

WEEKLY SUN

Established 1883. Evening and Weekly.
J. B. WATKINS, Managing Director.
Published every Friday day by the Sun
Publishing Company, Limited, at their
Office, Tenth Street, North of Rosser.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Weekly \$1.00 a year
TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
Business Office 54
News and Editorial 107

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1918

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The most unpopular man in any community is the tax collector. There is no place where he is a welcomed visitor, even after the taxes are paid. A close second for this unenviable distinction is the man against whom it may be said that he caused an increase in taxes. If this charge can be fastened rightly or wrongly on an Alderman he will be "the goat" and his defeat certain when, if ever, he has the hardihood to seek re-election.

A closer analysis provides convincing proof that every patron of a mail order house contributes to an increased tax rate—that any fancied saving he or she may effect is lost, probably with compound interest, when the tax bill has to be paid. Yes, and Monday is the last day for payment of current taxes at par. After the first of the year an impost is added.

No one can deny the direct connection between high taxes and patronage of mail order houses. The unfortunate depicted in another column as having been sadly abused, probably owes his plight to his and his fellow citizens failure to recognize the direct connection between these two evils.

He lived in a community where the service rendered by the business men was not properly valued, where the folks sent their money to some far away concern and received in return—goods selected without any knowledge of the personal preferences and appearance of the purchaser; at prices that may have shown a fancied saving when price alone was considered. The general carelessness thus made prevalent spread like small-pox through the community. The local business houses laid off employees, curtailed expenses in every possible manner, and soon the community gave evidence of the earlier eating at its heart. Failing to secure employment families departed; business men went into bankruptcy; rents came tumbling down because there were no tenants, and till the while the taxes mounted higher and higher and the people who

could not pay more and more each year for the improvements that had been provided to meet the needs of a growing and once prosperous community.

It is an old and true, if somewhat hackneyed saying, that there are two things certain, death and taxes. Is it not equally true that the less prosperous the community and the less able to pay the citizens are, the higher the taxes will be? There is a direct connection between sending your money out to mail order houses and the tax rate. The fancied saving is a transfer of money from one pocket to another and losing some of it in the handling.

CLASS ONE FIRST

To raise the hundred thousand men called for under the Military Service Act it has been estimated that Manitoba should supply six thousand men. Registrar Chapman estimates that Class One will only yield four thousand, and it has been suggested in some quarters that Class Two will be called to supply the deficit.

Brandon has every right and reason in the world to protest such procedure. As the constituency which gave the largest proportionate majority for the vigorous enforcement of the Military Service Act and continued participation in the sacrifices of war, in a Province which stands second on the roll of honor for voluntary enlistment, we protest any such proposal. The men of Class One have been called out from all of Canada, if

there are sections where the young men have failed to answer the call for voluntary service these are the men who must fill the gap till the required hundred thousand is raised. It still more men are needed they should be drawn from that Class and only when that Class is exhausted can there be any call on Class Two.

What does it matter if Manitoba only yields one hundred men under this call? Our young men did not wait to be called in this fashion, they hearkened long ago to the clear call from the trenches, and they did not wait for compulsory service to form them in line.

What is the object of classification, anyhow? Supposing Manitoba is behind the imaginary allotment! Our Class One men are fighting. When all Class One men are in uniform, then the call will come for Class Two if it is necessary.

VICTORY AT CRITICAL TIME

American commentators on the Canadian elections have emphasized the importance of Canada's loyal pronouncement coming just as it did and just when it did. It fell at a time when reverses had somewhat dampened the spirit of Allied armies, when disappointment over unfulfilled hopes was keen in all the countries battling against Germany, Russia, was seen to be dropping out of the war, and the Bolsheviks were making a separate peace with Germany which also threatened to engulf Romania. Italy was fighting on the defensive, having been thrown back. General Byrd's brilliant offensive at Cambrai had been largely annulled by the success of German counter-attacks. It had become plain that the submarine menace was not yet a thing of the past. There were stories of rich and poor standing in line for food in England, and from every hand came the exclaiming bitter cry of those who found the struggle for existence very trying.

It was at this moment that the flashlight of Canadian courage and determination illuminated the sky; at this critical moment that the cheerful hurrah from Canada pierced the night. The example set by Canada must have been as inspiring as a considerable military victory to the leaders and the men in the battle line.

AUSTRALIA'S FAILURE

When inclined to contrast the failure of the state of Australia, one hears conversation with a heated action of Canada, one does not fail to remember—though it is impossible to condone or justify—that conditions are very different to what they are in Canada. Australia is in a difficult geographical and economic position. As an agricultural and mining country, it is cut off from usual market connections by the shortage of ships and the financial burdens of the war are very onerous. Australia has had few gains commercially out of the war to offset its heavy sacrifices. There is no powerful neighbor to lend support when needed. The Commonwealth has sent abroad 325,000 men out of a total of military eligible of about 700,000.

In Canada the opposition to conscription was isolated and confined almost entirely to one province, thus rousing the rest of Canada to combat the pernicious doctrine and practices persisted in there. In Australia there are many elements of the population so impregnated with social or religious antagonism towards further war sacrifices that it made it impossible for the loyal people to carry on.

OUR UNCERTAIN WINTERS

A correspondent inquires whether the severe cold weather of the early part of the Winter is any indication of what the rest of the Winter will be like. It is not. The case is something like that discovered by Elmer Mills, the Long's Peak naturalist, when he was running down the old saying that the squirrel's hoard of nuts forecasted the sort of Winter ahead. He hunted out several hoards. The first was much larger than usual, indicating a long, hard Winter. The second was very scanty, pointing to a mild season, while the third and fourth were medium.

Nobody knows why these ups and downs in the temperatures happen. They only know that the weather is capricious and unreliable. Hot Summers are necessarily followed by cold Winters or floods by droughts. There is no telling. We know that great permanent weather centres develop over the oceans and over the interior of continents. In Winter, for instance, the oceans are comparatively warm, since they are not frozen, while the middle of Siberia and the North American continent is very cold, because they are far from the mild ocean winds. So areas of lighter, warm air, with low barometer, build up over the oceans, with areas of heavier, cold air and high barometer, in the mid-continents.

The U. S. weather observers at Washington have observed that a slight alteration in the position of the North Pacific areas of heavy or

light air may have a marked effect on weather conditions in the United States. In the Winter, for instance, if the barometer sinks a trifle below normal at Honolulu and remaining down for a few days there has been a Southward drift of the North Pacific area of low barometer, which will result in cold weather in Alaska which eventually will reach the Southern part of Canada. A protracted cold spell may follow. But why such a disturbance starts, or how to predict its course and duration, science has not yet discovered.

LETTERS OF INTEREST

An Open Letter.

Editor, Brandon Sun:
Sir—The guarantors of the Y. M. C. A. who became responsible for the debt \$38,000 twelve years ago, which to place before your readers the following figures regarding the generosity and interest taken by Mr. A. E. McKenzie and largely through whom the building is now placed upon a firm financial basis—and we trust will be able to accomplish the great work it is designed to do in our fair city.

Mr. McKenzie's contributions are as follows:
At the time of building \$ 1,000
Interest on debt during twelve years 1,500
Cash contribution in April last 1,000
Assumed of the debt in April, 3,000
Insurance taken on the \$34,000 required 11,000
Cash contribution in the last campaign 3,000

A total of \$20,500
We are quite aware that Mr. McKenzie does not desire this publicity and it comes quite unexpectedly as far as he is concerned, but we believe that the people of Brandon should know the above facts. We as guarantors feel that we owe to one of our number who has so largely been instrumental in saving this institution to Brandon and so generously helped and cheered us through the twelve years we have struggled under the heavy debt.

DR. J. McDIARMID,
DR. C. A. POWERS,
DR. A. T. CONDELL,
M. G. ABNEY,
R. J. CAMPBELL,
R. MACPHERSON,
J. FERRIER.

At Expense.

Editor Brandon Sun:
Sir—I would be much obliged if you would insert the following explanation re the Halifax relief funds, collected at A. Campbell's and C. S. Vance's relief dances. The funds which were entrusted to me amounted to \$15.75. It was announced that the collection at Campbell's was \$10.25, while I only received \$9, and at Vance's it was announced at \$4.75, whereas it was only \$6.75. Mr. W. Sandercock, of Chagore, will vouch for my statement.

The sum of \$15.75 has today been turned in to City Treasurer Sykes.
—MRS. C. S. VANCE.

Poor Quality Coal

Editor Brandon Sun:

Sir: Regarding your remarks on the scarcity and quality of anthracite coal in your issue of December 27th, I may say that early in the fall I laid in my Winter supply of Scranton coal. Thirty-seven and one-half per cent. of this coal will be of no use for fuel. That amount consists of slate, shale, iron and ore. The other 62½ per cent. would not grade third class coal. The 37½ per cent. of bad coal weighs much heavier than the good coal. For this coal I had to pay thirteen dollars per ton in the month of September. I have in my occupation for over forty years followed the use of coal, mostly steam coal, but have used anthracite coal for household purposes.

During the last three years the quality of anthracite coal placed on the market in the West has been something desperate and this year it is still worse. If one goes to the coal merchant and complains of the bad quality of the coal he seems quite astonished and tells you that you are the only one who has made any protest on the quality of the coal he supplies. Well, one leaves it at that, goes out on the street, meets a friend and asks him what kind of hard coal he got. The answer comes back "rotten stuff." It is a well known fact that for a long time past Western Canada has been a dumping ground for an inferior class of Scranton hard coal. Our coal dealers must be aware of this. Any coal dealer can tell at a glance the quality of his coal, and it's a burning shame that the working class are imposed upon in this way and it is high time that something was done to stop this injustice. We have a Food Controller, but nothing is done to look after the coal question. We are told that our Western country contains lots of coal, all kinds of it, but we can't get it for the want of capital to develop the coal industry in the West.
—OLD TIMER.
Brandon, Dec. 28th, 1917.

A WORTHY RESOLUTION

A suggestion for a New Year's resolution that is worth passing along is that we should so busy ourselves in efforts to do good that we shall have no time to do evil.

VICTORY AND PEACE

Happy indeed will the New Year be if it brings to us Victory and Peace. Without Victory a lasting and just Peace is impossible, so that our prayer for Victory and Peace is a reasonable petition for the betterment of humanity. It is not a boastful Victory for which we ask, but a triumph of right over might, a Victory for Christian ideals over the paganism of the frightful atrocities with which the Hun seek to prove themselves conquerors.

To our prayers for Victory we must add our greatest energies. It is not sufficient to pray. We must pray and work. Our prayers aiding us to intelligent efforts, holding us to our purpose and making us worthy of Victory, for it is only as we prove our worth, our supremacy, that we can establish it and maintain the ideals we champion.

According to present indications the year 1918 will see the greatest marching and counter-marching of armed millions of men that the earth ever saw.

The grapple of those armed millions of men must settle issues so grave and so vast that the future of the race itself will depend upon the outcome.

In these days that are so heavy with tragedy there is a tremendous, an irresistible call to service for every man, woman and child.

By working or by fighting, by thrift, loyalty or courage, in one way or another, every human being can help make the year 1918—which bears so tragic an aspect as it approaches—one of the best and gladdiest in the annals of mankind by earning victory and establishing Peace.

Any plan for the future which does not take full account of the mistakes of the past is doomed to failure. Plans for 1918 for war, for thrift, for increased production, for food and fuel saving, for Victory and Peace, will only be successful insofar as the lessons of the past are applied to the problems to be solved. We have, as a nation within the Empire, resolved to do our utmost to win the war. We have given a mandate to our Government and to our leaders to "carry out" with that one purpose in view. If we are to deserve success we cannot sit down as spectators. We have not done our part. We have started well, but the Victory and the Peace we so long for are possible only if we continue as we have begun, according to the Government the same support as before election and demand from them the best, satisfied with nothing less, until a beaten and thoroughly chastened foe admits national error and turns to Peace as devoutly as they formerly did war.

The year 1918, if it is to bring Victory and Peace, will certainly be a year of unexampled sacrifice. The collapse of Russia and the success of the blows dealt the Italians should prepare us for a tremendous onslaught on the Western front. First may come the dangle of a German-made peace before the eyes of the weak, an attempt to destroy our unity of purpose. When this is shown a failure we can expect a series of smashing blows. A desperate, arrogant foe, full of military pride and pomp, will strike with a generated hate beside which all previous displays of "rightfulness" will be as nothing. For these blows we must steel our purpose. As a people we must never forget those who lie in Flanders fields, and we must hold firm and true to high ideals to deserve and to win Victory and Peace.

COMMENT ON CANADIAN RAILWAY SITUATION

Increase in Passenger and Freight Rates and Government Operation as in United States

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Press comments from all parts of the Dominion indicate resentment at the increase in transportation rates, and is practically unanimous in demanding the nationalization of all the railways in Canada in order to avoid the increase. The increase is variously described as a "calamity to Canada," and as an addition to the "private ownership" triumphs of Laurier and Sifton.
Toronto Telegram, under the heading of "A Calamity to Canada," says: "Fifteen per cent. increase in Canadian freight and passenger rates authorized by the Railway Commission will add over \$40,000,000 per annum to the \$250,000,000 or \$300,000,000 per annum now paid to the C.P.R., G.T.R., O.N.R., and other railways."
"The calamity of a yearly addition of \$40,000,000 to the cost of passenger and freight service is a logical and

direct result of Canada's faith in private ownership and Canada's surrender to the anti-public ownership triumphs of Laurier's and Sifton's anti-public statesmanship."

Toronto World: "We believe that our friends to the South who are always too slow to act, but do a job thoroughly when they are driven to it, will clean up the whole railway situation. They see that private ownership and operation have utterly failed. For years, its incompetency was more or less of a joke, but now in the testing time of a great war it develops into a tragedy. In short, public ownership and operation of railways."

Regina Post: "A transportation war tax will be placed upon the people to the tune of about \$40,000,000 annually. Of that tax to be paid by the people the Canadian Pacific will receive something more than half, or about \$20,000,000 annually. Granting this increase is false economy in the highest degree. The government could better afford to take \$40,000,000 from the public treasury and hand it over to the railways as a gift than to permit the increased rate. But as a matter of fact, there is reason neither for the increase nor for the gift." throughout the entire length and breadth of the United States will soon be an accomplished fact. How long shall private ownership survive in Canada?

Toronto Globe: "Canada cannot lag behind the United States in the organization of her military resources. This country must keep abreast of the times in everything that makes for greater efficiency in the carrying on of the war. The unification of the transportation facilities of the Dominion is called for now that the United States Government has taken over the railways of the republic. The unification of the Canadian railway systems, rather than an increase of railway rates, such as that authorized yesterday by the Railway Commission has been repeatedly urged by the Globe from the standpoint of national economy and efficiency in war times."

BRITISH LABOR MEN

DECLARE THE WORLD MUST BE MADE SAFE

London, Dec. 29.—At the special National Labor conference convened yesterday by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the executive of the Labor party in the Central Hall at Westminster to consider a memorandum on war aims, a pronouncement was adopted, with a virtually unanimous show of hands, declaring that in continuing the war, Labor is actuated by the determination to make the world safe for democracy hereafter. No sympathy was expressed in the text of the statement with attempts to convert the war into one of conquest, but it is insisted that restitution and reparation and also certain territorial readjustments are necessary if a renewal of armaments and war is to be avoided.

The conference was attended by 750 delegates. Its adoption of the memorandum is considered especially significant in view of the peace negotiations between Germany and Russia. The statement placed at the forefront a demand for restoration and rehabilitation of Belgium at the expense of Germany. It also dealt with Alsace-Lorraine, Italy, the Balkans, Poland, Turkey and the German African colonies on lines similar to those suggested in earlier documents. An attempt to amend the motion to consider the memorandum was made by Stephen Walsh, Parliamentary Secretary of the Local Government Board and a Labor member of parliament. Walsh contended that as many branches of the National Labor movement had not an opportunity to consider the memorandum further discussion of it should be adjourned for a month. The proposed amendment was rejected by a vote of 2,132 to 1,164.

THREE FIRE ALARMS ON FRIDAY, NO DAMAGE

The Fire Department responded to three calls from various parts of the city on Friday. At noon they received a call to the residence of Mrs. Ray, 258 Second street, where the having out of water pipes had caused a small fire, which was quickly extinguished, no damage being done. The second call was at 5:37 in the afternoon to the home of Mr. S. Brown, 118 Twenty-second street, where a chimney was found to be on fire. A third call to Mr. D. Whitney's, 1001 Sixth street, was answered about seven o'clock Friday evening. The fire was in the floor beneath the stove, there being no protection between the stove and the floor. This is a very dangerous practice as the continuous heat "auterizes" the wood and it is liable to catch fire at any time. Every stove should have protection between stove and floor or wood.

ALLIES TO GET TWO AND ONE-HALF MILLION TONS WHEAT FROM ARGENTINA

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 29.—It is announced that the Argentine Government has arranged to sell to the Allies 2,500,000 tons of wheat from the present harvest.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—ONE RED AND WHITE COW with red calf; also another red calf, and one black and white heifer about 10 months old. Finder will be rewarded by notifying Alex. Rabe, Alexander, Phone 28 r. 5. 27

IMPOUNDED—DEC. 17TH, SORREL driving horse. Four white legs; blind. Owner notify T. E. Anderson, R.R. No. 1, Hayfield. 3-10-17

LIVE STOCK FOR SALE

FOR SALE—ROSE COMB RHODE Island White cockerels, bred from 1st prize pen, at reasonable prices. Apply Mrs. F. Mason, 1035 7th St., Brandon. 4864

TO NORMAL STUDENTS

Board and room, fully modern house, one block from Normal school. Apply Box 15, Sun office. 13-20-17

600 INVALIDED SOLDIERS

LANDED AT ST. JOHN St. John N.B., Dec. 28.—A steamship docked here late today with six hundred invalided soldiers, including fifty stretcher cases.

Does It Pay to Feed \$2.00 Wheat to Hens?

"Does it pay to feed \$2.00 wheat to hens?"
Certainly, if you also feed them Peerless Poultry Tonic—the great egg producer.

For sale at

WATKIN'S STORE
227 Eighth St.



WE GIVE SATISFACTION
"A. W. Mackay, White Star, Sask.: 'Your lumber is everything it was represented to be. I saved one-third on the cost.'"
We Save You Money
Geo. Calder, Carleton Place, Ont.: 'I saved \$12 on 300 ft. of lumber by ordering from you. An excellent quality of lumber. Your shipping place is excellent.'"
Make up a Club Order
A small house or barn usually makes a minimum carload. If you don't need that much join with your neighbors and save them money, too. We mark orders separately so there's no confusion in unloading.

Lumber at Coast Mill Prices

Delivered to your nearest station with ALL FREIGHT CHARGES PAID.
Everything you need. Lumber, shingles, doors, windows, lathe, etc. EXAMINATION ALLOWED BEFORE PAYMENT.
Send for full Price List.
Others 1000 ft. on lumber, better grades. WHY NOT YOURS? OUR WAY.
DON'T WAIT. ORDER NOW
We ship promptly but you get quicker delivery if order is placed before Spring rush starts.
F.M.T.C. LUMBER CO.
DEPARTMENT I
Standard Bank Building,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

STOCKTAKING DISCOUNT SALE

You will find goods laid out on tables and the discount marked on each table. These consist, in part, of—

Oil and Electric Lamps, Boker's Skates, Casser-
oles, Electric Toasters, Silver Plated Knives,
Forks and Spoons.

and numerous other articles well suited for gifts at any season.

DISCOUNTS 25 p. c. TO 50 p. c.

The Brandon Hardware Co., Ltd.

Corner Seventh and Rosser.

Telephone 43.

BRUSH DOOR MATS

Made from the best quality selected fibre. We only stock one grade—the best. These mats are indispensable for keeping your house clean during the dirty weather. Guaranteed to give excellent wear. Three sizes in stock \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75
Steel Scraper Mats \$1.50 and \$1.75

Campbell & Campbell

ARTISTIC HOUSE FURNISHERS

When in Brandon

Have your eyes properly examined



CROWE 'The Eye Expert'

If your present frames are all right we will put the proper glasses in them to make your reading and sewing a pleasure.

Toric Optical Co.

McKenzie Bldg., Ground Floor
36 Ninth St. Phone 1212

The Only Place in Brandon Devoted to Eye Troubles