

The Toronto World

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FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 22, 1911

IS IT A CRIME?

Five of the six Toronto daily newspapers own their own real estate in Toronto and have, some of them, quadrupled their investment and some of them more than quadrupled it. Four of them, however, think that it is a crime for anybody to make money out of real estate in the suburbs and that any proposition looking to a distribution of values in the outlying portions of the city is a sin, or for any person to look for better street railway facilities to the outlying portions of the city is to be a visionary. So these are the ones who oppose the tubes and who oppose municipal surface railways. Perhaps they believe in concentrating values down-town at their own corners?

Take The Mail of yesterday, which has done well by its real estate down town. Here is its dig at the tubes and viaduct and hydro-electric by-laws:

Los Angeles has found it impossible to sell any part of its new bond issue, because its "progressive" policies have loaded it with debt almost to the sinking point. Progress sometimes goes so far and so fast nowadays that it trips over itself coming back.

If more than half of the real estate in Toronto has doubled in value as has The Mail building, and if the immediate suburbs of Toronto have increased in value five times, is there not lots of security there for the bylaws that are to be submitted on New Year's Day.

The Mail, notwithstanding a Conservative government is in office, and that Sir James Whitney has set the example of government ownership, is afraid of the future, is a believer in "stumps" for Toronto. Why doesn't The Mail accept the offers made for its real estate and get out? The truth is that The Mail has assisted the power and traction interests at every bylaw reference made to the ratepayers of Toronto. The Mail and Globe are always with Spence and Robert John Fleming. The Mail has no love for Beck or Whitney and public ownership—not when it comes to a vote.

WHO'S YOUR MAN?

What part are the board of trade and other bodies that professedly exist for the advancement of the city, taking in the forthcoming municipal elections? Their members have done a deal of addressing, otherwise talking, during the year that is now passing. But what have they done towards bringing out fitting candidates or towards the endorsement of the best available men?

The moral reformers and Epworth Leaguers have made their choice known. What are the business men doing? God helps those who help themselves and there is nothing out of harmony between commercial progress and religion. The best possible way that the various civic advancement organizations can fulfill their professed objects is to bring out and endorse good men for the city council. This is the last call.

THREE CONTROLLERS.

In the nominations to-day there are three men whose claims for a position on the board of control cannot be ignored. Controller Hocken represents the whole city in the demand for emancipation from the limitations placed upon it by the congestion of street railway traffic, and for the application of the remedy which the best engineering skill recommends, and all private capital is eagerly awaiting the chance to apply, but whose profits and advantages the citizens wish to keep for themselves in the construction and operation thru public control of a system of tubes.

Ald. McCarthy represents the west end of the city in the various problems which specially affect that portion of the city, while his intelligent treatment of the general questions of municipal politics has marked him for public approbation. Much the same might be said of ex-Controller Foster in his relation to the east end, where his advocacy and staunch support of the Bloor-st. viaduct gives him a special claim. Mr. Foster's well-known views on getting value for value are as necessary in the expenditure of millions as in the expenditure of dollars, and the critics who have emphasized the latter have missed the point. These three gentlemen should be on the board of control for 1912, be the fourth who he may.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

In an address delivered to the delegates of the Devon and Cornwall Liberal Federation in the Guildhall, Plymouth, Sir Edward Grey made a brief reference to the Morocco negotiations and the relations among France, Germany and the United Kingdom. The depression, he said, was passing away and the diplomatic barometer should soon begin to rise. What he believed to be really advisable now was a few weeks, if possible, of diplomatic repose, and if, he proceeded, "we can devote ourselves during the next few weeks to our usual Christmas enjoyments and our internal political questions, and not tap the barometer too often, I think there is every hope that when we next begin to examine it we may find that it is rising and that the sky is clearing."

Parents

may open Savings Accounts for children, and may retain control. Or, if preferred, the control may be given to the children. One of our excellent Christmas presents for your boy or girl. Many a spouseless man owes his start in life to a little capital accumulated for him by his parents in this way. We credit interest at three and one-half per cent.

Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation

Toronto Street, Toronto. Estab. 1855.

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These optimistic remarks prompt the inference that some part of the truculent tone that presently characterizes the official and semi-official German press is attributable to the proximity of the general elections to the Reichstag. The Social Democrats have been extremely active of late and under their auspices a huge mass meeting against war was held in Berlin during the height of the Moroccan crisis. They expect to increase their representation to a hundred or more, or double their strength in the last session, and their successes in the by-elections and the state elections show that their expectations are not without ground. The fostering of international jealousy for political purposes is not without its dangers, but the menace of Socialism is too near and present to the governing classes of Germany to permit of the neglect of any influence that may sway public opinion.

IRELAND UNDER LAND PURCHASE.

In an article in The Contemporary Review of London, Eng., a very favorable account is given of the regenerated Ireland. By the operation of the land purchase measures a new country has been created and the whole standard of living improved almost beyond recognition. Comfortable, substantial dwellings have replaced the broken down cabins and already their occupants, with the responsibilities of proprietorship, have recovered their independence of speech and action. "What has produced the change in the Irish purchaser?" asks The Contemporary Reviewer. "Why, a terror has passed from their lives—the terror of the land agent and the bailiff, of the landlord himself, if he were ever visible. Landlordism has gone from these districts and its departure is like the removal of a great social and moral blight. A cloud has passed away and the people breathe again. It is the best preparation for a free nation."

These better conditions are reflected in the government report on Irish trade in 1910, just issued. During that year the combined export and import trade totaled over \$650,000,000, and for the first time exports exceeded imports. The value of Ireland's exports is greater than that of the imports into the United Kingdom from all other countries. Horses alone figured at the number of 21,829. Ireland stands second in the list of butter imports into Britain, both in quantity and value, was second in eggs, and her poultry exports to Great Britain valued at over \$4,500,000, was far above that of any other country. Irish bacon and hams were third on the list and potatoes the largest in quantity. All this means great and growing prosperity and fully reveals the economic value of the land-owning policy.

RECORD TOWN BUILDING.

In the making of cities in the great west of Canada there is no end. Even before projected railways reach the locations, enterprising and wide-awake people are on the alert to secure desirable lots and commence building operations. The latest instance of a town springing into existence almost in a night is Coronation, Alberta, situated on the Lacomb branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway. At 6 o'clock on the evening of Sept. 26 the track was completed, and two hours later the first passenger train arrived. On the following day the townsite was offered for sale, and a full report of the proceedings appeared in the first issue of the Coronation News, published the same afternoon. To-day it has a population of 500, with two hotels, in course of construction, one cost \$40,000, banks, telegraph communication, and a board of trade with 45 members. The story of the birth and progress of Coronation is very attractively told in an illustrated booklet issued by the land department of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It contains photographs of all the stages in the development of the town from the tents where the purchasers of lots camped overnight, to its appearance just thirty days old. The changes are surprising and various records were broken. One fifty foot business corner was sold for \$2500 and other business lots brought \$60 per foot frontage. Upwards of 150,000 of property was disposed of at the sale, and \$47,000 worth additional was purchased within six weeks. Coronation is expected to become one of Western Canada's most prosperous towns, situated as it is in a

rich agricultural district, and possessing good business facilities. Those interested in western land development can get a copy of the booklet from the Pacific Realty Company, 154 Bay-st.

THE BLOOR STREET VIADUCT.

Editor World: As the party more than any other responsible for the introduction and continuation of the agitation for the Bloor-street viaduct, I wish you would look into this question a little more closely, to see if your advocacy of an air line viaduct is not the stumbling block to the people of the east side of the Don getting early relief from a condition which is intolerable, and most assuredly should be remedied.

Like many more, who are in sympathy with the movement, am absolutely opposed to the air line project, both as an engineer, a practical contractor and taxpayer. I can not conceive why it was selected by the board of control, and recommended by the city engineer, without the ratepayers being consulted. I am sure it was the wish to kill the whole scheme while seemingly in favor of it. I do not wish to criticize the city engineer or the board of control unduly, but the jauntily air with which they advise the expenditure of an extra half million dollars brings to mind the homely old saying of "Come easy, go easy."

Now to get back to yourself. I believe that you have been absolutely honest and sincere in your advocacy of the viaduct scheme, as a means of drawing the outlying parts of the city more closely together, and giving those who must have cheap homes more rapid and comfortable access to these homes, and from them to their work, and that you had no ulterior motives behind your advocacy of the scheme. The only question is, are you going about it in the right way? I am in hearty sympathy with you up to a certain point, so are many others, and I am firmly convinced that if you would modify your views somewhat you would gain by years the establishment of conditions to the end, which call loudly for improvement. Your wonderful success in the anti-reciprocity campaign was obtained because you dealt entirely with facts; your failure up to the present on the viaduct scheme is due to your abandoning facts for theory, and theory without foundation is a liability poor foundation for any structure much less pretentious than the Bloor-street viaduct. Up to a certain point your facts are undoubted. The east end needs increased transportation facilities, the wage-earner and laborer need cheaper homes, and the city needs a more rapid and comfortable access to these homes, and these can more easily and readily be obtained by means of the viaduct than by any other means. Beyond that you advocate the theory that rapid transit is most desirable between the east and west, and is of such utmost importance that an air line must be secured, or the city will go to the how-owns, and that the time lost going from east to west via Howland-street, and in the city, which should be wiped out by money, no matter how unreasonable the expenditure.

The pure theory, and not common sense. Do you think you could enlist the sympathy of the west-end taxpayer more strongly to your theory, and have him say to you, "We can get a good practical scheme, which will give us the relief we need for a certain reasonable amount, and still have half a million of the city treasury available for street railway extensions, so much needed in the west and north?"

I have given you an outline of my thoughts on the subject. There are many more facts that can be advanced if necessary. What I want you to do is to make it possible for those of us who are in sympathy with the project, but want the line to run via Howland-street, and in the city, to submit that proposition instead of the air line, or if you cannot come so far, at least go in with us in having both alternative lines submitted to the people, allowing them to decide, as is their right to do.

I sincerely trust, however, that you will associate yourself with those who, like yourself, honestly wish to see the results you aim at, obtained, but in a reasonable and economical manner.

WEBB-FOOTED MEN.

Editor World: In a recent discussion which arose out of the present unseasonableness of the weather, the point came up as to whether any web-footed person really existed. I have heard rumors to this effect, but I have never had the opportunity of seeing one. Can you or others will help give me any information on this point? A Constant Reader.

HEED THE STREET CAR FENDER.

News of what it means to make a small investment in Christmas stamps is being spread in the present craze to move along in all parts of the city. On the fender is a bulletin that invites you to buy a one cent Christmas stamp in the Murray-Kay Co. or your own local drug store, or somewhere else and buy ten or twenty-five cents' worth of these stamps, and have the satisfaction of knowing at Christmas draws that you have done something to make the life of the poor consumptive easier.

Chatham, in connection with one of the churches, they have a Sunshine Club. The president believes the sale of Christmas stamps among the members and others will help to bring sunshine into many a dark and discouraged home. She orders \$10.00 worth, and hopes that the sales may reach still larger figures.

Gold Rush in Alaska.

RUBY Alaska, Dec. 21.—Trews of rich gold strike on Hammond River has been brought here by Deputy Marshal Howell. The gold was found in a deep channel, and runs \$6000 at the bottom of the shaft. "Pay dirt has been found in this neighborhood, but this is the first time a channel has been discovered. A rush to the new diggings is in progress."

Pastor Coming From Ireland.

KINGSTON, Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Rev. S. Compton, Baltimore, Ireland, called as pastor of St. Andrew's Protestant Church, to succeed Rev. Dr. Mackie, by unanimous vote will receive \$2000 and manse.

Where is General Reyes?

MONTEREY, Mex., Dec. 21.—Army scouts appear to have lost the trail of Gen. Reyes and his little staff. In the last twenty-four hours no definite reports regarding his whereabouts have been received at army headquarters.

AT OSGOODE HALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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The master-in-chambers will sit at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays during the Christmas vacation.

Master's Chambers.

Before Cartwright, K.C. Master. Judgment: This motion is in substance, the not perhaps in form, an appeal from the order of the chief justice of the Queen's Bench of Nov. 27, returning security. It cannot possibly be entertained by me and must be dismissed with costs against the applicants in any event. So far as I have considered the question, I do not express any decided opinion.

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