

## The Toronto World

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THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 3.

## Early Development of Hydro Power Needed

We have frequently reverted to the hydro-electric power question in eastern Ontario and attributed the backwardness of the hydro policy in that district to the reluctance or apathy of the Dominion Government in dealing with the water powers of the Trent Valley. The dispute which has been the nominal cause of the delay was of a technical nature between the Dominion and provincial governments. This was carried to the courts in the form of a friendly suit. Sir Adam Beck stated at a meeting of the delegates representing the eastern district on Tuesday that this suit had now been settled in a way to leave the surplus water power, which the Hydro Commission desired to exploit, at the disposal of the people.

The importance of this announcement cannot be overestimated. That eastern Ontario should have similar facilities to the western end of the province means a greater movement forward for this part of the province than can easily be comprehended. It may be objected that private companies have been supplying power at low prices, but there is a vast difference between corporation quotations intended to forestall competition and the stable offer from a public commission of power at cost. The study of corporation dealings shows that low prices only continue until competition or the fear of it is extinguished. Then the prices are raised to a point which will produce all that the traffic will carry, and enough more to cover the losses while low prices prevailed. This policy does not and cannot encourage business of an extensive character. For reliable and reasonable rates the hydro policy is all the people can depend upon.

This was urgently present in the minds of the delegates when they adopted the resolution which has in it the demand of all the municipalities which have not yet been supplied with hydro-electric power. The resolution requests the government to pass such legislation as may be necessary to enable the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario on behalf of the municipalities to develop such water powers as are now under lease. This is in order to meet the requirements of the municipalities which can be supplied from such sources at a price to represent the cost, including a fair rental to the province for the water used.

It was further resolved that the Hydro Commission should be authorized to finance the development and distribution of such power.

Highly important issues are involved in this latter resolution, and we may say at once that the government should face the facts involved. At the present time the Hydro Power Commission has exceeded its contract supply of power by some 16,000 horse power, and the corporations are averse from contracting for a further supply at the previous rates. The result is that as long as the government stands in the way of the development of power at any payable head, the commission has to pay thru the nose for present needs.

There is a straight issue between the public ownership men and the corporation supporters of the government. No corporation man wishes to see the Hydro-Electric Commission any more strongly established than at present. We can go beyond this, we believe, without verging from the facts, and say that no corporation supporter of the government, whatever he may say openly, but objects to the government giving power to the Hydro Commission to do what ought to be done at once, if the people are to have a fair deal in the use of their own property. There is no use mincing matters on this issue at present. If the corporations can stifle the activities of the Hydro Commission they will gladly do so. They will do it by smooth political means if possible. They will do it in any other way that seems feasible and not too objectionable. If it can be done by raising difficulties for or thru the government that would appear to be a neat and effective way of putting a spoke in the hydro-electric wheel.

At present, owing to the delay in

developing the people's own power, the Hydro Commission is suffering from a handicap of the difference between \$9 and \$15 per horse power on every horse power that the people require over and above the 100,000 of the original contract, a consumption which the wisecracks of ten years ago declared would never reach 10,000 horse power. The difference, which means a dead loss to the commission, and a consequent pleasure to the corporationists, amounts to \$126,000 a year, which the people have to pay because the government is slow about developing its own water powers.

The government says it is war time and money cannot be had for such purposes. This may be true for the government. It is not true for the municipalities. They know they can get money on more favorable terms than the government can. They know that it will pay them to get it. Even if they had to pay the high rates that the government talks about it would profit them to pay those rates and save their \$126,000 paid out in excess cost of power. Money can be had at much lower rates than the government has been counting upon. Municipal bonds such as the Hydro Commission could handle could be sold at prices which would not greatly exceed the rates before the war. This is what is in the minds of the delegates to the meeting of the central and eastern municipalities of the province.

The government should consider the situation, and there should be no hesitation about consenting to a plan which cannot affect the government except favorably, which will benefit the people exceedingly, and which will arouse no opposition except from the corporations which are already lined up against all things hydro-electrical.

## Unpreparedness a General Policy

In a recent debate in the Imperial House of Commons Colonel Sir Hamar Greenwood followed Mr. Dillon and took up the cudgels on behalf of the war office, which he asserted had been misrepresented by the statements made, and he spoke also on behalf of the officers who were alleged not to have done their duty in various periods of the campaign.

Sir Hamar admitted there had been blunders. There had never been a war without blunders, but he would not allow that the officers should be charged with incompetence unless there was direct evidence to show that they were responsible under the circumstances. Blunders do not always originate where they appear or where their results are apparent. Nor would he allow that the war office was responsible for the sins laid against it.

"I do not know one single mistake that has been attributed to the war office that has not been due to neglect, the indifference and the antagonism of the house of commons and of successive governments who have sat on the treasury bench," he said. "There are documents piled up in the archives of the war office which will be produced after this war by officers whose mouths are now closed to stupidity or incompetence on the part of any war office official that we were short of rifles when the war broke out. Memoranda are there urging successive governments, Liberal as well as Tory, to lay up large stores of rifles, artillery, shells and maxims, but the house of commons would not vote a shilling more than the fixed amount, which each successive minister of war was compelled to submit to the house under pressure from his own colleagues in the cabinet."

This is a bold and direct impeachment of the governments of Great Britain for unpreparedness, and it entirely nullifies the German charges that Great Britain meditated war. Her military advisers were aware of what was going on, but under the unreasonable prejudice which prevents a military man getting a hearing from the civil authorities no advice was taken and nothing was done. The general unbelief and apathy about a German menace was fostered by the Germans themselves, and as it was the easy and natural method, perhaps, of politicians accepted the view that no danger, threatened. They took no steps, and later the war office, the officials or the officers of the army are made scapegoats."

Sir Hamar dwelt on the tragical results in Belgium and France to British troops of the unpreparedness, and while he professed to hold no particular brief for the war office, he had sufficient experience there, he said, to know of what he spoke. The war office should be able to speak for itself on the proper occasion, but in the meantime the main thing is to remedy all shortcomings and place the service in a state of utmost efficiency. This, or something like it, represents the views of all the practical men in the empire, and the politicians had better fall in line.

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## SAY, KID, WHERE'D YE GET MY DRUM?



and clear away all obstructions to such a policy.

## A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.  
FOR INVESTMENT  
(Copyright, 1916.)

TIME'S but a meed of Capital  
God sends us to invest,  
And while he holds the principal  
Ours is the interest.

## SOUTH YORK MEMBER "BREEZY AND ORIGINAL"

Ottawa Journal's Comment on "New Policies" Voiced in House.  
OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 2.—Under the caption, "Breezy, Original W. F. M." The Journal (Ind. Con.) this evening says:  
"There are few dull moments in W. F. Maclean's speeches. Yesterday was no exception to the rule, and he voiced two new policies—the nationalization of the nickel industry and the giving to Canada in this war the status of an ally."  
"W. F." as most of his friends call him, is editor and proprietor of The Toronto World, which, like himself, is independent in politics, although with a leaning towards the right. His views of his father, who was 'the father of protection in Canada.'"

## GRANTS FURTHER DELAY IN TRIAL OF SIMPSON

Counsel is Given Time to Sift Manitoba Government's Depositions.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.  
LONDON, Feb. 2.—Dr. Robert Mills Simpson, Canadian Medicals, again appeared in Bow street in connection with the charges made against him by the Manitoba Government. Sir George Lewis, for accused, has received depositions from Canada but has had no time to go thru them carefully.

Boyd, for the director of public prosecutions, consented to further adjournment to Feb. 23. The magistrate remarked he had gone thru the papers superficially.  
"Sir George Lewis: 'It may be answered now. I have read the depositions which will have to be gone into very carefully.'"  
The defendant was allowed the same bail.

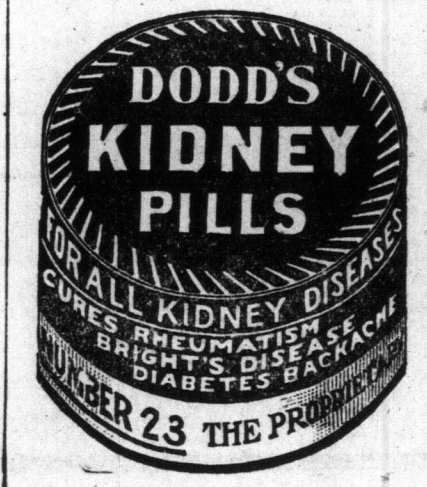
## BILLED WIFE AS DEAD HUSBAND FACES TRIAL

C. P. R. Brakeman Alleged to Have Obtained Transportation by Fraud.

MONTREAL, Feb. 2.—"Obtaining under false pretences transportation of the dead body of his wife, who, separated from him, is very much alive, is the novel charge which E. Harry Pratt, C.P.R. brakeman, faced before Judge Leet in the police court today. Pratt went to Toronto without the 'body,' and was arrested here last night. Trial was fixed for Feb. 8."

## DUTCH MINISTER QUILTS.

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Feb. 2.—Marie Willem Frederik Treub, minister of finance in the Netherlands Cabinet, resigned today. He was generally considered to be one of the strongest figures in the ministry.



## A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year

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TIME'S but a meed of Capital  
God sends us to invest,  
And while he holds the principal  
Ours is the interest.

## GENERAL TRUSTS HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Reports to Annual Meeting Showed Profits Over Three Hundred Thousand Dollars.

## TRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDER

Success Due to Conservative Policies of Late J. W. Langmuir—Directors Were Re-Elected

The Toronto General Trusts Corporation has passed thru a very satisfactory year and the report for 1915 read by the secretary at the annual meeting of the shareholders yesterday showed that the net profits amounted to \$346,468.05. Out of this there were paid, besides other sums, four quarterly dividends amounting to \$150,000.00, a transfer to the reserve fund of \$150,000.00, thereby increasing the reserve to \$1,750,000.00; subscriptions to the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John, \$2,500.00, and a balance carried forward to the credit of profit and loss of \$98,812.60.

Assets and liabilities were shown to be \$71,869,470.10. A new branch of the company has been opened in Vancouver, B.C. Already the corporation have branches in Ottawa, Winnipeg and Saskatoon.

A fitting tribute was paid to the late founder of the institution, J. W. Langmuir, who started the corporation in 1882 and was actively engaged in the affairs of the company until shortly before his death. At the time of his death he held the office of vice-president.

The success of the corporation was largely due to the conservative and careful policies of the late Mr. Langmuir, and which are still being carried out by his successors.

Not only do the activities of Toronto General Trusts Corporation include the management of estates placed in their hands as executors, but also the management of properties for private individuals, and as administrators' agents and trustees. That this company has had an increase in trusts placed with them during the past year, amounting to \$4,484,379, is evidence of its standing in the Dominion.

## WEST'S COAL FAMINE BEING LIFTED RAPIDLY

SASKATOON, Feb. 2.—That the crisis in the coal situation has passed, for the present at least, was the information given out by the railroad officials and coal dealers at noon today. Traffic on the C.N. line was reported to be normal, and every hour conditions are rapidly approaching the normal.

## CREW OF 37 MISSING.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb. 2.—The steamer Onward Ho is missing in northern British Columbia waters with a crew of 37 men. Storms still prevail in the province, and a foot of snow fell here last night.

## FAIR WAGE CLAUSE PRINCIPLE WON OUT

Contract for Toronto's Cement Supply Awarded to Owen Sound Firm.

The principle of the fair wage clause, as against the principle of asking for tenders, and then switching, won out at yesterday's meeting of the board of control, when the subject of Toronto's cement supply came up for decision.

Mayor Church and Controllers Thompson and O'Neill voted to leave the contract, which has already been awarded with the Union Cement Co. of Owen Sound, while Controllers Cameron and Foster voted to buy in the open market. For the latter, Mr. Johnston contributed affidavits to prove that the Owen Sound firm had not been living up to the fair wage clause, and Mr. Russell submitted that they were willing to give the city a bond to ensure such payment.

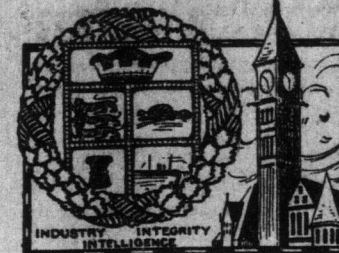
Controller Thompson said the contract should go to the lowest tenderer, which would be the Owen Sound firm, and that the city should be saved the cost of the contract by allowing the Canada Cement Co. to bid again, after the tenders had been opened, the city was encouraging the wiping out of competition.

Controller Cameron believed the clause impracticable in this case, and was for saving the city as much as possible on the deal.

On the vote of three to two, the contract will go to the Owen Sound firm, subject to the approval of council.

## GREEKS WERE KILLED BY ZEPPELIN BOMBS

SALONIKI, Feb. 2.—Two Greek soldiers, five refugees and seven workmen were killed and fifty civilians were injured by the inflammable bombs dropped early this morning from the Zeppelin in the raid on the city. No damage was done to military buildings and the populace has remained calm.



## NEWS FROM THE CITY HALL

## RUMORED GRANT USED IN OFFICERS' LUXURIES

Said Money Was Spent in Fitting Exhibition Quarters With Rugs and Curtains.

## MAYOR WAS INDIGNANT

Vehemently Denounced Gossip Which Disturbed Peaceful Atmosphere of City Hall.

The peace and quiet of the city hall was considerably disturbed yesterday by a story that got round to the effect that the \$1500 granted by the city to the five batteries stationed at the Exhibition was spent for comforts for the officers instead of the men. Mayor Church was more indignant that he has been for some time over the statement that the "comforts" included curtains, rugs and other such luxuries. In firing up their quarters the officers had spent considerable money, and the \$300 granted to each battery was to take the place of the money already spent and was not given for any particular purpose.

Unfortunately, or otherwise, some of the accounts of money expended by the batteries were presented to the board of control on Monday, and these indicated that the money had been spent for the officers.

In order to set matters right Mayor Church gave out a statement explaining the whole situation. Speaking of the bills that had been mentioned in connection with the affair he said: "The bills referred to are not one of the expenses the officers have had to expend on their battery and men. The only grant they got was the \$300 from the city which is only drop in the bucket. The officers of the batteries are so disgusted over all this darn stuff that I wouldn't be surprised if they sent the cheques back to the city."

In speaking of the matter yesterday Controller O'Neill, Foster and Cameron declared that they would not vote in favor of any more grants unless they were thoroughly investigated and had the endorsement of the officer commanding the division.

## MAYOR WILL ENDEAVOR TO STOP OVERCROWDING

Says Conditions on Street Cars Indecent and Worse Than on Cattle Trucks.

More criticism was leveled against the Toronto Street Railway Co. by the mayor and members of the board of control yesterday. Flouting his suggestion, made in his inaugural address, Mayor Church attacked the overcrowding on the street cars and said it was nothing less than indecent to crowd human beings in the way it is being done. "As chairman of the police commission, I'm going to take action," he said.

Behind anything you do in the way of relieving the situation," said Controller Thompson. At this point it was decided to name the traffic commission which will be composed of Works Commissioner Harris, E. S. Cousins of the harbor board, the city treasurer, the corporation counsel, a member of the council and the mayor. It was decided also to adopt the principle of taking over the street railway in 1921.

Referring again to the overcrowding, the mayor said the conditions allowed were not tolerated in cattle cars. He believed the matter should be taken before the private bills committee.

The matter was left with Commissioner Harris, who will secure further information and report to the board before a definite line of action is settled upon.

## STREET RAILWAY EARNINGS.

Street Railway earnings for the month of January totaled \$474,784.15, the city's percentage being \$65,846.83. In January a year ago the receipts were \$471,226.33 and the city's percentage \$70,465.38. For the first five months of the fiscal year the total earnings were \$2,466,639, and for the last five months \$2,899,757.

## RECRUITING MEETING DID NOT MATERIALIZE

No One Turned Up at Committee Room in City Hall at Appointed Hour.

## NO INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN

Civic Officials Did Not Approve Scheme, Holding Employees Have Done Duty.

Employees at the city hall are wondering that happened to the recruiting meeting that was to be held for their special benefit yesterday afternoon at 4.30. Committee room No. 2 had been arranged to accommodate quite a gathering early in the afternoon; at 4.30 no one was on hand, but shortly after that hour Col. Jean Wright of the 18th Battalion, who was to address the meeting, made his appearance along with several others who were interested. There was no audience, some having dropped in and out again.

About 5 o'clock Property Commissioner Chisholm came along to see how the meeting was progressing. The reporters at once asked for an explanation, and this was soon forthcoming as the commissioner was anxious to clear his skirts. The facts are that the board of control gave the officers of the 18th Battalion permission to hold a recruiting meeting in the building, but issued no instructions to the department to allow their young men to attend at the hour stated. The board did, however, send a letter of instruction to Commissioner Chisholm, asking him to have the room prepared, and that he would not be held responsible for the meeting. The commissioner failed to do so, and the meeting was a disappointment to those who came for the purpose of urging some of the young men in the civic service to enlist.

Civic officials, it is stated, did not favor the scheme, believing that the employees of the city hall have proved themselves very loyal.

## PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN FOR TRADE EXPANSION

Meeting in City Hall Considered Bringing of Conventions to Toronto.

A meeting was held yesterday in the mayor's office, with regard to a publicity campaign in Toronto for trade and commercial expansion, and also regarding bringing new industries and more conventions to the city. E. S. Gourlay and A. C. Lewis, representing the harbor board; Joseph Oliver, president of the Exhibition; and James Richards, of the Trades and Labor Council, also the mayor and Controller Cameron, representing the city. The unanimous opinion was that such a campaign should be held in Toronto. The transportation companies favor it, as well as the Toronto Ad Club and other similar organizations.

## CITY HALL NOTES

Thomas McMullin was yesterday appointed chief engineer at the high level pumping station at a salary of \$2000 a year and residence.

Income taxes must be paid according to a warning sent to some 15,000 delinquents. The option is suit instituted by the city.

City Solicitor Johnston states that the indictments against the Toronto Street Railway Company are in the hands of the attorney-general and that the city has no power to act.

The board of control did not adopt the policy yesterday of relieving those unable to pay their taxes, but decided upon fair judgment in each case. The matter has been handed over to the assessment department.

Toronto's appeal in the Bursard case has been dismissed by the supreme court of Canada. The amount of damages awarded R. C. Bursard by the Ontario Arbitration Board, the supreme court of Ontario is \$7937.

## THE BEST BEER IS

**O'Keefe's**

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valued at \$12.00...  
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REVERSIBLE MO...  
Grand assortment of...  
Tartan, Motor Rug...  
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Covering the balanc...  
Japanese Wadded...  
hand-embroidered...  
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each.  
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SPENCER COATS  
Fine quality all-...  
Coats, soft...  
in colors white, bla...  
apricot and pink...  
SPENCER COATS...  
come to waist only...  
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\$1.50 and \$1.75.  
CREPE DE CHINE...  
Choice selection of...  
Hills Crepe de Chine...  
old variety of color...  
black, flesh, apricot...  
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