

The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 15.

Mr. Varley and Sir Adam Beck.

Our contemporary, The Evening Telegram, once more invokes its readers to vote for Dr. Cody, which is all right, on the ground of supporting the hydro-electric policy of the government, as the same fatality awaited the Beck policy in the return of a labor representative. There is no stauncher supporter of the hydro-electric policy in the legislature than Mr. Allan Stuchbelle. Public ownership is a first plank in the labor platform. Mr. Varley is a consistent supporter of public ownership policies in general and of the hydro-electric policy in particular, as every genuine labor man is. If the government cause is good, why is it necessary to misrepresent the views of labor and make false statements about Mr. Varley's policy? Is there nothing true that can be said against him that government supporters resort to the reverse of fact? Is Dr. Cody not a strong enough candidate that it is found necessary to malign his opponent? Surely Dr. Cody does not approve of this himself?

It is all the more necessary that these questions should be answered, because labor as a whole is having a standard set by the action of the government and Dr. Cody. If the government and Dr. Cody resort to falsification the effect is very grave on large numbers of people, who judge not by what is professed, but what is actually done by the government.

The attempt to discredit Mr. Varley by suggesting that the hydro-electric policy would be unsafe in his hands or in the hands of labor is wholly unwarranted. Nor does it come very well from a newspaper which is constantly impeaching individual members of the party it is now supporting for being false to the hydro-electric policy and traitors to Adam Beck. Whatever Mr. Varley may be, he is at least a faithful and unshakable supporter of public ownership, as the whole labor party is to which he belongs.

Proportional Representation Coming.

An interesting example of the efficacy of proportional representation in making friends for itself has occurred at Kalamazoo, where a form of government by elected commissioners under proportional representation has been adopted. There was the usual opposition from the conventional people averse from changing old plans for better ones. One gentleman was particularly energetic in his denunciations of the system, which he believed to be a bad, a scheme, a device to elect undesirable people, and he was resolved to head a movement to have the "P. R." clause in the city charter revoked. He also drew up a ticket of the seven men who he thought should be elected as commissioners.

His astonishment may be imagined when after the election he discovered that six of his ticket were elected. He had honestly picked out the best men in his opinion, and the people had largely agreed with him. Under the proportional representation system of voting they had a chance to vote for the men they wanted and they did.

This feature of proportional representation is its complete justification. It needs no other recommendation. It elects the best men. It abolishes party machines and gives the people a free hand. We hope Mr. Norman Sommerville is correct when he said the government had adopted all the practical planks in Mr. Varley's platform. It is the best and most practicable of all.

The London Times says that its general adoption cannot be long delayed, and it will be another feather in the cap of Ontario if the government which so wisely extended the franchise will now install the purest and freest system of voting that has been devised.

The War is Our First Business.

Hon. Mr. Rowell confined himself in his remarks at Newcastle, last night to a survey of the war situation as it recently passed under his observation at the front. There is nothing more important than the war to any of us at present, and it is but natural that Mr. Rowell should report what he saw and heard about the Canadian forces. What he saw was evidently sufficient to prepare him for the news of the great offensive in which the Canadians took part in the last week or so.

General Currie, he said, was everywhere recognized as one of the outstanding generals which the war has produced, and he bespoke for him the gratitude of the Canadian people for the services he is rendering. Both for himself and for the forces he represents. Canadian appreciation will be hearty and unmeasured.

Mr. Rowell spoke particularly of the auxiliary forces of the railway.

troops, whose record is unique; of the forestry corps, which has set new standards for Europe; of the army medical services, which are unsurpassed.

He paid tribute also to the United States troops, whose "entrance makes a decisive victory possible," and finally he called attention to the success that has attended the constitution of the supreme war court which sits at Versailles and decrees defeat for the crumb of the German empire.

The address is a timely and felicitous summary of the war situation, and may help to remind many who may have forgotten that the war is still our first business.

Submarines at New York.

At the very gates of New York harbor, in the Ambrose Channel, a German submarine sank a large oil tanker on Tuesday night. The German minister of marine is at his wits' end to do something with his submarines, and to make some showing when called on to report to the Kaiser. He can do nothing in the North Sea, nor in the English Channel. It is highly dangerous to go into St. George's Channel or the Irish Sea. Attacks on convoys of oil tankers have not yielded satisfactory results, and the statement by Mr. Bonar Law that 150 German submarines had been destroyed, although indignantly denied by the German authorities, is the real explanation of the loss of the oil tanker at New York.

In default of making good use of their time in European waters the U-boats have crossed the Atlantic to see if they could pick up any crumbs of comfort for their discredited backers in Berlin. The result will be the organization of the American patrols in a similar fashion to what has stopped the U-boat activity in European waters. When they have to cross the Atlantic to get a chance, it will be seen that the Germans cannot claim much success for their submarines.

Relief in Britain.

People who have not been in Britain have no idea of the strain to which the whole nation has been subjected there for four years past. As time went on the rigors of the condition increased rather than diminished. Voluntary enlistment gave way to the draft system. Compulsory rationing followed. Rationing of food came along, and an abstinence which would be regarded as heroic in ordinary times became the rule for daily practice. Shortage of fuel, darkened streets and houses, and limitations of every description in clothing, in traveling, in work and in play, were imposed and accepted as a necessity of the case. The burdens of taxation have also been heavy to bear, but there has been more wisdom in dealing with the cost of living than on this side of the Atlantic.

The British papers to hand are full of the revelation of feeling that has occurred as a result of General Foch's successful drive, and of the arrival of the American armies. At the announcement that there were a million Americans in France the British Isles breathed a sigh of relief. Some of the burdens have already been lifted. For the last two years holidays were forbidden. Now the government is recommending people to take a vacation, as those who have had some holidays are less liable to attacks of influenza which has been prevalent. Week-ends, however, is still forbidden, as far as possible, to avoid congested traffic, and people are taking to mid-week excursions.

Anxiety as to the main staples of food is now past, and the pork butchers are once more doing a roaring—or is it a squealing—business. To all this the United States has contributed tremendously, and her million, which is steadily growing, gives the British people good hope and good heart to carry on, till the end. It is improbable that anyone in the world could or would have faced the last four years had they known what was in store. But they went thru it, a day at a time. For what remains the same policy must serve. A day at a time will carry us to victory and to the great peace that will establish the principles for which we have contended.

A GOLF STORY.

Clergyman, playing on St. Andrew's links for the first time (to caddy): What is that yawning abyss in the distance, caddy?
Caddy: That's hell, sir.
Clergyman: Indeed! What a name to give a bunker.
Caddy: Ye see, sir, it's called hell because yince ye get in ye canna get out.
Clergyman plays and lands in the bunker, then calls for his niblick and plays a good shot out of the hazard.
Clergyman: What have you got to say to that, now?
Caddy: A' that I have to say, sir, is: When ye dee tak yer niblick w' ye.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO HARVESTERS.

There is every probability that Harvesters' Excursions to Western Canada after August 22nd will be canceled. Those intending to go west should leave on the first excursion. Dates of sale from Toronto and east and north August 20th; from Toronto and west and south August 22nd.

Canadian Northern Railway special trains leave Toronto Union Station 10.00 p.m., August 20 and 22.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

LAUGHTER.

Laughter is a cure for strife. Gives a greater zest to life. Helps us bear the heaviest loads. Eases off the roughest roads. Softens sorrow, lightens care. Makes a gloomy moment fair. Dries and drives away our tears. Guards us from our greatest fears. Wherefore, friend of mine, I pray, Seize on laughter when you may!

Other People's Opinions

Land Tax and the Housing Problem.

Editor World: May we ask you for space to publish the following statement of our solution of the housing problem, as presented before the board of control?

The question of housing involves the buying of land, the erecting of buildings and the return which the capitalist will get for his money. Owing to the fact that the assessment department of Toronto is years behind the age, they have persistently twisted the Assessment Act in order to penalize the erection of houses, especially small houses, by assessing them from 75 to 100 per cent. of their value, while assessing land, especially vacant land, on a basis of from 25 to 50 per cent. of its value, while our present tax rate of 30 1/2 mills on the dollar practically confiscates about four months' rental of the property. The effect of this policy has been to make land artificially dear and houses artificially unprofitable, with the natural result that houses are very scarce.

The remedy that we propose is based upon a reversal of the above misuse of the Assessment Act, which was intended as a means for producing revenues, not for the purpose of penalizing industries. For the immediate relief of the situation we propose that the city lease its own land to builders on a rental basis of 5 per cent. of the value, and that the city, as landlord, agree with its tenants to pay whatever taxes the city levies upon the improvements. This would amount to a virtual exemption from taxation of the improvements in a way which the city, as landlord, could obviously do. This would grant immediate temporary relief. Our other proposal is of a fundamental character and could not be put into operation until next year, but the mere fact that it would have an immediate tendency to help the situation. Our plan is the same as that adopted by Pastoriza, the late mayor of Buenos Aires, and is to assess the land at about 80 per cent. of its value, the improvements at 10 per cent. of their value. If this was done, the city would have an increased assessment of land values amounting to nearly one hundred millions of dollars, and we would have an exemption of improvements of two hundred millions of dollars, necessitating a reduction of taxes of about seven mills. This would have the effect of compelling the owners of vacant land now very much under-assessed to build, and in a way which, a very powerful incentive to make them either improve their properties or sell at a reasonable price to someone who would do so, while the low assessment of the improvements would be an additional inducement to the building.

We are perfectly well aware of the fact that this is something that the Assessment Act at present makes no provision for, and that it is the duty of the city to make provision for the systematic under-assessment of land which has gone on in the city for the last fifteen years, and as apparently the interpretation of the act is left to the assessor, what we suggest is that the city council direct the assessor to interpret the act to discourage land speculation and to encourage industry, instead of, as in the past, perverting the act to act as a hindrance to industry.

If this is done, the housing problem will be solved without the city being called on to furnish either money or credit for the purpose, and in a way too, which will greatly stimulate the ownership of individual houses, and check the tendency to the building of apartment houses.

Allan C. Thompson.

Single Tax Association of Ontario.

From Canadian Papers

The Poor Native-Born.

Guelph Herald: We do strange things in Canada. The aliens, whose restaurants were speckled in Toronto, will no doubt be compensated, but the native-born Canadian, whose head was broken by a policeman's club, will be left to pay his own doctor's bill.

What Conservation Does.

Calgary Herald: Thru conservation we have saved in the past year 75,000,000 pounds of meat and 240,000 barrels of flour, all of which has been shipped to the allies. That is very good for a people who do not yet know what real sacrifice means.

Why They Are Popular.

London Free Press: King George of England and King Victor Emmanuel of Italy have the characteristics and manner of our kings popular today. They are modest, frank, sympathetic, in fact, they are democrats.

Their Rhine Army.

Kingston Whig: The Huns are now preparing a force of half a million men, not to take the offensive, but to stand back of the Rhine and prevent an invasion of Germany. Nothing could more clearly prove that the tide of battle has at last definitely turned in the allies' favor.

The Drunken Chauffeur.

Calgary Herald: A fine of \$25 and costs does not seem enough to assess a man in charge of an automobile while drunk. Such a driver imperils the lives of his customers and the public generally. His fine should be so stiff that it would serve to deter others from similar criminal foolishness.

Cheering News.

London Advertiser: It is doubtful if the news from the front will be more cheering to the allied people than the U.S. crop reports. With rains for the next few weeks, it is possible that the grain of the allied neighbor to the south will exceed all present expectations in production.

THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

Ruth Unsuccessfully Attempts Keeping House.

CHAPTER X.

Ruth repeated her little speech about changing the paper, as they walked slowly back to the hotel. Brian flushed, looked uneasy, then finally said:

"We'll do it after a while. But we can stand it for a little bit. Anything better than living in that hotel, spending all I can earn, and getting nothing for it."

It flashed across Ruth's mind that Brian had the same answer for everything. He would do it—something in the future. She wondered when, then, dismissed the thought as unloyal.

They spent the next day buying the necessary furniture, so that they could move right in. With unerring taste, Ruth obstinately refused to have anything but the simplest, the most unpretentious furniture.

"We will either have to give it away or sell it pretty soon," she said when Brian, lacking in artistic sense, would have her buy the more ornate pieces when the price was the same, "and then, too, it will be more appropriate to the rooms."

"All right! I told you you should fix them as you liked," Brian returned with condescension.

As she liked! Ruth could have screamed with laughter. Why, she could not have had one single thing she wanted. Then she looked at Brian. Tall, virile, handsome. He was very scarce.

She ought to be ashamed to feel as she did. Surely, he would soon be able to give her all she had been accustomed to, and to sending for old Rachel? To tell the truth, Ruth had shed tears several times from sheer loneliness, and the desire for her old nanny.

But finally they had all the absolutely necessary things with which to begin housekeeping. So, on Wednesday morning, they set up their Larches and Penates in the five-room flat, and proceeded to take up the serious business of home-making.

Ruth struggled and toiled, to make the place what she considered livable. She knew nothing of cooking, and the first few days she spoiled the food and burned her hands. Brian, worried over expenses, badly fed, developed a spirit of fault-finding which finally got on Ruth's nerves to such a degree that she went to bed, and sent for the janitress.

"I can't cook a decent thing! I don't blame my husband. No one could eat the things I have offered him," she wailed.

"It's sorry I am, I ain't got the time to learn to cook. I have them books, now, that tells you everything to do."

Ruth had not thought of a cook book. Her own books, experts, had come out of the door, and she would get them back. But she would get them back. But she would get them back.

One at once, she at least could get some directions. So she jumped up and dressed for the street before she remembered she had but 50 cents in her pocket.

"Oh, I forgot to ask for some money!" she exclaimed.

"Can let you have a dollar?" he said. "I'll give it back to you as soon as my husband comes home," and, tucking the dollar bill in her purse, she started out.

When she returned, she carried a book under her arm. It was nearly dinner time, and she was tired. But she hurriedly slipped out of her street clothes into one of her simplest negligees—which, simple as it was, looked terribly out of place in the dimly lit kitchen—and started her dinner.

At half past six, when Brian came in, Ruth was almost exhausted. Brian, who had been waiting for her, had selected some simple ways of cooking her meat and vegetables, a rice pudding for dessert. As she followed the directions faithfully, they were all well cooked, and really deserved the praise Brian bestowed.

"You tell me a famous cook in no time," he told her as he kissed her flushed face. He had noticed that she ate nothing, and that, when they rose from the table, she carried the dishes to the kitchen to be washed.

"Perhaps, but I doubt it," she had returned. "I have a new recipe, but to do anything really well—to become famous, as you say—one must like their job. And I hate housework. I hate cooking! I hate every single thing about it!"

"You'll feel different after you have learned how. No one likes to do things they are unfamiliar with," he had been surprised at her vehemence, but was interested in something he was reading, so paid no further attention.

Ruth carried the dishes out, then stood a moment looking at him reading his paper so comfortably. Without a word, she went down stairs and asked Mrs. Murphy if she would come up and wash her dinner things.

"If just cannot do it! I am so tired," she told her. And Mrs. Murphy agreed to come up in a few minutes, altho she didn't know how she was to spare the time.

"Brian, give me a dollar. Mrs. Murphy let me have one today to buy a cook book. She is coming up to clear away for me, and I want to return it."

Tomorrow—Brian tells Ruth what he earns. They plan to use it to advantage.

NEWS OF LABOR

TELEPHONE OPERATORS ORGANIZE A UNION

The telephone operators to the number of 600 have organized at the Labor Temple, and the charter is on its way. A committee from the new union is drafting an agreement and wage schedule which will be presented to A. J. Watson, divisional traffic superintendent of the Bell Telephone Co., shortly. In this agreement the girls ask for one Saturday off in every third instead of to every fourth as at present.

FOLLIES OF THE PASSING SHOW—By Mitchell

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CHARLES MITCHELL

THE CRITIC ON THE HEARTH

present. They are also asking for better wages, with a minimum of at least \$12. If the company refuses to accept the agreement as drafted the girls will ask for the appointment of a board of conciliation under the Industrial Disputes Act.

CARPENTERS VERY BUSY.

John Cottam, secretary of the district council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, stated yesterday afternoon that business was so brisk in the trade that a single member of the union was out of employment. The standard wage was 65 cents an hour. Mr. Cottam said that the union was seriously considering the advisability of appointing two new traveling business agents. If this was done there would be five business agents and a secretary at work in the interests of the union. This was an example of the present rush of business all along the line.

WILL REPORT SUNDAY.

The deposition which recently conferred with R. J. Fleming of the Toronto Street Railway relative to the question of irregular schedules and other grievances of the employees of the company will report their findings to the regular meeting of the board of directors to be held on Sunday afternoon.

STREET CLEANERS SATISFIED.

Street cleaners everywhere express themselves as quite satisfied with the findings of the crown commission recently appointed to investigate into their grievances. They are especially pleased with the recommendation to place the temporary men upon the same footing as the permanent men as regards holidays and other privileges.

ALL SHOPS ACCEPT.

With one small exception all shops in the shoe trade have accepted the agreements drafted by the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union. Trade is generally brisk, and the prospects for the future are bright.

FULL MILITARY HONORS FOR LATE LIEUT. COX

Full military honors were accorded when the funeral of the late Flight Lieutenant, William J. Cox took place yesterday afternoon from his former residence, 244 East Queen street. The military escort was furnished by the Royal Air Force. Rev. Dr. Isaac Tovell conducted the service. The remains of the young officer, who was accidentally killed at Tangmar Camp, Sussex, Eng., arrived in Toronto on Tuesday of this week. The accident which resulted in his death occurred on June 28 last, and was due to the engine of his airplane becoming stalled. At the time of his enlistment he was with the Illinois Contingent, Company of Chicago. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Cox, and one sister, Miss Winnie Cox.

LIGHTS FOR EXHIBITION.

If power can be spared, the city hall will be lighted during Exhibition time, as well as all the streets south of King leading to the grounds. The property commissioner has been instructed to arrange the details.

Changed in Strength Only

THOUGH the Government's regulations have compelled us to make lighter beers, the quality, taste and purity of O'Keefe's brews remain unchanged. The same model brewery produces them—the same sanitary conditions are observed—and the same cleanliness in manufacture insisted on.

Are changed slightly—in strength only. As thirst quenchers and refreshing, invigorating stimulants, O'Keefe's touch the spot. Mild, light and pleasant, they are ideal as summer beverages.

O'Keefe's modern products are made under the same ideal conditions of cleanliness and sanitation and by the same staff of competent brewers who previously made the name O'Keefe famous. These brews are just as close to our heavier beverages as it is possible to make them under the Government's regulations.

When dining at hotels, restaurants, or cafes ask for O'Keefe's. Order by the case from your grocer.

O'Keefe's "O.K." Brand and York Springs Ginger Ales on sale at all hotels, restaurants, and refreshment stands.

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Canada Food Board L-15-102