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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1925.

### The British Empire.

The fact that Britain controls the world's rubber market at present, and is likely to do so for some time to come, has given rise to no little discussion concerning the size and possibilities of the empire.

Britain is a world empire in every sense of the word, the most extensive group of nations and possessions the world has ever seen, covering 13,500,000 square miles, or one-quarter of the land area of the earth. It is seven times the size of the Roman empire when Rome was at the pinnacle of its power. It would make 65 Germany, and of this area one-fourth is in Canada. It embraces more of Central America than any non-Central American country, and the same is true of South Africa. By a strange coincidence, while one-quarter of the earth's surface is British territory, one-quarter of the world's inhabitants, 450,000,000, are British subjects.

In history its ramifications run back into the first stages of recorded civilization, for it includes Chaldean, Mesopotamian, Moab and Edom. The Holy Land, Palestine, is one of its provinces—Judaea, Samaria and Galilee. It takes in large sections of the ancient empires of Assyria, Babylonia, Persia, Rome, and within its boundaries is Mount Carmel, made famous by the challenge of the prophet Elijah to the followers of Baal in the reign of Ahab. Rivers of historic interest are the Euphrates, Tigris, Jordan and Kishon, while on its borders are the Dead Sea and the sea of Galilee. Jerusalem, Beersheba, Hebron, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum are all in the British empire.

The British empire is the world's greatest wheat producer, the greatest wool producer, and its output of gold occupies the same position. The Wabana iron ore deposits, off the coast of Newfoundland, are the greatest yet discovered, and Malaya is the greatest producer of tin. Its resources in fishing are the world's greatest, and also its rubber plantations. In the C. P. R. and the C. N. R. it possesses the two greatest transportation systems.

During the world war 9,500,000 British subjects responded to the call to arms, and Canada's force alone was as great as the whole of Napoleon's grand army with which he invaded Russia.

Britain is the birthplace of parliaments that are subject to the will of the people; it is the home of plain justice that guarantees a fair trial to an accused person, that holds him innocent until his guilt has been established. The British empire is, in a very real sense, the original League of Nations.

### Doing Things For Ourselves.

Hon. W. H. Price, provincial treasurer, in a speech at St. Thomas before the chamber of commerce, charged that Canadians were making a serious mistake in allowing United States capital to be so largely employed in the development of our natural resources. His way of stating the case was that "Canadians should be more willing to grubstake themselves and take chances on making good." Mr. Price considered that as a people we were too willing to allow outsiders to come in here and do the pioneer work, engineer the developments and ultimately reap the rewards as well as control the situation.

In a recent issue of the Sault Ste. Marie Star the same idea was developed under the heading, "Did Providence Make a Mistake By Handing Canada Over to the Canadians?" The Star deplores the tendency that people have in imagining that the country is going to pass into a stage of vigorous development by passing resolutions, or by recourse to the great Canadian slogan, "Why can't we do this, that or the other thing?" The salvation of Canada, by the Star argument, "must be a matter of individual responsibility with Canadians. Things are not going to be fixed by resolutions." Continuing, the Sault paper says:

"There is just one remedy—to create more jobs in Canada. If we had 1,000 more jobs in the Sault for men, we could have 1,000 more families here in a month. They would come eagerly at their own expense. If we have not jobs for 1,000, it would be very foolish for the council to spend \$50,000 a year getting 1,000 men to come here."

It is well that Canadians should face these questions fairly. It will serve no good purpose if we say that it is simply scolding our people, because a thorough and well-founded scolding is often as useful as bestowing well-merited approval.

It is safe to assume as a starting point that we should look to ourselves to develop our own resources and utilize our own channels of trade for our own business. Right now experts are telling us that it is not possible to handle Canadian western grain by Canadian water and rail routes because these routes are all determined by the foreign purchaser who buys the wheat and names the route by which he wants it shipped. If that is a fact, and if we are to allow it to remain a fixed fact, then it is a poor look-out for our transportation systems and our Canadian ports when they have to take second or third place to foreign competitors in handling a great commodity produced in our own country.

When it comes to milling the Canadian wheat another authority says it is not possible to capture the British market with Canadian flour, because the British miller selects his own blends and makes the flour the market requires.

We know that in Canada there are tremendous deposits of iron ore, but nearly all of it is low grade. The trouble here may be indicative

of our trouble elsewhere. The truth is that we do not know how to refine low grade ore or to prepare it for the blast furnace on a commercial basis, and that condition, "we do not know how," may be the explanation for our failure to have made further progress in developing other natural resources. To devise the proper way to handle our low grade iron ore needs study, close, persistent, relentless effort. A few studios men did make progress through the use of the electric furnace, but we have not gone the whole distance. We need studios application by chemists, geologists, traffic experts, world salesmen. And yet how few have carried on this work. We have looked upon those who have attempted to carry on research work more or less as faddists; we have often complained about public money being spent on their efforts, and yet this work lies at the bottom of what we call our problems.

Canadians can do things. That has been demonstrated many times. In the world war Canadian workmen made records in the accurate production of munitions that were not equaled by any shops in United States. Even in the making of the time fuse, a delicate operation of dimensions more precise than anything ever attempted, the Canadian product was a mechanical triumph. Ontario has produced the greatest publicly-owned power system in the world, and Canadians are now grappling with the greatest government-owned railway system in the world and bringing it each month nearer to ultimate success.

Nor can it be said that Canada has not money to invest. Our people buy millions of dollars worth of bonds each year, but they are largely government, municipal or in some well-established industrial concern. A few years ago we were pouring out money for speculation in Western Canada, hoping for quick returns in the way of large profits. This was not development money, it was purely speculative.

We do need more of the pioneer spirit of development. Give us trained men who have the solution for the treatment of our natural resources, for their fabrication and marketing. Give us reasonable assurance that they know their subject thoroughly, and it is not unreasonable to predict that they will receive the backing of Canadian finance. On such a basis and with intelligent industrial leadership, Canadians could do many things that they are now inviting others to come in here and do for them.

### Gowns On School Teachers.

St. Catharines board of education has been considering putting distinctive gowns on teachers. It is even suggested that such a garb would be a mark of authority. There's been a movement in this direction for a long time back; they put official suits on firemen, policemen, postal carriers, gowns on choir, uniforms on bank messengers. Yes, it's come to be quite the thing, so the germ has been getting in its work in the St. Catharines board of education.

Even the villages have it. Years ago there used to be a very handy man in a village near London. He rang the town bell five times a day, swept out the town hall, bought the gravel and tanbark for the streets, mended the wooden sidewalks, ran the market scales, looked after stray cows and was constable as well. When he was doing odd jobs he wore an old felt hat and a smock. In such raiment he was just one of the common people and folks called him by his first name. When there was constabulary to be done, when fair day was on and traffic had to be regulated, he put on a blue coat and a cap, on the front of which was worked in gold braid the one word "Constable." That made a complete change—he became vested in an authority that never could have struck root in that old felt hat and loose-fitting smock. The uniform, the outward symbol of vested authority, made the difference.

But the teachers of St. Catharines do not favor the idea at all. They have taken a straw vote, or a chalk vote, whichever teachers use, and declare there is no virtue and no praise in the uniform idea. They will neither be downed by the trend of the times nor governed by the board of education. They will wear crepe de chine, satin-faced crepe, georgette, tricotine, or whatever else they desire, and if we were in St. Catharines we'd be inclined to take a place on the side lines and cheer them on.

### Note and Comment.

Just two days left in which to do your New Year resolving.

Seven candidates up for the mayoralty of Guelph, and six-sevenths of them will be defeated.

The trouble comes after a man makes one lucky gamble and he gets the idea that he is a shrewd investor.

A man is never certain what he's going to get to eat until he sees the carcass of the turkey dumped in the garbage can.

Speaking of Christmas presents, one cynic asks if we heard of the Scotchman who gave his best friend a homing pigeon.

A servant is dead in France who had been in one family 98 years. Rather an odd notion, because the average now is 98 places in one year.

A hired man who started doing the chores at 10 below zero writes to say he can't see any sense in spending money on a polar expedition.

Guelph's civic election centres around its street railway. It's no wonder it causes trouble, because part of the line starts at a brewery and runs out to the cemetery.

In an editorial headed "Our kick against rubber prices," the New York World says: "Our government has set up a number of precedents which may be quoted against it. Its cabinet officers and their subordinates have time and again urged curtailment of the output of agricultural commodities which foreign countries must take from us in large quantities."

## The Handy Man

By ARK.

A chap who lives up close to us can do most any job himself, from putting a stovepipe up to nailing on a pantry shelf.

Now we had reckoned how we'd have some paper on the living room, some fancy stuff that had a bird perched crossways on a crescent moon. Well this chap came across one night and said it was no trick at all to get some paste and go ahead and stick the paper on the wall.

Well I believed what he had said, decidin' when the job was through that I would make the thing complete and paste it on the ceiling too.

I got the rolls and took them home and made a pot of sticky paste, and every movement what I made was carved and modeled after haste. I'd show the alec up our way just how a papered room should look, the critics they would sketch from it and paste it in their sample book.

I got the kitchen table in, a ladder and my pot of glue, and built a derrick in the room just like a circus man would do.

The paste was on like it should be, I mounted on the scaffold then, and glue a strip upon the roof the same as do the expert men. The folks that helped they took a broom, another held it with the mop, all fearin' that the strip I stuck would shrivel up and take a drop.

I hollered at them several times to lay off on their propin' stuff, and bein' het up in what I thought no doubt was speakin' rather rough. That strip it got upon my ear and on my hair there was fresh glue, before I knew just how 'twas done my head was stickin' right straight through.

Today I telephoned a jay who knows just how these things is done, and told him if he'd like a job I knew where he could capture one.

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## The Once-Over

### TO OUR FURNACE.

Prize fuel that you are, you know our gut supplies are getting low. No matter how low scant the store, You only long is "Feed me more."

—Detroit Free Press.

But this is not your gravest sin. For every time that we come in We always have a sneaking doubt That you have probably gone out.

What can be more depressing than to view an ex-Christmas tree cast out in the snow to await the coming of the garbage man?

The proposal to abolish home-work in London schools will doubtless meet with hearty approval by the pupils, if by nobody else.

Motorists from U. S. may now stay in Canada for 90 days. Judging by present snowdrifts on the highways, some of them will be here at least that long.

A New York market report says that hops are steady. They'd better be, these days.

Chicago threatens jail to carriers of hip flasks on New Year's Eve. There's many a slip twixt hip and jail.

### AND SEE WHAT HAPPENED!

"Our constitution decreed that skirts should be at least six inches above the ground, but we never thought to place any limit in the other direction" laments the lady president of the Rainy Daisies.

"Proper care of floors rewarded by longer life," says a heading. Yes, if you don't slip on a newly-polished one and break your neck. E. J. P.

## Isn't It the Truth?

It isn't possible to elevate the stage by elevating dirt. Perhaps laws can't make a man be good, but in laws can. When a Florida realtor says his proposition is on the level, he means sea level. Highbrows are born, but high-hatters are personally to blame. One section's delight in cheaper necessities means another section's poverty.



Life is hard on a young doctor. He can't find any magazines old enough for his waiting office. The prehistoric is interesting, but now let somebody produce some evidence of modern civilization. Appreciation of scenery tourists travel miles to view: "Now you snap us standing by the car." Correct this sentence: "She's getting boy on the brain," said the mother, "but she leads her class in school." R. Q.

## Editorial Opinion

### LIKE NATURAL LAW.

From the Oregon Journal.

DID you ever stop to think that if buying is slow it may be because prices are too high? And did it ever occur to business that the consumer has to fit his outgo to his income, and that if he hasn't the money he can't buy? Does it ever occur to the manufacturer that he kills his own market sometimes by demanding too heavy a profit? The wider prosperity is diffused, the greater the total buying power and the heavier the selling. That is an inexorable law that nobody can change.

### YOUTH MUST BE SERVED.

From the Los Angeles Times.

A CORRESPONDENT cites examples of youthful behaviour in school cars—that is, street cars that at definite periods each day are largely occupied by children on their way to or from schools. It is his opinion that the youngsters seldom or never yield a seat to age or infirmity. On one trip an elderly couple boarded the car after the seats were filled with students. Did any of the juveniles offer parking space to the seniors? They did not. The lady may be demons on the diamond or the gridiron, but they are dreadfully weak and tired when aboard a car. They could not possibly stand up long enough to give a cripple a seat for a few blocks. They could still hoot, whistle and goad the conductor, but they could not stand up.

### THE LAW OF GOOD TASTE.

From the Vancouver Sun.

THAT series of graceless contortions known as the "charleston" has been banned in some of Denver's dance halls because it was tending to loosen the joints and rafters. It will probably always be necessary to have laws against crime and against sharp practice in business. But it is a serious reflection upon our civilization that a social practice that shakes down buildings should have to be given a crimp by a special law. One would almost expect it to be covered by the law of good taste.

## A Very Superior Person

Written by an Old Liberal.

THE TORONTO GLOBE features an article written by "Western Pioneer," who wants to know if the Liberal party needs reforming. He says that he is a Liberal, but that Mr. Mackenzie King is not a Liberal, and that Quebec is not a Liberal, so that he evidently wants to reform (or deform) the Liberal party in a very thorough manner. He is also a better Liberal than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, for his dissatisfaction with the present Liberal party seems to have begun ten years or more ago.

"It would not be difficult to demonstrate that during the last ten years or more the policy or acts of the so-called Conservative party have been much more Liberal (using that word in its broad and true sense) than have those of the so-called Liberal party."

What period is included in those "ten years or more" of Conservative superiority in Liberal principles? Did the Conservative party show its Liberalism in its opposition to reciprocity in 1911, or in its alliance with the Quebec Nationalists at the same time? The Conservative party showed its Liberalism in its opposition to reciprocity in 1911, or in its alliance with the Quebec Nationalists at the same time?

"Ten years or more" will include the early years of the war. During that time the Toronto Globe was assailing the Conservative government furiously for countenancing war graft and profiteering and for weakness and incompetence. These criticisms will be found in numerous articles in 1915 and 1917. In May, 1917, it spoke of the humiliation and shame that everywhere in the body of evidence from Quebec, it is certain, however, that in Ontario the weight of the Protestant churches was thrown on the side of conservatism and many pulpits were converted into political platforms. In these circumstances, we in Ontario have no right to boast of our freedom from clerical domination, or of our "theocracy" as "Western Pioneer" calls it.

"WESTERN PIONEER" says that the persons in Quebec who vote Liberal, but to whom he denies the title of Liberals, constitute the great majority of the "so-called Liberal party" of Canada. In this respect he is misled by the figures of the representation in the House of Commons. The popular vote tells a very different story. In the last general election the Liberal vote was 1,238,465 and of this only 461,914 came from Quebec. So that the Quebec Liberals, or whatever Pioneer chooses to call them, are not an overwhelming majority of the Liberals of Canada, but less than 37 per cent of the Liberal total.

There is nothing in "Western Pioneer's" article to support his attack upon the Liberal party. Of course it is not perfect. It is open to improvement, but in the very large Liberal vote cast but only in Quebec but all over Canada there is every ground for encouragement and for enthusiastic support for the leader who in the face of great difficulties has done so well.

"Western Pioneer" regards himself as a better Liberal than Mr. King, a better Liberal than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and a better Liberal than the 1,238,465 people who voted Liberal in the last election. Who is this very superior person?

About the last act of the Conservative government so much admired by "Western Pioneer" was the War Times Election Act depriving many of the citizens of Canada of the franchise. Was this one of the truly Liberal measures which won the admiration of "Western Pioneer"? The Toronto Globe declared that it was inconsistent with the national honor and British traditions, that it was more German than Canadian or English in its character.

THIS "Liberal" measure was immediately followed by the formation of the Union government, with about an equal representation of the two parties. So long as this government lasted, no comparison of the two parties could be made, because neither party was solely responsible for the acts and policy of the Union government. As the Liberal ministers one by one left the government and it became distinctively Conservative again, it ought, upon "Western Pioneer's" supposition, to have shown marked improvement, but this was not the general opinion of the country, for it was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls.

"Western Pioneer" says that Quebec voted against conservatism because it was following the orders of the Roman Catholic church. The church in Quebec does not exert nearly as much influence as he supposes; but on this point one may suspend judgment until there is a larger body of evidence from Quebec. It is certain, however, that in Ontario the weight of the Protestant churches was thrown on the side of conservatism and many pulpits were converted into political platforms. In these circumstances, we in Ontario have no right to boast of our freedom from clerical domination, or of our "theocracy" as "Western Pioneer" calls it.

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## Could Sell Out At a Big Profit

An Editorial In The Toronto Star.

PEOPLE outside the province should not allow themselves to be impressed by the view of the late Prof. Mayor that the hydro is on an unsound financial basis, that it has injured the credit of Ontario and that it may prove to be ruinous to the province. No considerable portion of the population of Ontario entertains that opinion. The absurdity of that view is indicated by the fact that high authorities believe that at any time the hydro could be disposed of to private interests for at least \$75,000,000 more than the amount invested in it by the people—which is a low estimate.

The price at which provincial bonds sell proves that Ontario's credit is tight, notwithstanding its venture into public ownership. There is nothing in

the contention that the hydro went wrong from the time that it started to develop its own power instead of continuing to buy all its power from private interests. The hydro was unfortunate enough to go into its first two big construction schemes during the war and to encounter the peak costs of material and labor in 1920. But both these major developments are commercially successful and both are now the mainstay of industry in the section of the province where they are located.

Now that construction costs are down, it is more than ever desirable that the hydro exploit its own water rights, where such are to be had rather than act as middleman. On the other hand, the hydro should not hesitate to secure any large blocks of power that private interests may be willing to sell at low prices.

Industry. How has Germany succeeded in these fields? It is world history. Every year we let go some \$100,000,000 to our neighbor, the United States, for coal, while we have enormous deposits of rich coal east and west in our own country. What a lever in trade that money would be in Canadian industry! Let us spend it for coal at home.

Observe our transportation facilities by water and rail are as applicable for coal haulage as they are for livestock and other cargoes. The coal industry of this dominion should command the nation's attention. It has unbounded possibilities; the productivity of our country and the incoming population make it imperative.

We must apply research along all lines of commercial development, in electricity, metals (steel, etc.), textiles in their many forms, coal tar derivatives and agriculture, etc. Mark you, the fundamentals of trade, making our endowments natural and otherwise, profitable to our country as early as possible.

Here are jobs for the men and women educated at our seats of learning right at hand. Why not overcome these tasks by the application of science to industry, and make Canada a manufacturing as well as an agricultural nation?

It can and must be done, and Canadians can do it. They dare not fail. Yours truly, THOMAS WICKETT, Applied Science, University of Toronto, '29.

Hamilton, Dec. 25, 1925. P.S.—The writer heretofore has advocated the setting aside of \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 by the dominion government as an endowment for industrial scientific research, in order to employ the scientific brains of Canadians for our country's good in trade and commerce.—T. W.

### SOME PARTY.

Servant (picking up silver spoon after party)—Good gracious! One of the guests must have had a hole in his pocket!

### COMPANY.

Sister—Oh, Jimmy, you're so cruel. How could you cut that poor defenceless worm in two?

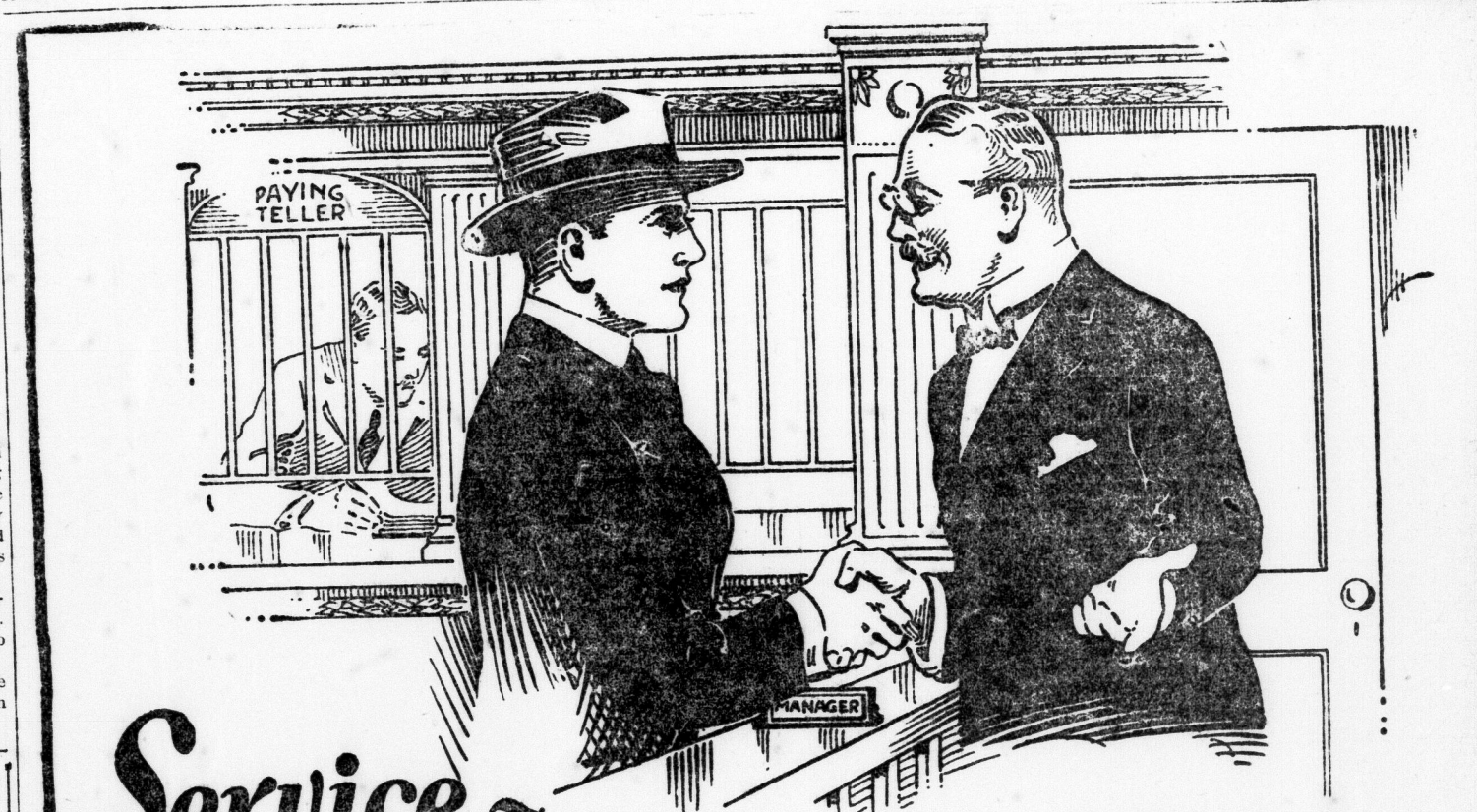
Jimmy—Aw, sis, he seemed so lonely.

### AHA!

Friend—I don't see why you want to get rid of your new maid, my dear.

I think she's just wonderful!

Hostess (grimly)—So did my husband!



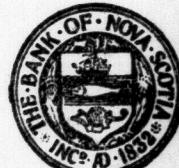
## Service marked by courteous efficiency

WHEN you bank with us we consider it an expression of your confidence in us. It then becomes our purpose to deserve this confidence by more than routine bank service. You are more than just an "account on our books." You become a client with individual needs and personal business problems that call for our closest co-operation.

The size of your account is not a

measure of our desire to serve you. We take as much personal interest in the affairs of the small business as we do in the one that carries a big balance with us. Many times in our experience of nearly one hundred years have we seen customers who began with us in a small way develop their business into large and prosperous concerns—a development in which the bank had no small part.

The Bank of Nova Scotia branch near you is qualified to give you this helpful business service.



## THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

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