

## The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1890.  
A morning newspaper published every day in the year by The World Newspaper Company of Toronto, Limited.  
H. J. MACLEAN, Managing Director.  
World Building, Toronto.  
40 West Richmond Street.  
Telephone Calls: Main 3308—Private exchange connecting all departments.  
Branch Office—31 South John St., Hamilton, Telephone, Regent 1946.  
Daily World—2c per copy; delivered, 50c per month, \$1.35 for 3 months, \$2.60 for 6 months, \$5.00 per year in advance or \$4.00 per year, 40c per month by mail in Canada (except Toronto), United Kingdom, United States and Mexico, Sunday World—5c per copy, \$2.50 per year, by mail.  
To Foreign Countries, postage extra.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 8.

## National Ownership of Railways.

Critics of public ownership of railways quote the successful administration of American roads before the Washington government took them over. As a matter of fact they were so much exploited by the men in control that when war came the nation had to take charge and spend hundreds of millions in making them sufficient for the needs of the country, and for the purposes of war. Since then other hundreds of millions of national money had to be spent for the same purpose.

The old executives of these roads who are having them handed back to them are asking Washington for a further vote and loan exceeding six hundred millions of dollars. One of these officials said it would take more than a billion and a half of dollars to make up the shortage of cars and engines. Millions and millions of pre-war earnings that should have gone to keeping up the private-owned roads were switched into the pockets of the magnate managers.

These demands to make the American roads serviceable are such that the government will probably have to take them over again. Canada became very tired of financing railways for companies; at last we said if we must find the money we must own the roads. So it will be in the States.

## Conscript General McLean.

When a better sense of perspective obtains, it may be possible for the country to give a little attention to the pensions aspect of the parliamentary pensions committee, instead of turning tornadoes of protest upon General McLean for what he is alleged to have said, but what he denies saying. The shorthanded notes and the memory of some who were by do not agree as to exactly what the general did say about private soldiers marrying women from the servant class—a mighty good class, by the way, which brought forth millions of the fighting men who saved the world.

If some clever opponent of increased pensions to soldiers and the widows thereof had wanted to detract attention from the main issue, he could not have done it much better than by directing attention to the unfortunate, and, perhaps, snobbish remark of the St. John street railway magnate, who happens also to be a general. We have all been very much agitated about what General McLean said, and have apparently forgotten to be concerned about what the damaged soldiers and soldiers' widows really need.

Which is the more important—a dispute about an inappropriate remark, or the proposals which the remark supports? General McLean wants an increase of 25 per cent. to all pensioners, and a drastic improvement in the allowance for the bereaved children of soldiers. Instead of \$15 a month for the first child, \$10 for the second child, and \$8 for each additional child, the general would pay a flat rate of \$24 per child. This works out at \$96 per month for four children, as against \$41. Cannot General McLean be turned to constructive account by the advocates of better pensions? Surely, instead of ordering him to get off the job, it would be far better and wiser to conscript him to tell the public everywhere why parliament should increase pensions according to the scale he advises. Have the soldiers temporarily lost their sense of publicity value? They should make General McLean a drawing card.

## Party's Setting Sun.

It is not very exhilarating to be an old-fashioned Liberal these days, either in Britain or in Canada. Over there the Wee Frees, as the Asquithians are called, seem to make a worse show in every by-election. Sir Hamar Greenwood's opponent in Sunderland has polled about one-fourth as many votes as the Irish Secretary. The parlousness of the old time Liberal party is reflected in the admission of his friends that Mr. Asquith's return to the commons has failed to restore confidence in the future of the party.

An equally interesting Canadian situation is developing. In Saskatchewan the old party appears to have ceded everything to the farmers. That is the only meaning of Premier Martin's announcement that he will have nothing to do with the federal Liberal party, and will devote himself entirely to provincial service. When the premier of a so-called Liberal government withdraws from association with the Dominion Liberal party because he knows the agrarian party will sweep his province at the next federal election, obviously he and all he stands for have gone over to the farmers in fact, if not in name. Last October the farmers ran a candidate for Assiniboia who overwhelmingly defeated Mr. Moth-

erwell, a former member of Mr. Martin's cabinet, who himself was a founder of the Grain Growers' Association. None of the Saskatchewan Liberal ministers supported their old colleague against the farmers. They tried to induce Mr. Motherton to retire. It is not as well known that the federal Liberal leader sent a trusted emissary into the constituency to endeavor to pull the Liberal candidate off, because it was realized that the fight was hopeless.

Some Liberals in the east are expecting that if the farmers will be left alone they will be sure to come home and bring their Liberal tails behind them. Whether the agrarian movement will be a permanent class manifestation, or a phase in the evolution of a great progressive party, it seems increasingly clear that the Canadian Liberal party as it was known for generations, is scheduled for sepulture without hope of identifiable resurrection. Its death may be swallowed up in victory, but it won't be victory for the old brigade.

## Always on the Job.

Transportation courtesies are sometimes past finding out. Railways haul the private cars of rival lines and extend the privilege to the vehicles of ex-presidents, so that, in the railway world, at least, there is sometimes an advantage in the status of has-been. So many traditions are in a state of flux since the war that perhaps some new development of the science of journeying courtesy is to be expected where national railways are concerned.

The Canadian government is by way of becoming the greatest railway owner in the world. In a few days the national lines will comprise 22,000 miles of lines. The prime minister of Canada is not, strictly speaking, an official of the Canadian National; the courtesies which are extended by the proprietors of one line to another have been applied to a somewhat important journey which Sir Robert Borden is now taking. A North Carolina despatch says that Sir Robert and Lady Borden left Asheville on Thursday for Ottawa, "accompanied by a number of officials of the C.P.R., and travelling in private car of the C.P.R. No. 100."

The Canadian National officials surely have the same facilities in the United States as C.P.R. cars. But the C.P.R. is always on the job, and its cars hover around the great in-providential style. It was no doubt a most fortuitous circumstance that when the prime minister of Canada desired to return to the capital to resume his most important functions, a C.P.R. car should happen to be at Asheville, N.C., and will no doubt bring him in triumph to central station, hard by Parliament Hill, and, as a matter of fact, owned by the people of Canada.

## Bloating the C.P.R. Horn.

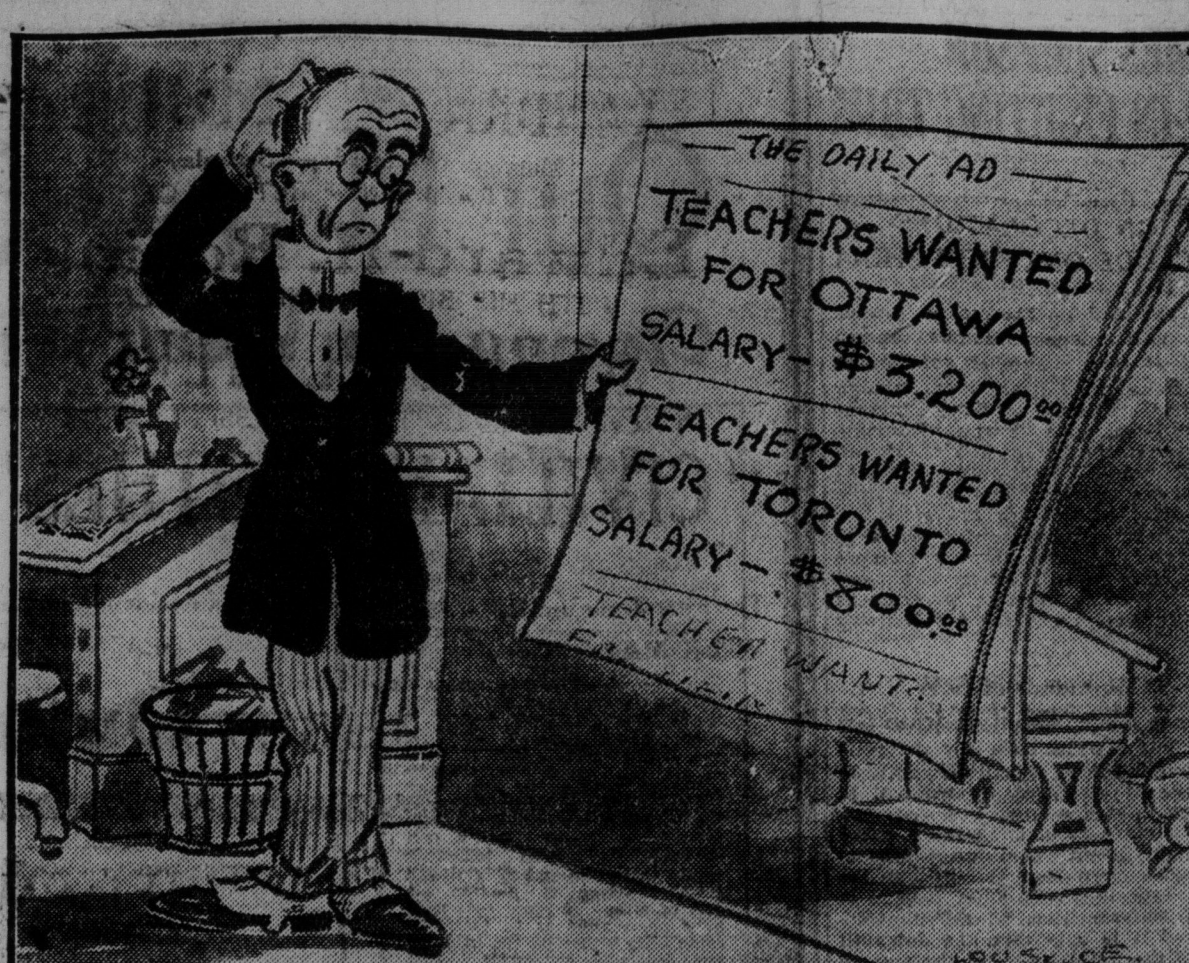
The president of the C. P. R., addressing the annual meeting, stated cogently the case for increased freight and passenger rates for the great railway. As The World has shown, the present earnings of the C. P. R. with costs of operation not diminishing, will not give the temporary returns on capitalization. If railways are to be paid according to service rendered there may be a reason for giving the C. P. R. some advance. But it is necessary to handle the situation very circumspectly.

The Montreal Gazette, which never falls lustily to blow the C. P. R. horn, becomes very excited over the suggestion that if the C. P. R. rates are increased on a parity with what is required to prevent deficits on the Canadian National, the amount of excess profit that would then accrue to the C. P. R. should go to the state. The Gazette by implication advocates rates for the C. P. R. which shall be all the traffic can bear, and will not specially benefit the national treasury. It ignores the point that if the rates of the National Railways are raised sufficiently high to meet all obligations they will be determined, not entirely by the service rendered, but according to the folly of the private exploiters which has loaded the country with its enormous burden. To give the C. P. R. the right to make profits and pay dividends out of proportion to service rendered, simply because of the excessive construction during the era of private control, would not be an equitable public policy.

It will probably be found that part of the C. N. R. deficits should be chargeable to national development account, and the remainder be raised from passengers and freight. If the C. P. R. had never received any support from the national treasury there might be a semblance of an excuse for the holler which the Montreal Gazette raises every time it is suggested the C. P. R. shall not reap undue advantage on account of the follies of other railway promoters whose legacies the public now has to carry.

## Stoning Stephen.

Stephen Leacock, professor of political economy of McGill University, and humorist at large, has received strenuous episcopal castigation in his chosen organ, The London Times. The castigator belabors the Montrealese with infinite zest, and in language that almost outdoes the Leacock assault on American prohibition, to which the bishop replies. It is hardly sufficient to describe the operation as "stoning Stephen," for the bishop is Dr. Cannon, and what he does is canonizing of the first magnitude. His shell burst and there isn't very much left of



TORONTO TEACHER: "I wonder if that Ottawa job's filled yet?"

DAILIES IN WEST  
FACE SHUT-DOWN

Action of Fort Francis Co. in Refusing Further Newsprint to Have Serious Effect.

Winnipeg, May 6.—Although the domestic production of newsprint is seven times the domestic consumption, the daily newspapers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, for the second time in six months, are again facing suspension owing to inability to get newsprint.

Until recently these newspapers were supplied by the Fort Frances Pulp and Paper Company, Limited, whose mill, because of its location 300 miles east of Winnipeg, is their logistical source of supply.

Paid Advanced Price. Early in April, following the supreme court judgment in the Price Bros' appeal, the Fort Frances company notified its Canadian customers that they would have to get their supplies from another mill. It offered a limited supply in the meantime at \$120 per ton, which was \$30 per ton in excess of the standard contract price at which other Canadian newsprint manufacturers were exporting newsprint to the United States. The Canadian customers of the Fort Frances company said the price demanded and supplies continued for a few weeks.

Shipments Now Stopped. Efforts to secure supplies from other sources were unsuccessful. Now the Fort Frances company has again notified its Canadian customers that they must get their supplies elsewhere and this time has actually stopped shipments. Unless the Fort Frances company resumes shipments immediately several daily newspapers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan will be compelled to suspend publication next week.

Recover Body of Soldier Drowned in Gowanda Lake. Elk Lake, Ont., May 7.—The body of Private D. Alkenhead, the returned soldier, who was drowned in Gowanda Lake on November 1 of last year, when a squall upset the canoe in which he was traveling, has been recovered and buried with military honors at Gowanda. Alkenhead's home is believed to have been in Ottawa. A companion, A. J. Scobba, was also lost.

Funeral of Late Sir L. A. Jette Takes Place in Quebec Today. Quebec, May 7.—The funeral of the late Sir L. A. Jette will take place tomorrow morning amidst demonstrations of the utmost regret. The Dominion and provincial governments are to be represented. Persons prominent in all callings of life will attend in large numbers.

WORLD'S DAILY BRAIN TEST  
BY SAM LOYD.

15 Minutes to Answer This. Young Hobbs made a deal with farmer Nobbs whereby the young man undertook to work the other's rectangular field, which measured 2,000 yards in length by 1,000 yards in width. The understanding was that each should gather half of the harvest, but as there were certain bad streaks running thru the land it was decided that a fairer division than cutting the land directly in half, would be for one of them to take a band running entirely around the tract, that to contain an area equal to one-half of the whole.

What was the width of the strip that young Hobbs cut around that field to get just half of the crop? Here is the way to place 3 checkers on the board so that no 3 can be found in straight line from any angle.

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ELECTRICAL POWER  
NEEDED IN NORTH

Waterways Commission is Told Vital Necessity of French River Canal.

North Bay, Ont., May 7.—The members of the International Deep Waterway Commission arrived this morning from Ottawa. They were met at the station by Mayor Ferguson, Messrs. Noble of the council, and Mr. Richardson, president of the board of trade, and taken to the court house.

Mr. Cole, engineer of the National Railways, gave the first address, in which he gave an exhaustive account of the opening up of the north country, and development of the mining industry and the tremendous wealth accruing to the country from it, and the need of more electrical power.

POPULATION OF COBALT SUFFERS A DECREASE. Cobalt, May 7.—The population of Cobalt has suffered a decrease of 145 in the past year, according to the assessment returns presented to the town council at its meeting tonight. The number of persons living in the municipality is given as 5036. The total assessment of the town is stated to be \$5,585,550, as against last year's of \$5,855,064. Income assessment, mostly on mining companies, is \$7,310,268.

ART TREASURES STOLEN FROM ITALIAN ABBEY. Florence, Italy, May 7.—Two persons were arrested here today on the charge of having stolen a bust by Antonio Canova, the celebrated Italian sculptor, an altar by Luca Della Robbia, 15th century sculpture, and other art treasures from the Abbey of Aretria. Copies of the original treasures were substituted for the stolen ones. The police have recovered the altar.

Good Seeding Weather Prevails Everywhere in Canadian West. Winnipeg, May 7.—Seeding weather prevails everywhere in the Canadian west, and in practically all sections the farmers are working on the land. "Fair and mild" describes the weather, and the continuation for a few days of present favorable conditions will see a great development in the spring work. While in some districts the farmers are plowing, in others more favorably located seeding is completed on some farms.

RECEIVE CAPTURED GUN. Halleybury, May 7.—The captured German gun awarded to the district of Timiskaming for its Victory Loan efforts last year arrived today, and will be placed on the court house lawn. The weapon is a 6.2 howitzer, and was captured by the 15th Battalion in August, 1918, near Amiens.

Improved Service—Algonquin Park. For the spring fisherman and other who wished to visit Algonquin Park during May and June, the Grand Trunk will operate, commencing May 4th, a through standard sleeping car leaving Toronto Tuesday and Fridays at 7:45 p.m., reaching Algonquin Park Station Wednesday and Saturdays at 11:55 a.m. Return service leaves Algonquin Park Station 3:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, arriving Toronto 7:30 a.m. the following day.

THE STERLING BANK  
OF CANADA

SAVE, Because—

A few dollars a week saved now—when wages are high—will be worth a great deal more when earnings drop.

THE GIRL WHO SMILED THRU  
By MAKION RUBINCAM

## ALMOST A CONFESSION.

CHAPTER 78.  
She tried not to see David. He did not ask her to dine with him when Lois was in town, the one evening she saw him at a concert with a man at a time when she knew Lois to be home. She wondered whether they ever did go out together.

Then, too, Lawrence came to see her over the Christmas holidays. He was very tender and gentle and sweet. Alice felt, as she had never felt before, that curious, wistful quality that he had. He took her to visit a friend of his mother's, a charming old lady who had a house in New England, and who kept Alice with her New Year's Day, when Lawrence had to go back. She saw David once a week, when he lectured to her class, but aside from that, not for almost two months. Then one morning, as she was leaving the building after the biology class was thru for the day, he caught up with her.

"Come to Nardoll's for lunch," he begged. "I haven't seen you for so long."

Unwilling to say yes, but unable to say no, Alice left herself to be taken to the quiet little tea room, where she had seen him before.

"How is Lois?" she asked. This always seemed a good question; it built up a fence between them, and made them both realize their positions—he was married; she was engaged.

"Lois is not well," he answered. "She caught a grippy cold by getting overheated at a dance."

"I'm sorry," Alice murmured, perfunctorily.

"I'm afraid I'm not," David answered. "She will not wrap up properly when she is overheated, and she will not listen to sensible advice. She likes to dance all night, almost every night, and refuses to take care of herself as she should. Sympathy gives out and annoyance sets in under those circumstances."

All feeling of constraint had been lost between them long ago. Alice had talked a lot about Lawrence, it seemed natural enough for them to be talking now of Lois.

"Where is she?" Alice asked.

"In charge of an excellent nurse, in her apartment."

"In her apartment?" The words escaped from Alice before she could stop them. She turned red.

"In her apartment. You don't imagine she's living in mine, do you?" David asked, with a trace of sarcasm in his tone.

"But I thought—that is, she wrote me."

"Alice grew still more red with embarrassment."

"I know she wrote you that we were married. She wrote a week after the marriage and told me a month later," David said. "But she's had her own separate apartment for more than a year. She said we would both be happier living separately, since I didn't like any of her friends, and she didn't care for any of mine. She was right. We are happier—both of us."

His voice had become hard as he spoke. Alice had never seen this mood. She said it very sweetly, as you can imagine. She was very affectionate. She purred like a little kitten, and said "I was the dearest man in the world to understand and not fuss. And I cheerfully rented and furnished another place for her."

"But I didn't know—I thought you were in love with her—" Alice did not know how to handle this situation at all.

"Lois is the sort of woman every man loses his head about for a time," David said. "She's a liberal education to most of them. The affair is harmless enough, for Lois is as incapable of giving anything in return for their adoration as she is of holding their love for any length of time."

"Lois did fascinate me. She was soft and pleasing; she had a devil's instinct for appearing when I was blue or lonely and coaxing me into a better mood. She could get anything out of me, and I'd never know she was giving anything in return for this modicum—at least, she says I promised, I

don't remember doing so, but she says I did."

"Did she make you ask her to marry you that way?" Alice asked, with sudden sarcasm.

"Yes, she did." He fairly blazed it out to Alice's amazement. "She says I proposed to her. I don't remember, I did kiss her, I know that—and the next thing I remember was her arms around my neck and her cooling voice saying how glad she was I loved her."

He broke off suddenly, then went on—"I did love her, after a fashion—until I found out how calm and cruel and selfish she was beneath her softness. She never loved me—she isn't capable of loving anyone but herself."

He put his hand out across the little table and laid it over Alice's. "Why did you break off our engagement?" he asked, fiercely. "You took away my defence against her—without a man needs defence against that type of woman! Alice, if you knew—you'll think me weak and a coward to talk this way, and perhaps I am. Perhaps it was your wonderful strength that attracted me, your magnificent optimism, your

"Don't!" Alice cried, unable to stand any more.

Monday—Sacrifice.

UNIVERSAL DISARMAMENT AS PLANK IN PLATFORM

Albany, N.Y., May 7.—Delegates from New York state to the Democratic national convention at San Francisco next month will recommend to the national platform committee the acceptance of a plank calling for universal disarmament as a means of establishing peace on foundations that cannot be easily disturbed and of driving down the high cost of living.

The conference failed to go on record on the prohibition clause of the league of nations.

Recommendations of the resolutions committee accepted by the conference as possible planks in the national platform included:

Declaration for a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life, including the principle of a living wage for women in industry guaranteed and protected by law.

Enactment of national laws forbidding the employment of women or children at night in mines, factories or mercantile establishments.

An eight-hour day, or 98-hour week, and a weekly rest of at least 24 hours which should include Sunday whenever practicable.

IMMENSE APPLE CROP FORECASTED FOR ONTARIO. Ottawa, May 7.—(By Canadian Press.) There is every prospect of an immense apple crop throughout Ontario this year, Gordon Wilson, agricultural committee of the commons to day, when the fruit package regulations were under discussion. Lengthy discussion turned on the point of future regulations being left to the minister of agriculture thru orders-in-council. Members who have strongly opposed orders-in-council on other matters agreed that in trade matters this form of legislation was desirable.

Present Prizes at Graduation of Hospital Nurses in Kingston. Kingston, May 7.—(Special.)—Great Hall was filled to the doors tonight for an interesting ceremony, that of the graduation of a class of twenty-one nurses from the Kingston General Hospital and the presentation of prizes. Col. R. E. Kent, chairman of the board of governors of the hospital, presided. The gold medal offered by Sir Henry Drayton and won by Miss Isabel Atkins of Portsmouth, was presented by J. G. Elliott. Miss Edna Meighen, Shaabot Lake, won the silver medal, given and presented by General Ross.

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NORTH OF ST. CLAIR AVE.

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300 acres of restricted property, with township taxes; large lots and park areas; locally, and very attractive on the account of the beauty of the Ravine and the new bridge, massive gates and other substantial improvements.

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HOUSES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED for owners under supervision of Company's Superintendent at MINIMUM COST.

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