

The Toronto World

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TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 7.

The Private Car Habit.

Now that no election is in sight it might be well to have a little discussion respecting the use of private cars by ministers of the Dominion and provincial governments. All our political parties are tarred with the same stick so far as the use of these cars is concerned, so the discussion should not involve any party politics. The first objection we have to the use of these cars is the fact that they sometimes place members of the government under great obligations to private corporations. The car, it is true, belongs to the government, but the railway company changes the equivalent of eighteen first-class fares for hauling a private car in the case of private individuals. But in the case of cabinet ministers no money is collected. Every minister, we hear, is handed with his seals of office a little card from each railway company, with this touching legend thereon:

Pass Honorable —, his car and party.

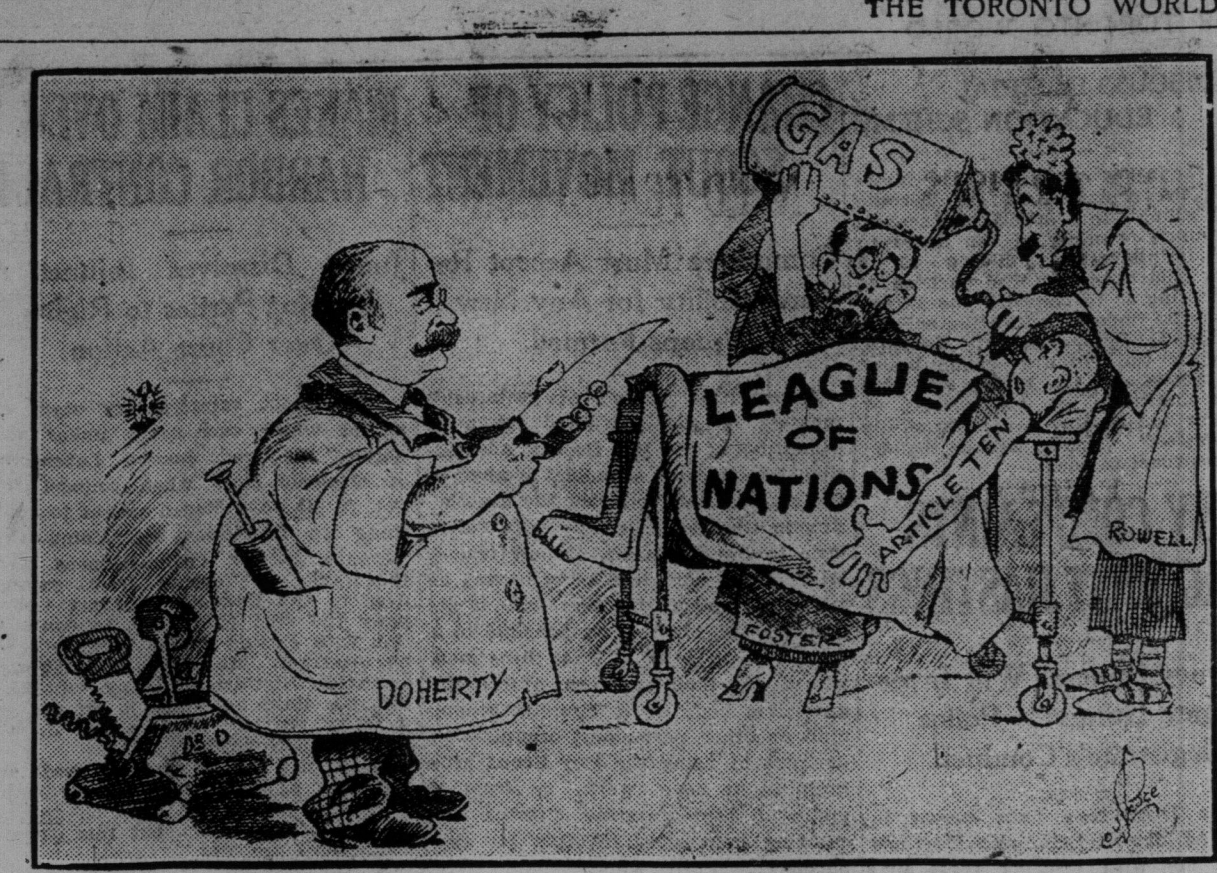
A minister of the crown, Dominion or provincial, who has a private car hauled from Ottawa or Toronto to Vancouver and back by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company free of charge, receives from that company not three thousand dollars in cash but its equivalent. He may not be influenced thereby and he might not be improperly influenced by a straight cash gift. But there is a prejudice against public officials receiving gifts from private corporations, just as there is a prejudice against judges on the bench or jurymen receiving money from litigants. "Mr. Squeers" we are told, "had but one eye, and the popular prejudice runs in favor of two." So the popular prejudice runs in favor of public officials paying their own way or having their way paid for them by the government.

No one questions the propriety of the prime minister traveling in a private car. As we like to see the government-general travel in state because he is the titular ruler of the country, so the public do not object to the real ruler, the prime minister, being accorded a certain dignity. In making a progress through the country a private car or even a private train at times might not be out of place. But here, as in the United States, the bill should be paid by the government. Ministers of the crown crossing the continent on public business may need a private car. Sir Henry Drayton and his colleagues on the tariff commission needed one undoubtedly, the members of the railway commission need one, but they should all be paid for out of the public treasury.

People do object, however, to a private car being hitched on a train to bring a minister for social purposes from Toronto to Ottawa or from Ottawa to Quebec, and the like of that. They object still more when these private cars are sent about the country for the convenience of a newspaper correspondent or to bring juvenile guests to a children's party. If they are traveling on a train paying their fares they object to having the train arbitrarily halted five or ten minutes at a time while a minister of the crown in his deadhead private car points out choice bits of scenery to members of his party. Perhaps such incidents never occurred, certainly they did not in recent years, but you can hear some dull stories on the subject from railway trainmen and old-time politicians.

The traveling public also object to unnecessary private cars so adding to the weight of the train that time is lost and connections missed by the necessary number of sleepers cannot be carried because of the intrusion of these deadhead cars of great weight. A railway wreck not long ago closed three private cars on the Toronto-Ottawa night express, carrying one man asleep not counting the cooks. On that same train people ready to pay for berth on the sleeper were compelled to sit up all night because the engine could not draw the necessary number of sleepers for the accommodation of the public, and the three big private cars required by three officials at the same time. When the wreck occurred in the early dawn of a winter morning the mere paying passengers stood around in the snow faint and hungry, while their noses, blue with the cold, sniffed the boiling coffee and the fried bacon being served to their betters in the private cars.

Other objections can be marshalled against the indiscriminate use of private cars, some prompted by jealousy and pique. We think we are on safe ground, however, when we say that the public official who uses a private car should either pay the railway company for hauling it out of



HON. C. J. DOHERTY: I'm for removing the arm.

U.S. TO PREVENT INFUX FOR TWO-YEAR PERIOD

Six Months' Exemption to Be Granted Persons Who Have Resided Continuously for One Year in Canada, Cuba, Mexico and Newfoundland—Blood Relatives of Naturalized Citizens Also Exempted.

Washington, Dec. 6.—(Favorable report on the Johnson bill prohibiting immigration into the United States for a period of two years was ordered today by the house immigration committee. Chairman Johnson of the committee, said the measure would be given preference in the house.

The measure would become effective sixty days after enactment. The committee's report describes conditions existing which it says make it necessary to restrict immigration as proposed. The measure would exempt blood relatives of naturalized citizens and also exempt for a period of six months persons who have resided continuously for one year in Canada, Cuba, Mexico and Newfoundland. Six months' exemptions are allowed for travelers and foreigners attending educational institutions who would be

admitted for such time as their courses required. Europe's Wild Stampede. Fifteen million men, women and children of all social and economic classifications, representing every nationality in Europe, are fighting for passage to the United States, according to reports submitted by seven transatlantic steamship company representatives to Frederick A. Wallis, commissioner of immigration at Ellis Island.

Every seaport, city and town along the western and southern coast of Europe, they said, is crowded with persons, who in their eagerness to leave for the United States, have sold their homes and everything they possessed. Passport offices abroad are reported to be besieged with applicants.

They also expressed the opinion that 5,000,000 Germans and Austrians are packed up and ready to sail as soon as the United States makes peace with their governments.

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The World will gladly print under this heading any remarks by our readers, dealing with current topics. As space is limited they must not be longer than 200 words and must be on one side of the paper only.

GERMAN SITUATION.

Editor World: May I be allowed to correct one of the statements in your report of my remarks at the Open Forum? In paragraph three you report me as saying that "The German situation is not a very serious one." This statement is entirely erroneous and not what I said. I said that the German situation was not as serious as it was being made out to be. I said that the German situation was not as serious as it was being made out to be. I said that the German situation was not as serious as it was being made out to be.

You also attribute to me the statement that the independent and majority of the German people were in control of the situation. While the majority of the German people were in control of the situation, the government was not. The government was not in control of the situation. The government was not in control of the situation. The government was not in control of the situation.

Remarked in Passing.

Canada's live stock is reported to be worth two billions. But what is it worth as meat figured on the present price of bacon?

Ex-King Constantine is in the position of a man whose wife is willing to give him another chance, but whose creditors are not.

Looks as if the covenant of the League of Nations was headed the same way as the fourteen points.

D'Annunzio has cancelled his declaration of war against Italy. Well—second thoughts are best, even among poets.

Confessioners claimed before the tariff commission that they asked the community. Sure they did—the man who now and then takes a box home to square himself with wife.

Those threatened Sunday law laws come into force and spread to this country as these things "too often do." Canada will have to call upon Sir George Foster to use his influence upon the League of Nations to have something done about it.

RHYMING VIEWS ON DAILY NEWS

By GEORGE H. DIXON.

"Spare the rod and spoil the child. If he ain't kicked he won't go wild." This was the way our parents talk when we were young—and they were shocked. We thought this rule, which once went strong had died the death—but we were wrong. In the latest news, we were told that a young man who long has swanked now by being sent to jail, they're going to kick each other. The matter less involved of handling each other is a joy. This aim is good—it's a spanking—a spanking's just what youngsters need. I "auto" make these kids repent.

A painful memory we recall about the way we used to create a fat lot of us. We used to strap and throw us right across his lap—these memories we would faint for, but still it did us good, you bet we never made the same mistake, to even think it made us usque, and so we think this good old way should bear good fruit if used today upon the youngsters near and far who try to swipe a motor car.

AUDITOR NOW BUSY INSPECTING BOOKS

(Continued From Page 1). Company, and Ald. Burgess said he had asked for that information some months ago but had not been able to get it.

Philmore moved that Geo. Ellis, who is said to have had some gas experience in Halifax, be appointed to co-operate with the auditor.

Controlled Burgess argued that the auditor should be permitted to select an expert himself if he deemed it advisable.

Mr. Barber probably knows little about gas, said Ald. Blackburn. He favored the appointment of Mr. Ellis also.

Ald. Whelan said the mayor got money from the Gas Co. as a director and should be able to give a lot of information himself.

Ald. Beamish agreed that the auditor should be permitted to select an expert himself if he deemed it advisable.

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The Ivory Ball

(Continued From Yesterday's World.)

My dear Laurens: The count is too indisposed to go out tonight and suggests that we forego Calamander and that you and Miss Dalsell join us at his temporary home, "per K." You will enjoy him, and the proprieties will not be outraged as the countess, a modern lady, will be of the party. With this he sends his secretary, Mr. Kimco, and a timorous, he is very anxious to see the ball. Pardon the tardiness of this and come at once.

WOODSTOCK, per K. That the note was not in Woodstock's writing was explained by the "per K." after his name, and Laurens, "had no doubt that it was the work of the count's secretary from the dictation of the person. Neither Miss Dalsell or himself thought of questioning the sudden change of program.

There was much bowing, and much subservience in getting the lady into the car, and Laurens, in his light overcoat, after which they entered the waiting limousine, the chauffeur sitting at the wheel, and a block of wood.

They moved off, Mr. Kimco chatting constantly and displaying the soul of politeness. He was really producing a gold cigarette case. Would the lady indulge? It was not uncommon in his country. The car was open, and there was nothing like the flavor of his own tobacco to be found in the smoke of a cigarette. Laurens, who had been told that the countess was a modern lady, had no doubt that it was the work of the count's secretary from the dictation of the person. Neither Miss Dalsell or himself thought of questioning the sudden change of program.

CHAPTER X. The Awakening. WHEN John Laurens opened his eyes to practical facts he discovered that he was no longer in a limousine, but in a car.

He was lying on a carved bed covered with silk and canopied with the same material. He saw up at the ceiling a large, ornate chandelier. The room was in large and lavishly furnished, in Chinese style for the most part, but with a few American chairs in rich upholstery.

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