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Canada's Water Powers

Imitation is the sincerest flat-

ttery! Sir Henry Thornton, the new

president of the C. N. R., flatters

Sir Adam Beck with the flattery of

imitation when, as announced in his

New Year's financial message to the

people of Canada published this

morning, while wisely urging a

wide exploration of the Dominion

to ascertain the extent of Canada's

resources in coal, petroleum and

similar fuel products, he adds:

"If the supplies should prove

limited, the Dominion could fall

back upon a magnificent and as

yet undeveloped source of energy

in its water power, particularly

in parts of Canada where coal

does not exist."

To mention the electrical de-

velopment of this province alone,

the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power

Commission and Sir Adam Beck are

a score of years ahead of the state-

ment of Sir Henry Thornton. So

far as we know there is as yet no

available coal in Ontario. They gave

us "white coal" instead.

Again, the water-power develop-

ment of the Dominion at large al-

ready stands so well in the fore-

front that, in respect of develop-

ment per head of the population,

we are surpassed by only one coun-

try in the world, Norway. Practi-

cally every great Canadian industrial

center is at this time served with

hydro-electrical energy. While the

enormous water-power projects

shortly to be under way form a

substantial basis for the progres-

sive exploitation and development

of other natural resources and are

the assurance of continued indus-

trial expansion and prosperity.

Twenty-three years ago, or in the

year 1900, when schemes for the

development of "power" from Ni-

agara began to take form, the peo-

ple of this part of the province, afraid

that a company might be organized

which would obtain a monopoly of

what, incontestably, is a provin-

cial resource, set political agitation

on foot in opposition to all such

procedure.

In sympathy with that agitation,

in 1905, Sir Adam Beck, who had

become identified with the work of

developing and distributing power

generated at the falls, introduced

into Parliament legislation creat-

ing the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power

and Sir Adam Beck mainly are re-

sponsible.

In "The Book of Canada," Mr.

Perry Mills says at the close of an

appreciative article on Sir Adam

Beck:

"There is a masterfulness and

daring imagination in the feat of

harnessing Niagara which in an

earlier age would have brought

its originator a scepter or the stake.

Sir Henry Thornton's doubtless

well-intentioned emphasis on Can-

ada's "as yet undeveloped source

of energy in its water power," un-

consciously wrongs Sir Adam

Beck's 20 years' missionary effort,

and the Ontario Hydro-Electric

Commission's magnificent achieve-

ment.

To that effort and achievement,

since nearly half of Canada's man-

ufactures are in Ontario, we owe

at least a percentage of the fact

that Canada's industrial growth,

1901-1911-1921, was the greatest

on record. Further to that effort

and achievement, since Ontario

provided 50 per cent. of Canada's

war effort and half the Canadian

army came from the factories, we

owe a percentage of the fact that

Canada helped to win the war.

To the man who has done the

work, the praise. We shall be for-

tunate, indeed, if the next 20 years

see such work duplicated.

Presidential Primaries

The so-called Progressive bloc in the

American Congress, of which Senator

Lafollette is leader, at a recent caucus

set forth as its main plank the fol-

lowing resolution:

"In order to restore and perpetu-

ate the control of the people over

their Government, we propose the

institution of the primary in the

various states for direct, open

primary for all electors, including

the presidency, and for effective

and effective federal and state

corrupt practices acts."

Many American states have now

direct primaries for most offices and

about the only outcome has been to

increase the machinery and cost of

elections. Before the regular elec-

tions the country has all the excite-

ment of a preliminary campaign when

the candidates of the various parties

are selected by ballot.

The presidential elections even now

result in turmoil throughout the re-

public for at least half a year. If

there were to be nation-wide pri-

maries first by which the presiden-

tial candidates could be elected it

would be infinitely worse. Can-

didates would have to build up

first national organizations, and

even the most legitimate expenses

of the campaign would be enormous.

Instead of being a more democra-

tic method it would almost cer-

tainly be the selection of any but

men with tremendous financial re-

sources who would increase the

chances for manipulation by expert

managers of presidential booms.

Then, after a nation-wide election

to select the candidates as a sort of

preliminary election, the regular

presidential campaign. The present

system of electing the president

may not be perfect, but it is difficult

to see where the proposed plan would

be any improvement.

It is hard after all to improve on

the Parliamentary system of British

institutions built up over centuries

of experience.

A New Jerusalem

Many Londoners a short time ago

listened, in one of our churches, to

a sermon by the Bishop of Jerusalem.

Those who were fortunate enough

to attend the service heard a fine

sermon as well as an interesting

recital of some of the influence at work

in the city of Jerusalem.

For hundreds and hundreds of

years the city has been almost a by-

word for its unsanitary, unsavory

condition and the degradation of the

majority of the population.

The Great War, however, has

changed the circumstances, and

Allenby's occupation has brought

many blessings with it. First and

foremost the influence of a

beloved leader of sterling merit,

progressive thinker who knew how

to surround himself with other

progressive thinkers of different

views, the whole making a group

The Third Column

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Happy New Year! That's the wish

of the tongue.

Happy New Year! It's so easily flung

on the breeze of the morning to friends

passing by.

With a smile on the lip and a gleam

in the eye.

Yet wishes are idle, I fancy, to cheer

Unless we can make it a Happy New

Year.

Happy New Year! That's the greet-

ing we fling

As a wish that the future will bring

bring.

Happy New Year! And we pass right

along,

With a wish that's bestowed as the gift

of a song.

And yet, if your wishes are really

sincere,

For all we must make it a Happy New

Year.

Happy New Year! Yet the weeks and

the months

Bring nothing of joy to the world's

troubled ways.

They come and depart, and the joy that

they bring

And long shall remember, another must

make.

From us who are living and toiling

things that come with life it a Happy

New Year.

'Tis the smiles that we give and the

help we bestow

That fashions earth's joy as the days

come and go;

'Tis the smiles we share and the griefs

we console

That memory keeps as the years on-

ward roll;

For after the burden and after the

tear

It is friendship that makes it a Happy

New Year!

—Edgar A. Guest.

(Copyright, 1923, by Edgar A. Guest.)

UNTOLD.

The most natural feeling for anyone

is to be free—to be free to think, act

and grow.

The inventor lives a very happy life—

for he is continually unfolding his

ideas. And as he does