The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 25.

Take Over the Canadian Nickel Companies First.

The Globe (as reprinted on this page) commends the United States Government for seizing a number of the big metal firms in that country suspected of being under German ownership and control, and it observes that the press despatches announce that these enemy concerns have ramifications in Canada. The Globe apparently takes it for granted that the tentacles of the all-powerful German metal trust reach into the nickel mines of Ontario and have been powerful enough to transfer nickel from Canada to the enemy during the war. But it has nothing better to suggest than that our government should in some way co-operate with the government of the United States and we are told:

> The official American statement that the Germanic group operating in the United States has ramifications extending to Canada should mean prompt co-operative action by the Canadian Government.

Our neighbor then meanders into a discussion of the dye industry, which it hopes to see established on a firm basis in Great Britain after the war. The appalling news from Washington which means the proof beyond question that Canada has unwittingly furnished material for the destruction of her own soldiers, is more or less glossed over with platitudinous counsels for the conservation of basic materials by the entente allies during the reconstruction period. Canada is merely to "institute co-operative proceedings" of some kind or another.

All of which might or might not be stepping down a scandalous situation with words and words, and still more words. We have no doubt that if Hon. Wallace Nesbitt were asked what Canada should do with the nickel situation he would counsel diplomatic correspondence with the American Government. No doubt the Mond Company would suggest referring the whole subject to the British ambassador at Washington. We prefer not to be guided by either authority or to pick our path by the fitful light that wavers from The Globe. We want action and we want it now.

The time has come for a showdown. Canada must set her own house in order and do it in her own way. The nickel of Canada is in Canada and nobody can get it out without the aid and consent of the Canadian Government. Mr. Wilson may intercept Canadian nickel on its way to Germany, but the primary responsibility is upon the government of Sir Robert Borden of what becomes of every ounce of nickel that is taken out of Canadian soil.

There is one thing to do and that should have been done four years ago. The Government of Canada must take absolute possession and control of the nickel mines and nickel plants of Canada. There is no need of co-operative action with the United States, but we have no doubt that President Wilson has information about Canadian nickel which, if published in this country, would cause something like a revolution. We have no doubt that he can furnish facts to the Ottawa Government which would justify it in taking any action, and cause the nickel companies to submit to any action without protest.

We desire no injustice done to any stockholders of any nickel company or any bonafide owner of nickel-bearing lands. Let the government take possession of all these nickel mines and plants, run them for the period of the war and settle on a fair basis with all innocent loyal stockholders. We have been humbugged long enough.

How The World and W. F. Maclean, M.P., were denounced and lampooned for saying that Canadian nickel was finding its way to Germany! Now every child knows that it is true. How we were laughed at for suggesting that Germany controlled the great metal concerns of the United States! But nobody today is laughing at President Wilson. Australia crushed beneath her heel the German snake in her zinc mines. But Canada displays no such courage in dealing with her great storehouses of nickel. The British Government has been enfiladed by subtle German influences, and the people of England are showing their displeasure in no uncertain way. German influence, disguised, but still Germanic, has bedeviled Canadian politics and befuddled the governments at Ottawa and Toronto for the past eighteen years.

Thank God, we have President Wilson to save us from ourselves! Except for him Canadian nickel would still today be finding its way to Germany. But are we to throw the burden upon him of protecting Canada when the nickel is in our own country, in our own soil, under our own jurisdiction? Let the government act with courage and expedition. Under the recent ruling of the supreme court it has all the plenary powers of parliament. By an order-in-council let it take possession of all the nickel plants, nickel mines and nickel-bearing lands of Canada. Let it investigate the sordid, shocking story of the past four years—but take possession first. The time is past for soft sawder, rounded sentences that mean nothing in particular and platitudinous counsels that make for delay. Let there be an investigation no matter what heads now held high are leveled to the dust. But take the mines, take the plants and take the nickel-bearing lands of Canada first.

The London Times, in an editorial deliverance which echoes around the world, declares that "a sweeping overhauling of Premier Lloyd George's whole administrative machine is the first condition of any appeal to the country." This means, as we take it, that the German commercial and social influences that have insidiously enfeebled and even corrupted British public life must be destroyed root and branch, and that certain men of high station in Britain must be ostracized, if not interned, for the balance of this war. We need not name them nor attempt to decide how far they have been unwittingly misled. Suffice it to say that an aroused and enraged public opinion in England today demands that the German metal trust and every other pro-German force in England be stamped out and destroyed. The apologists and spokesmen of the German metal trust will no longer be tolerated in the mother country. Canada must seize her priceless nickel resources, must guard them with unflagging zeal and must pillory the men, if any there be in our public life, who have, thru treachery or stupidity, played Germany's game in this Dominion.

The Housing Proposals.

A correspondent has suggested that the limit of $2500, placed by the government on the value of a house to be built under the conditions of the provincial loan of $2,000,000 for the improvement of housing, was a maximum and not a minimum, as he thought was our impression. We had the correct impression: $2500 was a maximum limit, but our experience leads us to believe that the borrowers will go the limit every time. We did not think it necessary to argue the point, but is it not obvious that for the same type of house the cost in Toronto will be entirely different from the cost in Brampton, Brantford, Kitchener, Galt or London? We think the maximum price should have been set according to the population of the municipality where the money is to be used. For places of 2000 population a limit of $1000 would probably be high enough for the class of house to be built. In such places $2500 might be perhaps the value of the most expensive house in the place. In places of 2000 or under, $800; 5000, $1000; 10,000, $1250; 25,000, $1500; 50,000, $1750; 100,000, $2000; over 100,000, $2500, might be adopted as a graded scale, tho we are inclined to think that $2000 would be a high enough maximum even in Toronto.

The report of Commissioner Bradshaw on the Toronto Housing Company's policy of raising rents justifies the action of the company. We have no fault to find with this, but regard it as a cogent argument against the policy of building houses to rent. Houses built by municipalities, directly or indirectly, should be built for sale to approved artisans, mechanics, civic employes or others to whom the use of capital is an advantage and would be impossible without assistance. The aim of housing movements should be to stabilize and improve the position of the worker class. When such a house is bought it leaves another free for rent, and the tenant class, another property owning class, are satisfied.

Scotland, with twice the population of Ontario, has undertaken to build 100,000 houses. The government scheme, if the houses are worth $2500, will provide 1000 houses. At an average of $1250 each we would have 2000 houses. We need 10,000 houses in Toronto alone. But the government has done well in making a start.

Investigate the Nickel Trust.

(Editorial Toronto Globe, July 24.)

Official announcement from Washington that German control of the metal industry in America has been wiped out by "the seizure of several of the largest metal concerns in the United States, with ramifications in South America, Mexico, and Canada," will be received with satisfaction and approval thruout the civilized world. Whatever may or may not be the post-bellum reconstruction policy of the allied nations, it is clear that they could never permit the Germanic group again to control the world's metals. National security depends largely upon this policy, especially as regards basic steel and other metals entering into the composition of armaments.

This is not a policy affecting free trade or protection. It is an essential matter of national preservation. It is vital to the security of civilization that the allied powers control the sources of supply within their jurisdiction. In taking immediate and wholesale action the United States blazes a trail which should be followed without delay by all the other allied nations. The official American statement that the Germanic group operating in the United States has ramifications extending into Canada should mean prompt co-operative action by the Canadian Government. The attention of both provincial and Dominion Governments has previously been directed, on the public platform, in the press, and on the floor of the houses, to the alleged control by the German Metal Gesellschaft of Frankfort of metal-producing corporations in Ontario as well as in other provinces of Canada. It has more than once been publicly alleged that Canadian nickel in the early days of the war was finding its way to Germany thru these channels. But ministers of the crown, both at Ottawa and Toronto, contented themselves with denials and inaction.

The official investigation by the United States, resulting in ominous disclosures, and followed immediately by drastic action, should cause Dominion and provincial authorities in Canada to waste no further time. They should institute co-operative proceedings, in order that the ramifications found to have extended into Canada may similarly be dealt with.

The allied nations of the world must assure themselves against any renewal of Germanic military menace by securing and maintaining control of all sources of supply in metals, chemicals, dyes, and other commodities over which they have national jurisdiction. The British Government, it is already announced, is planning to organize with a fifteen-billion dollar capitalization a national corporation for the manufacture of dyes to meet conditions which will arise after the war is won. The United States has taken over the great metal concerns operating in that country. These are vastly important steps to insure the preservation of the peace for which the allies today are fighting, and will doubtless likewise prove to be a sound economic policy of industrial development.

Other People's Opinions

Coal Hoarding.

Editor World: Seeing your item on the coal situation in our city, I feel we owe you a vote of thanks. There is no doubt that the scarcity of coal is alarming, and the sooner something is done the better. One only needs to go around and see some of the retail dealers' supply to see the present cornering of coal that exists in our city. One yard will appear empty, while either across the street or next door another dealer will have carloads in stock holding it until the prices rise or until the poor consumer has to haul or pay for hauling it himself. Then ask some of these dealers what is the reason and they will tell you the whole trouble is with the fuel controller. The coal is shipped into Canada, and one or two big wholesalers control it and they deal it out according to their own gain. What we need is a fuel controller that is alive to the situation, not one who is sending out circulars to the people to conserve the coal, but one who will see that the coal is equally distributed thruout and not allowed to accumulate in the coal yards, there to lie until the people are half frozen and the prices have advanced double. Where has Fuel Controller Harris done to see that all dealers have been treated alike? If you don't distribute your supply to the dealers properly, how on earth do they expect the poor consumer to get his share? I am told by some dealers that there is plenty of coal in the city, but it is cornered by one or two big companies, and until these companies are brought to time and all dealers treated alike the people will suffer and freeze. I have been a resident of the east end of the city for several years, dealing with the one dealer all the time, but have had the same experience that several others have had, that is, that no orders are being taken.

O. G. R.

If this correspondent will inform the fuel administrator for Ontario at the city hall where coal is being hoarded by dealers action will be taken at once. There is not the slightest use making statements that cannot be verified.—Ed. World.

MANY ARRESTS MADE FOR CONTRACT FRAUDS

Washington, July 24.—Fraud and gross profiteering has been uncovered in many contracts for army shoes, shirts, leggings, overcoats and other soldiers' supplies and equipment, as a result of an investigation by army intelligence and department of justice agents, it was learned today.

New York, July 24.—Additional arrests resulting from the government investigation into alleged graft in army contracts were made here today. Four employes of the C. Kenyon Company of Brooklyn, one of the country's largest rubber manufacturers, were taken into custody charged with attempting to pass off on the government army raincoats which had been rejected as defective by army inspectors.

The Kenyon Company has three plants in Brooklyn, to one of which the authorities declared large quantities of rejected raincoats were sent and placed with goods already approved by the federal inspectors.

HOLIDAYS AT MUSKOKA LAKES.

The Muskoka Lakes hold a commanding place among the summer playgrounds of this continent. In addition to the beauties of the island-studded waters, there are pine-scented forests, laughing streams and waterfalls. Against the steep woodlands nestle pretty cottages, hotels and summer villas, Muskoka having more than seventy resort houses offering accommodation to the visitor. Everywhere in these lakes there is good bathing, fishing and boating, while golf, tennis and other recreations may be enjoyed. Illustrated descriptive literature and all particulars may be had on application to any Grand Trunk Agent, or to C. E. Horning, D.P.A., Toronto, Ont.

MUCH WHEAT STORED.

Nearly Three Hundred Million Bushels Collected in Australia.

Washington, July 24.—Nearly 300,000,000 bushels of wheat is stored in Australia, the food administration was informed today. Details of the guarantees surrounding 1915-1919 wheat harvest in Australia also were transmitted. The Australian Government has guaranteed 83 cents per bushel, and to this the commonwealth has added 12 cents, making the price 95 cents to the producer. In Buenos Aires the cash price for wheat is $1.44 per bushel. Cash corn is selling there for 62 cents per bushel.

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

THE HUMOROUS PHILOSOPHER.

Time is a vast, inexorable Hen,
And each new day a nice fresh egg, new-laid,
That's placed each day before all living men,
From which some new refection may be made;
And each man takes his egg in his own way,
And uses it with foolishness or wit—
For me, I fondly hope, and ever pray,
Whate'er I do I shall not scramble it.

The Woman Who Changed

BY JANE PHELPS.

A Pleasant Surprise.

CHAPTER CXLII.

The morning mail was, as usual, laid beside George's plate at breakfast. He glanced thru it, then tossed one thick envelope over to me.

"An invitation to something!" he remarked as he picked up the morning paper.

"Why—it is! Look!" I handed it to him. "It isn't an invitation; it's an announcement. Julia Collins married that Chicago man yesterday."

"Sensible girl, not to have any fuss over it," he said as he took the engraved sheet from me. "So many widows aren't satisfied unless they go thru the same performance, the second time they are married, that they did the first. But Julia always had perfect taste in all such things. I hope she will be happy with this chap. She wasn't happy with Collins. He was a cad."

"Perhaps that was what made her so cynical at times?" I said, ready to make excuses for her, now that I no longer feared her.

"I shouldn't wonder. I see they are going to live in Chicago."

"Yes—Madge Loring will miss her dreadfully. They are inseparable."

"She will be missed all round," then, "I wish you liked Mrs. Loring better, Helen. She is a charming woman, and would be company for you, I feel that you are too much alone for one so young. Mrs. Reeves can't be with you all the time."

Helen Makes a Promise.

"I know she can't, altho I should like to have her. She is so sweet, George, when you know her well, and so sensible. She talks almost like Mrs. Sexton, at times. But I will try to like Mrs. Loring; I expect I disliked her principally because she knew more than I did."

"That's a brave thing to say," George looked up quickly, "not many women would acknowledge it."

"Not many women are George Howard's wife," I laughed, to hide my pleasure in his remark.

"I hope not! I'm not at all inclined to polygamy. But I am in earnest about Madge Loring. If you learn to know her, you will like her."

"So Mrs. Sexton told me. By the way, George, she is very ill. She thinks she is going to die."

"She has been ill for years. She is the bravest soul I know. I imagine, Helen, that when you first met her, as well as others of our set, that you thought, because they were society people—charming hostesses—past masters in the art of pleasing—that they were soulless. A woman does not necessarily lack the other virtues because she is born to a social position which requires that she be tactful and attractive—altho that seems to be the opinion of many good people." He stopped a moment, then, "I am sorry about Mrs. Sexton. I will order some flowers sent to her—no, I will send them here, and you take the car and go over with them. She will appreciate the attention, even tho she may be too ill to see you. I will drop her a note from the office."

George was always that way. He always did the nice thing. I must learn to be as thoughtful as he, I thought, as I watched him from the window.

A Wedding Gift.

"Shall we send Mrs. Collins a gift?" I asked George, that night, at dinner.

"Yes. I have known Julia all my life. What shall we send?"

It was very unusual for him to defer to me. Generally he did what he thought best about things.

"I saw a wonderful oval mirror in Harrington's, yesterday. I never saw a lovelier thing. It was expensive; but not too much so for you to give her, under the circumstances." (I could afford to be generous; she was to live in Chicago!)

"How much?"

"One hundred and fifty dollars. But it was exquisite."

"I'll look in at it, in the morning. If I like it, we won't look further."

It was the constant recurrence of little things like this, that made me happier than I ever had been since I married George. He was beginning to treat me more as an equal, instead of as a child who needed either teaching or punishment. Of course, it wasn't all sunshine even now. But the clouds were lighter—were more easily brushed aside with the passing of time.

George looked at the mirror and telephoned that he liked it immensely, and asked me to see that it was sent, with a card enclosed. I was delighted that he approved my taste. But it was a really lovely thing, and I had been sure he would like it.

Madge Loring came into the store while I was attending to it, and was so nice that I took her home in the car. I was determined, now, to make my husband's friends my friends, if it were possible.

"This is very good of you," Mrs. Loring said as we rode along, "I had expected to walk home."

"It is good in you to allow me to set you down." I returned, then, before we separated, we made an engagement to lunch together the next week.

Tomorrow—A Long Talk.

DISCUSS HOUSE PROBLEM.

It was decided at the meeting of the board of control yesterday that, in view of the urgency of the housing problem, a joint meeting with the board of health will be held next Wednesday to discuss plans for building more houses.

FOLLIES OF THE PASSING SHOW—By Mitchell

DEFINITIONS

Love—The feeling a chorus girl has when she discovers her admirer is a millionaire

ALLIES KEEP PRESSING GERMANS BACKWARD

Paris, July 24.—Each day's operations bring forth further proof of the completeness with which the genius of Gen. Foch has turned the tables on the Germans. Instead of slowing down to a condition of what has been called stabilization, as the general public from experience expected, the allies continue to push forward in the face of determined and skilful resistance by the Germans, who had had time to recover from the first shock of surprise.

The enemy, according to reports, now has 35 divisions in the battle zone, 400,000 men of which are in the region north of the Marne. In the opinion of military observers the violent German resistance is due more to political considerations, for it is to the immediate interests of Gen. Ludendorff, from a military standpoint, to straighten out his line without delay.

Gen. Foch holds the initiative on all the battlefronts, and, it is believed, it will take the Germans at least two or three months to get up another full dress offensive.

Meanwhile, American troops continue to land.

ORENBURG ABANDONED.

Amsterdam, July 24.—Soviet troops have definitely abandoned the City of Orenburg, capital of the Russian province of the same name, carrying off all the valuables they could seize. A new government has been formed, under the leadership of Gen. Dotoff. A hunger revolution has broken out in the cities of Jaroslav, Rybinsk, Ljubin and Unglitch, according to Moscow papers received here.

Canadian Army Corps Praised As Most Formidable in Armie

Ottawa, July 24.—The high standing won by the Canadian army corps at the front is the subject of reference in a letter which Lieut.-Col. Hugh Clark, parliamentary under-secretary for external affairs, has received from Sir Robert Borden. Sir Robert, in the course of his letter, says:

"You will be glad to know that the Canadian army corps is universally recognized as the most effective and formidable force of its numbers in any of the belligerent armies. As to this, there is no question in the mind of any man who has spoken to me on the subject."

WE ARE PROVING IT CAN BE DONE

Men and women are daily discovering a most delightful beverage in the Imperial brew. They have found that, while meeting all legal requirements, a well-brewed hop and malt ale, lager or stout is pleasantly invigorating, stimulating and agreeable. Only sufficient alcohol is present to keep it from going flat.

O'Keefe's

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Ale - Lager - Stout

It was thought at first that the delightful flavor of O'Keefe's beers, famous for over 60 years, could not be retained without a higher percentage of alcohol. We have *proved* it can be done. Every bottle of Imperial Ale, Lager or Stout is embodied evidence that we have actually produced brews just as delicious, just as sparkling, just as refreshing as the old-time beers, yet absolutely harmless and in every way ideal for family use.

Order a case from your grocer.

At hotels, cafés or restaurants, ask for O'Keefe's.

O'Keefe's also make the very finest Ginger Ales, all flavors. For sale at your grocer's.

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666