

EDITORIAL

As Big As His Job

ARCHDEACON CODY, the new Minister of Education for Ontario is a big man confronted with a big job. He has already one monument to his organizing enthusiasm and faith, in St. Paul's Church. Cody had realizable dreams of St. Paul's. He aimed to have it a forum church. He will find a bigger forum in the Education Department. There should be no doubt about Dr. Cody resigning from his church. We have not imagination enough to picture two Codys, one of the choker and the other of the tweed suit.

Ontario does not want her school system with its spiritual headquarters in St. Paul's Church. St. Paul's is not a big enough forum for that. Dr. Cody can, if he will, make education a popular issue in Ontario, even though he has to play the role of Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones. That much we can tell him, even though he already knows it. Born in Embro, Ont., he may have gone to something like the little red school-house, with its haggling triumvirate of trustees trying to fit a lean salary on to a leaner tax rate. If not, he missed something. These triumvirates still exist. Some of these school-houses are still to be found. The consolidated school movement is in a state of arrested development. Teachers are at low salaries, though high to what they were, or to salaries in Quebec. Men refuse to stay teaching because they want to save the salary for law, medicine or engineering.

Education in Ontario is much less a popular issue than it is in any of the Western provinces, or the Maritimes. It needs more evangelism, less philistinism, fewer fads and no politics; unless politics can be lifted to an equality with education. As the head of Ontario's educational system Dr. Cody has an opportunity to bring it back to the good old days, when the politician had nothing to do with the schools, because there was a spiritualized intellect in the Education Department. He has a chance to abolish bigotry in administration, because he is a man of broad mind, who will naturally put education before provincialism. He can, if he measures up to his own inherent bigness, make the School System of Ontario an inspiration to all Canada.

Why Railway Rates Go Up

RAILWAY rates in the United States are to go up twenty-five per cent. There is an old Latin adage, "post hoc ergo propter hoc," which is supposed to apply to people who may argue that because this rate increase came after Government took over the operation of the roads, therefore Government is not as good at railroad managing as private corporations, and found a rate increase the only sure way of breaking even. Anyway the rates are to go up, and the Government has the roads. What about Canadian railroads? Nationalization is the order of the day. Rates per ton-mile here have been about the same as in the United States, and lower than anywhere else in the world. Wages are as high on the average as the highest in the United States with its cheap labor in the South. Winter conditions are worse. The price of coal has gone up 100 per cent. since the war; of rolling stock 100 per cent. We lack density of traffic which is the only guarantee of profitable railway operation. We have as long hauls as the United States and no New Yorks and Chicagos to offset them. A majority of our mileage is in the West where population is thinnest. In fact we have all the elements possible to shove up the cost of operation and keep down the dividend—in some cases to zero or less. If rate increase is necessary in the United States it would seem to be inevitable in Canada. There are but two ways for Government to overcome the sure normal deficit on operation cost—raise the rates or "raise" the deficit from the public exchequer. If the C. P. R. is quoted as contrary evi-

dence we shall bear in mind that the deficit of the future was made good in the past when the C. P. R. got its empire of grant land. But for that we should have been paying higher traffic rates long ago.

Kitchener, Mort, June 5, 1916

THE more we know of the Hindenburg-Ludendorff cult with its open doctrine of killing women, children and wounded, the more we realize that a far greater than either of these war-masters went down on the Hampshire two years ago the middle of this week. Kitchener knew how to apply the iron to a refractory foe and how to organize a war machine out of leagues of desert sand, a pack of camels and a few railway ties. But the author of that immortal message to his troops in 1914 was a conqueror with a moral sense. Pinkerton in Ladies from Hell thus describes K. of K.:

A splendid figure he was, big upstanding, a man's man from his boots, black against the snow, to the vizzor of his immaculate cap, impervious alike to man's petty criticisms and God's storms. Chattering with cold, we marched by in stiff review, and then lined up before him and listened to his big voice boomed out above us, brief, terse, to the point, a message worth the hearing.

"Men of the London Scottish, you have a record to uphold. Three things only would I leave with you to-day, you soldiers of the British Empire. First, fear God; second, honor your King; and third, respect the women." His voice caught, and he repeated with added emphasis, "Respect the women."

A Box of Matches

NO true citizen objects to the budget taxes. They are necessary for revenue. He does object to paying one tax to the Government and a bigger one right on top of it to either a dealer, a manufacturer, or both. A small example will illustrate. A certain little box of matches contains forty lights. Before the tax it sold for one cent. Since the tax some dealers have sold it for three cents. The tax is one cent per 100 matches. The natural increase on those forty matches should be at most half a cent. What becomes of the other cent and a half? Plainly, it is the 300 per cent. profit which the manufacturer or the dealer, or both, are making on the tax.

Apply this test to all the articles mentioned in the budget and see where the loyal citizen and the unscrupulous maker or dealer come out. On the wall above every counter should be hung a large poster indicating exactly what was the old price and what should be the new on all articles included in the budget scheme of taxation. Any dealer allowing either himself or a manufacturer to exceed that price should have his business confiscated. It is time for Government to take a hand in the regulation of prices. We are all getting to the limit of our ability to pay and to economize, unless there is also a very drastic limit made to the other fellow's ability to line his pocket by making a profit on a tax or by unduly boosting a price under cover of a general advance due to the war. The solvency of the State is conditioned upon every sub-species of wartime hog being put into something closely resembling a pen.

Men, Not Experts Needed

AFTER-THE-WAR reconstructionists are to be found on almost every fence corner. Tinkering up the whole world is a fascinating pastime. It can be come at from almost any angle. The church, the counting-house, the labor union, the school, the farm, the parliament, the soapbox—these are a few of the centres of opinion from which the new crusades may begin. Bolshevism has already announced its programme—Away with Capital. And the industrial interests of Canada have banded themselves together. Bolshevism must not

enter here. No State can thrive with Bolshevik ideas rampant among the people.

Is there anybody insane enough to imagine that a crusade against capital will ever get anywhere; or that any country will ever be able to buck against labor? And yet we hear people talk about capital and labor as though they were two things as antipodal as heat and cold. There is no capital worth considering that is not built upon labor and no labor worth its pay that does not translate itself into some form of capital.

Wherefore it seems a matter for regret that when the Canadian Industrial Reconstruction Association was started nobody but industrialists and one editor were put on the provisional Executive Committee. All the men named on this committee are able men. The Chairman, Sir John Willison, is a man of ideas and experience. But unless the permanent Executive has a different complexion these reformers may as well expect hostility from just such quarters as they are beginning to get it already. Manufacturers alone cannot reform industry in the interests of the public and the nation. We should like to see on the permanent Council of this Association at least one or two farmers, one railwayman, one labor unionist, one professor—oh yes, there are professors with practical ideas—one good live judge or big lawyer and the biggest purely business man in Canada, whoever he may be.

Retire The Extremists

COMPROMISE, the first principle of successful politics, is no business for extremists. Sir Edward Carson, confronted by John Dillon, is the essence of never-give-up till doomsday. And that will never settle Ireland's problem. Why not retire both and pick on two moderates? There are such people. Redmond was a moderate. Both the Redmonds were. In his little book, Trench Pictures from France, Major Wm. Redmond, gallant sacrifice for the rights of little Belgium, pays many a tribute to the true pan-Irish spirit as he saw it along the front. In one passage he describes the jostling of all sorts of Imperial troops. "Presently," he says, "a wagon came along bearing on its side the Ulster badge of the Red Hand. The Munster soldiers hailed the wagon as it passed. 'Can you give us a lift along the road?' Promptly the answer came, 'Righto! in ye get my shamrock boys.'" In a speech in the Commons in 1916 William Redmond said, speaking of the Orange and Green, "All you want is to get them together. They came together in the trenches and they were friends; get them together on the floor of an Assembly, or where you will, in Ireland. Let the Ulstermen agree to give up their historical memories of events like the Boyne and the rest. . . . We will also give up any celebration that might be irritating, and we will begin and build up out of this war a new and better country, with Protestants and Catholics working side by side—a country based on the recognition of Irishmen."

Organize a Truth Propaganda

ON this page, issue of May 25, there was an editorial headed, Propaganda the Fifth Arm, in which we pointed out the necessity of unifying the Allied nations by a centralized propaganda from Paris as the armies at the front are unified under Gen. Foch. We indicated a few of the ways in which such a campaign of unity could be carried on. A daily paper despatch dated May 27, says that the French Minister to the Belgian Government has now been placed in charge of a centralized Allied propaganda bureau for all foreign countries. This is not enough. Propaganda to be successful must be as thorough as Loringhoven's Lies published on page 5 of this issue. The work of getting the truth about the war over (1) to ourselves, (2) to one another, (3) to Russia, (4) to Germany, is much more necessary than any propaganda in "foreign" countries. What we want is a powerful truth drive upon public sentiment. The chairman of committee should be the biggest publicity expert in the world, and he should have at his command men of the calibre of Belasco and Griffith, who understand picturesque methods of getting at the masses.