

The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 2.

A HUMAN VOLCANO.

The assassination in Bosnia of the crown prince and wife of Austria, the recent Balkan war with its awful destruction of life and property, the crowding of Turkey out of Europe; the threat of Greece to make a fresh attack on the Sultan; the slender tie between the German and Hungarian peoples who make up the united kingdom; the approaching end of the reign of Francis Joseph; the series of domestic tragedies that have made the long life of that monarch unique in history; a thousand other things would seem to point to some kind of great upheaval in that mixed and teeming and badly governed area known as southeastern Europe. The czar of Russia and the Kaiser of Germany border on this human volcano, and are therefore deeply concerned in the repeated and louder rumblings.

Ape Germany, England and perhaps France getting together before the outbreak? That would seem to be a good thing to do.

VILLA—WILSON—HUERTA.

Is the president of the United States wedged in between the two irregular and bloody claimants to the government of Mexico? If so, the situation is not a cheerful one for the people of the United States to look upon.

The United States is in Mexico whether it will or not; it may be a long day before Uncle Sam gets out to tend to his own pressing affairs and finish the work he took up in Cuba and Philippines. Again the policeman's lot is not a happy one.

OPPOSITION ADHERENTS.

There is some hope for the Ontario opposition in the advent of so many new faces in the legislature to the left of the Speaker. A good deal of effort is being laid on Major Tomlin, who defeated Hon. J. O. Reame in Windsor, and who has decided to abandon his clerical prefix. He is one of the younger generation also and takes the young man's view of things, which is a virtue everybody outside The Globe will appreciate. Another opposition acquisition is Mayor Carter of Guelph. There is no doubt about his genuine regard for public ownership principles and practice. There has always been a little half-heartedness in the opposition support to hydro policies in the legislature, and a greater disposition to be critical than to be kind. Mayor Carter is not likely to make this mistake, and if he criticizes it will be for just cause and not for the sake of finding fault. It was touch and go with Dr. McDonald in North Bruce, but he seems to "have made the team." There is poetic as well as several other kinds of justice about this, and no one will regret on the government side that such a genial, brainy, straightforward opponent should have retained the confidence of the electors.

EXIT POSTOFFICE SQUARE.

While no one likes to think that the city council has a preference for policies that are cheap and nasty, it is clear that the aldermen are no better in 1914 than in previous years when it comes to making improvements in the appearance of the central part of the city. The proposed postoffice square was voted down on Tuesday by 14 to 8, and there is no hope of its revival or of any change in the plans now before the Dominion Government. A good deal of regret will be felt in years to come that the people of Toronto did not when they had the opportunity adopt some of the proposals for downtown squares and wider thoroughfares, which have been placed before the city council on such advantageous terms. One thing at least is clear, that there is not the slightest sign in making any further similar proposals.

THE LIVE STOCK SHOW.

When the city undertook the support of the Winter Live Stock Show last year it was inevitable that a fair trial should be given to the enterprise. The arguments that are being used at the present time against the show are not at all different from those used last year, when they should have been effective if at all. It is quite illogical to listen now to reasons which have

lost any weight they had by the success, which attended the actual show once it was permitted and guaranteed. The estimated loss was well foreseen at the time, and the actual loss was less than had been anticipated. A further experience is likely to show still better results. The patronage was not so great on the first occasion as it will be with the greater publicity that attends a second exhibition, and the public will undoubtedly give it greater attention this year than they did last. It was the finest show of the kind that was ever held in Canada, and this is the opinion of well qualified judges. The concern of Ontario, and especially of Toronto, in the cattle trade has frequently been mentioned in this connection, and the city council will be well advised to continue the guarantee already given.

RADIUM AS A FERTILIZER.

Still another use has been found for radium, that mysterious element whose properties are now under investigation by scientists in all parts of the civilized world. From information supplied by the deputy consul-general of the United States in London to the department of commerce at Washington it appears that experiments have been in progress at Croydon for the purpose of ascertaining what effect radium exerts on plant growth. So favorable are the first results that it is quite possible that radium may become one of the most valuable agencies in the improvement of crops. This it does not so much directly as thru its destructive influence on adverse soil organisms that retard or impede proper development.

What promises to bring radium into general use, should these experiments be confirmed, is the very small quantity required. The best results are said to be obtained from only about one seven-hundredth part of a grain of radium to one ton of soil. This renders it possible to utilize the residues left after radium has been extracted, since a minute amount remains on them. When these residues, of comparatively little value, are mixed with the soil, wheat and barley grow with great rapidity, but the most decisive results have been obtained from radishes and carrots. In some cases these have been nearly six times as heavy as when grown under ordinary conditions. Once incorporated with the soil, radium particles will remain constant in effect for hundreds of years.

THE AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE OF CANADA.

Much valuable information is contained in the June number of The Agricultural Gazette of Canada, issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. This monthly magazine, now in its sixth issue, promises to be the least important of the means adopted to assist the farmer and stock raiser. It covers not only the Dominion but also the provincial departments, calls attention to all new legislation and to all the latest experimental work and contains various special contributions, reports of agricultural organizations, reviews of books on agriculture and rural subjects and notes of general interest.

What is perhaps most noticeable in this issue of The Gazette is the increasing attention being given to early and systematic instruction in scientific agriculture. In May last the president of the United States assented to the Smith-Lever bill, which in many ways corresponds to the Agricultural Instruction Act now operative in the Canadian provinces. Of interest, too, is the communication from one of the field instructors of New Zealand, describing the methods employed to direct the attention of the high schools towards agriculture and kindred pursuits. New Zealand has developed remarkably as a food exporting country and has been successful in its efforts to engage the interest of young students.

A BIG AND BARLESS HOTEL.

Editor World: There is a lot in what you said yesterday, and I believe the temperance people of Toronto, of all Ontario, ought to start the best and biggest hotel in this city without a license. Such a hotel ought to carry at least five rooms, each with bath and right in the business heart of the city. It would pay and it would do more than anything else for the cause they have at heart. Some day some people will go to the best hotel just because it has no license.

NEW TRAIN SERVICE CANADIAN PACIFIC LAKE SHORE LINE.

Trains are now operated between Toronto, Whitby, Port Hope, Cobourg, Belleville, Ottawa and intermediate stations over C.P.R. new Lake Shore line as follows: Train No. 28 leave Toronto 8:05 a.m., arrive Cobourg 10:35 a.m., Belleville 11:55 a.m. and Ottawa 4:50 p.m.; and train No. 37 leave Ottawa 10 a.m., arrive Belleville 2:54 p.m., Cobourg 4:19 p.m., and arrive Toronto 6:50 p.m. daily, except Sunday, carrying cafe coach and parlor car. Train for Belleville and intermediate points will leave Toronto 6:30 a.m., arrive Belleville 10:25 p.m., and returning, leave Belleville 7 a.m., arrive Toronto 11 a.m., carrying parlor car. For further particulars apply any C.P.R. ticket agent.

HORSE MUST GO.

The department of agriculture states that the farm horse averages about three and one-half hours of work a day the year round, and he eats fodder steadily. The electric motor, on the other hand, consumes energy only when it is in operation.

COCKNEY SLANG.

The London dustman's slang name for articles of value found in dustbins is "lots," while "sparrows" is the name for gratuities.

HOME BANK'S ANNUAL MEETING

Director Points Out Necessity of Helping Western Farmers.

The annual meeting of the Home Bank of Canada, held on Tuesday afternoon, June 30, brings to a close the list of financial statements of the various banks for 1913. The Home Bank report follows along parallel lines with the features exhibited generally by the other chartered banks, and the president's address is a further contribution to the authoritative remarks on financial conditions in Canada for the past 12 months.

An analysis of the report shows that the net profits for the year were nearly \$184,000, or 10 per cent on the paid-up capital; the reserve fund is now equal to one-third of the capital; the officers' pension fund has been established with a reserve of \$10,000, and \$55,000 has been written off the bank's premises.

There will be an additional reduction to this item in 1914, when the sale of one or two lots adjoining the north Yonge street subway, which are being held as a reserve available for the use of the bank, will be made.

A marked feature of the reports of the banks this year has been the decline of the deposits of the Home Bank. The Home Bank's deposits have declined, but against this the savings accounts show a substantial increase.

Grain Growers' Needs.

A most important feature of the meeting was the address of the director, John Kennedy of Winnipeg, who declared that the country was losing millions of dollars yearly because farmers in the northwest are compelled to ship their grain out of the country hurriedly in order to get ready funds after harvesting their crops. This invariably causes the price to drop from five to seven cents a bushel, whereas, if the banks would advance the farmers 50 per cent of the value of their grain they would have funds sufficient to carry them along over their temporary needs, and they could then ship out their grain gradually without overloading the foreign markets.

Feeling references were made to the memory of Eugene O'Keefe, the former president of the bank, who died in October last.

BUS SYSTEM FOR TORONTO.

To the Mayor and Council:—Before letting this question go to the people for a vote careful investigation should be made so that the voters will have some idea as to whether there is the slightest chance of such an experiment paying running expenses, or whether it is likely to be another very costly experiment.

Having made some investigations along this line, I gravely question the advisability of such a bus system for Toronto, for the following reasons: Bus systems have proved a most unprofitable investment wherever they have been started, but in London, England, itself, after ten or twelve years' operations, it is only within the last two years after many failures, reorganizations, and other difficulties, that they have begun to get small returns on their investment. New York, and Philadelphia have tried buses repeatedly without success. The same companies being in the hands of the receivers most of the time they were in operation. The existing New York system is obliged to charge 10 cents per passenger and cannot make any money.

In face of these facts, how can Toronto expect to operate buses except at an immense loss?

London has an immensely larger population to draw upon than Toronto, and its population is concentrated in the downtown section; labor at 40 to 50 per cent. lower than Toronto; it can purchase its equipment in vehicles and trucks at a 50 per cent. less than they would cost in Toronto; its cost of up-keep and repairs would be much less than those of Toronto; its cost of fuel is less than that of Toronto; and it has no snow problem to contend with in winter, which would increase the cost of operation.

There is no doubt that the new districts of the city are heavily handicapped for the want of a good car service. There is no doubt also, that the shareholders of the Toronto Street Railway Company, in view of their poor prospects upon the expiration of their present franchise, which will be a twenty-five to fifty-year extension of their franchise upon terms which would be highly satisfactory to the citizens of Toronto, and which would probably give us 35 per cent. rates, and at least as good a service as they would ultimately get under civic management. Cleveland's success along this line is well worth investigating.

E. Calston Hill.

48 Victoria street.

HERE AND THERE

In the spring and summer seasons the many insect pests do their most destructive work and increase the already high cost of living. Already the young apples are beginning to fall off the trees in great numbers. This is because the codling moth laid its eggs in the apple blossoms, the eggs hatched, and the young worms ate their way out of the apple and destroyed it. The codling moth costs over \$2,500,000 a year for carrying them off the trees. The shrub which pest cost \$20,000,000 a year, the cotton boll worm as much more, the insects that injure the trees cost the nation \$100,000,000 a year, and besides all these we have grasshoppers, cutworms, army worms, wire worms, leaf hoppers and other pests that are worth of dollars' worth of good property. And yet there are, as Dr. W. T. Hornaday points out, about five billion men and boys who are slaughtering the birds, which are the most efficient agencies we have in eating and destroying the injurious insects. Many states have laws protecting insectivorous birds, and the federal government is aiding them in their efforts, but the slaughter of useful robins, bluebirds, crows, and all insect-eating shore birds ought to be stopped peremptorily. In this everybody can help a little, and the boys and girls can do a great deal.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

The press comments upon the election are in accord upon the proposition that the banish-the-bar issue did not perceptibly affect the result. They agree that the people simply declined to vote on provincial-wide prohibition in this way. The Liberal newspapers show no bitterness and but little surprise, and nowhere is to be found any complaint of Mr. Rowell's picturesque but unsuccessful campaign. He took a chance, as Napoleon took a chance when he returned from Elba, but if the result was disappointing he did something at least to rehabilitate his party, which provincially has been in a slough of despond since the overthrow of the Ross Government in January, 1905. That is the view of The Montreal Gazette (Con.), which says:

The election of a new legislature in Ontario yesterday showed results less favorable to the Liberal opposition than had been anticipated. Assuming the party of Mr. Rowell still suffers from the banish-the-bar issue, it is not in the latter years of its power at Toronto. As leader Mr. Rowell has shown a certain amount of sagacity and some adaptability. What was done before 1904, when Sir George Ross, Mr. George P. Graham, of Brockville, Mr. A. J. MacKay of North Grey and Mr. J. R. Stratton of Peterboro were doing their best for their party to hold on to office when reputation after reputation were alike gone, still weighs upon the organization, however, and paralyzes it to some extent. That can be said for Mr. Rowell may be that he is getting the Liberal party on its feet again.

That the party will have to drop the abolition of the bar as its one cardinal principle is acknowledged by everybody, unless, perhaps, The Toronto Globe. But Mr. Rowell can still maintain an advanced stand on the temperance question while building a wider platform. He had demonstrated by experiment that the province cannot be won by a political contest by the slogan of banish-the-bar. The Woodstock Sentinel-Review, an abject acceptor of the result of the experiment without rancor, but without evasion, and we are told:

The result of the election is simply this: The things that were pretty nearly as they were. The Conservatives suffered a few losses, the Liberals a few gains, and the government is confirmed in office by a substantial majority.

What part did the abolition of the bar play in the result? The complete answer cannot be given until the total popular vote is available for analysis. There is some evidence of temperance activity in reduced minorities here and there, but the effect on the representation in the legislature—and it is the representation that counts—was negligible. A large number of clergymen all over the province threw themselves into the campaign for closing the bar. Five clergymen appealed to the electors as candidates, and one was elected, but in the case of Rev. J. C. Toimie, who was elected for Windsor, it must be remembered that he was a Conservative, and that there were two Conservative candidates.

From the information available it must be concluded that there was no notable rallying of the temperance forces in response to the abolition of the bar. Looking at the situation purely from a point of view, it would seem that the banish-the-bar issue was as much as they could get from the adoption of this policy.

The Peterboro Examiner (Lib.), while congratulating the local candidate, Mr. Russell, upon his election, doubts if he gained anything from the party stand on the temperance question, and The Windsor Record (Lib.), in a similar vein, says: "The party disaster which it predicted a year ago. Apologizing for same it told you so."

While editorial which reads as follows:

Certain Liberal newspapers and men have brought out the fact that the province are asking that Mr. Rowell, either resign the leadership of his party or the "banish-the-bar" plank from his platform.

It is true that this policy was never brought out by the Liberal party as a whole, but when the opposition in the legislature met to discuss the subject, the party of Mr. Rowell was divided into five avowed advocates of prohibition, who happened to be Liberal members of the legislature. A temperance plan, had it put thru the caucus and adopted as the policy of the party in the "banish-the-bar" plank from his platform.

When the policy was announced The Record could not see its way clear to endorse it. It thinks the party to the left of the speaker in the house made a serious error in taking the course it did.

However, since Mr. Rowell and a few of his followers have committed the Liberal party to a radical temperance policy, perhaps it would be better for the party to stand by its guns and fight out the issue at the next general election.

It is safe to say the Liberals will be beaten and beaten badly, and then they will know where they "get off to."

The Record, whose predictions are now justified by the event, does not push its advantage unduly, and indeed there is a general disposition on the part of the Liberals who have opposed the Rowell policy not to act hastily or in bad temper. They would have been no better off had they walked thru the campaign with no issue at all, as they did in 1911. And they all realized that no one would have refused to share in the spoils had Mr. Rowell secured a victory by his crusader-like campaign.

Some of the Conservative papers believe that the bilingual school issue was as definitely an issue before the

people as the banish-the-bar policy. The Kingston Standard says: "Two things stand out clearly as a result of yesterday's provincial election—one, that the people of the province prefer real temperance to political temperance, are not willing to allow themselves to be deluded by any false cry against a government that has done so much for temperance in the true sense of the word; and object seriously to any leader making a political football out of a great moral principle; the other, that this is an English province and that the party that truckles to the French-Canadian element, as Mr. Rowell certainly did, must pay the penalty thru the loss of English votes. It is manifest that it was only due to this truckling that Mr. Rowell gained the two Ottawa and two Essex seats; but to those, as to his other bilingual followers, he is welcome."

It is much to be doubted if Mr. Rowell owes his two seats in Ottawa to the "truckling" above referred to. Ottawa is divided by the Rideau Canal and the French-Canadian population in West Ottawa is negligible. In East Ottawa the Conservative candidate, Napoleon Champagne, is quite prepared to go any length in support of the demands of his compatriots. The Ottawa Press Press (Lib.) thinks that the temperance issue out quite a figure in Ottawa West, and that the small French vote in that district made them the scale for the French candidate upon the bilingual issue. The result was more likely due to the great influence of The Ottawa Citizen, which is a Conservative paper, supported Mr. Rowell in the late campaign.

The Citizens congratulate the people of Ottawa upon their splendid independence in defying the government, but the fact is that Ottawa has had long-standing complaints against the government. The city has had great difficulty in getting necessary legislation and some exactions of the government respecting a bill petitioned for by the city a couple of years ago brought forth protests from all over the province. The city's request for a more up-to-date assessment law was somewhat brusquely disregarded, and the provincial government has interfered just enough with the terrible water situation to make it apparently forever hopeless.

The Citizens having won their fight and rather put one over the Toronto government, magnanimously suggest that the defeated Conservative candidates should be taken care of, and we read:

Messrs. Ellis and Champagne, the defeated local candidates in yesterday's election, are illustrations of the unhappy lot of politicians who have to follow the party leaders even when the issue is an unpopular one in their particular constituency. Both candidates put up as good a fight as any candidates could—better perhaps than they were defeated by comparatively little known men who stood for progress. Both have been in the forefront of party battles for many years, and in consequence are deserving of the usual party recognition.

Mr. Ellis, with his municipal electric experience, would seem to be well fitted to fill a responsible executive position in the Ontario hydro-electric at Toronto, or one of the assistant deputy-ministerships at Ottawa.

Mr. Champagne should receive one of the vacant senatorships for Eastern Canada, where he would be able to follow the party wishes to hold its French-Canadian following in Ontario. It would seem to be necessary to have a senator of Mr. Champagne's eloquence and persistence to offset the activities of Senator Belscourt in the Liberal interest.

The bilingual issue apparently did not help Mr. Rowell much in Russell County, where the majority dropped to a thousand, as Le Devol, Mr. Bourassa's paper, admits that the French-Canadian vote undoubtedly went to the Liberals on the bilingual issue.

The Ottawa Free Press bids the banish-the-bar issue, as follows:

Not for many years probably will there be another attempt to introduce provincial-wide prohibition in Ontario. Mr. N. W. Rowell, leader of the Liberal party in the province, has fulfilled his pledge. Yesterday he gave the people of the province a direct answer, saying whether they were in favor of the immediate abolition of all hotel and club licenses, and the removal of the three-fifth obstacle to the elimination by local option of the liquor shops.

Was anyone of the people, as indicated by the composition of the new legislature, is that they are content with the present liquor laws and with the machinery provided for the gradual elimination of licenses by separate municipalities on a 50 per cent. vote.

The Winnipeg Free Press makes haste to assure the untortured Liberals

AND HE DID

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AND HE DID



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