The Toronto World

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TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 8.

Allen Enemies at the University

Muddling thru is supposed to be the British way of doing things, and the University of Toronto has given a fine example of muddling in its dealing with the case of the German professors.

We are rather surprised at the course taken by President Falconer. For a gentleman who seems so anxious to do what is right it is a pity that he exercised his power to support his own predilection in the face of overwhelming opposition. The statement is made in an interview with the president that "he is vested with certain powers, and he felt bound to stand by his convictions and back them with his power, in spite of contrary opinion."

The fact is that the whole affair has been decided on personal feeling rather than on principle. Suggestions have even been made that the professors in question should not have had their contracts carried out. There has been no desire to be unjust or unfair, but there has been a strong wish to be as fair and just to Canada as to the German professors. No one, we believe, would have desired to deprive the professors of their contracted hire had they asked for it, for it is not on a money basis these things can be settled. Canada would keep her side of the bargain even tho Germany has openly declared that a policy of repudiation would follow her victory.

In this connection it is interesting to observe the view taken by "one of the most prominent members of the board" of governors in an interview published by The Star last night. This gentleman says: "These men are under contract and could get redress in the civil courts of Canada if they were dismissed without salary." This is the point of view, and illustrates the ignorance of the facts, of apparently many of those who backed up President Falconer in his sentimental decision. The courts of Canada would, of course, do no such thing. The courts do not recognize any rights as due to an alien enemy while the empire is at war. Possibly this may appear to President Falconer as unfair and contrary to British fair play. It is war.

This is the main basic fact which appears to have escaped the attention of the president and those who supported him. The empire is at war. Whether President Falconer likes it or not, the German professors are alien enemies. Had they observed the law as implied in the order-in-council on which such stress has been laid, they would not have been interfered with. Professor Tapper observed the spirit and letter of the law and should not have been included in the dismissal action. But Professor Benzinger, Professor Mueller and Professor Toews are anti-British in every sense, active, passive and auxiliary.

The order-in-council does not exculpate Germans from being alien enemies because it suggests toleration and courtesy to such alien enemies as behave themselves. But it certainly does not extend such courtesy to those who by their very nature, walk and conversation poison the atmosphere of the society in which they move. It is quite sufficient evidence for the public that the university is said to be practically a unit in supporting the president in his unpatriotic action. Whence has come this influence, so different from popular opinion? Which of the German professors, let us ask, leads university men to excuse the destruction of Rheims Cathedral on the ground that the French used it for observation purposes?

We think that Premier Hearst, tho doubtless against his inclinations, has been correct in taking a neutral position towards the board of governors. The board was created to be independent and to govern wisely. At least let us retain its independence. Wisdom comes with experience.

Had there been no personal questions involved in the case we believe the problem of the German professors would have been settled as it has been settled elsewhere in the empire. McGill and Queen's can get German and other departments filled without having recourse to alien enemies. So can the great universities of Great Britain. There is nothing of the Roman father about our university authorities, and they do not believe in sacrificing a personal friendship even tho the empire should suffer.

It may be well to say once more that we have had no intention of being inflammatory or of exciting ill-feeling against Germans of any kind who observe the decencies and courtesies of international relations. There has been no denial of the allegations made against the professors that they were offensive partisans. The adoption of a compromise indicated that there was certainly this other side to the controversy. President Falconer did not guarantee the good behavior of the men, and they have been relieved from duty.

To make the best of the situation Dr. Falconer is trying to arrange to have them placed with United States universities, and to get in exchange the services of American citizens, the assumption being that there are no British or Canadian men available. It is not for the benefit of the university that such controversies should continue, and the loss of Sir Edmund Osler to the board is already a serious one. The university should remember that the interests of British subjects take precedence of those of German citizens.

A Time for Repentance

Every now and then we hear of a corporation in difficulties being rescued by some able man of affairs and put on the road to permanent prosperity. As a rule it will be found that little or no money was needed, the business, intrinsically sound, was suffering from extravagance, mismanagement and perhaps dishonesty. It was able to go ahead without difficulty when honest administration gave it a chance to live.

Some such reorganization is needed for big business in the United States. More than one man in that country of late years has aspired to be "the general manager of the United States." First, Mark Hanna, and then Senator Aldrich, claimed this distinction; perhaps more reservedly, the late J. Pierpont Morgan. All of them, for the time, seemed to be working wonders; great fortunes were made in a night, the mills ran overtime, exports expanded. Generally speaking, times were fairly good in the United States from 1897 to 1912.

We now know that this structure of apparent expansion and prosperity was not built upon foundations of industry and thrift, but rather upon fictitious profits, wasteful borrowings, and Wall street window dressing. The marvelous wealth of the great Mississippi Valley was largely diverted from productive enterprise to wild speculation. The debt of the nation was ever increasing, but the money was raised not to develop the country, but to enrich a small group of men, many of whom wasted their millions in the purchase of European castles and coronets, in high living and reckless prodigality. Railway and other great corporations were looted from the inside by buccaneers of the J. Pierpont Morgan type, and nearly every road was weighed down with watered stock and bond issues.

But the financial debauch which has characterized the frenzied financiers of the United States could not have continued, as it has almost indefinitely, except for certain national characteristics. The Americans are extravagant, eager for money rather than wealth, with a certain admiration for the man who can make a fortune overnight, no matter how lawless his methods, or how injurious to themselves the consequences may be. Perhaps every father looked forward to his young hopeful becoming a Morgan or a Rockefeller, tho he would have been shocked to learn that the youth was secretly planning to become a second Jesse James.

The United States is intrinsically sound. If the people honestly turned their attention to their own redemption, the remedy could soon be found for the present distressed and disorderly situation. But the people and the business men of the United States have to make an open confession of reckless misconduct committed or condoned in the past. They will have to give some evidence of contrition, some purpose of amendment, and they will have to do penance by taking the loss which is bound to come to individuals and corporations when the railways, industrials and other big corporations have their capital issues scaled down to something like their real value. It is not so much a question of finding ready money. The people would pay increased rates or submit to any other taxation if they could find their way out, but they know the time has gone for stock rigging and window dressing. They want, and they must have, the business of their country reformed upon the lines of honesty, economy, industry and thrift. They must get their savings away from Wall street and abolish the stock exchange except as a government institution.

Our neighbors must put an end to stock jobbing and stock watering, to the looting by Wall street of the great corporations, to wild extravagance and reckless dissipation of profits. If the great wealth of the Mississippi Valley be conserved and the proceeds largely invested in productive enterprises, there is no reason why, in the next five years, the United States should not cease to be a debtor nation and begin to look forward with some confidence to becoming the banker of the new world.

Work at Washington

The session of congress, which opens today at Washington, will mainly attract attention by the manner in which it deals with the ship purchase bill and the problems of national defence. Many other matters are before congress, including a number of bills which at the last session passed the house of representatives, but it is easy for a small minority in the senate to quietly smother any legislation to which no great public interest attaches. Many attempts, for example, will be made to amend the Federal Reserve Act, so as to extend the credit of the government more freely to the cotton planters, and perhaps to other classes in the community. It is safe to say that the law as it stands will be given a fair trial before it is amended, except upon the recommendation of the federal reserve board.

Altho Britain and France have protested against the purchase of the German merchant vessels interned in American ports it is known that President Wilson still favors the bill, and a satisfactory understanding has probaly been reached. It will scarcely be denied that direct government ownership and operation is needed in order to again place the American flag on the high seas. Such public ownership and operation will be useful hereafter as a regulator of rates when private capital sees fit to invest in American shipping. While the primary object of the ship purchase bill is to stimulate pan-American trading, the power of the government will ultimately be exerted towards breaking up the North Atlantic combine which has plundered the United States in much the same way as it has plundered Canada.

Upon the question of armaments and recruiting we will no doubt find sharp differences of opinion. Many people in the United States believe a war with Japan is inevitable, and they fear that she is counting upon European allies. Indeed, in the present international mixup, a nation going to war with Japan might find herself automatically at war with nearly all the great nations of Europe. On the other hand, there is room for the contention that militarism will largely disappear with the conclusion of the present conflict, and that the United States can safely pursue her traditional policy of waiting until war has been declared before beginning to prepare for war.

PUTTING WESLEY TO BED

GRANDMA GLOBE: Gang awa till bed, laddie, they've het it a'up for ye.

SOVEREIGNTY OF AIR IS NOT RECOGNIZED

Britain Emphasizes Point in Reply to Switzerland's Protest.

Canadian Press Despatch.

BERNE, Dec. 7, via London.—In connection with the alleged violation of the neutrality of the air over Switzerland it became known here today that when Great Britain expressed to the Swiss federal council regret that her aviators had inadvertently failed to observe their instructions and avoid Swiss territory when flying to Friedrichshafen in Germany, the British authorities expressly declared that this must not be interpreted as a recognition on the part of the British Government of the existence of a sovereignty of the air.

For Christmas Sailings.

In connection with the Christmas sailings of Canadian Pacific steamship Missanabie and Allan Line steamship Scandinavian from West St. John December 15, the Canadian Pacific Railway will operate solid through special trains composed of first and second-class equipment and lunch-counter car, leaving Toronto 9.40 a.m., Monday, December 14, running direct to steamships' side. Particulars from any C.P.R. Ticket Agent, or write M. G. Murphy, District Passenger Agent, Toronto. ed

FOUR MEN VOTE TO DISCHARGE PROFS.

There Was a Big Debate Among Governors of the University.

SITUATION UNCHANGED

Mass Meeting is Still Being Discussed—President Falconer Silent.

With the resignation of Sir Edmund Osler from the board of governors of the university, with President Falconer and four members of the university faculty threatening to resign from their positions if the three German professors are not given the proposed "leave of absence," and with the government in a neutral position, a complex situation exists at the university, and the solution is not apparent yet. President Falconer has made it apparent that he will resign if his hands are forced by the board of governors. Dr. Falconer stands behind the order in council which provides that Germans who are following their peaceful occupations in Canada should not be interfered with. The president states that he takes the standpoint of British fair play and would not see the German members of the university summarily dismissed.

Mass Meeting Possible.

With the professors on leave of absence until July 1, 1915, with full pay during that time, there has been considerable indignation manifested in certain quarters. The possibility has arisen of a mass meeting being called in Massey Hall, to protest against the decision of the governors. In the meantime, to get around the difficulty, the president is making an endeavor to exchange the Germans with members of the faculties of some of the American universities, such as Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Cornell. Something of this nature was stated by Prof. Needler to be necessary, in order that the work of the German department of the university should not suffer; he considered it fortunate that the Christmas vacation was so near at hand, as it would give the staff a chance to recruit before the commencement of the Easter term.

It was by a vote of 10 to 4 that the board of governors decided to give the three professors a six months' leave of absence.

At first it was apparent that the majority of the governors was in favor of the dismissal of the professors, but when it was pointed out that this move would be unconstitutional without the consent of the president, it was decide to take a compromise action, and to give them leave of absence until July 1.

How the Vote Went.

The vote, as verified by one of the governors yesterday, was as follows:

Against Compromise.	For Compromise.
Sir Ed. Osler.	Sir Ed. Walker.
Eric Armour	Z. A. Lash.
Daniel Miller.	A. E. Gooderham.
Dr. J. O. Orr.	Sir Wm. Meredith.
	C. D. Massey.
	J. A. Macdonald.
	D. B. Macdonald.
	J. W. Flavelle.
	Judge Kelly.
	W. K. George.

Absent: C. H. Mitchell, T. A. Russell and R. Home Smith.

BRITISH REPULSED IS TURKS' CLAIM

Landing Force Said to Have Sustained Heavy Loss.

CONSTANTINOPLE, via Berlin and London, Dec. 7.—Defeat of a British landing force and an advance to within less than 20 miles of Batum is claimed in an official statement issued today.

"A British landing force between the Tigris and Suvaye, which attempted to take the Turkish position, was repulsed with heavy loss," the statement asserts. "Our troops captured a machine gun and considerable ammunition."

GERMAN SUBMARINE WAS BADLY DAMAGED

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—The German submarine U15 has arrived at Esbjerg, in Denmark, on the North Sea, badly damaged. The cause of the vessel's injury is not known.

MAKE DR. STRUTHERS COMPENSATION OFFICER

Appointment of Chief Medical Inspector in Administration of New Act.

The workmen's compensation commission announced last evening that Dr. W. E. Struthers of Toronto has been appointed chief medical officer for the commission. His duties will begin next week, and he will at once make arrangements for a proper medical staff to co-operate with the commissioners in administering the act.

It is as yet unsettled whether the system will be central, comprising several men, or whether the medical work will be carried on by accepting the services of doctors in different provincial centres as occasion demands. In the latter case a local doctor would attend an injured person and submit a report to be examined at the head office in this city.

Dr. Struthers is well known in Toronto, having served since 1911 as chief medical inspector for the board of education. He was born in Kincardine and was educated at Toronto University.

SCOTTISH FISHERMEN FEARING STARVATION

Closing of Firth of Forth is Causng Great Consternation.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—An order issued by the admiralty yesterday that the whole fishing fleet in the Firth of Forth, Scotland, cease operations, has been received with consternation by a thousand fishermen, who face ruin.

The population also is excited, as the people believe the prices of fish will advance beyond the reach of the poor, whose principal food is fish.

The Firth probably will be closed to fishing until the end of the war.

POSSE NOT BLAMED FOR KILLING INDIAN

Canadian Press Despatch.

PEMBROKE, Ont., Dec. 7.—Coroner Josephs and a jury held an inquest today at Golden Lake into the death of Anthony Jocko, the fugitive Indian murderer, who was mortally wounded by a rifle bullet fired at him by one of four men who were hunting him near Round Lake on Saturday.

The verdict exonerated whoever shot Jocko. The four men who rounded him up were Messrs. Eno and Wade of Killaloe, and the Ruddy brothers of Round Lake.

The Right Way To Strike a Match

Once in a while we have complaints about our matches breaking in two. This is no fault of the match, as Eddy's Matches are made from specially selected straight grained wood only. For the benefit of those who are still in ignorance as to the proper way to hold a match (and there are many) we give the following directions:

The forefinger of the right hand should be placed over the tip of the match, and withdrawn quickly when the flame comes. This prevents any undue leverage on the match, and instinct prevents one getting one's fingers burned.

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HOLLAND WILL LOAN WHEAT TO BELGIANS

Canadian Press Despatch.

ROTTERDAM, via London, Dec. 7.—At a meeting held here today of the Netherlands Cabinet, attended by Charge d'Affaires Langhorne and Capt. T. F. Lucey of the Belgian relief commission, the government consented to loan and deliver 10,000 tons of wheat, valued at $1,000,000, to be used at once in Belgium, at such points where the danger of starvation is most acute.

STRANDED WARSHIP HAS BEEN RELEASED

Canadian Press Despatch.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.—A despatch to the Maritime Exchange from its station at Lewes, Del., say that a telephone message at 12.58 p.m., from Ocean City, Md., reported that the warship which had been grounded off that place had proceeded seaward.

A 45-mile gale was blowing and the weather was very thick, therefore it was impossible to learn the identity of the ship.

PRIEST AND MONKS SLAIN IN MONASTERY

Canadian Press Despatch.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Petrograd, says: "The Germans have destroyed the monastery of Lenozyca, about 15 miles northwest of Lodz, which has been in existence for 1000 years on the pretext that the ringing of the Angelus was a signal to the Russians. In the attack a priest and two monks were killed."

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SWEDISH STEAMERS ARE REPORTED SUNK

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—A despatch from Stockholm to Reuter's Telegram Co., states that the Swedish steamers Luna and Everilda struck mines off the Finnish coast, and that both steamers sank. The crew of the Luna was saved, but all seamen aboard the Everilda except one man, were lost.

O'Keefe's PILSENER LAGER

"JOHN BULL" RETURNS TO BEER.

"What is the cause of the revival in popularity of Beer and Ale as table beverages?" asks the London "Pall Mall Gazette."

That there is a return of their ancient vogue in the restaurants of London is noted by Charles Pond, restaurant-owner. "Beer has been coming into fashion again for some time," he says, and the tendency is becoming more marked. I was dining in a West End restaurant last night and was surprised to notice how many men were drinking beer. People have found out, I suppose, that beer is one of the best and purest of foods, and realize its value as they have not before.

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