

THE UNION ADVOCATE

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R. A. N. JARVIS,
Manager.

OCTOBER 11th, 1917

SCHOOL FAIRS.

The school garden fairs being held all over the province, good exhibition having lately been given at Miller ton, Chatham, Douglastown, and elsewhere in this county—are a source of profit and pleasure to the pupils, their parents and the county. School gardens have proved a success, fulfilling their purpose of arousing the children to take interest in home plots.

A GOOD SHOW

The officers and members of Agricultural Society No. 122 who planned, and all those who exhibited at the Whitneyville Fair last week, deserve the highest praise for the success of their undertaking. The exhibits were of a wide variety and very good, the show being a credit to the county. We trust this is only a beginning, and that this show for the parishes of Newcastle, North Esk and South Esk will be an annual affair, getting bigger and bigger each year.

PROGRESSIVE NEWCASTLE

During the season just passing, a large amount of building has been done in Newcastle. This movement, which began last year, has gone on increasingly, and this summer some very fine residences have been erected, which are a credit to the town. Industrially, the enlargement of Buckley's mill at French Port Cove and the enlargement of the Lounsbury Co.'s buildings, as well as other improvements of a similar nature in other quarters are worthy of note. The taking on of new lines, such as the manufacture of box shooks, in the Canadian Gear Works, is making that industry one of great importance to the town and county. The new Stothart grist mill is maintaining and extending its activity. Clearly Newcastle, with its unsurpassed geographical advantages and the progressive spirit of its people is on the high road to prosperity.

The Trades and Labor Congress

The 33rd annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, was held at Ottawa last week. On the question of conscription the congress maintained the opposition of labor to this measure, but decided not to take any drastic action to oppose conscription. The proposal of a general strike remains in abeyance. On the question of soldiers' pensions, the congress advocated an increase in pay for privates to \$2 per diem, an increase in the pay of non-commissioned officers in proportion, an increase in the separation allow-

Retrenchment the Watchword

(By Bernard K. Sandwell.)

Canada's Imports from U. S. A. \$684,219,653
Canada's Exports to U. S. A. \$280,616,330

EVERY dollar unnecessarily spent by a Canadian (individual, corporation, or government) today is a dollar diverted from the urgent task of maintaining the economic activity and national prosperity of the country. Only the most rigid retrenchment economy is too mild a word—will suffice to keep this country in a sound and safe position during the remaining period of the war and the opening months of the peace readjustment.

The need for economy has been preached by far-sighted citizens for several years past, but with very little effect on the public at large. Urged to practice thrift for various academic reasons, and in preparation for certain distant and vaguely-understood contingencies, Canadians have curtailed a few specific extravagances and gone cheerfully on with most of their ordinary expenditures, comforting themselves with the thought that the country has managed to do without thrift for the last twenty-five years and should therefore be able to continue.

But Canada is to-day faced by an entirely new situation. This country, for years among the heaviest per capita borrowers in the world, is now not merely precluded from any further borrowing of new capital, but is unable to collect cash for her own present output, and must either contrive to finance her own customers or cease to find a market for a large proportion of her products.

With the entry of the United States into the war, and the mobilization of the financial resources of that country for the service of the Allied cause, the last available market for funds was closed to Canada. In the month of August not a dollar of Canadian municipal financing was done in the United States. The terms exacted for the recent Dominion Government loan in New York made it evident that no further assistance need be looked for from that quarter.

While the United States is making, and will continue to make, large advances to various Allied countries, the condition of these advances is that practically the whole sum supplied shall be spent in the lending country. This condition debar Canada from participating in such advances, for Canada's need is for cash for the carrying on of her own industries of war equipment and food production.

At the same time, the willingness of the United States to finance the orders of the Allied belligerents, when placed with American producers, has naturally led the Allies to refuse to place orders in any country which cannot grant the same terms. The present reduction in activity in Canadian munition plants is due not to any cessation of demand from Europe for munitions, but to the fact that Canada cannot compete with the United States in offering financial accommodation to the purchasers.

Until she was excluded from the American money market, Canada had been able for some time past to extend partial financial accommodation to the Allied countries for the supplies which they obtained here, and this without enforcing upon herself any strict regimen of thrift. But this was due in part to the fact that while lending to her customers she was herself borrowing from her neighbor. The sales of Canadian bonds of all classes in the United States in 1916 were \$154,000,000, and in 1915 \$207,000,000. This year the Dominion Government has sold \$100,000,000 and municipalities about \$7,000,000. Under these circumstances it was not difficult for Canada to make advances to the Allies, on the purchase of munitions in this country, which at the end of July totalled \$285,000,000. The difficulty consists in continuing this process without

ances of approximately 60 per cent; the abolition of the patriotic fund in keeping with the increased allowance; an elimination of discrimina-

any aid from the United States; and not only in curtailing it, but in increasing the range of the transactions upon which such credit is granted—for the Finance Minister recently announced that arrangements had been made by the Government to furnish Great Britain with \$40,000,000 for the purchase of Canadian cheese and \$10,000,000 for hay, oats and flour. There is good reason to expect that a similar accommodation must be extended to Great Britain for a large part of the export of foodstuffs for the present fiscal year; the magnitude of this item is instanced by the fact that the export of wheat alone to Great Britain for the fiscal year ending March 31 last amounted to \$194,839,995, and wheat flour to \$55,006,600.

The only way in which Canada can possess herself of the funds necessary for this immense and unprecedented task of financing her customers is by rigidly curtailing her own expenditures on all unnecessary objects. Particularly is it necessary that all superfluous imports should be stopped. In the last fiscal year Canada imported from the United States no less than \$684,219,653 worth of commodities, while exporting to that country only \$280,616,330. These imports included \$15,000,000 of automobiles and parts thereof, \$10,000,000 of fresh fruits, \$2,400,000 of musical instruments, over \$3,000,000 of furs and manufactures thereof, \$2,000,000 of "fancy articles," \$3,500,000 of vegetables, \$4,850,000 of tobacco and its products, and many millions of dollars of smaller items for articles which can be dispensed with wholly or in large part without any grave difficulty. In addition to these articles, which reach Canada in the form of finished luxuries, there is an undistinguishable amount, which must be very large, of various raw materials which are employed in the manufacture of luxuries in Canada itself; to say nothing of the commodities which, while not luxuries in themselves, are made so by extravagant consumption or by being used where cheaper or domestic products would do just as well. Canada, while compelled to extend credit upon almost everything which she herself sells abroad, is obliged to pay cash for all of these imports, which are consequently draining the resources of the country without conferring any real benefit upon any part of it.

Few if any luxuries that are consumed in Canada do not contain a considerable proportion of imported goods among their raw materials, even if they are not wholly of foreign origin. But even in the case of luxuries entirely produced in Canada, if any such there be, the case against their consumption is equally strong. Their production factors Canadian labor from the production of necessities saleable abroad, and thereby increases the balance of trade against this country; and the funds employed in their production are needed for the financing of export trade.

Under the heading of "luxuries" and "unnecessaries" come, at the present time, all capital expenditures which will not be immediately productive of an increasing export of commodities. This includes all municipal and government works which affect merely the convenience or comfort of the citizens. Broadly speaking no public works are justifiable at the present juncture except those which remove an immediate menace to health or an immediate obstruction to the processes of production or trade. This is a time for the mending of old plant rather than the substitution of new, however much outworn the old may be.

To repeat: Every dollar unnecessarily spent by Canada (individual, corporation, or government) today is a dollar diverted from the urgent task of maintaining the economic activity and national prosperity of the country.

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Institute Women Assert Themselves

The 5th annual convention of N. B. Women's Institutes met in Moncton Oct 2-4. Nearly 200 delegates attended.

On the morning of the 3rd, Mrs Geo. J. Dickson of Centre Napan presided. During the same session, she read a paper on "Making Institute Work More Effective."

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Canned Exhibit of the Women's Institutes for New Brunswick was judged. Newcastle Institute won first prize among 42 institutes competing.

In the evening, Mr. Wm. McIntosh, Entomologist, of St John, gave an illustrated talk on "Our Province Beautiful," showing views of various parts of N. B. including scenery along the Cain's River.

Resolutions

On the morning of the 4th, resolutions were adopted, demanding: Appointment of a woman on the Board of Movie Censors

Medic inspection of Schools; That women, other than ratepayers be eligible for trusteeship of rural schools;

That no grain shall be made into liquor during the war;

That the U. N. E. issue lending libraries;

That women be appointed on Boards of all hospitals and municipal Homes

That women be appointed on Boards of Health

That the food controller so regulate the price and distribution of feed to the farmer as to enable him to produce the supply of milk necessary, and further to regulate the price of milk to the consumer; and

That sympathy be expressed and support pledged to the Food Controller

In the afternoon, Mrs H W Reid of Stonehaven gave a very interesting talk on "Literature for the Young People."

In the evening Mrs H W Parsons spoke on "Child Labor."

Miss Hazel Winter, supervisor, was given an address and presentation.

TROUT BROOK

Trout Brook, Oct. 9—Mr. and Mrs William Shaddick and son Jack, and Mr. and Mrs. Allan Shaddick spent the week-end with friends in Marysville.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Hosford spent Sunday evening with friends in Gerventon.

Miss Annie Ashton is spending some time with her cousin, Mrs. Stanley Hosford.

Miss Annie Dunnett who has been spending some time with Miss Helen Fitzgerald, Seville, has returned to her home here.

George Waye and Henry Ashton were the guests of Mr. Paul Kingston Jr. on Sunday last.

Some of the young people of this place attended the dance at Chaplin Road Tuesday evening.

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