# The Toronto World

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCT. 10.

### Mr. O'Connor Should Get His Fiat.

With a possible overlapping of authority in the several controlling departments presided over by Hon. W. J. Hanna, Mr. W. F. O'Connor, K.C., and others appointed to investigate or to control the distribution and sale of our food and other staples, there is the risk of the real culprits among the profiteers slipping thru the fingers of a well-meaning government and getting away with their impositions on the public. This must be guarded against, and any investigator or controller who shows a disposition to take the part of the public should be strongly supported.

We are coming to a point where strong action is necessary. The British authorities have not hesitated; and in the United States, with characteristic decision and directness, the necessary steps against freebooting have been put in force in the most drastic way. This is what is needed in Canada.

The arrogance of the corporations knows no bounds. They challenge the sovereign power of the people and usurp prerogatives which would not be permitted to the throne itself. The recent defiance of the sovereign authority, when Mr. O'Connor in his investigation of the Davies Co. was refused information by the manager, is a case in point. The principle may be as well fought on this issue as on any other, and Mr. O'Connor has done well to make the issue

He has been refused information by the corporation which he has a right to have. When there is so much talk about Prussianism and the junkers it is the people and subvert the popular power. In the

We urge upon the attorney-general the necessity for speedy action in this matter, and the right of the people to have their affairs expedited under such crucial circumstances. We have no desire to do injustice to anyone, but there is greater danger of harm to the people from the concealment of facts which a public official believes to be necessary for the public weal than there can be danger to an honest business concern from a frank statement of the truth about its business.

The Point of Mutual Advantage.

Hon. Mr. Hanna is still intent upon maintaining the fiction that food prices cannot be controlled. He is not apparently frank enough to admit the fallacy

the fiction that food prices cannot be controlled. He is not apparently frank enough to admit the fallacy upon which the contention rests, and the "law of supply and demand" is worked to death to enable the profiteers to fleece the people. The fact is that we are having prices controlled in every direction. The corporations, trusts and combines control them for the worse in a skyward flight; the governments and their officials in some instances have seen the necessity of hauling down the soaring kites. Wheat has been fixed at \$2.21. The price of coal has been fixed. The plants to the other side of the time of the province of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting that the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time of the province of ontario limiting the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other side of the time time to the province of ontario limiting the province of the province of ontario limiting to the export of electrical energy from the Niagara power plants to the other time to the province of the

for profits surpasses utterly the legitimate gain aris- taining. ing from economic methods of management and operation, and encroaches on the helpless consumer, who is stripped of all his surplus and left in a state of economic dependence which is ruinous to the state as well as to himself.

When Mr. Hanna says he cannot interfere with the law of supply and demand he ignores this fallacious factor of the corporation control, which is the first to a week ago, which reads as follows: interfere with the normal operations of supply and demand. There is such a thing as a legitimate profit; and it is in the denial of this that Mr. Hanna makes his gigantic blunder, because he thereby endorses the illegitimate profit which the corporations exact. It is no wonder that he is taunted with having this very object in view, and with acting for the

corporations rather than for the people. The fixing of prices would be at such a rate as would afford the producer a legitimate stimulus for his energies, and yet would not deprive the consumer of the possibility of patronizing the producer.

The corporation steps in, however, and declares that no producer can deal with a consumer. The producer must deal with the incorporated middleman and

with all his bogus workers, whose labor consists in HOW THE CIVILIANS HAVE drawing dividends. The result is that the producer gets imadequate payment from the middleman corporation, which turns round and sells its cheaply purchased goods at outrageous prices to the consumer.

Co-operative dealing is the only remedy, unless the government interferes and brings the corporations down to a reasonable basis of dealing both with producer and consumer. The government will not do this till the people show that they understand the sit- taken by hate on one side and que uation, and refuse to be fleeced or to support a government which is willing that they should be fleeced. There is a price that represents a mutual advantage to both producer and consumer, but the corporations the opposite has been true. Togethe have entirely lost sight of this fact,

### General Haig's Advance.

made since September 20 indicate conscious strength civilians in virtually every country have and a completeness of equipment to a degree that tells only begun to see the causes of the war decisively of the inferiority of the German forces. The been able to stand the heartbreaking high tide of German strength began to ebb after Courstrain of the conflict. celette last year, and the ebb has been more rapid since Vimy Ridge and Messines. The advance from in spite of the fact that the pacifists Ypres on September 20 was followed on the 26th by the capture of Zonnebeke and Polygon Wood, long a million people you are mortally sure of centre of bitter fighting. The eaties of October 4 has centre of bitter fighting. The action of October 4 has having to consider the unwilling and been regarded by many as the most decisive of the those who became disaffected in British attacks, the ground taken marking an advance of a mile and a half on an eight-mile front. of a mile and a half on an eight-mile front. The their capacity for spreading discontent ground is less important than the casualties of the Their power lies in the immediate perenemy, which were very heavy, the prisoners number- sonal appeal they can make. They do ing 4,500. Yesterday another mile of advance was made, and this implies an equally deadly waste of the made, and this implies an equally deadly waste of the to air their grievances. They simply tell to air their grievances. They simply tell to air their friends, with all the personal vetter friends, with all the personal vetter friends. successive strokes have been delivered betokens the hemence at their command. And in days helplessness of the enemy to recuperate, as well as the determination of General Hair to give him no the determination of General Haig to give him no mouth is immeasurably more persuasive. time to gather himself together.

despondency. Peace is desired above all things, and to the morale of the people who stay at it is rumored that the kaiser would be willing to retire from France and Belgium. One level-headed Ger- can they be made harmless? The first man has declared that he will be willing to retire from question would require a catalog too long Alsace and Lorraine before the winter is over. It is for publication. But the various types in times like these that ill-judged clamors for peace which arise out of faithful enforcement are more dangerous than war itself. It is not now are more dangerous than war itself. It is not now a of the laws—such as the provisions of the question of territory, but of human freedom and the Espionage Bill, of the Defence of the playing the part under democratic governments taken liberties of the world, and until Germany renounces Realm Act in England, or of the various by the junkers in autocratic Germany. They defy the people and subvert the popular power. In the

United States the issue has been squarely faced, and where the corporations have not submitted they have been allowed no headway. The autocracy of the corporations is as dangerous an element in the nation as Teutonism itself. It proceeds from the same root.

Mr. O'Connor was in Toronto in search of authority to compel the manager of the Dayles Co. to produce the information desired. We have reason to believe that Mr. O'Connor did not see the attorney-lieve that Mr. O'Connor did not see the attorney-lieve that Mr. O'Connor is right to pursue the matter, and when Hon. Mr. Lucas returns the applimatter, and when Hon. Mr. Lucas returns the applimatter for the allied generals ever considered with Hingham first-class leader. The kaiser is dissatisfied with Hingham fir

matter, and when Hon. Mr. Lucas returns the application for a flat should be presented, and it should be granted.

These are times when great things are expected from governments. The people have made and are making great sacrifices. The soldier-citizens who are giving their blood and their lives across the ocean for freedom are not spending their valor to establish a tors a mostal blow. The called any always have made and probably have done they stand the from giving their valor to establish a tors a mostal blow. The called any always have made in hospital, a popular and demagogic weekly in England has sworn to protect the rights wounded.

A popular and demagogic weekly in England has sworn to protect the rights of the people against injustice. Every of the people against injustice. Say that only behind the German forces on the coast and at Lille, behind the Germans do not show better generalship that they have done they stand the chance of peccity. freedom are not spending their valor to establish a reign of corporationism more deadly to liberty than kaiserism itself. Mr. Lucas should not hesitate, and Sir William Hearst should encourage him, to back up Mr. O'Connor in his perfectly lawful demand for information that touches the safety of the commonwealth.

We urge upon the attorney-general the necessity

The allied cavalry are ready for activities as the alling up of a final carried errors as t We urge upon the attorney-general the necessity as capable as the Russians of a wholesale retreat. No speedy action in this matter, and the right of the

their officials in some instances have seen the necessity of hauling down the soaring kites. Wheat has been fixed at \$2.21. The price of coal has been fixed. The papermakers have been so rampantly outrageous that the United States has about decided not only to control prices, but to take over the whole plant involved in paper manufacture. The corporations are driving the governments of the world to state socialism faster than any agitator ever dared to dream.

There is a point in trade where it becomes worth while for the producer to strive for profit and the consumer to pay for value received. In days of honest commerce before the multiplication of the bogus middleman, the corporation shareholder with his watered stock, this point was readily arrived at by honest traders. Under corporation methods the greed for profits surpasses utterly the legitimate gain aris-

In the regulations made by the washington government have been absolutely fair and unquestionably warranted by the abnormal conditions obtaining.

In view of the fact that Ontario has so far received considerably more coal—both hard and soft—than in any previous year, the statement of the despatch that "this country (the United States) is bound to see that its requirements are forthcoming before outsiders are allowed to obtain supplies from the States of a commodity that is limited," is an outrageous unbruth. That Washington and Ottawa are working together with the idea of a square deal all around is apparent from a circular sent out by Dr. Garfield, the American fuel administrator, a week ago, which reads as follows:

"Tentative plans have been absolutely fair and to constitutionally unable to see the war."

"Tentative plans have been formulated, after consultations with representatives of the Canadian Government, by which it is expected to maintain a flow of coal to Canada, in amounts sufficient for Canadian needs, and without interruption in the operation of the information called for, and in co-operation with the priority board, the anterstate commence commission, and the shipping board, it is hoped that the supply of coal available for the northwest, Canada and New England may be so conserved and shipment so made, as to meet not only the normal demands of all these sections, but the extra industrial demands ocasioned by the war."

There is no necessity for comment on this straightforward and friendly declaration by the administrator, it is known. It should be the forward and friendly declaration by the administrator.

which should be a source of comfort to Canadian con-312 C. P. R. Building, Toronto.

## GRIEVANCES.

One of the favorite argume fessional pacifists is that war-fever, as

every day can be multiplied by ten to arrive at the real effect on the civilians international police power to preserve peace, there has come a strong nationalistic and patriotic movement in each Such unprecedented advances as General Haig has country. Putting it in other words, the

But the other side must be understo The word-of-mouth dissemination of The feeling in Germany and Austria is of extreme grievances is one of the greatest dangers What are these grievances, and ho

There is no necessity for comment on this straight-forward and friendly declaration by the administrator, despite the government to keep so Alexander Rose. recognized and rectified

# AN INEFFECTIVE WASH



A CALL FOR UNION GOVERN- LATE CROPS IN WEST

Winnipeg Tribune (Ind.-Lib.) Oct. 6; n Canada at this time?

It is the one blot on our country. Have we not the right to hope that the leaders assembling at Ottawa shall crop conditions for the week ending o save the situation.

agreement to work together; all these several places report larger wheat yield than last year. things offer, in the hour of the ma. tion's extremity, the only real solu-

# SUFFER FROM FROST

# Why should there be party division Canada at this time? It is the one blot on our country.

quit themselves like men and Cana. Saturday received at the head of the dians? They are about to make his. Co-operative Elevator Company from dians? They are about to make the various stations throug the province tory. It is practically the last chance indicate that threshing is virtually And the best can be made of our places by high winds and damp wear present situation by a union of party forces primarily to win the war, and by frost, but no actual freeze out has Compromise, unity, a party truce, and barley crop are practically failures.

## NEW ROAD BYLAW.

## KERENSKY FORMS **COALITION CABINET**

Regina, Sask., Oct. 9.—Reports of All Newly-Announced Ministers Were Members of Former Cabinets.

> Petrograd, Oct. 9 .- Premier Kerensky announced the composition of the new coalition cabinet, as follows:

Premier and commander-in-chief, A. F. Kerensky; interior and posts and tele graphs, M. Nikitin; justice, M. Malianto itch; food and supplies, Prokopovi agriculture, M. Avskentieff; labor, Gvozdeff, all Socialists; foreign affal M. Tereschenko; commerce and indus western Liberal leaders on the other may be able to agree to see eye to eye on the immediate problems pertaining to the war, and give to the people the best available type of a stop of the counties council at its next sestion. All the newly-announced ministers have



No wonder children are eager for O'Keefe's. And you can make no mistake when you buy

# **GINGER ALES**

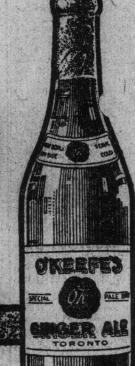
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other hand, claim that the prime Many rep dispute bet dently the is reason t patronage. erners stor public pled that the should be war was ov with the Bo the fiscal q for another consider an tective tari certain swee As to the of the negot the Wartin he regarded aliens as m he said, it izing the n pointing a to the sena parliaments grain growe people wer tariff quest four mont

upon the g to bring on The parti union gover hear from premier of N to join the go immediately that the we to have Mr cabinet.

for another

and Hon. in confere ern Liberal in conne ment prop Lounceme publication his belief th hopeful fr star.dpoint A basis of has been r matters, bi appears that Pren Rowell, L who saw's ronto yest this morni the wester take part i ternoon. T The By den is lik A. McGill

The bell