

## The Toronto World

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FRIDAY MORNING, OCT. 24.

### The Corporations and the Social Democrats.

Corporation organs are doing their best to knock Sir Adam Beck at present, and they are relying on the sympathy of the Social Democrats to make it difficult to carry on the Hydro-electric system. It is a peculiar quality of the Social Democrats that the better a government runs its business and the more it benefits all the people, the greater is the opposition to it of the Social Democratic party. Exponents of Social Democracy in Ontario are denouncing Sir Adam Beck because, they say, he has done as much for capital as for labor.

As a matter of fact this is not so. In the arrangement of Hydro-electric lighting rates the small consumer has a large advantage over the big consumer. There is a reduced rate given for light or power consumed over a certain amount. The large consumer has to use three times as much current as the small consumer before the lower rate becomes effective for him. The large consumer has been inclined to complain about this, also he has had his rates reduced to one-fourth of their former amount by Hydro. But the Social Democrat has a complaint also because the large consumer gets any benefit at all. It is this unreasonable that has injured those with whom the Social Democrats ally themselves.

Under this Hydro system of discrimination the small consumers averaging 89 cents a month in their accounts have grown from 2,400 to 13,000. With such developments of advantage to the small consumer the corporations and the Social Democrats apparently came to the conclusion that it was necessary to "beat Beck."

### London's Lapse.

London's shame is the shame of all apathetic and neglectful electorates. Plenty of people stayed at home last Monday because they were confident that Sir Adam Beck could not be defeated, and all who did so were guilty of his defeat. The same thing happens in nearly every election. Over-confident of results of which they heartily approve, voters stay at home and take the chance of having their cause or their candidate defeated.

A revolution in voting would secure a revolution in representation. As voters cannot be induced to come out to vote under the present system, a new system must be adopted, and the best that has been devised so far, according to general experience, is proportional representation.

P. R., as it is known, is in the platform both of the United Farmers and of the Labor men, and will be one of the first pieces of legislation to be adopted. It secures at once the universal interest of the electorate, since under it every vote counts, and the candidates nominated are emancipated from the contest of party machines. In fact the great virtue of P. R. is that it practically extinguishes the machine as a political method.

What this means for the purification and elevation of politics can only be appreciated after practical experience of the new system. There has been evidence enough of the advantages of it in other countries where it has been adopted. Of the evils of the machine in politics we do not need to go outside Ontario or the election just past. The London election has been a typical example of the machine at work at long range. Hon. W. D. McPherson has seen fit to deny the accuracy of our statements under this head. His denial may satisfy the general public, but they do not satisfy Controller Maguire, for example, who states that the support for the Beck policies he not only read over the pledge to him over the phone, but expostulated with him on his refusal to sign it. If Mr. McPherson is unaware of the other matters it scarcely gives him the right to deny what is within the knowledge of so many others. The late Mr. A. W. Wright had a similar difficulty in getting Mr. McPherson to acknowledge the accuracy of some statements Mr. Wright made at a public meeting on West Queen street when Mr. Wright opposed Mr. McPherson, but Mr. Wright, like Controller Maguire, did not change his opinion.

### Making the Country Solid.

Fourteen-fifths of the last Victory Loan was spent in Canada. This means that those who put their money into the loan were investing it in the development of the country. Whether it be devoted to lifting the war debt, or to purchasing supplies in the country, the end is the same, and sets free the energies of the nation.

The funded debt of England has long been regarded as a source of her strength. To the nation it lends a stability which is at first not easy to understand. But when the fact is grasped that every investor in a Victory bond becomes a partner in the

national business concern and draws dividends from it in the shape of his interest, the solidity may be understood.

War and demobilization expenses and war service gratuities consumed sixty cents on the dollar of the last loan, and another thirty-four cents were spent on advances to Great Britain and the allies for the purchase of our wheat and other foodstuffs. We bought our own produce with it, and accepted the notes of our neighbors for the food we thus disposed of. It is the way Britain has been growing rich for more than a century.

This view will perhaps stimulate the interest of the Canadian who has not been inclined to view the national debt as an advantage. When we owe it to ourselves it is a most advantageous investment. When we owe our debts to our neighbors it is they who gain the advantage.

There are other good reasons why we should not borrow from our neighbors at present. They want too high interest rates. We would rather give them our produce than our money when we pay our debts, but if we owe too much they insist on getting both our money and whatever they choose, and not what we choose of our merchandise.

An investment in the new Victory Loan is one of the very best in the world, and may be regarded as the safest security on earth. It is true that the United States hold our money at a discount, but nevertheless we have greater resources behind our dollars than our southern neighbors have behind theirs.

These are good reasons for investing in the Victory Loan; good reasons for the country, and good reasons for those who buy the bonds.

### 'Ware Senatorial Breakers.

General McLean of St. John is the government Grand Trunk wrecker in the commons. Senators Foster of Mont., Nichols of Toronto, Gordon of North Bay and McClellan of Nova Scotia promise to be his fellow insurgents, who may be joined by several other customary supporters of the government in the lethal chamber. To prevent the curfew ringing on public ownership, it may be necessary to fill senatorial vacancies and possibly to use the reserve power to enlarge the upper house. The government is determined to do the only logical thing to save the National Railways and to vindicate in transportation the democracy for which Canadian lives were sacrificed during four appalling years.

That a great democratic asset is at hazard is patent from the confession which the pro-corporation newspapers frequently make, that national ownership and direction of railways is in general favor with the electorate. The modern policy is to be frustrated because the nation does not know what is good for itself—which is merely a way of saying that the nation does not know what is good for the magistrate men, to whom railway franchises and timber limits are providences from which all blessings flow.

General McLean is the street railway magnate of New Brunswick. Senator Foster is the legal luminary and beneficiary of various great corporations in Quebec. Senator Gordon has a goodly share of many lumber and other interests. Senator Nichols is eminent among Toronto corporation-ists, and is one of the former Canadian Northern group, who are wildly said in Quebec to inspire the government's policy. They will assure the senate that the people do not know what is good for the country. They will assure one another, as a listener to the returns in the Toronto Board of Trade did on Monday night, that the country is going mad.

Meantime newspaper support of practical public ownership steadily grows. The Christian Guardian is the latest adherent to the forces of commercial democracy. It testifies that "the one point upon which the majority of the electorate will agree is that the Grand Trunk Railway must not be absorbed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and government ownership seems the only practical alternative." The Christian Guardian doesn't like all the terms, presumably the proposed guarantee of four per cent, on the arbitrated value of the \$225,000,000 guaranteed stock, to which The Brockville Recorder and Times objects, because, as its price is rising in the stock market, the sellers will make a lot of money. The real danger lies, of course, in the arbitration argument, that the gamblers' increasing of the "value" will afford the Grand Trunk directors that the stock is worth what it appears to be, and not what it stood at when there was no expectation of national purchase. This characteristic manoeuvre of high finance is believed to have been guarded against, but arbitrators are an incalculable quantity, and stock exchange figures are very seductive.

The only thing for the friends of public ownership in and out of parliament to do is to keep up the fight and prove that the magistrate men are impotent against the forces of sanity, prevision and national economy.

### The Navy League Appeal.

This is the last day of the Nelson campaign for the Boys' Naval Brigade. A sum of \$500,000 has been asked for, but the response so far has not been equal to expectations. The aim of the league is the training of boys for our mercantile navy so that

## LAYING HIS AXE AT THE ROOT OF IT



the stock of the "Hearts of Oak," who have ever been the strength of Britannia, shall never run low.

Another object of the fund is the relief of our merchant seamen, injured in the war, and for the dependents of those who were killed. The war is over, largely on account of the fidelity of those who braved the dangers of the deep. We are at peace once more and enjoying all the advantages these men risked their lives or died for to secure for us. But the injured and the widows and orphans live on, and they have a right to look to all who enjoy the dearly bought gains of victory to share their blessings with those who suffer for their effort, or by reason of the loss of their natural protectors.

Canadians can afford to be generous in this cause and only a slight effort is needed from those who are able to surpass the sum which the Navy League has aimed at. Subscriptions are received at 34 King street west.

### THE LONDON ELECTION

General Superintendent Purvis Denies C. P. R. Workmen Were Instructed How to Vote.

Canadian Pacific Railway Company. (Ontario District.)  
Toronto, Oct. 23, 1914.  
Editor The Toronto World,  
Toronto.

Sir: An editorial appeared in The Toronto World of yesterday's date, having regard to the recent provincial election in London, Ontario, in which it is stated in part as follows: "The C. P. R. and Grand Trunk workmen were instructed that they must work against and vote against Beck."

On behalf of the C. P. R. I have to say that the above statement is totally untrue and absolutely without foundation, and I cannot too strongly emphasize my remarks in refutation thereof. Yours truly,

Allen Purvis,  
General Superintendent.

### OTHER PEOPLES' OPINIONS

The World will gladly print under this heading letters written by our readers, dealing with current topics. As space is limited they must not be longer than 200 words and written on one side of the paper only.

### PROFITS IN TOMATOES.

Editor World: One raw tomato two and one-half inches diameter, sliced, costs ten cents in every restaurant in Toronto. This means a profit of 1500 per cent. now and was a profit of 2000 per cent. a month ago at prevailing prices. Is this extortion or just over and overcharging?  
Reader.

## MARSHAL PETAIN EXPLAINS STORY OF VERDUN DEFENCE

French Were Aware of Enemy's Plan—Germans Held Fort at Douaumont During Eight Days—Final Victory in February, 1916.

Verdun, France, Oct. 23.—Over the historic and tragic battlefield of Verdun, King Alfonso of Spain walked yesterday with Marshal Petain, the chief defender of the citadel during the tremendous struggle that was fought in February and March, 1916.

The king proceeded to the military cemetery, where he deposited a wreath of orchids tied with wide ribbons forming the Spanish colors, upon which was pinned a tribute from the royal visitor.

The party then turned to the battlefield, reaching Fort Douaumont at 10 o'clock. General Alfonso, who was evidenced by King Alfonso, who asked to be shown the underground passages leading to the outer redoubts. When the king and the marshal emerged from the deep shelters, they were both stained with mud. France was not surprised by the German offensive against Verdun, said the marshal, in describing the battle. "It was a defensive battle at first, the fight commencing at 7 o'clock on the evening of February 21, after violent artillery preparation."

"Six weeks before," he continued, "we had received our first information from learning of the construction of a formidable system of railroads leading to Verdun. There were fourteen tracks formed into a network that stretched out from the German bases toward our lines. We had only one road over which to move supplies and munitions. "As proof that we were not surprised, I may say, we sent for the Twentieth Corps, which reached Verdun on February 25. It did not fall from Heaven. However, the fact remains that when the battle of Verdun began we had on the right bank of the Meuse only two divisions opposing five German army corps. These two divisions held their positions for five days.

Most Critical Day.  
"February 25 was the most critical day of the battle. The enemy, by sacrificing, without counting, his best troops, had succeeded in capturing the situation was grave. On February 25 the troops which had been occupying the Woëvre sector (to the east of Verdun) were ordered to fall back to the heights of the Meuse. The order

was criticized then, but its wisdom was later recognized.

"Since I had received an order from great headquarters to establish contact with General Castelnau's division, which had been defending Fort Douaumont and was now falling back on Souilly, I met General Castelnau at Souilly. All he said was: 'Take command of the army. Thus on the evening of February 26, I assumed command of the army before Verdun, distributed the commands among Generals Guillaumat, Duchesne and De Balfourier, ordered that each other inch of ground be given up and that the defenders should reply to every attack by a counter offensive.

Germans Held the Fort.  
"During the eight days that followed, the village of Douaumont changed hands ten times, but the Germans held the fort."

"I understand now," said King Alfonso, "why during those hours we knew nothing of what was going on here."

"At last, on March 4," Marshal Petain resumed, "the village was definitely ours, and on March 6, when the Germans attacked on the left bank of the Meuse, I was ready to receive them. It had always appeared strange to me that an attack had not been launched on the left bank of the river, and everything was prepared in view of such an assault. It was because the enemy deferred that attack too long that we were able to restore the situation. That delay saved us."

"Then came the gigantic struggle for Hill 364 and Dead Man's Hill. It was then I issued my order of the day: 'Courage, we will get them.' Marshal Petain then told the story of General Mangin's offensive on May 22, by which Douaumont village was stormed, adding that the Germans put five new divisions into the line during the preceding fifteen days, and from May 22 to June 23 hurled eight other divisions into the fight, only to gain but 500 yards.

"The enemy after this fighting was shouting 'Victory,'" said the marshal disdainfully. "General Mangin's offensive on Oct. 26, when Fort Douaumont was recaptured and the Germans forced to evacuate the village and Fort Vaux, with the loss of 11,000 prisoners, was then described.

"At the end of 1916," the French chief said, "the situation was favorable on the right bank of the Meuse, but bad on the left. On Aug. 20, 1917, however, our offensive on both banks of the Meuse brought us back to our original lines of February, 1916, and on that day we gathered in everything we wished."

## MOONLIGHT AND MONEY

BY MARION RUBINCAM

### THE HONEYMOON.

#### CHAPTER XVII.

They chose a hotel at one of the pretty but less fashionable lake resorts in Northern Jersey, and as it was a little ahead of the regular season they were almost the only guests.

It wouldn't really have mattered, however, how many people there were about them. For, after the manner of honeymooners they wouldn't have been aware of the others, anyway. Evidently, they imagined that no one would suspect they were bride and groom—and they gave themselves away, of course, with almost every action.

For instance, Harry wanted to teach Louise how to handle a canoe. Morning and evening she was to have a lesson. Now, a lady must always be helped carefully into so unstable a craft; but there was something in the intensity of Harry's care as he seated Louise by the hand that marked him at once as a bridegroom. There was some—something in the way he watched Louise cross the lawn toward him, something in the manner in which he hung about the foot of the steps when she had gone to the room to change—something restless and hungry in his glances up the stairs while he waited—which even the most loyal and affectionate of husbands of long standing cannot show. These evidences, and particularly the broad smile of absolute content and joy that illumined his face when Louise was with him, marked him to the few guests in the hotel, as definitely as the "Just Married" sign which was printed across his shirt front. Possession sat consciously on Harry's shoulders.

A honeymoon should always be spent completely away from the world. For a time, at least, two spirits that have elected to spend their lives together, should be alone and away from the intrusion of outsiders; they need a period in which to find each other, to explore each other's temperaments, to discover new virtues and accept new faults; to learn each other as only those can who live in the intimacy of married life. There are rare spirits who can shut the world out at will, and there are others so much in love that the universe centres in the person and the crowd is blurred and distant like a background which is out of focus in a picture.

Harry and Louise were of the latter class. The warmly sympathetic smiles of the other women in the hotel meant no more to Louise than any ordinary polite greetings. And Harry, while ecstatically conscious of his new state,

never imagined others recognized the freshness of his matrimonial bonds.

"There seem to be some very nice folks here," Louise commented, the second afternoon, as they pushed off in the canoe. "Yes," Harry agreed, "but I'm glad there are no more of them. Why would you like to know any of them? Talk to any one but you, just now at least." She smiled at him over her shoulder from her place in the bow of the craft, and forgot completely the stroke she had been learning.

"Mind your paddle, there," Harry warned, "and keep in the middle of the boat. This is the worst-balanced canoe I've ever been in."

"All right," she promised, and paid strict attention to the rhythm of her stroke. They skimmed over the surface of the lake, sending out ever widening ripples behind them to break the smooth surface of the water, ripples that glistened in the sun. It was a delightfully warm weather, with a sky of intense blue broken at times by round white balls of clouds—"poodle puffs," Louise called them.

The lake absorbed and gave back the wonderful color so faithfully it almost seemed as if the water were impregnated with the azure and that one could bottle it and take it away in all its certain perfection. The lake filled a large basin among steep, wooded hills whose trees dipped their lowest branches into the water, with the silver waves breaking about their roots.

As the canoe rounded a bend of the shore, Louise discovered a big flat rock standing out of the water a little way from the mainland.

"It was made to tie a boat to," she suggested. "There's even a dead tree root to throw a rope around. I think this place must have been made just for us."

Harry laughed as he helped her up the rock and fastened the canoe. "Happy?" he asked.

"Awwwfully," she answered. They stood still a moment, his arm about her, her head against his shoulder. Before them lay the work of that multi-armed artist—Nature. Little did Louise dream what a big role this happy afternoon was to play in her future life—how often she was to think back upon the perfection of this precious hour upon the rocks when her mind was still untroubled by the cares of life—this hour when no word had yet passed between them that they could have wished back!

Tomorrow—The Dream Continues.

### Say Labor Men of Cobalt

#### May Call for Recount

Cobalt, Ont., Oct. 23.—If the Conservative candidate in the provincial election, Tom Magladery, is declared elected by the official figures of the returning officer J. D. Mackay, at Halleybury on Monday next the labor party will probably ask for a recount of votes according to H. J. Everett, chairman of the local branch of the I. L. P., this afternoon. Returns from the deputy returning officers to the candidates have been slow in coming in and it was stated today that none of the three candidates was in possession of official figures at all the polls. For this reason the difference between Magladery, Conservative, and Montgomery, I. L. P.-U. F. O., is not known officially altho unofficial figures give the former a lead of at least one hundred. There were many spoiled ballots thrown out the riding, reports to the headquarters of the various parties state.

### W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal, Is Given a Record Majority

Oshawa, Oct. 23.—The official figures for South Ontario, as shown by Returning Officer Gleeson's count today, give W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal candidate, a majority of 3425 over Charles Calder, the government candidate. The total vote was 12,021. Mr. Sinclair had a majority in each of the eight municipalities. Oshawa, his home town, gave him a majority of 2155. It is the biggest majority ever given for any candidate in South Ontario.

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