. Yet to-day the "Niobe" and "Rainbow" have a full complement, the two submarines are manned, and hundreds of naval reserve men have been sent to England. If a thousand men were needed for the Canadian naval service, they could be secured in a fortnight. The men who said this was impossible were either lying or talking ignorantly. A Canadian fleet as big and as efficient as Australia's could have been manned in this country if the proper appeal had been made.

The truth of the situation a year ago was that the authorities did not want to encourage naval service, either on the vessels we then had or in a volunteer naval reserve which had been advocated for years by those who foresaw, somewhat dimly, what was likely to happen.

By Courtesy of the Inspector

LOSS of life on the vessel which capsized at Chicago tells us that we live at the mercy of the steamboat inspectors. When these men fail in their duty, because of indifference or political influence, then the public suffers. The recent electric railway accident at Queenston shows that the same may be said of railway inspectors. In fact, the public are daily taking risks almost comparable with those of the soldiers fighting in France.

When Confusion Reigns

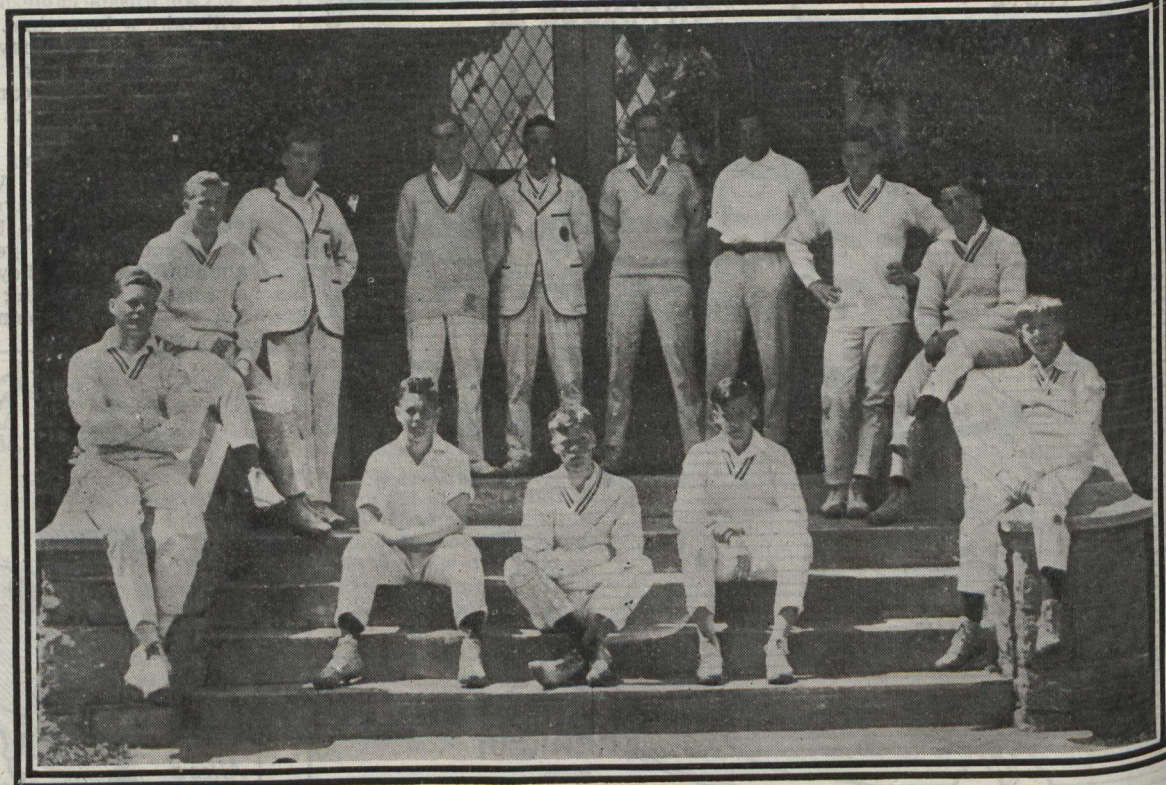
SOME cities along the lines of the new government railway are wondering what will be done about taxes on railway property. For example, the Grand Trunk Pacific has handed over its expensive elevators and terminals at Fort William to the Government. If these are to be exempted from local taxation, the town of Fort William will lose a large source of income.

This is a phase of government ownership of railways which is exceedingly important. If the Government Railways are to pay no local taxes, the towns and cities along the line will be heavy losers as compared with private operation. For example, if the Government Railways take over one-half of the Union Station and other valuable terminals in Winnipeg, must that city lose the right to levy taxes on that property, or even on half of it?

If a government railway is in the same position as a government post-office or customs building, and is exempt from local taxation, then the towns which have been collecting revenue from the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific will be seriously affected. If all the railway lines in Canada were taken over by the Government, then every town and city in Canada would suffer.

Advocates of government ownership must consider this phase of the question. The towns and cities have already a large burden to carry in the form of untaxed church property, educational property, and so on. If railway property is to be exempt from municipal taxes, then the burden of taxation will fall even more heavily on the owners of private property.

A WINNING COLLEGE CRICKET TEAM



The Ridley College (St. Catharines) cricket team had a successful spring season. It won from Grimsby, 140—67; from Rosedale, Toronto; drew with Grimsby, 110—51 for 6; won from T. C. S., 150—61; from St. Andrews, 106—89; from Upper Canada, 210 for 7—74. On tour it won from Detroit, Buffalo, Cleveland and Rosedale; losing only to Grace Church, Toronto. Top row—McCulloch (major), Garret, Jeanor, Turnbull, Irvine (Captain), Lefroy, Harris (pro.), Porter, Williams, Mills. Lower row—McCulloch (Minor), Alexander, Wood.