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SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 5

The Railway Riddle.

Spinning-like, the future of the steam railway is a pressing and exceedingly difficult problem to the people of Great Britain, Canada and the United States. It exists in these countries mainly because they are the countries in which railway construction and operation have been until very lately entirely confined to private ownership and operation. In all three countries the railway has ceased to be a profitable investment. Individual systems like the Canadian Pacific may prove an exception to the rule, but applied to the nation at large, the rule is beyond dispute. For this state of affairs contributing causes suggest themselves. In England the cost of construction was excessive; in Canada there was wasteful duplication; in the United States there was wholesale mismanagement. Disunity in private ownership and inexperience in public ownership were factors in the United States. But one great underlying cause of the present dislocation lies in the fact that the average railway cannot take in enough money from passenger and freight services to pay operating expenses, fixed charges and pay any return upon capital represented by common stock.

That the increased cost of operation cannot be overtaken by an increase in rates abundantly appears from the experience of the United States. The Esch-Cummings Act practically permits the roads to charge any rates necessary to pay a fair return upon capitalization. But, as you can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink, you can lead a passenger to the station, but you cannot make him pay a ticket. An increase in rates has been followed by a falling off in business. If rates go too high they get beyond what the traffic will bear, and work out as disastrously for the railway as would a charge of four cents or seven cents for carrying a letter instead of three cents work out for the government. Hence the prattle of our press about the "deficit" on the National Railways hinged upon a suggestion that a change of government or a change of ownership would solve the difficulty, is parochial to the point of childishness.

The system, as at present constituted, could not, under any management, pay operating expenses and fixed charges. The system will be greatly strengthened and made a better showing when the old Grand Trunk is consolidated with the other government lines. Everyone, we think, admits this, and we cannot understand the delay in making that absorption a completed reality. But the howl about deficits continues to be repeated by the enemies of public ownership, quite oblivious to the utter breakdown to private ownership and operation in the United States.

The roads were returned to their owners in the United States a year ago, and, oh, what a year it has been! The rates have doubled, the service has degenerated, the roads are unable to secure necessary equipment and keep themselves in passable repair. Railway securities have never been at so low a figure, and a great big financial loss has got to be taken either by the stockholders or by the government. The shareholders are confronted by the dilemma of liquidation or nationalization.

Nobody pretends that all the railways of the United States combined into one system and placed under one management, either public or private, could be operated as things are now without a big deficit. What is true of the United States is true of Great Britain. It may be less true of Canada, but we do not think even The Montreal Gazette would carry its identity of the Canadian Pacific officials to the point of saying that they can run all the railways of Canada as a unified system, and come out at the end of the year without a deficit. We must try to keep the deficit down as much as possible. But the rates cannot be jacked up any higher, and to make a ruthless reduction in the wages of the train men would be a doubtful experiment. Do those who are trying to prevent the absorption of the Grand Trunk realize the hopeless position of that company with its commitments in respect to the Grand Trunk Pacific? If it had to care for these commitments it would show deficits running into many millions every year.

Fleeing From the United States.

What is the reason asks S. Miles Boutin, in an article in The Atlantic Monthly, for so many naturalized Americans repatriating their Ameri-

JUST WHEN WE HAVE HIM ALMOST LICKED**THIS GENT STEPS IN****NEW YORK'S MAYOR IS OUT FOR BUSES**

(Continued From Page 1).
would help to reduce taxation. Moreover, bonds issued to purchase buses and construct the present subway can be exempted from the debt limit, and such credit can be used to further extend the subway. It can readily be seen that great profits would be realized from a municipally-owned bus system, which could be used to build hospitals and schools and make other necessary public improvements without further burdening the people by taxation. These date automobile buses in operation on the city streets of New York.

Step Traction Gambling.
The municipal bus system would be a sort of gold mine, out of which he will escape with his treasure at the earliest possible moment. Generally he remains because he has not the money to go back. Sometimes he goes back on a visit, finds himself disenchanted, and returns to the new world. If he makes money here he stays willingly. Where the treasure is the heart is, so he will naturally become devoted to the country upon whose existence his own fortune depends.

Apparently some of the returning Scandinavians interviewed by Mr. Boutin were tinctured or at least flavored with Socialism. Some of them bitterly resented the United States entering the war, and conscription. Having fled from the old world to get away from military service and everlasting war, they were disappointed to find the United States entering into a European war. Their return to the land of their birth was easy at this time because Scandinavian nations must all of them be rich as a result of their neutrality.

Allowing for all these things, however, it pretty well appears that many of these naturalized Americans were going back to Scandinavia "because America is no longer what it used to be." They liked the country, they said, but not the people who ran it. They were not leaving because of prohibition, but prohibition seemed to be in some cases the last straw on the camel's back. There was among them a sullen, resentful feeling toward a government that had become a government of repression and based itself principally with the conscription law of making its citizens uncomfortable. More than one complained that free speech was almost impossible, and that a man dared not think unless he thought along the lines prescribed by the ruling classes of the community.

Marked in Passing.

Washington dispatch says "Let's go" was the chief battle slogan of the U. S. army in the war. Question is, when did it first get popular?

With Canada faced with a \$400,000,000 war debt, it does not seem too much to ask Germany to spend the next 42 years paying her indemnities.

Do Quebec liquor dealers really believe what they say when they start their appeals for business with statements to the effect that Ontario will soon be unable to get any wet goods from that province?

It is announced Wm. L. McK. King (space is scarce tonight) will spend the week-end in and about Peterboro. He will have lots of time to tell the voters the present parliament has no right to exist and to vary his tale by begging them to elect his man to that same parliament.

Women workers in the U. S. are starting a drive for the right to use their maiden names when married. It is supposed the good old-fashioned trick of carrying the business in the name of the other partner of the matrimonial partnership will still stand when snags are seen ahead.

ACTION IS PROMISED RE LABORITES RELEASE

Winnipeg, Feb. 4.—Premier Meighen in a reply to a request that Labor members of the provincial legislature imprisoned on charges of seditious conspiracy be released in time for the opening of the house, states that the matter has been referred to the department of justice for action. F. Dixon, leader of the Labor party, received the reply today.

MONTREALER HELD ON BIGAMY CHARGE

Was Chased Over Roofs in New York After Wives Laid Information.

New York, Feb. 4.—Bene Rosenbaum, 42, of Montreal, who was indicted here for bigamy several weeks ago on the complaint of two of his alleged wives, was arrested late today by detectives of the district attorney's staff. He will be arraigned tomorrow.

Frieda Spitzer of Manhattan, claims that the prisoner married her on Aug. 4, 1917, while Johanna Benjamin of the Bronx, says Rosenbaum made her his wife on June 18, 1920. Both marriages are said to have been performed in New York. The Benjamin woman, in addition to making charges of bigamy, told the authorities that Rosenbaum, after marrying her, stole her jewels and fled to Canada.

After the complaint had been made and a warrant issued here for the arrest of Rosenbaum, New York detectives working on the case learned that their man was in Montreal. They sought his arrest thru the Canadian authorities, but the latter could not act in the matter because bigamy is not an extraditable offense under Canadian law. Today the two alleged wives went to the district attorney's office and reported that they had met Rosenbaum in the city Thursday night and that he would visit a sister of his who lived on East Fourth street this afternoon. A trap was set for the erring husband and he was caught after detectives had chased him over several roofs and thru a number of back yards, firing a few shots at him en route.

SEISMOGRAPHS RECORD A SEVERE EARTHQUAKE

Washington, Feb. 4.—A severe earthquake shock, which began at 2:38 and lasted until 4:45 this morning, was reported by Father Francis A. Tondorf, director of the Georgetown Seismological Observatory. The instruments were indicated by the south of Washington, and reached its highest intensity at 3:38, Father Tondorf said.

The seismograph record indicated a disturbance even more severe than that recorded Dec. 18 last. He estimated that today's disturbance probably was in South America.

The earthquake reported by Washington this morning was recorded in Toronto at the observatory on West Bloor street, as being a well-marked but not medium-sized tremor. The seismograph shows that the disturbance was first felt in Toronto at 3:30 this morning, that it reached its greatest intensity at 3:45 and that it ended about 4:40, thus lasting about an hour in all.

James Young of the seismological branch at the observatory, estimates that the quake originated about 2,100 miles from Toronto, probably being somewhere in the Caribbean Sea.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD BOY DROWNS AT GUELPH

Guelph, Ont., Feb. 4.—(Special).—A sad drowning accident occurred in the city this afternoon in an unused quarry when the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Roy fell thru a soft place in the ice and disappeared. Before assistance could be secured the little fellow was drowned. An inquest was deemed unnecessary.

Vernon Mother and Baby Are Suffocated in Their Home

Vernon, B.C., Feb. 4.—Mrs. Hugh Heggie and her three-month-old baby were suffocated in their home early this morning when the bed clothes they were sleeping caught fire, which, it is believed, started from a lighted cigarette. Mrs. Heggie was the wife of the city magistrate.

Official Denial of Reports Of Preparations in Rhineland

Brussels, Feb. 4.—Reports received here from German sources regarding alleged movements of allied troops and military preparations in the Rhineland were officially denied here today.

PLUCKY POLICEMAN SHOT BY BURGLARS

Forbes Has Running Fight in Early Morning With Gunmen.

Constable Tom Forbes of Markham street police station, who was shot in the left leg in a gun fight with two burglars about 3:35 yesterday morning in a lane at the rear of A. W. Neal's drug store, 66 Vaughan road, was suffering considerable pain. The World was informed at a late hour last night at the General Hospital. His condition is regarded as favorable, however, and he is expected to again be on his beat in the course of two or three weeks' time. This bullet was extracted yesterday afternoon.

So far as could be learned at detective headquarters last night, the police have no clues that might lead to the identity of the men, although Forbes declares that if he were confronted with one of the men he would be able to recognize him. Forbes believes that one of his bullets found its mark in one of the men, who the plucky constable was at a disadvantage as he had to fire while on his knees or lying on his back because of five chambers of his revolver with the revolver similar to that in use for the past forty years by the police force, has been criticized and complained of by the men, and if neither of the burglars was hit it would not be surprising. When asked concerning this matter yesterday afternoon Chief Dickson admitted that armed with the British bulldog revolver the men were at a disadvantage. He stated that for some time he had been advocating a new revolver for the police, and since taking office had furthered matters with revolvers and ammunition at the present time, but was not yet prepared to state what action he would take in the matter.

Policeman's Story.
Forbes' own version of the encounter is that he was trying the doors on Vaughan road and had just turned the corner of the lane when he saw the two men huddled in the doorway at the rear of Neal's drug store. At his approach he heard one of the men say: "Here's a bull, beat it." At that both of them drew revolvers and shot at Forbes, one of the bullets striking his leg and he dropped forward on his face. Pulling himself up to a kneeling position Forbes drew his weapon and returned the fire. Continuing to fire at the constable, the men dashed for the mouth of the lane, and Forbes, nearly fell over him as he passed by. After the shooting had ceased, Forbes dragged himself to the door and tried to enter to phone for assistance, when citizens came to his rescue.

First word of the shooting was phoned to the station by W. E. Cox, 38 Ella-west avenue, and Sgt. Brown, who was on duty, pausing only to secure his cap, flashlight and revolver, leaped into the police auto, along with two plainclothesmen, and reached the scene of the shooting less than five minutes after they received the alarm. Dr. Corrigan, 544 St. Clair avenue, and Dr. Martyn, 544 St. Clair avenue, who had been summoned by citizens, arrived just as the police did. They found Forbes still conscious, the suffering great pain. His wounds were dressed and a narcotic tablet was administered to him, after which he was removed to the General Hospital in the police ambulance.

Apparently the burglars had been disturbed in their work before they had time to enter the store by the door, which was accidentally left unlocked, as nothing inside the store had been taken.

In running away one of the thugs dropped his gun. There were no powder marks on the revolver or empty shells in the lane, and the police do not believe this weapon was used in the encounter.

Mrs. Forbes, wife of the wounded constable, who has been ill at their home at 109 Lippin avenue for some time, is now suffering from shock, following the news of her husband being shot.

UNITED FARMERS CONTEST FEDERAL BY-ELECTION

Frederickton, N.B., Feb. 4.—The United Farmers are preparing to contest the federal by-election in York-Sunbury, ordered necessary by the death of Col. H. F. McLeod, and have called a convention for Saturday, Feb. 19.

RED TROOPS IN PODOLIA DISBANDED THRU TYPHUS

Paris, Feb. 4.—Ravages of typhus among the Bolshevik troops concentrated near Kamenetz-Podolsk, in the government of Podolia, has necessitated their disbandment, according to advice received in diplomatic circles in Paris today from a reliable source.

PREMIER OF GREECE DECIDES TO RESIGN

Athens, Feb. 4.—Premier Rallis has determined to resign, it was announced today, owing to differences with regard to who shall head the Greek delegation, which will participate in the forthcoming conference on near eastern questions, to be held in London.

The Rallis ministry was formed on November 18 last, in succession to that of M. Venizelos.

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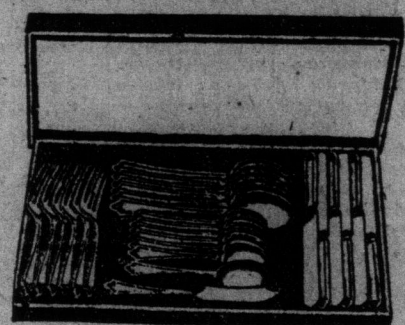
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FOUR DRILLING OUTFITS FOR NEW OIL FIELDS

Winnipeg, Feb. 4.—The Imperial Oil Company will operate four drilling outfits on their property at Fort Norman this coming summer. Alex. McQueen, vice-president stated today, Mr. McQueen is in the city today en route to Toronto from Edmonton. Extensive drilling operations will also be carried out in other Alberta and Saskatchewan fields by the company, Mr. McQueen said.

DAUDET HAS DECLINED CASSAGNAC'S CHALLENGE

Paris, Feb. 4.—Leon Daudet, prominent royalist, has declined the challenge of Paul de Cassagnac for a duel. Daudet dismisses the challenge as a serio-comic proposal, and says that he has already fought eleven duels. The affair arose from an incident in the chamber of deputies where de Cassagnac, a Bonapartist, had an altercation with Daudet concerning war services.

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Ladies' and

Gentlemen's

NEW YORK HAT

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Athens, Feb. 4.—A mi

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Breek delegation to the

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AUTHORIZE NEW HY

Rockville, Ont., Feb.

Pro-Electric Power Co

authorized the followi

rates per horse-power f

new electric power fo

falls development: F

Smith's Falls. \$38.22; C

\$44.36. "An increase in

each cent per horse-p

has been authorized.

STREET CAR I

Friday, Feb.

King and Belt l

both ways, delaye

times at 1:20 p.m.

and Jarvis, by fire

King cars, both

delayed 6 minutes

at G.T.R. by train

Dundas and Col

both ways, delaye

times at 1:20 p.m.

King's and Dundas

stuck on track.

King cars both

delayed 6 minutes

at G.T.R. crossing.

Bathurst cars, b

delayed 7 minutes

at Front and Joh

by train.

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PATERSON—Suddenly, o

residence, 260 St. Geo

Harry Pateron, in his

SHAW—At the residence

444 Parliament street,

S. Edward (Little Tedd

of Hugh and Birdie

months, 10 days.

Funeral from above a

unday at 3 p.m., to Nor

IN MEMORI

BRITTON—in loving me

Britton, who departed

Feb. 1920.

Sleep on, dear father, a

rest!

Lay down thy head upon

breast.

We love thee well, but J

best.

Good night

Calm is thy slumber as a

But thou shalt wake no m

weep.

Thine is a perfect rest, a

Good night

Wife, Son

FRED. W. MATTHE

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