

The Evening Times-Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 22, 1924

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WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS.

"Let them fight," says the Vancouver Sun, in discussing the statement of certain European prophets who say another war between France and Germany is inevitable within the next ten years. The Sun disposes of the matter with a species of reasoning which is wholly careless of some of the lessons of the great war. If a nation has the will to war, it will continue to fight regardless of the opinions of other nations, the Sun argues, adding these novel assertions:

"The old diplomatic theory was that a conqueror is always a menace. To-day victory in war usually spells economic depression in peace."
Well, would defeat and conquest be preferable to victory?

Again: "Even if France walked all over Germany and swallowed that country entire, she would so weaken herself in doing it that it would be at the economic mercy of those countries that held strictly to the sidelines."
The France that swallowed Germany entire, by its very size and the uncertainties and risks its existence and its ambitions might create would be at once an economic and a military menace to all the world.

Further: "If France and Germany want to fight, let them do it. But the British Empire must keep out."
The British Empire would keep out if it is at all possible, we may be sure, but there can be no new war, setting Europe ablaze and again plying havoc with international trade, in which Britain would not be most keenly interested. Had Germany conquered France and taken Belgium and Holland, as she would have done but for the British, Germany in the course of a few years would have controlled all Europe and been able to draw without limit upon its gold and goods and manhood in pursuing its settled plan of world domination. Honor carried Britain into the conflict, but had she not been bound to defend Belgian neutrality she would have had to fight her long in self-defence. Her overseas possessions and her sea power were an offence to the Prussians. To a victorious Germany they would, in themselves have been regarded as a sufficient cause for war. In fact, the Germans figured that Britain would remain out of the war, and that they would turn upon her after they had conquered France, Belgium, Holland, Serbia and Roumania, and had consolidated their gains. The British will naturally do their utmost by diplomacy to establish peace and freedom in Europe. They want no super-state there, whose mere existence would impoverish them by necessitating unparalleled preparations for defence while crippling the export trade which is so vitally necessary.

As for the prophets who say that France and Germany will fight again within ten years, the value of their predictions is doubtful enough. If their is one thing upon which French leaders are decided, it is that France will still have very much the whip hand of Germany ten, or twenty years hence. The prophets would be in much better shape to testify if they knew what will take place in Russia within the next ten or fifteen years—or in Japan.

Speaking of wars and rumors of wars, George Bernard Shaw has a simple scheme "to make war impossible." All that is needed is to get it going. There's the rub. He wants the United States to form a combination with Great Britain, France and Germany, to forbid any more fighting. If the members of this group would agree to come to the aid of any signatory attacked no Power would dare make war in the face of their disapproval. Or, he would have several combinations, one American, including South America, one European, and one Asiatic. Then he would have the American and European combinations work together to "keep the peace" if they had to fight to do it. This is the League of Nations, to all intents and purposes, and the difficulty has been that of convincing the leading Powers that they can best serve themselves by making a binding agreement to maintain a vast, international police force. They may come to it. Meantime they must proceed further with disarmament and learn to trust one another to a greater degree. There are too many "ifs" in Mr. Shaw's plan as yet, but it is highly probable that a further restoration of tranquility in Europe will be followed by another great disarmament conference at which the leading nations will consent themselves to far-reaching agreements regarding the limitation of submarines and aircraft and the abolition of poison gas. Fear keeps the world over-armed more than five years after the armistice, but hair-trigger thinking is less in evidence year by year, and as it subsides the way to more effective peace measures will be opened.

The total cost of pensions to Canada from April 1, 1916, up to the end of 1923 was \$184,122,251.86, divided as follows: European War, \$175,581,264.99; Northwest Rebellion, \$22,096,086.87; Fenian Raid, \$6,841.86; Militia Long Service, \$2,467,075.79; Civil Government Flying, \$992,221; Pensions Administration, \$8,686,081.90.

LOOKING BETTER

Representing, as it does, a large body of Western Canadian opinion, it is encouraging to note in the Manitoba Free Press a sympathetic consideration of Maritime Province claims and a frank advocacy of the greater use of our ports. As for the general list of Maritime claims the Free Press sees no particular reason why some of them "should not be granted without much discussion."

As for reasonable and direct action in the matter of immigration the Free Press recognizes that the Dominion government should co-operate as far as possible in securing settlers for the Maritime Provinces, the latter, of course, doing their part in providing opportunities and helping to locate the settlers; it also concedes that the fisheries should be under a man from the Maritime Provinces. With regard to questions of Canadian exports, namely that shippers in Central and Western Canada should route their shipments Halifax or St. John, rather than through United States ports, it says "it is more a request to the people of the country, than a demand upon the government, but it is one with which there should be general sympathy and agreement. Just as far as it is feasible, Canadian ports should get the preference in the routing of Canadian trade, and general attention to this on the part of business men might help the Maritime Provinces considerably."

The Free Press is less sympathetic regarding railway rates and increased federal subsidies, forgetting apparently, or being unwilling to recognize, that the West has already received some special allowances in freight rates, and that these provinces have not been in any way compensated for the great additions in resources, wealth and territory due to the extension of the boundaries of several other provinces. But, the Free Press does say that "in meeting the demands of the Maritime Provinces and in co-operating with them in other ways in improving their economic condition, every practical and legitimate means should be adopted—everything to help them to develop their resources and to market their products either outside the country or in other parts of Canada."

And that covers a lot of ground. The Halifax Chronicle following the visit of Premier Armstrong to Ottawa, says freedom to conduct upon a better understanding between East and West as to the rights and grievances of both. There is in the West today, the Chronicle affirms "a more sympathetic interest in the claims of the Maritime Provinces, which may be traced directly to the better understanding and frank discussions which have taken place between leaders from both sections. Premier Armstrong, for example, during a recent visit to Ottawa, had the opportunity of discussing our problems with Hon. Mr. Cregar, who is the most influential man in the Progressive party, and Hon. Mr. Dunning, Premier of Saskatchewan, both of whom were ready to give sympathetic consideration to our particular claims and grievances."

A GREAT INDUSTRY

In 1920 Canada exported just \$120 worth of paper. In 1923 the value of Canada's paper exports was \$93,770,957, an increase of twenty-five per cent. over 1922 when the exports were valued at \$74,825,893. There in a few figures we have a tremendous growth of industry and of wealth-producing employment.

Canada will soon outfoot the United States in newspaper production being already on its neighbor's heels. Canada, in establishing a new high-water mark in 1923 produced 1,263,000 tons, which is fifty-six per cent. more than in 1921. The United States newspaper production in 1923 was 1,485,000 tons, and while the Canadian increase over the previous year was sixteen per cent, that of the United States was only 2.5 per cent. The Republic's diminishing wood supply is seen in this small gain and it is further reflected in the fact that it buys about 80 per cent. of Canada's newspaper output. The New York Times says that "at the proportionate rate of increase it is anticipated that Dominion newspaper production will soon lead the world. The two countries of North America combined account for two-thirds of the entire world's newspaper output."

Canada had \$881,006,224 invested in the pulp and paper industry in 1922, and this amount has been very largely increased since then, including a very considerable addition in New Brunswick. Quebec had no less than \$191,514,000 invested in this industry in 1922, and Ontario \$133,749,000. British Columbia was third and New Brunswick fourth. An industrial bulletin of the Canadian Pacific Railway says of this industry's growth: "In 1922 four mills were added to Canadian producers in 1923 six mills, and in the early months of 1924 five more are being put into production. The total average daily capacity of Canadian newspaper machines in 1922 was 3,825 tons per day, in 1923 it was 4,200 tons and in 1924 is expected to be in the neighborhood of 4,700 tons. Speaking with regard to the prospects of the present year in the industry, the President of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association says: 'Prospects for the year are encouraging and a steady activity is anticipated in most lines. Indications are that the demand for newspaper will be well maintained, and that the new production coming into the market will be taken care of without any disturbance. Confidence in the future of the industry is amply evidenced by the new mills and additions under construction and the plans drawn up for developments, all of which tend to make the year one of increased output and greater activity.'

New Brunswick, with its prospect of larger water power development, the energy and enterprise of its manufacturers, and the forest wealth at hand, is bound to increase very greatly its already large contribution to the pulp and paper production of Canada, and Canada in this respect will soon lead the world.

Now that English troops are no longer employed in policing Ireland it ought to be thoroughly understood that a "close season" obtains so far as gunning for men in the British uniform is concerned. The Irish Independent, in denouncing "wherever the men who fired on unarmed people in cold blood, they can have had only one object—to add to the difficulties of the national government. It is to be hoped that the British people will accept Mr. Cosgrave's assurance that the Irish deplore and repudiate the terrible deed." These are good words, if they are followed, as they should be, by an earnest and sustained attempt to apprehend and properly punish the guilty.

Press Comment

IRRITATING RED TAPE.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

We read that an agreement has been reached between the British and Danish governments whereby passport visas are no longer required, from March 1 onwards, by Danish subjects travelling to England, or British subjects travelling to Denmark. Visas will only be necessary on passports of Danes travelling to England with the intention of obtaining employment and settling in the country. In the meantime, however, nothing has been done to remove the nagging requirements whereby everyone going from Canada to Great Britain must first be provided with a passport. This passport inhibition came into force during the Great War. It was very necessary then; now it is nothing but a nuisance and can even be classed as an indignity. The passports are issued by the Department of External Affairs at Ottawa in compliance with British regulations governing admission of persons into the British Isles. This means that even the British born must have a passport for the right to get back to his native land. The restriction, such as it is, seems wholly unnecessary and is naturally the cause of much irritation.

The Winnipeg Board of Trade, among other agencies is taking up the question of having this passport regulation rescinded. It is not only that the necessity of having to get passports is nagging, but it also costs money. Hitherto the cost has been \$2 per passport. Now that amount is raised to \$3, though why is a mystery. With the heavy tax to the British Isles that it is anticipated will take place from Canada this year owing to the Empire Exhibition at Embury Park the irritation of the passport system will be felt very widely. The inhibition should be removed without any delay. It serves no useful purpose now, whatever may have been its value in war time.

NO SUCH ANIMAL

(Toronto Globe.)

That most un-English of brilliant writers of English, Hilaire Belloc, visited the United States recently and wrote a book in which he argues that the American people have undergone a sea change into something strange, if not rich, and that the national type is in contrast to any in Europe. He calls them a new race, a new being, a new culture. Mr. Belloc is most incisively contradicted by H. G. Wells, who says Americans are "racially a still largely unfused mixture of European" and by Sinclair Lewis, the author of "Main Street" and "Babbitt," himself an American. Mr. Lewis is picturesquely sarcastic:

When he (Belloc) says that the United States is this or that, he pictures all Americans as being approximately alike. Now, with Jews, Americans and such odd distant folk, he may find this simplification easy, but I want Mr. Belloc to write a book called "The Englishman" and I want that type Englishman to include, completely yet without conflict, all of the following: Thomas Hardy, Charles Garvice, Aldous Huxley, Horatio Bottomley, Sidney Webb, Lord Curzon, Jack Jones, Osbert Sitwell, Joe Beckett, Lord Banbury, a Bermudez publican, a Mayfair butler, a night-club professional dancer, a Sheffield iron puddler, a Whitechapel peddler, a Norfolk farmer, a Cornish fisherman, and a vicar in the Devon Hills.

I want Mr. Belloc to show me how exactly alike they are in everything save a few sartorial details, and perhaps an H or two. I want him to make clear the identity, as Britishers, of Mr. J. Maynard Keynes and Mr. Little Tich. There is a good deal of political and social wisdom and philosophy in this passage. The habit of personifying a whole country as if it were an individual, we ignore the fact that it consists of millions of individuals dissimilar in views, culture and character. Mr. Lewis says there is no such thing as an average German, Englishman or American, even though he tried to paint a typical one in "Babbitt." Edmund Burke's remark that he did not know how to frame an indictment against an entire people expresses the same idea. The most that can be said is that there are strands of national character and temperament in the people of a country, but there is no such person as John Bull or Uncle Sam containing in himself all the qualities of his country or of all his countrymen.

Now that English troops are no longer employed in policing Ireland it ought to be thoroughly understood that a "close season" obtains so far as gunning for men in the British uniform is concerned. The Irish Independent, in denouncing "wherever the men who fired on unarmed people in cold blood, they can have had only one object—to add to the difficulties of the national government. It is to be hoped that the British people will accept Mr. Cosgrave's assurance that the Irish deplore and repudiate the terrible deed." These are good words, if they are followed, as they should be, by an earnest and sustained attempt to apprehend and properly punish the guilty.

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SIR C. TOWNSEND

IS EIGHTY TODAY

Born, Educated and Lived Entire Life in Nova Scotia.

Sir Charles Townsend of Nova Scotia celebrates his eightieth birthday today. The Halifax Evening Mail says:

"On Saturday next, March 2, Sir Charles Townsend, Chief Justice of Nova Scotia from 1907 to 1915, will celebrate his eightieth birthday, and many and sincere will be the congratulations from his friends throughout the province on that occasion. It is a day which appropriately will receive 'honorable recognition' from the Bench and Bar of the province, and in their felicitations all who know the 'veteran jurist' will desire to share."

"Sir Charles James Townsend is a product of Nova Scotia. In Nova Scotia he was born, in Nova Scotia he was educated, and in Nova Scotia he has spent his entire life, now in his serene and mellow evening. Well may it be proud of him. Born on March 22, 1844, he was the son of the late Reverend Canon Townsend, for sixty years rector of Christ church, Amherst, the fabric of which is enriched with memorials to his family. His mother was Elizabeth Stewart, a daughter of Alexander Stewart, Master of the Rolls and a sister of the late Colonel Charles Stewart, of pleasant memory, of this city. He was educated at the Collegiate School and King's College, Windsor, and in 1862 was indentured to the firm of which the late Senator Dickey

was the distinguished head, with offices in Amherst.

"He was admitted to the Bar in 1866, Sir William Young being at that time Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, and his admission according to the custom in those days, was at a sitting of the court in banco. He practiced in Amherst and in the neighboring counties until the time of his appointment to the Supreme Bench, and was from the first recognized as a young man destined to professional distinction. In 1881 he was created a Q. C., and in 1887 was appointed judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, holding the judgeship for twenty years, and in 1907 was appointed Chief Justice, retiring from that office in 1915. In 1878 he was elected to the legislature of the province as member for Cumberland, was re-elected in 1882, and was in 1884 elected to the House of Commons. On January 1, 1901, he received his Knighthood, a richly merited recognition of outstanding ability and of consistent exemplification of the highest ideals as a jurist. He was a member of the Executive Council from 1878 to 1882. A staunch churchman he was chancellor of the University of King's College, Windsor, from 1887 to 1907."

Lodges ENTERTAINED.

Baxter Lodge, L. O. B. A., Fairville, was entertained this week by Mrs. Harry McLaughlin, of Collins street. Sewing was done and plans made for a sale later. Supper was served in buffet style. Mrs. J. Spence and Mrs. J. Cheesman assisted the hostess. Others present were Mrs. G. C. Laurence, Mrs. H. Blagden, Mrs. Joseph Calvin, Mrs. Thomas Pyle, Mrs. James Miller, Mrs. Charles Hill, Mrs. Edward Duff, Mrs. William Purcell, Mrs. Wellington Lester and Mrs. Arthur Sweet.

Dominion Lodge, No. 18 of the L. O. B. A., held its sewing circle this week at the home of one of its members, Mrs. J. L. Lamb, St. James street. Mrs. J. B. Brown, president, was in the chair for the business and sewing meeting, after which a social hour was spent. Plans were made for the supper and sale later in the month. The hostess was assisted at the refreshment period by Mrs. Frank Lodge. Those present were Mrs. M. E. Patiquen, Mrs. A. Mackinnon, Mrs. T. Vail, Mrs. T. Bird, Mrs. Frank Lodge, Mrs. Thomas Rodgers, Mrs. Clayton Atkinson, Mrs. Annie Pickles, Mrs. William Atcheson, Mrs. William Atcheson, Jr., Mrs. Bessie Whipley and Mrs. A. J. Everett. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Brown.

DECLINES TO GIVE GRANT.

The Provincial Government has declined the request of the St. John River Log Driving Company for a grant of \$5,000 to assist in meeting conditions which the company content were the result of dislocation of business following the war.

The proprietor of a menagerie relates that one of his lions once had a thorn taken out of his paw by a French major in Algeria. The lion afterwards ran over the list of officers belonging to the regiment of his benefactor, and out of gratitude devoured both the colonel and lieutenant-colonel, whose places were then filled by the good major.

A few days after a farmer had sold a pig to a neighbor, he chanced to pass the neighbor's place where he saw their little boy sitting on the edge of the pigpen watching its new occupant.

"How d'y'e do, Johnny?" said he. "How's your pig today?"

"He's pretty well, thank you," replied the boy. "How's all your folks?"

Johnny had used some unparliamentary language, much to his mother's annoyance. "Johnny," she cried, "do stop using such dreadful expressions. I can't imagine where you pick them up."

"Well, Mother," replied Johnny, "Shakespeare uses them."

"Then don't play with him again," commanded his mother; "he's not a fit companion for you, I'm sure."

"BUY AT HOME," IS URGED BY EMPLOYES

There has been some talk of late about a campaign for home-buying. The matter is being considered by the employees of local business houses. The following interesting paragraph on this subject appears in the Charlottetown Guardian.

"Everyone believes in the theory of buying at home. Everyone believes that the prosperity of the city or town or province depends upon the maintenance of our respective institutions, be they commercial, industrial or agricultural. With prosperous stores, workshops and factories, big or little, our respective communities, the community benefits proportionately and general prosperity is the result. The burden of taxation is fairly distributed and lightened and business prospers in every line. If our province is ever to prosper if we are to retain our population if we are to live as we have a right to live we must patronize more exclusively our home institutions, our home stores, our home industries. The little we gain in our dealings abroad will by no means compensate us for the loss we sustain by starving our home stores and tradesmen."

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NEW LAMP BURNS

94" AIR

Beats Electric or Gas

A new oil lamp that gives an amazingly brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 33 leading universities and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up, is simple, clean, safe, common kerosene (coal oil).

The inventor, O. K. Johnson, 246 Craig St. W., Montreal, is offering to rent a lamp on 10 days' FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him today for full particulars. Also ask him to explain how you can get the agency, and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 per month.

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A few days after a farmer had sold a pig to a neighbor, he chanced to pass the neighbor's place where he saw their little boy sitting on the edge of the pigpen watching its new occupant.

"How d'y'e do, Johnny?" said he. "How's your pig today?"

"He's pretty well, thank you," replied the boy. "How's all your folks?"

Johnny had used some unparliamentary language, much to his mother's annoyance. "Johnny," she cried, "do stop using such dreadful expressions. I can't imagine where you pick them up."

"Well, Mother," replied Johnny, "Shakespeare uses them."

"Then don't play with him again," commanded his mother; "he's not a fit companion for you, I'm sure."

"BUY AT HOME," IS URGED BY EMPLOYES

There has been some talk of late about a campaign for home-buying. The matter is being considered by the employees of local business houses. The following interesting paragraph on this subject appears in the Charlottetown Guardian.

"Everyone believes in the theory of buying at home. Everyone believes that the prosperity of the city or town or province depends upon the maintenance of our respective institutions, be they commercial, industrial or agricultural. With prosperous stores, workshops and factories, big or little, our respective communities, the community benefits proportionately and general prosperity is the result. The burden of taxation is fairly distributed and lightened and business prospers in every line. If our province is ever to prosper if we are to retain our population if we are to live as we have a right to live we must patronize more exclusively our home institutions, our home stores, our home industries. The little we gain in our dealings abroad will by no means compensate us for the loss we sustain by starving our home stores and tradesmen."

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