

EXTRAORDINARY ASSERTIONS MADE BY PROF. B. F. FERNOW REFUTED BY HON. MR. HEARST

Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, in Detailed Statement, Says That Recent Remarks Were Loose Talk and Proves That Millions of Acres of Land in Northern Ontario Are the Most Fertile in Canada.

Prof. Fernow's report to the conservation commission regarding the conditions in New Ontario was "loose talk," in the opinion of Hon. W. H. Hearst, minister of lands, forests and mines, who issued a statement on Saturday. Hon. Mr. Hearst replies effectively to the remarks of Dr. Fernow. The following is his statement: "In a report just presented to the conservation commission—a summary of which has appeared in the newspapers—Dr. B. F. Fernow, professor of forestry of the University of Toronto, makes a number of assertions and conclusions of an extraordinary character. The professor made a 'rapid inspection' of conditions along the Canadian Pacific Railway, his mode of observation being a motor car, and his field of view practically confined to the right-of-way. This is the only way in which a man can qualify himself to pass judgment on an area variously estimated at sixteen to twenty millions of acres, and to estimate in an arbitrary percentage the merchantable timber and arable land in that great region. He thinks that 'probably' fifty per cent. of the area does not contain any wood, and that 'probably' the same percentage of it is undesirable under present conditions for settlement.

Hon. W. H. Hearst

Conclusions arrived at from premises so slender are valueless on their face, but the position of the professor in the Toronto University requires that some attention shall be paid to them. Twelve Years Ago. In the year 1900 the then government sent out ten exploration parties thru that part of the province lying north of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Each of these parties was in charge of an experienced provincial land surveyor. They were equipped with a skillful land looker and timber estimator, and also a geologist. These parties left Toronto early in June and returned late in October, having traversed by canoe and on foot practically the entire region assigned to them for examination, and their reports were prepared under the title of "Report of the Survey and Exploration of Northern Ontario, 1900." The results of the extensive and careful exploration by experienced and practical bush men are entitled to greater credence than those obtained by the professor's hasty surveying along the railway line in a motor car.

A summary of these reports showed that the great clay belt extends from the Quabec boundary west thru Nipissing, Algoma and Thunder Bay districts, and contains, according to the estimate, 15,600,000 acres of good land, "nearly all of which is well adapted for cultivation." The results of the explorations showed unbroken good land nearly equal in extent to three-quarters of the whole surveyed portion of the Province, Ontario south of Lake Nipissing and the French and Mattawa Rivers.

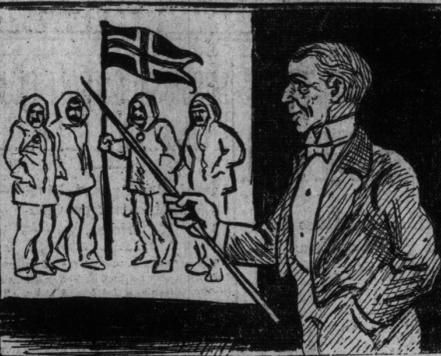
Careful Investigation. "Since the reports were made, further and quite extensive surveys have been carried on in that region. It has been laid out in every direction by running lines, and contains, according to the estimate, 15,600,000 acres of good land, "nearly all of which is well adapted for cultivation." The results of the explorations showed unbroken good land nearly equal in extent to three-quarters of the whole surveyed portion of the Province, Ontario south of Lake Nipissing and the French and Mattawa Rivers.

Quality of the Soil. With respect to the quality of the soil in 1900 Mr. Kay, now professor of geology in Iowa University, reported on the soil of the Abitibi region. He brought back 27 samples of soils from various parts of the region. These were examined by Prof. Reynolds of the Ontario Agricultural College, who said: "We see a wide variety in these, and therefore we would think them to be fitted for a great variety of crops. The soils examined were taken from a region which is not a fertile one, and yet they will make good soils—well suited for agriculture."

Then the department has had in that region all last summer Mr. J. F. Whitely, who has been building roads thru a large section, and who has become quite enthusiastic over the character of the country and quality of its soil. The testimony of these careful observers, who spent months in the country examining its capabilities, must be taken to outweigh any evidence picked up in a casual and rapid railway trip.

Great Deal of Timber. With respect to the timber—the estimate of the exploration of 1900 was that there was in that region 288,000,000 cords of pulpwood, spruce, jack-pine and poplar. There is very little red and white pine in the territory, as it lies north of the pine belt, but there are large quantities of good spruce and jack-pine, of sawing size, which are of much value for timber, ties, etc., besides an enormous quantity of timber suitable for pulp and paper making.

CAPTAIN ROALD AMUNDSEN GAVE FINE TALK



Famous Explorer as He Appeared at Massey Hall on Saturday Showing a Picture of Himself at the South Pole.

HEALING OF BROKEN HEARTS IS WORK DONE BY THE ARMY

Commissioner Rees at Strand Theatre Told an Audience of Men of Thousands Who Have Been Led to Better Lives With the Aid of the Salvation Army All Over the World.

"Commissioner, I am dying without seeing my one cherished aim brought into being, but I shall not be dead long before it shall be accomplished." At the Strand Theatre, Yonge street, before an audience which took up all available space in the building, Commissioner Rees, commander of the Salvation Army in Canada, told of the wish expressed to him by the late General Booth a few days previous to the general's death. "The general's eyes had scarcely closed in death before the wish for an institution in which officers of the army could be trained for social work."

HERO OF CIVIL WAR LECTURES SERIES STARTS TONIGHT

First of Eight to Be Given at Walmer Road Church. Order for Arrest of General Daniel Sickles Is Temporarily Stayed.

HE HELD PUBLIC OFFICE

Heavy Bail Is Demanded and No Bondsman Is in Sight. "Socialists" of Toronto in the literary and true sense of the word will be given an opportunity during the next three months to learn, thru a series of lectures to be given in Walmer Road Baptist Church, of the progress that has been made in the social condition of the city in the last two or three years.

FATAL COLLISION OF ELEVATED CARS

Policeman Killed and Fourteen Persons Injured in New York Wreck. The rammed train, a five car South Ferry line, had been halted by a flagman standing guard over a man making track repairs. The colliding train, seven car City Hall line, bumped hard enough to jam the rear car of the first train several feet into the first car of the second.

INTERESTING SUBJECTS WILL BE DISCUSSED FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS.

Unless Gen. Sickles is prepared to furnish at once a \$30,000 bond, Sheriff Harburger said, he will have to go to the bond in forthcoming. There is no looking as to who, if anyone, would come to the veteran's aid.

PLAYED GOLF AT LONDON.

LONDON, Ont., Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—The members of the London Golf Club spent this afternoon on the links. A year ago today the thermometer registered five below zero.

POLAR EXPLORER GAVE FINE TALK

Capt. Amundsen Told of His Discovery of the South Pole.

APPRECIATE HIS HUMOR

Tremendous Audience Saw Fine Pictures of Successful Expedition.

Captain Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian discoverer of the south geographical pole, had an extraordinarily good audience in Massey Hall on Saturday night. Polar explorers are evidently popular, if one may judge by Amundsen and Shackleton, the Fiata did not meet with the reception here that his attractions merited. Captain Amundsen's lecture was announced for 8.15. At 8.40 it was announced from the platform the line still extended from the box office to Yonge street, but the proceedings would begin in five minutes. The hall was almost full by that time, and the explorer was introduced by Frank Arnold, K.C., who as vice president of the Canadian Institute took the place of the unavoidably absent president.

APPROVE NAVAL POLICY

MONTREAL, Jan. 26.—(Special.)—The St. Lawrence Conservative Club, a local organization, passed a strong resolution today approving of the Borden naval policy, and condemning the dash into the constructive policy of the opposition.

ANOTHER CHANCE TO GET A CYCLOPEDIA

Copies Will Be Ready Friday and Saturday at the Office of The World. For several weeks The World has been distributing Everybody's Cyclopaedia on the popular coupon plan.

RUSHING THE WORK

Repairs to Dufferin St. Will Be Made in Time For Motor Show. The recent cave-in on Dufferin street threatened to badly interfere with the annual motor show, which is to be held at the Exhibition Grounds on the 29th of February.

ITALY RAISES BIG SUM FOR STATE ENTERPRISES

ROME, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—A combination of Italian banks, headed by the Bank of Italy, has bought up four per cent. five-year treasury bonds to the amount of \$80,000,000, the issue of which was authorized last December, to meet the expenses of the development of the state railway and for other purposes.

PORTFOLIO FOR EGYPTIAN PRINCE

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—Kasik Pasha has definitely refused the portfolio of the foreign ministry, and it has been offered to Prince Said Halim, who is expected to accept. Said Halim is an Egyptian prince. He is president of the council of state and secretary of the committee of union and progress.

FISHING SCHOONER TOTAL LOSS

DIGBY, N.S., Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—Loaded with haddock for the Nova Scotia Fish Co., the auxiliary schooner Florence May, Captain Hamilton, went ashore last night on the west side of Digby Gut and will be a total loss. The vessel had been stripped and the cargo is being saved by boatmen from Bayview and Victoria Beach. Captain Hamilton got too far in shore while clearing the treacherous rips at the entrance to the Gut.

OTTOMAN GOVERNMENT FLOATS BIG LOAN

LONDON, Jan. 27.—(Can. Press.)—The Constantinople correspondent of the Daily Telegraph learns that a contract has been signed under which the Ottoman Government will obtain an advance of \$10,000,000, to be repaid out of the next six years, in connection with the new concession for the Metropolitan Railways of Constantinople.

MIXED FARMING IS NEEDED TO DEVELOP WESTERN CANADA

Mayor Spencer of Medicine Hat Says Ranchers Realize That More Money Can Be Made—Great Railway Development in Medicine Hat, Which Is Strongly in Favor of Tax Reform.

The necessity of the farmers of the prairie provinces taking up mixed farming was strongly emphasized by Mayor Nelson Spencer of Medicine Hat, Alta., when seen by The World at the King Edward Hotel last night. He stated that the farmers of the west are just beginning to realize that wheat raising alone cannot compare with mixed farming when it comes to making money.

Eggs and butter never go below 75c the dozen and pound in a large section of the west, and now threaten to reach the dollar mark. The cities of the west are now endeavoring to bring this point home to the western farmers, and an organized effort will be made to induce mixed farming. The Canadian Pacific Railway were to double the size of the present station there, putting up a building that will rank with any of the C.P.R. thru the west. He was now assured by the Canadian Northern that this line would reach there before this coming fall, and that a large station would be erected. This is to be followed by the establishment of a money market in Northern western yards and shops and will involve an initial outlay of \$200,000. He had just interviewed M. Donaldson, manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway for western Canada, and had been informed by him that the G.T.P. intended to build to Medicine Hat on the completion of the Leithbridge-Calgary line.

Tax Reform

The western mayor is a strong advocate of tax reform. Medicine Hat had adopted such a year ago and in that year had more than doubled in population and expected to do the same this year. Mayor Spencer's visit to Toronto has been in connection with raising a million and a half dollars for municipal improvements. Medicine Hat had disposed of a half million bond issue last year, two points below par, the highest of any city in Alberta or Saskatchewan, and this year they are experiencing the same success. The money is to be used chiefly in the erection of an additional filtration plant and the development of the natural gas system, the power of which the city is giving practically free to manufacturers.

WAS A BENEFIT

The suggestion that reciprocity might play a part in the west in the next general election was ridiculed by the western mayor. The defeat of reciprocity had benefited the west to an extent even greater than its opponents had expected. Not only were American manufacturers locating branches thru the west as a result of its defeat, but the assurance given that goods from the United States would not be dumped there was a benefit.

APPROVE NAVAL POLICY

MONTREAL, Jan. 26.—(Special.)—The St. Lawrence Conservative Club, a local organization, passed a strong resolution today approving of the Borden naval policy, and condemning the dash into the constructive policy of the opposition.

ANOTHER CHANCE TO GET A CYCLOPEDIA

Copies Will Be Ready Friday and Saturday at the Office of The World. For several weeks The World has been distributing Everybody's Cyclopaedia on the popular coupon plan.

RUSHING THE WORK

Repairs to Dufferin St. Will Be Made in Time For Motor Show. The recent cave-in on Dufferin street threatened to badly interfere with the annual motor show, which is to be held at the Exhibition Grounds on the 29th of February.

ITALY RAISES BIG SUM FOR STATE ENTERPRISES

ROME, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—A combination of Italian banks, headed by the Bank of Italy, has bought up four per cent. five-year treasury bonds to the amount of \$80,000,000, the issue of which was authorized last December, to meet the expenses of the development of the state railway and for other purposes.

PORTFOLIO FOR EGYPTIAN PRINCE

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—Kasik Pasha has definitely refused the portfolio of the foreign ministry, and it has been offered to Prince Said Halim, who is expected to accept. Said Halim is an Egyptian prince. He is president of the council of state and secretary of the committee of union and progress.

FISHING SCHOONER TOTAL LOSS

DIGBY, N.S., Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—Loaded with haddock for the Nova Scotia Fish Co., the auxiliary schooner Florence May, Captain Hamilton, went ashore last night on the west side of Digby Gut and will be a total loss. The vessel had been stripped and the cargo is being saved by boatmen from Bayview and Victoria Beach. Captain Hamilton got too far in shore while clearing the treacherous rips at the entrance to the Gut.

INTEREST UNABATED

SALE REPEATED THIS WEEK EVERYBODY'S CYCLOPEDIA For \$1.98 Complete. The sale of the beautiful five-volume set of Everybody's Cyclopaedia Friday and Saturday was ahead of the previous week. At the main office of The World interested readers eagerly took advantage of the wonderful book bargain.

The World will repeat the offer next Friday and Saturday. The same set of useful volumes, which regularly sell for \$12, can be had at the same bargain price, \$1.98 and one coupon. Out-of-Town Readers need not wait until the days of distribution, but send orders any day of the week and shipments will be made promptly on the distribution days.

Advertisement for Dr. Ross's Kidney Pills, featuring text like 'DR. ROSS'S KIDNEY PILLS' and 'THE PRINCE OF WALES'.

Advertisement for 'THE PRINCE OF WALES' featuring a portrait of a man and text about a 'Great Deal of Timber'.