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CANADA AND THE SUFFRAGETTE

Recent interviews with several provincial premiers indicate that the threat of an invasion of Canada by the militant suffragettes holds no terrors for some, at least these gentlemen. Premier Gouin, of Quebec, was canny and refused to be drawn, leaving himself open to the suspicion that he may be a trifle nervous. Premier Murray of Nova Scotia, was chiefly concerned to show that Mr. Borden, in the famous interview with the shrieking sisterhood in London, was not half so brave as we thought him. It is charged that Mr. Borden did show the white feather after all, trading upon their ignorance of the Canadian constitution and persuading them, contrary to the facts, that the matter was one in which the federal government was powerless to act. The acting premier of Prince Edward Island was almost defiant in his hostility to female suffrage. To the interviewer he made the original observation that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," deducing from this great truth the absurdity of any desire on the part of that hand to share in the government of any part of the world.

Most defiant of all, however, was the gallant knight, Sir Roblin of Manitoba. Was it because he felt himself to be more secure than his brother premiers who are nearer the port of landing, where Chrissy and her cohorts would make their first call? Is he hopeful that he may be able to make a dash for the Pacific coast while they are making official calls on the premiers of the Maritime provinces or wreaking upon Mr. Borden with a hatchet their vengeance for the deceit which his timidity dictated when they cornered him in London? Or is the gallant knight of Manitoba at last convinced that the end of his government is approaching and, secure in this coming freedom from responsibility, gaining a reputation for courage by defying an enemy who cannot arrive before he has relinquished his command.

It is true that Sir Rodmond is careful to declare that his uncompromising opposition to the female vote is dictated by his profound devotion to the sex. This is a ruse, however, which has not only ceased to disarm criticism but actually irritates the members of the belligerent sisterhood. In fact, it is to be feared that Sir Rodmond is a little unfortunate in his statement of the case. When he says: "I think too much of woman to have her entangled in the mesh of politics," it will not be likely to soothe the ruffled feelings of the Pankhurst party, but when he adds: "She would be stooping from the pedestal on which she has sat for centuries," one can almost hear their shrieks of fury as they grasp their hatchets and prepare to swoop down upon that luckless knight. We can understand the desire of any woman, regardless of her political predilections, desiring to break something when she is told that her sex is a graven image that has been sitting upon a pedestal for centuries. The prospect of passing centuries on a pedestal, even with the assurance that a succession of such gallant knights will bow the knee before it in adoration, is not precisely thrilling. Sir Rodmond's statement invites the retort that after centuries of life on a pedestal woman feels a desire to descend and seek a sphere in which there is a little more movement and excitement. The Manitoba premier's position would undoubtedly have been much safer if he had rested content with rhapsodies about the power of "the hand that rocks the cradle."

Only the conviction that the militant methods will find no favor even with the most enthusiastic supporters of the movement in Canada relieves us of a serious concern for the safety of Sir Rodmond's person.

PEACE AND WAR PREPARATIONS

It is time that a protest was entered against the argument reiterated with such tiresome monotony, that "the best way to ensure peace is to prepare for war." To declare that it is unsound is not to assert that such preparations are unnecessary but merely to call attention to the very obvious truth that here are a hundred influences more potent in ensuring peace.

Preparation for war was inevitable so long as war must be regarded as a possible danger. The necessity for such preparation must be recognized even when it is most deeply deplored. It will find sufficient ground for support in this necessity without resort to the hypocrisy that it, above all other influences will ensure peace. So far is this from the truth that, however ready we may be to acknowledge the necessity for these preparations, we must see no less clearly that they act as an irritant rather than as a sedative. This should be clear to anyone who has watched the competition in armaments between Germany and Great Britain. Each "crisis" in the seemingly interminable series precipitated by an addition to the armament of one or other of the two parties, rather than by any legitimate ground for quarrel.

The moral is sufficiently obvious. We do not want war though we are forced to prepare for it. Such preparations themselves constitute a danger

as tending to arouse suspicion and induce nervous tension. Avoidance of ostentatious display lessens their force as an irritant. Where arms are carried the chief danger lies, not so much in their presence as in the inclination on the part of some who carry them to finger the trigger too frequently or even to flourish the gun in the face of the peaceably disposed. If we must carry the gun, let us carry it in the hip pocket rather than in the hand. Above all, let us turn a deaf ear to the fools who tell us that the best way to ensure peace with a neighbor is to thrust a loaded gun into his face.

If those who prate most of "the best means of ensuring peace" would discuss questions of international relations with reasonable moderation the sincerity of their professed desire for peace would be more convincing.

THE WEST AND TARIFF REFORM

While the naval question fills the horizon for the present, the time is not far distant when the demand for tariff reform will receive that attention which belongs to it by right of the growing force of public opinion behind it. Looking into the not very distant future, with the assurance of increased representation for the West, The Toronto Globe has the following to say:

"It is scarcely to be doubted that of Saskatchewan's sixteen members in the new house fifteen will be Liberals pledged to tariff revision, and that Alberta will send ten Liberals out of a total representation of twelve. The utmost ingenuity of Hon. Robert Rogers in 'redistributing' the vote will not secure a Conservative delegation exceeding four members from Saskatchewan and Alberta. In the present parliament Manitoba does something to lessen the Liberal majority from the prairies, but there are signs of a storm there, and a very small swing of the pendulum would make Manitoba as strongly Liberal as the other provinces. Leaving Winnipeg out of the count, there were cast in the nine other Manitoba constituencies last September 27,602 Conservative votes and 26,732 Liberal. By a popular majority of 870 votes the Conservatives carried seven seats to the two carried by the Liberals. A swing of a thousand votes might make rural Manitoba solidly Liberal. There is evidence that such a swing is in progress. Winnipeg, which is likely to have three seats out of Manitoba's fifteen in the new house, is growingly Conservative, but it is not unreasonable to suppose that Manitoba as a whole will be represented in the next parliament by a majority of Liberal members. The Roblin government weakens steadily, and were it turned out of power before next federal election the strength of Manitoba Conservatism would be gone."

EASTERN IMPUDENCE

For downright impudence of the most irritating sort a recent article in The Montreal Financial Times will easily in any competition among the many examples of hostility to the West that may be found in the Eastern press. With a degree of effrontery which is positively astounding, this journal suggests in all seriousness that the claims of the West for fair treatment in the matter of freight rates should be disregarded. The reason urged is not that the existing rates are fair to the West, but rather that Westerners are so wealthy that they can suffer little by the acknowledged extortion. Let this journal, however, speak for itself. The following is an extract from the article referred to:

"One point about the agitation concerning high freight rates in the West which seems to escape the notice of the agitators almost entirely, is that the West is exceedingly well able to pay them. We are far from upholding the doctrine of 'all that traffic will bear,' but when we know perfectly well that every class of resident in the Western provinces is making money hand over fist and living in a condition of prosperity which is granted to only a small proportion of the population of the East, it is not difficult to find it hard to summon 'eddy' come in the not distant future. The West's share of their expenditure goes into transportation charges than is the case in this part of the country."

"Freight rates in the West are high, there is no denying it. A member of the railway commission has declared that there is a prima facie case for their reduction; and that reduction will undoubtedly come in the not distant future. In the meantime, they are not as high proportionately as the earning capacity of both human energy and invested capital in the free and virgin fields of the prairies. The people of the West are rich. They are rich because they have been presented with vast areas of the best farming land in the world, free, gratis and without price (latterly without even the price of the perils and difficulties of 'pioneering,') by the older inhabitants of Canada, to whom those lands belonged."

The significance of this article is revealed in the following comment by The Winnipeg Free Press:

"The article calls for no refutation. It is valuable simply as a revelation of what is in the mind of those who resist and resent the demand of the people of the West for just treatment in the matter of freight rates; in the mind, apparently, of others who do business in the West. They have not the vaguest conception of the West as a free country, occupied by men having the same rights as Canadians in the East. Not at all; we are a 'subject and inferior race who have been set up in profitable business, by our philanthropic masters in the East, for the purpose of being periodically relieved of our accumulations. The West is a milch cow, turned into luscious pasture and fed with bran mash, in order that, at milking time it may yield foaming pails to the owner whose brand is burned on the rump. Truly a noble, nation-building conception of the relationship which should exist between the East and the West!"

EIGHTEEN ARMED NEGROES
GUARD OIL KING'S
ESTATE

Black Hand, Which Has Operated for Years Against Italians, Now Threatens Family

Five Savage Great Dane Dogs Supplement Efforts of Black Guards

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The secret of the present agitation and alarm at John D. Rockefeller's estate in Pocantico Hills, where for weeks disorder and crime have been frequent, has been learned for The World.

To preserve order on the Bedford Road estate the ordinary force of four private watchmen has been increased to eighteen, all negroes, armed with repeating rifles and revolvers and supplemented by five savage great Dane dogs. Then there are three deputy sheriffs in command of Westchester county and Sheriff Wooster of Westchester county, and six of the most trusted operatives of the W. J. Burns Agency in command of Detective A. J. Boyd.

Revolted Against Black Hand. A statement has been made from the Rockefeller estate that this sudden engagement of an armed force on duty night and day had been done solely in the interest of the five hundred or more Italian laborers employed on the place.

Yet for years these same Italian employes have been forced at pistol point and otherwise to pay tribute, and when they revolted against the Black Hand, and some were killed, neither the master of the great estate nor his son was ever moved to take the martial measures that have been taken now in the form of a caseless armed patrol.

Their Lives Threatened. The truth is that the eighteen armed negroes, the deputy sheriffs and Burns detectives, all also armed, have been called into action because the Black Hand clique that has so long gone immune in its operations for the past few years has become so emboldened as to threaten the lives and property of Rockefeller himself and of his son and his grandsons, demanding heavy ransom if their communications are ignored or the authorities called in to trail and arrest them.

They have threatened murder and kidnapping against the persons of the oil king and his son, John D. Rockefeller, and the latter's two young children, who are now ill of measles at the Kent House, a sort of nursery on the grounds not far from their father's residence.

They have further threatened murder against Frederick A. Briggs, the superintendent of the estate, and a big negro fireman named Dunson, who bosses the teamsters and other gangs of Italian laborers on the grounds.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., goes nowhere about the estate unless accompanied by guards, and Briggs, who bears the reputation of being a severe, stern taskmaster, has been especially marked by the criminal clique that has developed at Pocantico. Two detectives are slung in his rear wherever he goes, and his home is guarded night and day by armed negroes.

Dunson, the black foreman, has been sworn in as a deputy sheriff and goes about with a big army revolver and a long knife, and a son of his, a young man, is also armed.

Some of the letters have come by mail. One went to the oil king who mailed from Palermo, Italy, where he is now, a letter to the New York City police, warning them of a plot to expose and rout the auxiliares in Italy of the Black Hand clique in the sum of many millions of dollars.

The letter, as has been all the others, was written in Italian with a large until Sept. 8, when it was refused, the mislaid, might have been the greatest alarm. Refusal, the mislaid, might have been the greatest alarm. Refusal, the mislaid, might have been the greatest alarm.

Following this letter, came a bombardment of threats and demands, as already stated, some of them came otherwise caused the greatest alarm. These were the threatening letters demanding blackmail of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the stationer, to Briggs, the superintendent, and Dunson, the negro foreman, which were simply threats of murder, or at least the threat of being beaten to death.

The reason for the alarm in regard to these letters was the mysterious fashion they have found their way within the state at night, the bearers leaving the letters on the steps of John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s house, and that of Superintendent Briggs.

Dunson as he would go on duty at the quarry in the mornings has found the threatening letters awaiting him along the rocky ledge where he usually stands to direct the men at work. It was when these vanishing letters came that the Black Hand clique decided to call in the aid of the Burns Agency men.

John D. Rockefeller himself is not at Pocantico Hills, and has been there for only a few days at a time this summer. He is in his old country home in Ohio, which his wife much prefers. The reason has been that the Black Hand clique has been working hard to bring about the completion of the Burns Agency men.

Got Even With Di Marco. More effectively even than the mysterious delivery of the letters through the hands of guards stationed at every entrance and doing sentinel duty around the houses did the Black Hand clique show its strength and cunning in the movement of the Burns Agency men.

Di Marco discovered that these were agitators among his laborers who were preaching discontent to the many hands in renting rooms, securing servants and buying and selling late pays for ten hours. The fore-

man feared the fomentation of a strike, and, singling out the men, he asked Supt. Briggs if he should discharge them. Briggs, in his bearing of the men in question, told Di Marco to go ahead and use his own judgment.

Burned House Down. The foreman then dismissed the agitators. Dismissing the men shook their fists at him and told him they would be revengeful. A few days later, however, nothing happened, and Briggs and Di Marco had about dismissed the matter from their minds when, about a week ago, Di Marco and his family awakened to find their cottage home on the estate on fire. In the night men had come and dug a hole through the foundation, poured oil in gallons into it, and set a flame to the oil.

Briggs admitted was frightened, and Di Marco was so completely terrorized that he absolutely refused to continue another day in the employ of the Rockefeller estate, and before nightfall had moved his family and effects away from the place.

He has completely disappeared, hiding all trace of his movements in the fear that vengeance might follow him even after his complete surrender of the Rockefeller estate.

Of the eighteen armed negroes, the largest detachment is stationed around the Kent house nursery where the Rockefeller children are confined, ill of the measles. It is not believed that the Black Hand group would attempt the murder of the Rockefeller children, but the kidnapping of the children or the dynamiting of the \$2,000,000 mansion is what is most greatly feared.

Negroes Are Imported. These negroes on the Rockefeller estate do not belong to the country-side. They are men imported directly from the South. A few such as Dunson came to the Rockefeller place some ten or twelve years ago when the building of the seventy-five miles of road, which the estate possesses, was in progress. Others have been brought here recently.

They are kept strictly apart from the Italian laborers, do not fraternize with them in any way, and are instructed that their job, more or less, depends upon their taking this attitude toward the other men on the place.

At every one of the several entrances to the Rockefeller estate from the Bedford Road there is stationed a negro, sworn in as deputy sheriff. He does not carry a gun on his shoulder, but has a bandy behind the brick pillars of the gates. In addition there is a revolver in his pocket.

Blind to Black Handers. The first superintendent, Hamilton, an old personal friend of Rockefeller, had direct charge of the laborers. He chose to be blind to the Black Hand collectors—strange men who came among the laborers on pay days to collect their "dues." He was blind to the fact that Italian foremen were sometimes intimidated into giving one man two jobs—a laborer by day and a watchman by night, with two pay envelopes.

He did not inquire too closely into how it could be that out of twenty-eight orchards he could not get enough apples to supply the Rockefeller table. It was easier to avoid seeing too much.

When Hamilton died he was succeeded by N. C. Alise, a man of determined character, who would not submit to the presence of blackmailing Black Handers among the workingmen and drove them away. The Black Handers order to hold their victims in that they started a reign of assassination and terrorism.

One night in front of Moore's saloon at Pocantico, which is surrounded almost entirely by Rockefeller's men, there was a battle with revolvers. Three men were found inside the saloon, two seriously wounded and one dead; a fourth man was found wounded in the woods near by.

Not long afterwards a little Italian known only by the name of Tony was in his hut beside the railroad of which he was an employee when two men, arriving at Pocantico Hills on an evening train, went over to his hut, called him to the door and riddled him with bullets, killing him instantly. The assassin was in the woods.

Again, three men engaged an Italian boarding house occupant in a duel with revolvers. He was expecting them and sent them in retreat. Tony and this man had been suspected of informing as to the identity of the Black Handers coming out of the Rockefeller workmen.

Highway robberies frequently occurred. In one instance a young Italian, strolling on a Sunday night with a girl, was wantonly made a target for bullets fired from the dense brush along the roadside. Rough, sudden looking men invaded the orchards of Rockefeller's neighbors.

They threatened men who demanded that they desist in stealing the fruit, threatening them and driving them within their homes for protection. The finding of the man, Russo, the other day, terribly wounded, yet unwilling to tell who shot him, trying to say he had shot himself accidentally, when it was obviously impossible that the wounds could be self-inflicted, is the final evidence of the terror in the Black Handers' hands.

He held the secret band of criminals that has terrorized them.

Girl Babies in Perils. (From Je Sais Tout.) The birth of a girl in Persia is regarded with pity, even by her mother. "Why should I not weep over my little girl, who will have to endure the same miseries as I have known?" she cries. "She is of so little value! Who knows whether her father will not one day throw her out of the window and so silence forever her wailing? And why should he be annoyed? He knows he may do such a thing with impunity. No one cares any more than if it was a cat which had to suffer for his wrath."

No Agreement Of Peace. Rome, Sept. 7.—A semi-official state of many has been based denouncing an absolutely unfounded various news.

Rome, Sept. 7.—A semi-official statement reached respecting the conclusion of peace between Italy and Turkey.

The Wants are an important adjunct to many hands in renting rooms, securing servants and buying and selling late pays for ten hours. The fore-

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OUR buying power brings to us the best that Europe and America has to offer in fashionable, well made things to wear; the newest fashions, the latest weaves, the richest qualities, and it adds to your buying power by putting before you unequalled values. We add for your benefit and ours, an assurance of your whole satisfaction. All our previous efforts have been surpassed in this season's display, making a collection in attractiveness of styles and variety of materials that will delight the most exacting.

Handsome Suits in splendid quality navy blue and black serge, very neatly tailored and beautifully finished \$15.00 and \$19.00

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Pears, fancy Bartlets, about 45 lb. box " " \$2.45

Plums, Italian Prunes, about 20 lb. box " " 95c

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