

TAXING PROFITEERS.

The news that there is likely to be a strong effort made in Britain to see that profiteering fortunes, made during the war, are turned into the public treasury, will inspire similar action elsewhere. The proposed motion of Lord Buckmaster "that further taxation should be instantly imposed," will probably have the effect, according to the parliamentary correspondent of the London Times, of calling public attention to the expropriation of war fortunes.

It is scarcely to be expected that the average citizen will submit to more taxation unless those who have grown fat during the war are compelled to surrender the profits made out of the necessities of all the people. If such a resolution be moved, and there seems to be no doubt of the intention of the government to introduce it, the example of the British government should, and most likely will, be followed in all Anglo-Saxon countries which were engaged in the war.

Says the Ottawa Citizen: "The election of democratic bodies like the U.F.O. in this province, and the likelihood that the agriculturists' interest will dominate the next federal house, would seem to make it certain that legislation of the sort now contemplated in Britain will find ready sponsors in the Dominion."

WHOLESOME EFFECT OF SAVING.

At a meeting of the New York Savings Bank Association the other day, with a view to promoting thrift, for encouraging which a week has been appointed in the latter half of January, the executive manager expressed the belief that as a result of the late war people generally had learned the necessity of thrift. It will be regarded as the benefit of that whether actually necessary or not. He said that since the armistice, which is getting to be near a year ago, the forty-three savings banks in this city have shown an unusual increase in deposits, greater than in that length of time ever before. In this city, he stated, 3,000,000 people have savings bank accounts with an average of \$600 on deposit, ranging from \$1 to \$3,000. That is probably the number of accounts, more than one being in the same name in many cases. In some instances it is doubtless due to larger earnings rather than greater prudence or economy, but on the whole it is a good sign.

The men at this gathering were especially interested in the savings banks of the State and of the country generally, and not favorable to the Federal scheme for gathering funds for farm loans or reclamation purposes. These are more or less backed by Government credit, which is far less desirable than personal confidence in institutions with which depositors are closely connected.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

Mr. R. T. Moore, after two and a half years' connection with the North American Life of Toronto, has been appointed as District Manager for the Company at Windsor, Ont., for that town and the surrounding territory.

Edmonton agency of the North American Life, under the leadership of F. C. Walls, heads the list of agencies of that Company in personal production for October.

AS TO STANDARDS OF LIVING

The London Daily Mail publishes a number of letters from Britons with salaries or fixed incomes complaining of the burdens thrown upon them by war taxation and the rising price of domestic service. Mr. E. Phillips Oppenheim, the novelist, who has an annual income of £4,000, says he formerly managed to keep a little country house, with shooting, and save £700 to £800 a year, but now he must pay £1,620 annually in taxes, and if he continued to keep up his establishment on the old scale, employing a chauffeur, an indoor man servant, a garden boy, a lady gardener, and three maid servants, he would have a yearly deficit of £2,000. Another correspondent with an income of £1,620, pays £280 in taxes, £480 for school fees, and employs two servants and a gardener.

A Canadian will make the comment that if these cases are typical, the British family budget is overweighed by the cost of domestic help. Canadian visitors to the old land are surprised to find two, three or four servants in a home whose Canadian counterpart would have one, and often none. Wages have risen, but in a country where plentitude of servants is a custom and perhaps a register of social position or ambition, many families are reluctant to curtail this item of expenditure.

The letters in The Mail are specially interesting, because of the project to settle in Ontario, parties of the "new poor," a label put on Britons with fixed incomes who can no longer maintain their former standards of living. They can be assured that in Canada no loss of social prestige will be involved in cutting down a menage. The servant problem in this country takes a form different from that which perplexes a British materfamilias concerned to keep up appearances. The Canadian problem is chronic servantlessness. The British matron, unless she is unusually fortunate, is likely to be cured here of her dependence upon domestic help.

WANTED TO PURCHASE

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