

ROUMANIA IS LIKELY TO REMAIN NEUTRAL

Leaders of Responsible Political Parties Do Not Look for Action.

AWAIT TURN OF TIDE

Roumania May at Last Moment Battle for Territorial Advantages.

BUCHAREST, Roumania, Feb. 24.—By Courier to Berlin, Feb. 26, via London, Feb. 27.—The chances of Roumania engaging in the European war on either side are not great, according to the leaders of the responsible Roumanian parties, tho it is not wholly out of the question that at the last minute Roumania may take part in the struggle to secure for herself territorial advantages at the expense of the belligerent whose defeat appears to be certain.

This is the quintessence of statements made to The Associated Press in a number of interviews with leaders of public thought and affairs. Those Roumanians who in the past have advocated action against the central group now say that the military situation in Europe is uninviting to Roumanians, while in other quarters it is still maintained that joining the central powers would be the best policy for this country.

Bratiano Criticized.
The former Premier Bratiano for having permitted opportune moments to pass unheeded. Among these ex-War Minister Filipescu, an ardent supporter of the entente allies, is Premier Bratiano's severest critic, tho Take Ionescu, ex-minister of the interior, takes a similar stand with the difference that in his opinion Roumania may still join the entente group advantageously while M. Filipescu takes the stand that now this is impossible.

Alexander Marghiloman, former finance minister, still adheres to the position that Russia is the arch enemy of Roumania, and that logically Roumania must, before the end of the war, join the central powers if she is not to find herself totally isolated, and "without a friend on earth after the war."

Between these limits all opinion in Roumania now oscillates. Military gains made by either belligerent may influence somewhat the equilibrium as established, but in the main the general attitude is now one of almost utter indifference. Whatever interest still is taken by Roumanians often has an internal political color and purpose.

Factional Strife.
It must not be assumed, however, that complete control in the government by either faction would not place Roumania on one side or the other. Premier Bratiano on gaining the upper hand, according to the general belief, would throw Roumania to the entente side, while it is thought that control by M. Marghiloman would undoubtedly range her with the central powers. But the political situation in the country as well as economic interests and the ammunition problem all operate towards a continuation of neutrality.

GERMANY PUTS TAX ON PROFITS OF WAR

From Five Per Cent. to Twenty-Five Per Cent. Levy in Prospect.

TAXES HARD TO EVADE

Provision Made to Checkmate Various Artful Devices of Dodgers.

BERLIN, Feb. 27, via London.—Germany's new expected taxation measures have been announced by the government. They include taxes upon war profits of individuals and corporations and also indirect measures of taxation.

No estimated yield on taxation of war profits is given.
The war profits measure is divided into two sections. The section for individuals takes the form of a graduated tax on property increment between Jan. 1, 1914 and 1917. The tax commences with five per cent. upon the first 30,000 marks, six per cent. upon the next 30,000 marks, and then rising in successive stages to 25 per cent. on increases over 500,000 marks.
A direct tax upon increased incomes is avoided largely owing to objections. It is said, made by individual states of the empire, in which the income tax is reserved, but by an ingenious subterfuge when an increase in the amount of property is accompanied by a corresponding increased income, mainly, when property increment represents hoardings from an increased income the rate of taxation is doubled.

Taxes Hard to Dodge.
In order to checkmate various devices of tax dodgers, it is provided that gifts to children and others and money invested abroad during the war must be reported to the authorities. Individuals who have been putting away their profits in jewelry, paintings and other articles of art or luxury which, as personal property, hereafter, have escaped taxation, must return them at their purchase value. As a further measure against tax dodging, persons moving out of the country, or attempting to send property abroad before the date of the collection, may be forced to deposit with the authorities enough to cover the tax. A full penalty is provided for offenders.

The corporation tax on war time profits starts with 10 per cent. on the additional yearly profits made during the war as compared with the average ante-bellum profits, when this additional profit does not exceed 2 per cent. of the corporation's capital stock, it rises to 20 per cent. when the additional profits exceed 20 per cent. of the capital.

STEAMER DENABY SUNK.

LONDON, Feb. 26, 12.45 p.m.—Lloyds announces the sinking of the British steamer Denaby of 2987 tons, and of 531 tons. Seven members of the crew are missing. Of five survivors who were picked up, two died.

GERMAN VERSION OF DRIVE AGAINST VERDUN

Initial Gains Were in Centre Toward the Forest of Haumont.

SYSTEMATIC ADVANCE

German Artillery and Infantry Worked in Close Co-Operation Thruout.

BERLIN, Feb. 26, via London, Feb. 27.—The correspondent before Verdun of The Berliner Zeitung Am Mittag telegraphs that the operations against the French fortress began at 8.30 o'clock in the morning of Feb. 21, along the whole sector to the eastward of the River Meuse, from near Consenvoye to the neighborhood of Azannes, with a tremendous bombardment lasting to late in the afternoon.

German fliers kept the French aviators away and prevented them from making observations.
At 5 o'clock the German infantry attacked, gaining ground first in the centre to the southward of Plages and toward the forest of Haumont. The whole wooded territory was filled with barbed wire hindrances, but the artillery had mowed paths and the forest was completely occupied by 8 o'clock in the evening.

Captured Villages.
The Germans had advanced so far that a French detachment in the valley to the north of Haumont forest was threatened in the rear, the correspondent says, and this position was evacuated by the French early in the morning with heavy losses.

The same co-operation of German artillery and infantry was repeated the following day, the batteries aiming further to the southward. The attack began at 5 o'clock in the afternoon on the Village of Haumont and within half an hour the village and the Caures forest, further to the eastward, were penetrated.

On Feb. 23 the Brabant position, as well as those in the valley between Haumont and Semogneux, and including the latter village, were taken.
Hill No. 244, to the east of Semogneux, and one of the strongest French positions, was captured on the 24th. On the evening of that day Beaumont was in German hands.

The correspondent declares that the German losses were not very great.



MARIE LOUISE DYE
With Allen Dinehart at Smea's.

ANTI-GERMAN LEAGUE IN POWERFUL MOVEMENT

Aim to Destroy the Commercial Prestige of Enemy in Neutral Countries.

The powerful movement in Great Britain to destroy the commercial prestige of Germany, in which the Anti-German League has taken the initiative, is to be aided by the British Government, which will issue a black list containing the names of German firms in neutral countries of Europe and America, with whom British subjects are to be prohibited from trading.

The British Board of Trade has announced it has been decided to close up eleven German business concerns in England, including the well-known Faber and Stollwerck firms.
The Canadian Government will probably act upon similar lines, and will aid the work of the Anti-German League in this country.

NOT THE PRUDENTIAL COMPANY OF AMERICA

In a Winnipeg news item, published in The World on Wednesday last, it was stated that Justice Prendergast had signed an order approving the reinstatement of Prudential Life policies by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada. The first company referred to is a Winnipeg company, and has no connection whatever with the Prudential Insurance Company of America.

CASKET PROFITS GOOD.

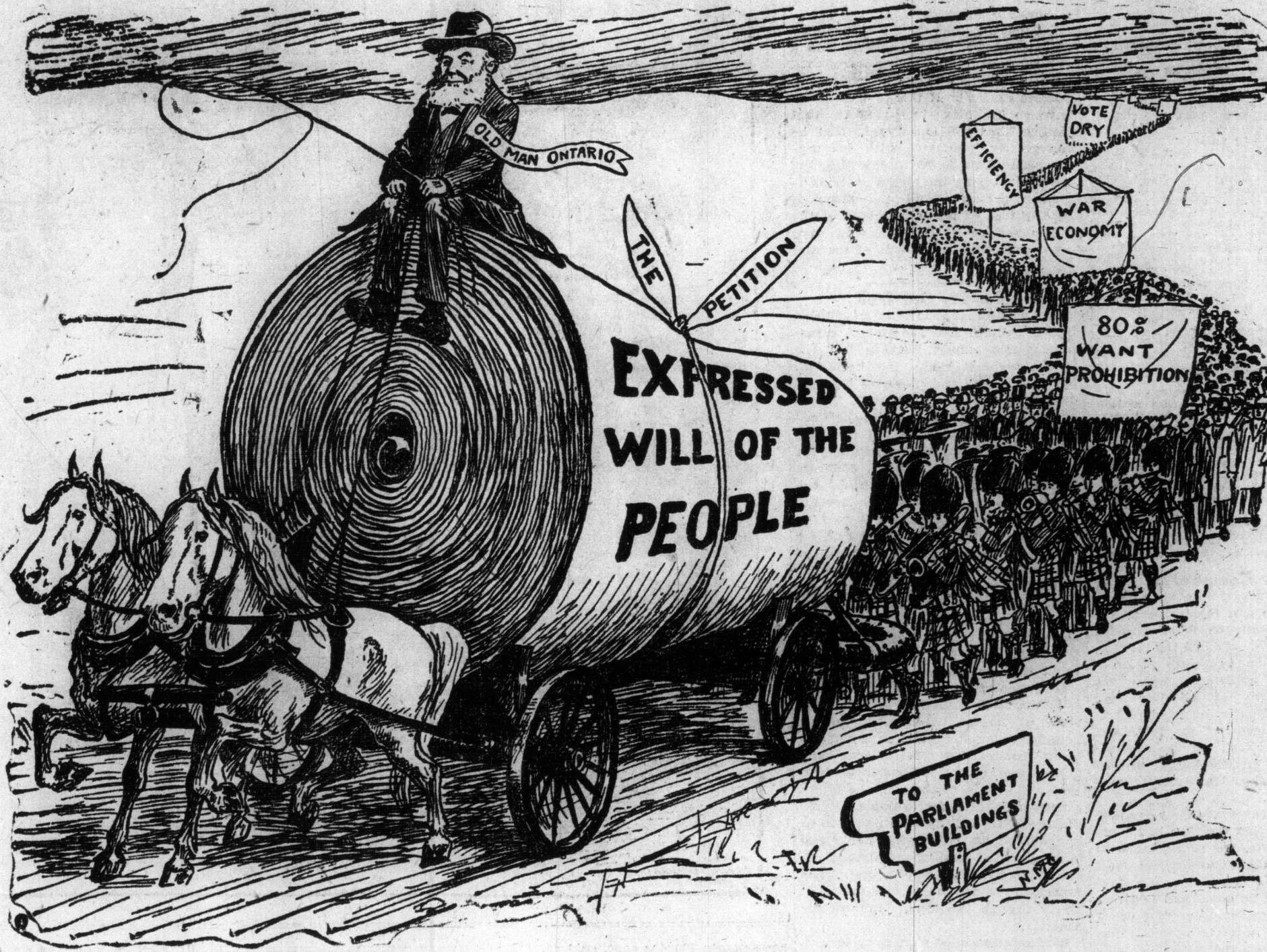
At the annual meeting of the Dominion Manufacturers, Limited, in Toronto last week, the net profits for the year were shown to be 14 1-2 per cent. This concern covers the consolidated casket factories and funeral business of the Dominion.

To Winnipeg and the West in Comfort, Via Canadian Pacific.
The Canadian Pacific Railway offers fine equipment and exceptional train service. Through standard and tourist sleepers and dining cars to Winnipeg and Vancouver, via one of the most picturesque routes in the world.

If such a trip is under consideration apply to any C.P.R. agent for full particulars, or write W. B. Howard, District passenger agent, Toronto, Ont.

NURSES GO TO THE FRONT.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Thirty-three nurses, most of them from Mercy Hospital, Chicago, left London today for the British front. They have been detailed to service for six months in field hospital. The nurses had been in London for nearly two weeks gathering their equipment.



MONSTER DEMONSTRATION

To Celebrate the Marvellous Success Of the Petition - Signing Campaign

The Citizens' Committee have arranged to hold a monster demonstration on Wednesday, March 8th, to celebrate the marvellous success of the Petition-signing campaign for Prohibition. The field force of 35,000 men who worked actively in this campaign, and the 800,000 people who signed the petitions, are invited to take part—in fact, this is their own demonstration, and everyone who signed the petition should be vitally interested in making the event a huge success.

This demonstration will take the form of a parade which will march to the Parliament Buildings and present the signed petitions to the Provincial Government. The procession will be unique in character, spectacular, and, we believe, the largest ever held in Canada.

Special Railway Rates to Toronto

To encourage everyone interested in Prohibition to participate in this Historic Event, the Citizens' Committee have made arrangements for return rates of single fare, plus 25c, from all parts of Ontario. Rates will be good going March 7th and 8th, and returning up to Friday, March 10th.

The rates are not confined to appointed delegates. All citizens interested may secure tickets at any railway station. There will be, likely, special trains from the larger centres, such as Hamilton, London, Windsor, Stratford, Ottawa, Peterboro', Belleville, Brockville, Owen Sound and Midland.

Let an army worthy in size to represent the overwhelming prohibition sentiment in Ontario march to the Parliament Buildings on Wednesday, March 8th. Let us all resolve to make any sacrifices that may be necessary in order to be present at the great Historical Event. The Citizens' Committee are already assured of a great demonstration, but want to make it greater still. It rests with the people of Ontario to do their part.

Citizens' Committee of One Hundred

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Chairman of Executive Committee
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E. F. Clement,
Berlin,
Chairman.
James Hales,
Toronto,
Vice-Chairman.

Frank Kent,
Meaford,
Treasurer.
Newton Wylie,
Toronto,
General Secretary.

Largest Public Demonstration ever attempted in Canada.

More than 25,000 people in Mammoth Parade.

Fleet of 1,000 gaily-decorated Motor Cars.

20 Military and Citizens' Bands.

700 Banners, each with a "punch."

Largest Banner in the world—half-mile long.

Chorus of 1,000 Students

"Old Man Ontario on the Water Waggon."

Many Original Floats.

Altogether a great spectacle of supreme human interest to the people of Ontario.