

The Toronto World

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FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 29.

Taxation by Favor

Ald. McBride's proposal to exempt house property to the extent of \$1000 on houses of \$3000 value and under is regarded as class legislation by Assessment Commissioner Forman. The commissioner is perfectly correct in this view, but it still remains a question of policy to what extent such class legislation is justifiable. A limit has to be set somewhere, and in this present emergency many think the limit has been reached.
For those who think differently it would be well for them to take into consideration the effect of such methods upon their own taxes and their own incomes and expenditure. It is certain that if expenses have to be met and revenue is cut off in one quarter it must be found in another. Commissioner Forman points out that the exemption proposed would have the effect of raising the general tax rate to 26.13 mills. There would be a saving to the exempted ones of \$17.39 at present rates, and this would have to be distributed over the other taxpayers. The rate would have to be adjusted accordingly.

If Ald. McBride is very keen about lightening the load of taxation on the people, why does he not move to cut under taxation the thirty per cent. of assessment at present adopted? Most of this exemption favors the property owner. Suppose, for example, that Ald. McBride or one of his friends has a property worth \$30,000, he is exempted to the extent of \$5000 by the present method, while the man with a property worth \$3000 only gets \$900 exemption. Does Ald. McBride consider this fair?

Guarding the Grain

Affecting to be amused by The World's suggestion that the Dominion Government should be prepared to pay minimum prices for number one hard and other high grades of hard wheat, The Montreal Witness and Telegraph recalls that the government of Egypt, under Joseph, managed a "wheat corner." Our Montreal neighbor argues that for the government to fix a minimum price of \$1.25 for number one hard, would have a tendency to increase the high cost of living.
A more sensible view, we think, is taken by The Ottawa Free Press, which declares that the government should control exports of food both as to destination and price. The Free Press says:

Canada surely presents a sorry spectacle today, doing out her products to the motherland after every middleman, miller and speculator has had his slice of the inflated profits.

Everyone, we are sure, will agree that, as a rule, the grower of wheat gets too little, and the ultimate consumer pays too much. The spread between the street price and the track price is sometimes ten or fifteen cents a bushel. But that is only the beginning. The railways and millers take a heavy toll for their services in finishing and distributing the product, while the speculator gets even more for doing nothing at all to benefit the public. It would be quite possible for the farmer to get a fair price and yet cheapen the bread to the consumer. Moreover, the Dominion Government, by buying large quantities of wheat, could sell the surplus almost at cost to Britain and her allies.

Many food products are not indigenous to the country, and others have to pass through a great many processes before they get to the consuming public. But for a staple grain like wheat, the government could easily do most of the work now done by the middleman. It is the middleman's profit which makes low prices for the producer and high prices for the consumer.

But the way to start the west on a new era of prosperity is to assure him a good price for his wheat, and we believe this is easily possible without any damage to the consumer. What men laugh at today they defend tomorrow.

Against Waste

Leut.-Col. Thompson's campaign against waste in connection with war

expenditures is attracting as much notice in Canada as the similar campaign inaugurated in Great Britain by Right Hon. Walter Long. The idea underlying these movements is the simple one that a penny saved is a penny gained, and in a time when expenditures are on a more gigantic scale than has ever before been known, it is the greatest wisdom not to suppose that little things do not matter, but that all things matter to the utmost; and when the heavy load has to be carried, every straw taken from it will relieve the willing but sorely burdened shoulders. And there is also the fact that cash is a very present help in these times of trouble, and any unnecessary expenditure that can be avoided means more cash for the ever-present necessary and inevitable ones.

One of the means suggested as a practicable and useful one in this campaign is for the citizens to call attention by whatever means they find expedient to any unnecessary expenditures going on in their district or under their observation. It is unfortunately a fact that even in such a war as this when the whole resources of the empire are strained to maintain the struggle there are many who think first of their own private interest before thinking of the common good and welfare. No one will object to a contractor making a fair business profit on his business, even when it is a patriotic or national business, but no man can consider himself a good citizen who takes more than a reasonable profit, and still less so, should he claim an outrageous gain from services or merchandise furnished to government for the protection of himself and others.

There are many who prefer to remain silent about such matters rather than incur the reputation of knockers or informers at the mouths of those knocked or informed against. But patriotic duty in such matters is as plain as the bayoneting of an enemy in a charge on the trenches, and may take just as much courage. Our civic and national courage should not be less than our military courage.

The Canadian Military Gazette gives currency to one example of waste, which may be duplicated elsewhere, but which at least indicates what is possible in the way of stopping leaks. It is the case of a country corps having 400 stand of arms. Instead of concentrating these at one point under one guard they are divided among six guards at different points, requiring pay for twenty-four men instead of the four who would have been sufficient.

One of the reasons that Germany is so strong is that this sort of thing is impossible under the German system, or practically impossible. One of the reasons that France was defeated in 1870 was because this sort of thing was winked at. Canadians ought to be able to learn the lesson, as Frenchmen have learned it. It is a patriotic lesson of the first importance.

Wages, Not Water

The Ford Motor Company does not profess to be sharing "profits" with its employees. There can be no profits until wages have been paid, but the men in the Ford Company get high wages. The company is able to pay high wages because it has no dividends to pay upon watered stock.

The company has a capital of two million dollars, did a business last year of over eighty million dollars, at a profit of considerably over twenty-five million dollars. If the Ford passed into the possession of Wall Street financiers, they would capitalize it for three hundred million dollars, and with the balance sheet of 1914 they would be justified, according to their lights, in doing so.

THE EMPTY "KAG."



But with such a capitalization, the company would have enormous charges, and the payroll would have to be cut to the quick in order to pay dividends. Labor would get what it could extort by strikes and possibly violence.

Henry Ford is a sensible and an honest man, who has put out no watered stock. Nobody grudges him the enormous return which he gets upon his capital. The men who work for him get a fair deal, perhaps even generous treatment, but Mr. Ford could not treat them either fairly or generously if he had to pay dividends upon watered stock.

Naval Echoes

The "big navy" party in the United States are making the most of the fact that the German cruiser Blucher, which proved too slow to get away from the British fleet last Sunday, is faster than any cruiser in the United States navy. Permanent officials of the naval service lay the blame at the door of congress, while the senators and representatives take the view that congress can only vote the money and leave construction details to the navy department. Perhaps the best excuse offered is that all the United States armored cruisers were built ten years ago and have therefore become obsolete.

It will take some courage to scrap about one-third of the American war vessels, but it will be economy in the long run. A permanent policy of naval construction and development can be carried out. With the way in progress congress seems willing to vote even more money than the government desires, but so many lessons are to be learned as the war progresses that it is not easy to decide how the money should be invested.

PRINTING BRANCH HAS NEW OFFICIAL

Lud Cameron, King's Printer, Resigns Thru Ill-Health After Long Service.

WATSON TO LIBRARY

Ex-Police Magistrate of Oshawa Will Assist Librarian and Do Special Work.

A general re-organization of the king's printer department of the Ontario Government is about to take place, according to information received last evening. The chief feature of this will involve the appointment of a new head for the department to take the place of Lud Cameron, who is about to resign because of continued ill-health. The identity of the new official is not yet obtainable, but it is understood that he is a new man who will be brought in from some outside point.

The general effect of the change contemplated will be to tighten up the department, and to put the trust in new affairs on a basis in keeping with the economical policy which the present conditions demand. Whether the reorganization will go further is a matter understood to be yet undecided by the cabinet.

Enters Library.
W. J. Watson, ex-police magistrate of Oshawa, who has been in the department for two months engaged on some special work during the absence of Mr. Cameron, will likely enter the service of the government library. He will act as assistant to Avern Pardo, chief librarian, and do some special work in addition.

Important Changes in Train Service, Canadian Pacific, Effective Jan. 31, 1915.

Train No. 38, leaving Toronto 8:05 a.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Trenton 11:40 a.m., will be withdrawn.
Train No. 37, leaving Trenton 3:10 p.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Toronto 5:50 p.m., will be withdrawn.
Train No. 39, leaving Toronto 9:00 a.m. daily, arriving Montreal 6:10 p.m., and train No. 19, leaving Montreal 4:45 a.m. daily, arriving Toronto 8:40 a.m., will be regular stop at Whitby, Oshawa, Bowmanville, Port Hope, Cobourg, Trenton, Belleville, and a flag stop at Newcastle, Coburne and Brighton.

Train No. 601, new leaving Tweed 4:05 a.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Renfrew 3:25 p.m., and train No. 602, new leaving Toronto 5:00 p.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Tweed 9:25 p.m., will be withdrawn between Kingston and Tweed.

Train No. 621, now leaving Kingston 7:45 a.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Renfrew 3:25 p.m., and train No. 622, leaving Renfrew 7:00 a.m. daily except Sunday, arriving Kingston 2:30 p.m., will be operated bi-weekly, leaving Kingston Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and leaving Renfrew Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Train No. 765, leaving Toronto 11:10 p.m. daily, arriving Hamilton 12:15 a.m., will run daily except Sunday, instead of daily.

Train No. 849, will leave Ingersoll North 9:55 a.m. instead of 10:30 a.m.; arrive Ingersoll Junction 10:20 a.m. instead of 10:50 a.m., and arrive St. Mary's 11:35 a.m., instead of 11:50 a.m.

(Note specially that train No. 21 from Toronto 3:00 a.m. will discontinue stopping at Ingersoll Junction, and has therefore no connection for St. Mary's.)

Train No. 666 will leave St. Mary's 4:30 p.m. instead of 4:50 p.m.; arrive Ingersoll Junction 6:30 p.m., instead of 6:50 p.m., and arrive Ingersoll North 6:50 p.m., instead of 6:55 p.m.

Particulars from Canadian Pacific ticket agents, or write M. G. Murphy, District Passenger Agent, Toronto.

BELGIAN CHILDREN TO REMAIN AT HOME

Government Grateful, But Urges Postponement of Aid Society Proposal.

Altho considerable support has been given to the proposal of the children's aid societies of the province to bring out Belgian children orphaned by the war for adoption in Ontario homes, the Belgian Government regrets being unable to accept the offer. Word to this effect was received yesterday from the Belgian consul at Ottawa, and was submitted to the members of the Ontario Government. In consequence all negotiations with this in view have been ended, and those who made generous offers are being communicated with.

DR. MOTT'S POSITION.

Editor World: There appeared in the Sunday World of the 24th inst., an article referring to the conference of foreign mission boards, and to Dr. Mott, which is misleading. As a brief statement from me was the occasion of this article, perhaps you will allow me a few words of explanation. This was the first annual conference, representing all mission boards of North America, and is thus international, and interdenominational. It is therefore, necessarily non-political.

Dr. Mott has been for 25 years visiting Europe as well as all other parts of the world, solely in the interests of Christian missions. The special purpose of his last visit was to try to conserve as far as possible the co-operative Christian activities that have been developing so rapidly since the Edinburgh conference in 1910, and which are now severely strained. With that in view, he visited mission leaders in Britain, Holland, France and Germany, and has some hope that after the war is over these broken and estranged fellowships can be restored.

It will be remembered that Dr. Mott was urged by President Wilson to accept the American ambassadorship to Peking, but declined. To him mission interests are the more important than his own political struggle. They are world-wide and spiritual, seeking to establish the universal reign of the Prince of Peace, which would forever and such conflicts as are now raging, and which we all so greatly deplore.

This will perhaps suffice to dispel any groundless suspicions or surmises as to secret conferences and questionable proceedings.

Toronto, Jan. 27, 1915.

IT STAMPS ONE "OUT-OF-DATE"

To Use "White Phosphorous" Matches

IT IS NOW ILLEGAL TO MAKE "WHITE PHOSPHOROUS" MATCHES, IN A YEAR'S TIME IT WILL BE UNLAWFUL TO SELL THEM.

IF YOU'RE STRONG FOR EFFICIENCY—FOR "MADE IN CANADA" AND "SAFETY FIRST"—YOU WILL USE

EDDY'S "SESQUI" NON-POISONOUS MATCHES

4-37

MICHIE'S

GLENERNAN

SCOTCH WHISKY

A Blend of pure Highland malts, bottled in Scotland exclusively for

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Established 1885.

CARRANZA'S ADVANCE ARMY NEARS CAPITAL

Indications That the City Will Be Taken Without Resistance—Zapata Retreats.

Canadian Press Despatch.
MEXICO CITY, Jan. 28.—A telephone message just received here (11:30 a.m.) announces that the advance guard of the Carranza army is entering Guadalupe, a suburb four miles north of the capital.
The forces of Gen. Zapata have retreated without fighting.
The main body of the invading army is at Texpan, seven miles south of Mexico City.
The indications are that the capital will be evacuated without resistance.

FOREST SCHOOL IN HIGH PARK

Editor World: Before discussing this proposition I wish to call attention to two statements or inferences made by "Ratepayer" in his letter of 28th inst. His first and last paragraph reference to the writer gives absolutely false impressions. No words of mine could be truthfully construed into meaning that "I would rather leave the park to the tramps and tough characters," and that "I will not be able to think of High Park as a mental picture of a pale and puny kiddies developing the ruddy glow of health, therefore away with the forest school."
Every speaker emphasized the value of our parks for recreation, and for obtaining pure air and sunshine, for every citizen who wishes to make use of them. Every child in Toronto should be taken as often as possible to our parks, but no rational parent, guardian, or board of education would allow children to go and play in a park without proper protection from any straggling tramp or tough character that might wander into the park. This menace from undesirable characters would compel the board to close one of two things: either fence in the school playgrounds, or else make special provision for the protection of the children during play time. If we have to fence off two acres for 100 children, soon we will have 1,000 clamoring for admittance and we will be obliged to expatriate 25 or 30 acres of the park. The Catholics will be legally entitled to a site also, so when will the thing end? Within a gun shot of High Park an equally healthy wooded site can be purchased. The same is true in the northern and eastern parts of the city; so that our parks can be kept for park purposes for all our people, and for all time.
John Hunter.

JOURNALIST TO LECTURE

H. J. Osborn, a prominent journalist from London, Eng., will deliver an illustrated patriotic lecture, entitled, "England Today: Conditions in War Time," in the Royal Templars Hall, corner of West Queen and Dovercourt roads, this evening, commencing at 8 o'clock.

CHILDREN SHARE ON REACHING TWENTY-ONE

The will of the late Mrs. Sarah McNair, who died December 30, 1914, bequeathed an estate of \$8,208. Of this the Basement Improvement Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Toronto, given \$100; \$800 is given to each of her two sons, Fred and Thomas. The balance is to be equally divided among four children, Catharine K. Colville, John, Fred and Thomas McNair. These shares are not to be paid until the beneficiaries reach the age of twenty-one years.

WREYFORD'S STOCK-TAKING SALE

These items are of exceptional value. A straight saving of from 20 to 50%

- | | |
|---|---|
| Warm Gloves
10 dozen Imported Wool Gloves, heavy and medium weight, in regular values up to \$1.00, for..... 50c
5 dozen Tan Cape and Mocha lined fleeces, regular up to \$1.00, for..... \$1.00 | Negligee Shirts
30 dozen English Zephyrs and Oxford, soft and stiff cuff styles, Regularly \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, for..... 95c |
| Sweater Coats
15 dozen English Knit Cardigan suits, This is our regular \$4.00 quality. Now..... \$2.00
5 dozen Fleece-Knit Vests, with sleeves, made of fine Scotch wool, Regularly \$5.00 to \$6.00, for..... \$2.50 | Flannel Shirts
1 dozen Heavy all wool and Cotton qualities, double cuffs and bands, Regularly \$1.50 to \$2.50, for..... \$1.00 |
| | Skating Caps
10 dozen Girls and Boys' Turbans, the soft, fleecy kind, made of fine English wool. Regularly 35c to 50c, for..... 25c
5 dozen Ladies' Turbans, new style, plain knit, in colors tan, gray, sky, white, green. Regularly 25c to 75c, for..... 25c |

EXTRA SPECIAL

Men, Buy Your Warm Ulster Coats Today

10 English-made Ulsters, in navy, gray, heather and wool, 25 better quality, with wool-fleece detachable lining, Regularly \$20.00 to \$25.00, for.....**\$10.50**
25 better quality, with wool-fleece detachable lining, Regularly \$20.00 to \$25.00, for.....**\$12.00**

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OLD STOCK ALE
GOLD LABEL
Medical men endorse the value of ale as a tonic and nutrient. Of course, much depends on the purity and quality of the ale—so be sure you get O'Keefe's.
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