

## The Toronto World

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 17.

### The Urgent Political Duty.

The middle of Ottawa can never be  
successfully cleared until the democ-  
racy Canada fought for resumes func-  
tioning without the repressions of the  
war period, and without the manipu-  
lations that have for so long cursed  
Canadian political life. Because of the  
war the country's old-time election  
machinery has been stalled, if not  
scraped. Parliament's first business  
is to restore and improve it for in-  
stant working. Cabinet reconstruction  
is really secondary to this, be-  
cause, unless we are to remain in the  
old bondage, no self-respecting ad-  
ministration would dream of carry-  
ing on without a mandate that fits  
the present time.

Two years ago, today the Union  
government was overwhelmingly en-  
dorsed at the poll. But, as events  
count, December 17, 1917, is a very  
ancient date. The extraordinary dis-  
integration of the cabinet is but a  
proof of the disappearance of its man-  
date. The disease that has plagued  
the cabinet permeates the body par-  
liamentary. The condition of the coun-  
try is such that, without a clear ex-  
pression of its will, no government,  
whatever the sum of its individual tal-  
ents, should presume to arrogate to  
itself possession of the national con-  
fidence.

But, it is said, if a parliamentary  
majority is available to the Borden  
cabinet's successor, what is the sense  
of preparing to appeal to the country?  
Back of that is the contention that  
most members of parliament know-  
ing they can never come back, will hang  
on to their indemnities until the end  
of 1922—three years longer. The con-  
tention is supported by the belief that  
the present insurrection against the tra-  
ditional partisan methods will fade  
away, and the old party fences be re-  
built.

Those who would implement so  
ignoble a theory can only be blind  
leaders of the blind. If they could  
have their way they would only assure  
for themselves the major restoration  
of political unfaithfulness. The dread  
of an election is always an unhealthy  
symptom, because it predates fear  
of the people.

Let the machinery of the constitu-  
tion be restored and public opinion,  
customarily so quiescent in Canada,  
will assert itself like the warmth of  
spring. To be afraid of public opin-  
ion is to display a fatal disqualifica-  
tion for leadership in a democratic  
country. Those who are so anxiously  
regarding Sir Robert Borden's shoes  
should read some history, regard the  
insistent signs of the times, and make  
it easy for the nation to recover con-  
trol of its own.

### The Amritsar Incident.

Revelations in connection with dis-  
turbances in India indicate that some  
men in authority there have not had  
the usual British common-sense in  
dealing with emergencies. The de-  
tailed accounts now being published  
of the action of General Dyer in firing  
into a public gathering of Hindus  
without warning, killing 400 and  
wounding 1500, who were left with-  
out attendance, sound more like some-  
thing from German West Africa than  
the sober recital of British doings in  
any part of the world.

Affairs of this description are not  
easily forgotten, and go far to balance  
the black memories of 1857. The  
newly-adopted legislation giving India  
a measure of home rule will assist in  
some measure to allay public disaffec-  
tion, but will also take on the ap-  
pearance of a concession made in view  
of the Amritsar incident. The habit  
of some military men and many civil-  
ians to treat all Hindus as an inferior  
race in their own land does not jus-  
tify such measures as General Dyer  
adopted.

### Canadian Copyright.

Copyright is a question once more  
engaging the Authors' and Composers'  
Association. The present state of the  
copyright laws in Canada is largely  
responsible for the domination of Cana-  
dian literature by United States in-  
terests, and for the migration of Cana-  
dian literary workers across the bor-  
der. Books that would be printed in  
Canada, were the copyright laws on  
all fours with those of other coun-  
tries, are now printed elsewhere. Edi-  
tions are brought over the border and  
sold here for lack of copyright laws,  
and in self-defence authors and com-  
posers are compelled to abandon the  
smaller for the larger market. As a  
result, the larger market dictates the  
style of the literature.

The same thing is true of the musi-  
cal world, and anything produced in  
Canada can be stolen with impunity,  
because the senate refuses to protect  
the Canadian author or composer. Two  
new sources of revenue from motion  
pictures and from phonograph records

are open to writers and musicians.  
But they cannot secure their just  
rights on account of the faulty Cana-  
dian copyright laws which the senate  
will not reform.

It is hoped that the gentlemen of  
the senate will take a more patriotic  
view of the matter than they have  
hitherto done. Some of the senators  
are authors themselves, and should  
assist their fellow scribes to own their  
own property.

### The High Cost of Time.

It becomes clear that the Grand  
Trunk nationalization legislation  
should have set a time limit for sign-  
ing the agreement between the gov-  
ernment and shareholders. Apparently  
there was no reason why the Grand  
Trunk shareholders meeting in Lon-  
don should not have been held early  
this month, except that it may have  
been supposed to be in somebody's in-  
terest to delay it—possibly for stock  
exchange purposes. But it will not  
take place for a month. The manage-  
ment committee of five, which is to  
be appointed by the government, and  
will begin the co-ordination of C. N.  
R. and G. T. R. services as soon as  
the opportunity arrives, cannot get to  
work for some time. It is understood  
that President Kelly of the Grand  
Trunk is still on vacation, so that  
there is little likelihood that "more  
haste, less speed," will apply to a drag-  
ging situation. Meantime, the absence  
of a swift co-ordination is costing the  
country thousands of dollars a day.  
Montreal will express no regret for  
this, because Montreal seems to enjoy  
chances of saying that the white ele-  
phant takes a prodigious amount of  
feeding.

### OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The World will gladly print under  
the latter title what is written by our  
readers, dealing with current topics. As  
space is limited they must not be  
written on one side of the paper only.

### PRESIDENT FLYNN REPLIES.

Editor Toronto World: Will you per-  
mit me to take exception to a statement pub-  
lished in this morning's issue of your  
paper, attributed to Mr. Hathaway,  
an official of the West Toronto G. W. V.  
A., which statement is as follows:  
"President Wilson had agreed to meet  
Mr. Flynn on condition that the latter  
give him the assurance that he would be  
allowed to speak freely and without in-  
terruption. This was refused and re-  
sulted in Mr. Wilson refusing to meet  
Mr. Flynn."

I desire to state that the above state-  
ment is an absolute falsehood, as Wil-  
son of the G. W. V. A. never replied to  
my challenge in any way, shape or man-  
ner, and furthermore, he stated or im-  
plied that he would not accept or enter  
into any discussion on the matter. Fur-  
thermore, he stated that he would not  
allow me to speak on the matter, and  
that if Dr. Wilson will now accept my  
challenge I will guarantee that as far as  
he is my power he will get a fair hear-  
ing without interruption. I think  
the West Toronto G. W. V. A. should be  
very much ashamed of the statement  
regarding Mr. Wilson's refusal to meet  
him. Mr. Hathaway was simply trying to  
keep up the question put to him in re-  
gard to Wilson in the east, if not the  
most honest way possible.

I am, sir, that your paper will  
keep up your record for fairness by pub-  
lishing this, my answer to the false state-  
ment attributed to the same Hathaway.  
Respectfully,  
J. Harry Flynn,  
President U. V. L.

### BRITAIN ACCEPTS FRENCH LOAN ISSUE

Amount and Terms Have Not  
Yet Been Decided  
Upon.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The time of issue,  
the amount and the terms of the  
French loan which is to be issued in  
England, as was announced in Lon-  
don yesterday, have not yet been de-  
cided upon, but will be fixed by agree-  
ment between the British and French  
governments, it was stated in a note  
issued today by Premier Clemenceau's  
office regarding the loan.

The conference held concerning  
the working of the reparations com-  
mission showed the identity of views  
of the two governments, and the  
note, "The economic and financial  
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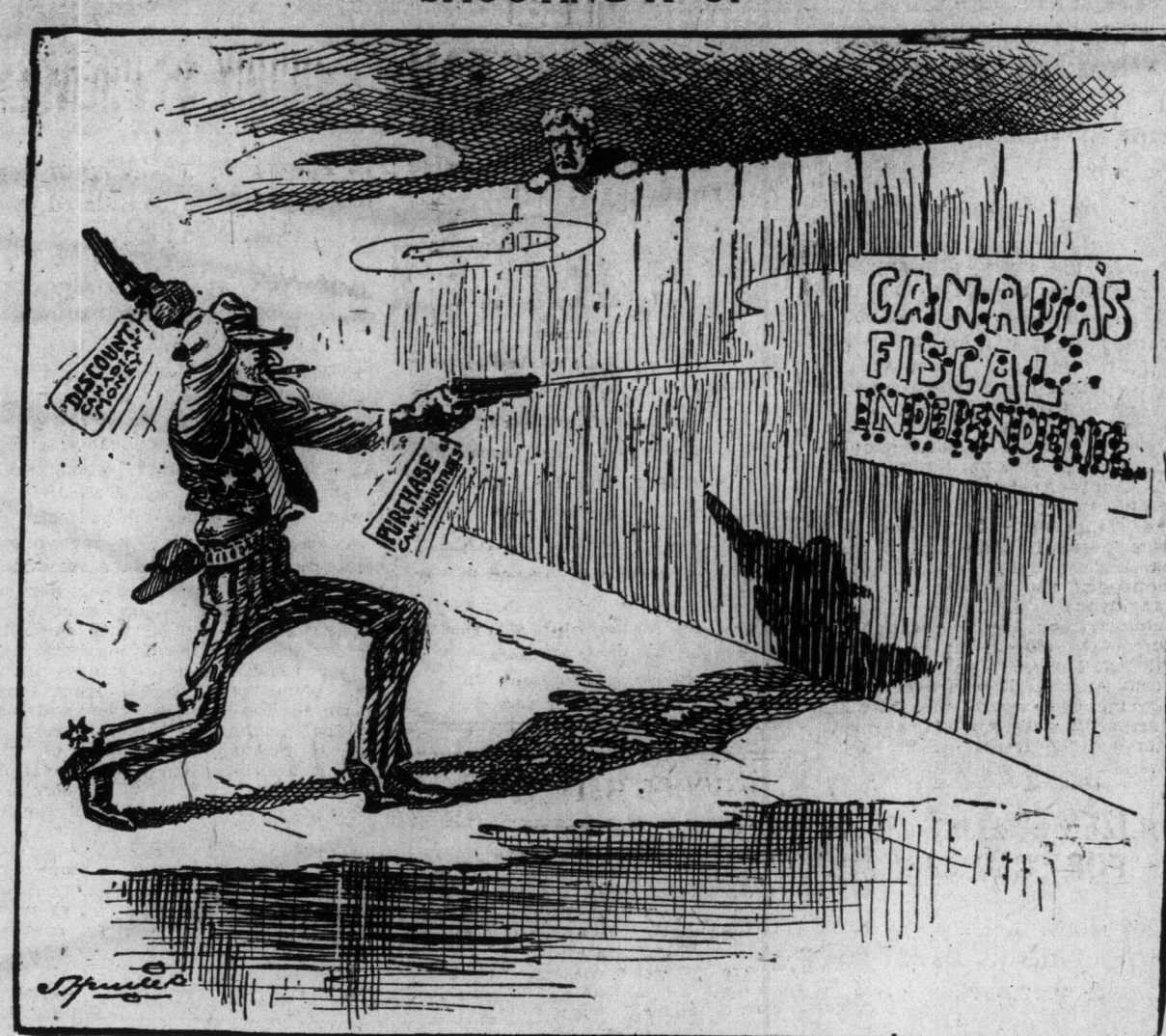
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## SHOOTING IT UP



### WHAT'S WRONG AT OTTAWA?

SECOND ARTICLE  
BY THE SPECTATOR.

Bob Rogers said the other day  
that this is a very good time to be  
looking in from outside. Half the  
cabinet seems to think the getting out  
is far better than staying in. A sec-  
tion of the cabinet is apprehensive  
lest somebody takes its hat off the  
peg, with ominous glances at the door.  
The chief is much perplexed about  
the order of his own going. The  
country is much perplexed about every-  
thing, because whoever quits at Ot-  
tawa must stay on the job and pay  
Reconstruction That Did Not.

"It doesn't matter what we say, but  
for heaven's sake let us all say the  
same thing," old Pam once said to  
his cabinet when a garrulous member  
had spoken indiscreetly to the public.  
The one unquestionable success which  
the historian will credit to the second  
Borden cabinet is that its members  
lived up to the Palmerston injunction.  
About things the people were  
thinking of they usually said the same  
thing—which was nothing.

Scarcely anybody knew where he  
was at—and, if he did, he didn't know  
it very long. Reconstruction always  
hung over the union like a cloud.  
In Massey Hall, at the opening of  
the 1917 election campaign, Sir Rob-  
ert Borden announced that the cabi-  
net would soon be re-oriented on a  
strictly fifty-fifty basis, as between  
Conservatives and Liberals. The pro-  
mise was never fulfilled, but the make-  
weights never knew how soon the  
time for musical chairs might be called.

Won't 'Ave It Very Long.  
Sitting in his office, a doubtful min-  
ister might feel as a voyager thru a  
tempestuous sea. At breakfast, which  
few passengers attended. He beckoned  
the faithful steward.  
"Steward," he said, "I'm sorry to say  
this chop isn't very good."  
"Never mind, sir," answered the  
considerate and observant man. "You  
won't 'ave it very long."

Cabinet realignment did not come  
after the win-the-war election. In due  
time Mr. Crothers stepped out, and  
Senator Robertson, from being min-  
ister of labor in waiting, became min-  
ister of labor in fact. But that wasn't  
a reconstruction—it was a submarine.  
When Sir Thomas White and Mr. Car-  
vell cleared out last summer, the re-  
construction was promised afresh. But  
Sir Henry Drayton had come in as  
minister of finance, and the cabinet  
was not to be re-oriented. When parlia-  
mentary session came swiftly, because  
Ottawa kicked at being regarded as a  
submarine, the reconstruction was  
postponed again. And now there is  
to be reconstruction, indeed, but Sir  
Robert Borden will not be there when  
it is done.

The Governors Have Stopped.  
Sir Robert's health has failed—  
more's the pity. But the habit of in-  
decision has been a tariff commission  
last fall. Three ministers were to tour  
the land, as the industrial commission did  
in the early summer. The matter is  
being given further consideration.  
The franchise should have been set-  
tled during the first session after the  
war. Two sessions have been held,  
and franchise revision is still on the  
governors' knees—opponents of the war-  
time elections act would say it is in  
much less divine hands.

The governors of our constitutional  
engine are not even wobbling—they  
have stopped, and their bearings are  
getting rusty. The people are expect-  
ed to be dumb, and it is hoped they  
will be content to let the government  
while in effect one government with  
out and another comes in, and parlia-  
ment is to say "amen" with bated  
breath and whispering humbleness.

There is nearly always a simple ex-  
planation of the most complicated polit-  
ical as well as physical diseases. These  
are not easy days for any national gov-  
ernment. No prime minister can be  
neither an archangel nor an alchemist.  
But decision is always an incompar-  
able indispensable quality in the states-  
manship of perilous times. Without  
skill in handling situations, no minis-  
ter of state can bring his ship thru tur-  
bulent waters. When you seek for the  
explanation of the present impotence at  
Ottawa, can it be found without  
prolonged and baffling search?

Can it be one fact but a neces-  
sary setting and one contingency be-  
reared. Men who would ordinarily  
jump at the chance to join the Domini-  
on government have with one consent

### Lend a Hand To Released Prisoners

BY  
IDA L. WEBSTER.

We have been asked to say a few  
words on behalf of the men and boys  
who are sentenced to the jail farms,  
and who upon their release are forced  
to brave the elements in the wearing  
apparel they wore on their entry to  
the place.

Numbers of those who are being re-  
leased this month, and also next, are  
men who were sentenced in the middle  
of the summer. The clothing they  
were wearing at the time of their con-  
viction is not of the calibre to stand  
the weather of yesterday or the day  
before. The government in Queens  
Park does nothing to render assist-  
ance in this particular instance, and  
so it is either up to the municipality  
or to the individual citizens.

Naturally you, like almost all the  
rest of the world, will think that the  
men who are released are forced to  
brave the elements in the wearing  
apparel they wore on their entry to  
the place. The government in Queens  
Park does nothing to render assist-  
ance in this particular instance, and  
so it is either up to the municipality  
or to the individual citizens.

However, aside from that, the fact  
remains that these various prisoners  
are being sent into the world dressed  
for the hot months of summer while  
the thermometer is resting just above  
zero.

Of course, the thing is criminal, and  
that one might expect of a case of  
P. J. Islanders. Nevertheless, it is hap-  
pening right here in our beautiful city  
of Toronto, or, rather, right on the  
limits of it.

The warden, or superintendent, or  
whatever the man in charge of the  
farm cares to call himself, has no  
right to do with it. He is not to  
blame if the men leaving the institu-  
tion freeze to death on their way to  
the city. With what wearing apparel  
he has at his disposal, he does his  
best, but certainly the bodies either  
all the needs, nor the bodies either  
for that matter. He can only rely upon  
the haphazard generosity of a few,  
and that source is not sufficient.

The government employs magis-  
trates to enforce the law or punish all  
those who break it. The persons com-  
ing under that latter heading are  
therefore wards of the government,  
and they should be by all the laws of  
nature and also Christianity (provid-  
ing there is such a thing) be returned  
to their homes at least a passably  
comfortable state.

When a person puts in his or her  
sentence, they have done all that is  
necessary, and should, according to  
law, be just as good as free. Other citi-  
zen. But they surely cannot be expect-  
ed to leave jail in summer clothing at  
this time of the year, and without a  
dollar, and then go straight. The  
thing just cannot be done any more.  
We are going to continue to treat people  
who get under the ban of the law as  
perpetual criminals, then they will re-  
main that way, and will continue to be  
an expense to the state.

In the meantime, about \$1500 is  
needed immediately for the purpose of  
bringing the men out of the jail, and  
coming out, and if you feel that you  
can contribute a donation it will be  
gratefully appreciated by those in  
charge of the work.

### GREEKS PUT TO ROUT TURKISH DETACHMENTS

Saloniki, Dec. 15.—An official state-  
ment issued by Greek headquarters  
today says:  
"One of our detachments clearing  
the heights north of Imambey of  
the enemy engaged 300 Turkish re-  
bels with machine guns. The Turks  
were pursued to the mountain heights of  
Kos."

"During an engagement on the Mas-  
sif, northwest of Aidin, one of our  
detachments captured many tents,  
clothes, medical supplies, foodstuffs and  
old uniforms. Our losses were four  
soldiers killed and one captain and  
fifteen soldiers wounded. The known  
losses of the enemy were six killed,  
one wounded and the village of Kankal  
and against our posts in the region of  
Aidin and Magnesia have been re-  
pulsed."

The Wireless Co., Jewellers,  
always give value. Office and  
Sample Room, 1st Floor, Room,  
1, 248 Yonge Street, Toronto.

## MOONLIGHT AND MONEY

BY MARION RUBINCAM

### THE VISITING ANGEL.

CHAPTER 63.

Louise was rather glad to go up  
to the quiet of the sick room after  
her talk with her father. There were  
many things she wanted to think  
about. The nurse went off for her  
dinner and a brief walk in the open  
air, so Louise was left in temporary  
charge.

Mrs. Driscoll seemed to be sleeping.  
Except for occasional nervous twist-  
ings, she did not move. Louise went  
to the armchair and sat down to think  
over the dinner-table talk conver-  
sation.

It was true, as her father said, that  
the great unfaithfulness was that of  
the soul. To be pure, physically, was  
even less important than be true  
spiritually.

Her pale, pretty face was more than  
ordinarily serious, her eyes were dark  
and brooding under the shadow of her  
lashes. These were not the thoughts  
she would have had a year ago, Louise  
had grown up from a girl into a  
mature woman.

Were many husbands and wives  
unfaithful to each other? She won-  
dered about it and wondered, too,  
whether anyone was ever true in spirit.  
Had Harry been faithful to her with  
this mind and soul?

But that idea would lead to morbid  
imaginings. She did not make her  
mother's mistake and wreck her own  
marriage by jealous broodings. Her  
own marriage was too nearly a wreck  
as it was. Respectfully, she shook off  
these ideas. She walked over to the  
bed and looked down at the thin  
figure of the invalid.

The nurse came back presently,  
greatly to her relief.  
"She's much quieter," she com-  
mented.

"Yes," the nurse agreed. "I don't  
know just at the crisis, whether I  
consider that a good or a bad sign."

"Poor mother," Louise sighed. "She's  
worn herself away literally. She's  
consumed a lifetime of nervous energy  
in forty-five years. She looks sixty-  
five now."

"I'm glad the doctor's coming soon,"  
the nurse said, by way of reply.  
And when he came, Louise knew.  
He did not have to tell her that it  
was a matter of a few hours. Her  
mother was seriously still now.  
Louise did not know whether it was

the quieting medicine that was given  
her, or whether it was a sign that  
the end was near.

She had decided one thing, how-  
ever: Her father must see her mother—  
afterwards! She went to the hall to  
find him pacing back and forth again.  
"Come," she said quietly. She did  
not have to say anything more.

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unfaithful to each other? She won-  
dered about it and wondered, too,  
whether anyone was ever true in spirit.  
Had Harry been faithful to her with  
this mind and soul?

But that idea would lead to morbid  
imaginings. She did not make her  
mother's mistake and wreck her own  
marriage by jealous broodings. Her  
own marriage was too nearly a wreck  
as it was. Respectfully, she shook off  
these ideas. She walked over to the  
bed and looked down at the thin  
figure of the invalid.

The nurse came back presently,  
greatly to her relief.  
"She's much quieter," she com-  
mented.

"Yes," the nurse agreed. "I don't  
know just at the crisis, whether I  
consider that a good or a bad sign."

"Poor mother," Louise sighed. "She's  
worn herself away literally. She's  
consumed a lifetime of nervous energy  
in forty-five years. She looks sixty-  
five now."

"I'm glad the doctor's coming soon,"  
the nurse said, by way of reply.  
And when he came, Louise knew.  
He did not have to tell her that it  
was a matter of a few hours. Her  
mother was seriously still now.  
Louise did not know whether it was

the quieting medicine that was given  
her, or whether it was a sign that  
the end was near.

She had decided one thing, how-  
ever: Her father must see her mother—  
afterwards! She went to the hall to  
find him pacing back and forth again.  
"Come," she said quietly. She did  
not have to say anything more.

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to the hall to find him pacing back  
and forth again. "Come," she said  
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