

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1924

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A REPUDIATION.

That old and awkward question, Who won the war? bobs up once more in the course of a reply by the New York Times to Count von Bernstorff. The Times says of a recent statement by the Count:

"Why, now, does he pay us the embarrassing compliment of saying that we, alone and solely, won the war? He knows, and we know, that the statement is not true except in a sense that ignores many and important facts, and we neither make it nor like others to make it for us, as it is grossly offensive to our good friends."

"It has only one merit, as coming from a German—by necessary implication it admits that Germany was beaten in the field. But the Count has said that before, and said it better."

"Any such statement does, of course, ignore many and important facts, and the New York Times, in repudiating the Bernstorff assertion rebukes by inference a minority in its own countryman who, at armistice time and for a while thereafter, indulged in considerable thoughtless bombast which was of service to the British, the French and others who bore the frightful burden of the conflict for years before the United States took an effectively active part. The motive of Bernstorff is not difficult to find. He is trying to court favor with the Americans, hoping that their intervention in the matter of reparations and of Germany's future will result in preventing the Allies from doing two things: making Germany pay to the extent of its ability and preventing it from becoming in the future a menace to Europe's peace."

Considering the experience the United States had with Bernstorff before it became necessary to give him his walking papers his course in giving advice to the Americans to-day amounts to impudence. When he was at Washington German agents with whom he was in touch were wrecking American munition plants and engaging in secret warfare against the country which still gave them shelter. Indeed the excesses of German agents in America did a great deal to fill real Americans with profound detestation of Germany and prepare the country for the declaration of war which followed after—too long after—the deliberate murder of the Lusitania's passengers and crew.

Remembering the enormities which were perpetrated during Bernstorff's last days at Washington The Times does well to intimate to him that any course he may volunteer as to the course of the United States in connection with European affairs is likely to be received with the suspicion natural to Americans who recall that he revealed on more than one occasion the worst qualities of the Prussian.

GETTING SETTLERS FOR THE LAND.

Immigration to New Brunswick is dealt with in the report of Mr. F. E. Sharp, superintendent of immigration, in the annual report of the Department of Agriculture. He says there came to the province last year 1,222 persons, of whom 783 entered by ocean ports and 439 from the United States. In view of the large number who left the province this is not as gratifying information as we would like to have. Discussing the question of placing more settlers on the land, Mr. Sharp says:

"By co-operation the output of our dairy industry in the province has increased materially during the past twenty years, and it has only been by producing large quantities of butter and cheese that we have been able to organize a Cheese Board, which co-operatively sells the output of the various butter and cheese factories. The apple growers and seed potato growers are now co-operating for the same purpose, namely, the profitable marketing of large crops. It seems to me that the main thing to do is to produce large quantities of a high and uniform quality, and there will be no question of disposing of them."

In other words, Mr. Sharp sees no danger of competition bringing down prices so long as a wise course is pursued by the farmers. In his report he refers to the organization of the Maritime Colonization and Development Association, in which New Brunswick is represented by Mr. Angus McLean of Bathurst and Mr. E. Allan Schofield of St. John, and he observes that "just what the accomplishment of this Association will be is problematical."

It is noted that as a result of the visit of Mr. Charles Reid of Belfast, Ireland, to the province last summer and his articles in the Irish press on his return, Mr. Sharp has received several letters from intending settlers, some of whom he expects will arrive this spring. This would seem to emphasize the need of having an immigration agent in Ireland.

Mr. Sharp also tells us that the Colonization and Development Department of the Canadian National Railway has expressed a strong desire to co-operate in placing settlers in districts traversed by its lines, and has been furnished with advertising literature.

As a result of correspondence with the Canadian Pacific representative in Denmark, fifty-three Danes came into

the province, some of them to New Denmark and others settling in the vicinity of Fredericton and St. John. An effort will be made to get as many more of these desirable settlers as possible this year. Regarding the operations of the Farm Settlement Board Mr. Sharp says:

"At the close of the fiscal year we had a total of \$78,087.25 invested in farm lands. I inspected during the year fourteen farms, ten of which were purchased at a cost of \$11,800. During the year we received complete payment on thirty-eight farms."

The whole question of immigration, whether bringing new settlers from abroad or bringing back some of those who have gone, is deserving of the most serious attention, along with that of staying the outward movement of people who are tempted to go abroad. The subject is worthy of the best thought of the ablest minds in New Brunswick.

ANOTHER N. B. POET.

Vancouver is boasting of its poets. It borrows New Brunswick's Bliss Carman during the winter season and mentions him in company with some of its own nightingales and some other adopted ones.

In the list appears a former New Brunswicker, a Woodstock man, who, it appears, owes much to the time he spent under the inspiring and scholarly guidance of Dr. George Parkin. This Woodstock "old boy" is described by a western writer as one more poet now added to Vancouver's company of singers. "His name," says this writer, "is Edwin Enoch Kinney, and his book is entitled 'Westward and Other Poems,' published by D. A. Chalmers, Vancouver. Mr. Kinney was born near Woodstock, New Brunswick, over half a century ago. He obtained part of his education in the Fredericton Collegiate Institute and Normal School. The teacher who influenced him most was Dr. George Parkin, who afterwards became a knight and Chairman of the Rhodes Scholarship Foundation at Oxford. Two of Mr. Kinney's fellow pupils were Charles G. D. Roberts and Bliss Carman. After leaving New Brunswick in the days of his youth the poet taught school in Montana, later studied in the Ohio Northern University, where he obtained the degree of B. Sc. in 1889, and still later he graduated at the Philadelphia Dental College. He has been practicing his profession in Vancouver for over ten years."

Of hydro development the Toronto Globe says:—"Every electrical horsepower derived from a Canadian stream lessens the drain upon our own coal resources or the importation of coal at a continually increasing cost from the United States. The policy of power development is sound economically and politically, and will give Canada within the next decade at least five million horsepower of electric energy available twenty-four hours a day throughout the year. Were we under the necessity of burning coal to produce so great an amount of power the cost would be \$5,000,000 tons, at not less than \$6 per ton, or \$30,000,000 yearly. On the basis of Ontario Hydro costs the water-power equivalent for generation and transmission will not average over \$25 per horsepower, or \$125,000,000, an annual saving of \$65,000,000."

On the subject of city government the Montreal Star says:—"Those who have a clear knowledge of our civic affairs are thoroughly convinced that there must be unwearied effort on the part of taxpayers if anything like satisfactory administration is to be secured and maintained. Even in cities where the Government is the most modern there must be persistent watchfulness to prevent evils from creeping in. The fact cannot be too thoroughly digested that zeal for efficient administration must ever be active if clique and graft rule is to be prevented. We have had evidence in plenty that the forces of evil scarcely ever sleep."

Toronto Globe:—"The Mendelssohn Choir, the finest singing organization on the continent, incurred a deficit of \$4,000 on its visit to the United States. Next time it might correct the balance by staging a boxing bout as a preliminary. Our friends across the border are always willing to pay for that sort of thing."

The American dollar is still sick. Professor Irving Fisher, taking the dollar in 1918 as representing one hundred cents, finds that in May, 1920, it fell to 40.5 cents, except up to 72.5 in January, 1922, fell to 63.4 in 1923 and is to-day worth 66.4 as compared with 1913. That is exactly where it stood in December, 1923.

"The optimist," says a modern philosopher, "is a man who has a good time wherever he goes because he carries his good times with him."

Press Comment

WHEN WORK EVOKES INTEREST.

(Toronto Globe.)

Sir Henry Thornton's first talk over the Canadian National's radio service was addressed especially to the employees of the system, who, it is expected, in thousands of cases will be able to listen to National Railway messages in their own homes clear across Canada after relay stations are in operation. The president of the national system has great faith in team-play. He believes that national employees can be welded into one of the most effective railway operating teams in existence. In his initial address he put the emphasis on this aspect of the relations between the management and the men:

"The belief—widespread in certain quarters—that those who work for the national railways get up on their toes in response to Sir Henry Thornton's appeal, the demise of this mistaken idea will be materially hastened. It is a great experience that Canadians are undertaking in entering a publicly owned overcapitalized railway, running largely through sparsely settled territory in which traffic is relatively light, in competition with the privately owned C. P. R., which is probably the most capably managed transportation system in the world. And it begins to appear that the experiment will be as successful as it is daring."

THE COST AT OTTAWA.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

That long session of Parliament are a heavy drain on the treasury is the popular conception, and yet, there never was a greater misconception of the cost to the Federal Administration. Much criticism has recently been advanced that prolonged debates are costing the country \$30,000 a day, when the difference in cost to the country between three and a six month session is less than \$120,000, or a six months' session costs the country about five per cent. more than if Parliament did its business in 12 instead of 26 weeks. Whether the session is three or six months does not affect the sessional indemnities, which amount to approximately \$1,000,000. Neither is there any change in the cost to the country for the permanent Parliamentary staff, which is the next big item of expenditure. These men are here the whole year, whether Parliament is in session or not. There is no difference in the cost of printing for bills, as these would be the same whether a long or short session. The increased cost is found in the employment for the session on daily pay of 80 stenographers, 20 messengers and 10 pages, and the extra cost of Hansard for an extended period. It is estimated that this extra cost is about \$30,000 per month. It costs for a six months' session about \$2,200,000, and for a three months' session nearly \$2,100,000 for controllable expenditure. A short session means much to the Commonsense and the Senators in saving the expense, but little to the country. It is the Parliamentary representative that loses in long debates and long sessions, and it is a fallacy that there is any great additional expense incurred by the country from this cause.

THE TARIFF DISCUSSION.

(Toronto Globe.)

Before the war the proportion of customs taxation to the whole of taxation was much higher than it is to-day. When complaint was made that the Dominion taxes were too high, the reference was to taxes on imports. When reduction was proposed it was assumed that the import duties were to be reduced. The war made a revolutionary change in that situation. In 1922 less than a third of the total taxation was from customs duties; and it is probable that today the burden of the income tax and the sales tax causes much more dissatisfaction than that of the customs duties. This at least is true of Eastern Canada. In the Prairie West the customs duties play a larger part; probably because the farmers believe that they carry the burden of the protective system without receiving any of its benefits. Both points of view must be considered. Taxation can no longer be discussed upon the lines that were familiar before the war. The whole basis of taxation must be

reviewed. The Speech from the Throne contains two paragraphs bearing on the question:—"I am persuaded that a reduction in taxation and in production and transportation costs, such as will encourage the investment of capital in industrial enterprise and attract settlers in large numbers to our Dominion, is all that is necessary to effect an economic development hitherto unparalleled."

"In the opinion of the Government, such reduction of taxation as it may be possible to effect should aim primarily at reducing the cost of the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion, thereby aiding materially in the development of our natural resources and, through cheapened production, effecting a diminution also in the cost of living."

Here we find a Government expressing hopes for the encouragement of industrial investment and for unparalleled economic development; and the sequel is a volume of criticism, not confined to Conservatives, based upon the assumption that manufacturing industries are in such a condition as to justify a reduction in taxation, and that that mean revenue-producing taxation. That seems to point to something else than a reduction in the customs duties on agricultural implements.

It may be that the Government promised or hoped for too much, and that its critics fear too much. The announcement in the Speech from the Throne has precipitated an old-line industrialist upon the protection of industry, based upon insufficient information, and the Budget will be awaited with unusual interest.

DISCUSS DENTAL CLINICS.

A meeting of the dental committee of the St. John Health Centre was held last night to discuss the future of the work of the dental clinic. It was suggested that the dental clinic be moved to the work at the dental clinic, and there has been any lack of clients. The condition of the teeth of the city school children on the whole is far from good, and it is hoped to have the clinic play a more important part in improving the present state of affairs.

COMMISSION TO MEET.

Hon. Dr. E. A. Smith, chairman of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission, left this morning for Fredericton to confer with Hon. J. E. Michaud, the other member of the commission.

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In nature's varied loveliness imbued;
With flowing hand they fan the dying fire.

Of olden loves and day-dreams long grown faint;
All time and space, all life and death inspire
The fervor of the images they paint.

They hear the call of Triton's
Mid wind-lashed spray; and, thro' the
spangled night,
Shase with Diana till the steeds of
morn
Gorrun the day, and the Moon Queen
fades from sight.
O dreamers, muse! thy haven is some
bourne
Where blissful visions freight the wings
of Time,
And thou holdest converse with the all-
powerful King.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Business is Business.

(Washington Star.)
"Did you ever try to stop bootlegging in Crimmon Gulch?"
"No," declared Cactus Joe. "This local undertaker has such a political pull we're afraid to interfere with his business."

Spurring Him On.
(London Mail.)
"Why do you refuse him if you want to marry him?"
"Because he has only proposed 11 times so far, and I want him to beat the record."

Purely Medical Reasons.
(Sydney Bulletin.)
"Now, tell us about it—why did you steal the purse?"
"Your Honor, I won't deceive you. I was ill and thought the change might do me good."
It's a grate life, said the hot coal.

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRECLAY FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE

Sold by Hardware Dealers.

WOULD CURTAIL LUMBER MISHAPS

N. B. Association Discusses Workmen's Compensation Act—McLean is Head

Fredericton, March 19.—The New Brunswick Lumbermen's Association opened their annual convention here this afternoon. Most of the afternoon session was devoted to presentation of the annual reports and the routine business of an annual session. There was also an extended discussion regarding the operations of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and in this connection suggestions for the formation of Safety associations in the various industries were again discussed.

this being regarded as the means for a practical step towards curtailing accidents and thereby reducing the levies which, it was said, had become so burdensome upon the lumber industry, especially that the future of that industry in the province is jeopardized.

The following executive were elected: Donald Fraser, Plaster Rock; J. Fraser Gregory, St. John; William Richards, Campbellton; Angus McLean, Bathurst; W. B. Snowball, Chatham; J. H. Irving, Buctouche; P. H. McEvoy, Dalhousie; A. H. F. Randolph, St. John; J. W. Brankley, Chatham; Stanley Douglas, Fredericton.

This evening the executive met and elected the following officers: President, Donald Fraser, Plaster Rock; secretary-treasurer, R. W. McLellan, Fredericton.

KINLOCH ACQUITTED.

Albert Kinloch, who was arrested several weeks ago charged with wounding Robert Sasson, and who after being committed for trial decided on Speedy Trials, was before Judge J. A. Barry in County Court on Friday last, when evidence was heard. The ac-

cused was in court again yesterday afternoon and was acquitted.

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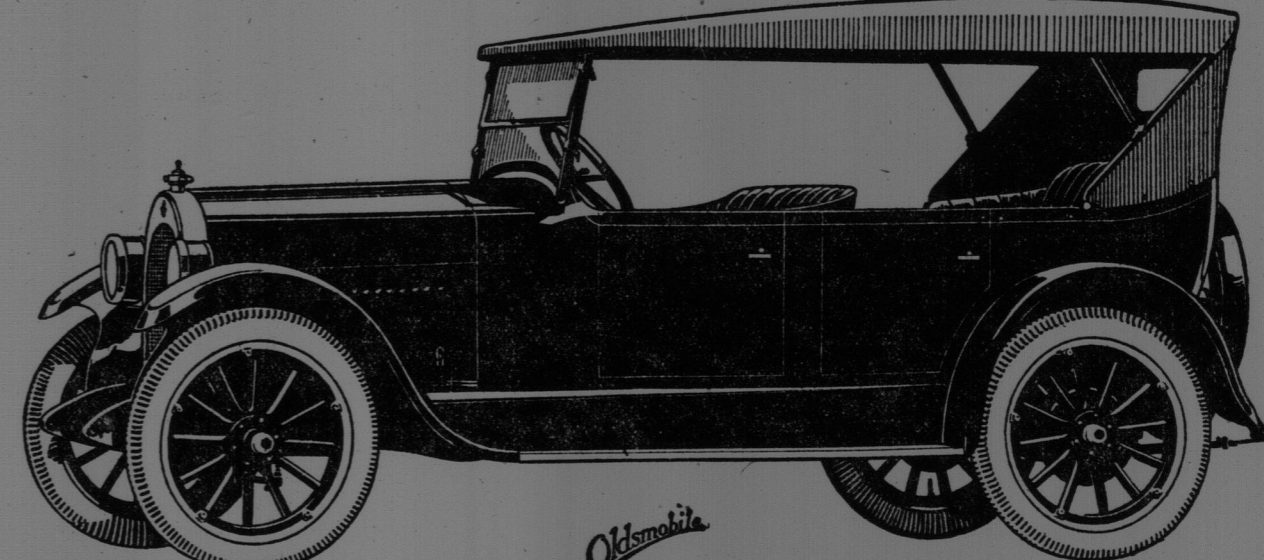
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