

## The Toronto World

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TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 18.

### Is the Nickel Story Coming Out?

How is it that hardly a Canadian newspaper will print the exposure of the German kaiser's plot against Britain as set out in the Thyssen pamphlet published in The World yesterday? Herr Thyssen was one of the largest iron masters in Germany before the war. He says that in 1912 he and other big business men were summoned before the emperor and the then chancellor and asked to put money into commercial projects based on a war program (the defeat of England). Here are his words:

"I was personally promised a free grant of 50,000 acres in Australia and a loan from the Deutsche Bank of £150,000, at 3 per cent, to enable me to develop my business in Australia. Several other firms were promised special trading facilities in India, which was to be conquered by Germany, by the end of 1915. A syndicate was formed for the exploitation of Canada. This syndicate consisted of the heads of twelve great German firms. The capital was fixed at £20,000,000, half of which was to be found by the German Government."

Does any Canadian now doubt that this last exploitation included the nickel fields of Canada, and that the Krupp and others were in it; that the Krupp of Germany secretly controlled the International Nickel Co. of the United States; and that the so-called "voting trust" in that company was the instrument by which it was done?

Take the one fact that the International Co. has been moving heaven and earth to get rid of its control from Germany and that only last month the American president who had manipulated the company so long was replaced by a new man.

Take another fact that the United States Government refuses to have anything to do with the armor plate trust either in its American or German form; also that a United States official who is custodian of alien property in the States, the other day confiscated and sold several hundred thousand pounds of nickel in that country found in the hands of German agents. This nickel came from Canadian ore.

The British Government refused to renew its contract with the International Nickel Co. and subsidized a Canadian concern known as the British-American and gave it the contract for nickel.

And who controlled and controls the great Mond nickel concern, claimed to be British, and refining Canadian nickel in Wales? And are there extraordinary efforts now being made in America by representatives of the European metal trust to get a new consolidation of the nickel interests in pretty much the same old hands, with the German ownership presently expunged?

But why do our Canadian papers not tell their readers something about these things? What have the Toronto papers to offer for their failure to support the efforts of The World and a few men in parliament to get out the facts of the ownership of the Canadian nickel mines?

In another column we reprint an article from The Montreal Gazette based on one in Engineering, a leading paper in England, telling of a new process of making nickel steel. There's a story in this that may keep for another day. But something is mentioned by Engineering "at Canadians will read with shame, namely, that our nickel ore was all treated in the States, where not only the nickel was refined, but also the platinum, palladium and other precious metals" were recovered. Does either the Ontario Government or the Dominion Government know how much of these precious metals (platinum is the dearest metal of them all and absolutely an essential war metal) were recovered and if they went to Germany to be used against the empire?

Where were the ore, as in parliament and in the legal sphere when The World was directing public attention to the nickel situation?

President Wilson and the Government of the United States know a lot that may soon be revealed. And The World has no idea that they will be any party to the efforts now being made in that country to cover up this German intrigue in connection with Canadian nickel.

How was the refining of Canadian nickel prevented in Canada? Why was the national policy allowed to fade away in this case? Why did so many sit silent?

And when the Canadian public are reviewing the nickel situation they ought not to forget the alacrity with which the International Nickel Co. gave up to the Government of the United States three and a half millions of their profits on Canadian nickel ore as a war tax for one year,

and how reluctantly they made payments to the Province of Ontario. Perhaps Sir Thomas White will be able to frame up something that will keep these profits hereafter in Canada. Free export into the United States for refining will not do it. Nor will refining a fraction of the ore in Canada do it.

And coming back to The Montreal Gazette, a paper that rendered such valuable support to the International Nickel Co. when public attention was called to its conduct, we are glad to see that in the article that we quote from it makes the confession that "Canada has not so far profited from its wealth in nickel ore to the extent it should profit." Again we ask The Montreal Gazette and the apologists of the nickel politicians why? And how much longer is our hand to be stayed? When an opposition fails to act it may be quite a while. But not forever.

### The Kaiser's Plot.

What appears to be a organized revolt among the best and wisest German has been going on for a considerable time right under the Kaiser's nose. In one sense it is almost as hopeless to dam Niagara as to try to stem the flood of German war fever. But if it is to be done at all it can only be done in the way in which Dr. Muehlon, Prince Lichnowsky and Herr August Thyssen have gone about it. We printed Herr Thyssen's statement yesterday, and it should be widely read. At the mouth of three witnesses these things are now established, and if we have any pro-Germans left they must have some sober reflections over the facts stated.

It was on May 7 of last year that Dr. Muehlon, a former member of the Krupp board of directors, addressed his celebrated letter to the imperial chancellor, Von Bethmann-Hollweg. Coming as a confirmation of what Prince Lichnowsky has said about the unwillingness of Great Britain for war, it sufficiently establishes the culpability of the German leaders.

"Since the beginning of the year," writes the Krupp director, "I have lost all hope concerning the present rulers of Germany. The offer of peace without a declaration of war aims, the intensified submarine campaign, the devastation of France, the sinking of English hospital ships, are examples of actions that have one after the other disqualified our responsible men in such a manner that, in my opinion, they can no longer have anything to do with a voluntary and just agreement. They personally may yet change, but they cannot remain representatives of the German cause. As such they no longer deserve either forbearance or consideration. The German people can only then begin to make good again the grave wrongs done to its own present and future, and those of Europe and of mankind as well, when it chooses men of a different stamp to represent it.

"It is no injustice that it is today the object of the odium of the whole world, however faulty and imperfect the latter, too, may be, and may remain. The triumph of our military and political conduct of the war on the lines hitherto pursued would be a defeat of the highest ideas and hopes of mankind." And he takes his stand:

"As a man, and as a German who means well toward the misled and tormented German people, I turn my back finally upon the men of the present German regime. May every one who is in a position to do so act in the same way. May many Germans reach the same point."

Sodom was to have been saved had there been ten righteous men among its vicious population. The proportion in Germany is perhaps as low when only three have yet been heard from. But there must always be a hope that in the German people, when they are faced with the facts of their overthrow, there will be enough sanity and reason left to consider what such men as Muehlon and Thyssen and Lichnowsky have to say.

The whole fabric of deceit upon which the war was built and imposed upon the credulous German people, educated to hate instead of to love their neighbors, is being shaken and shattered. France did not invade Germany. Belgium was unprepared for war, and had no thought of conspiring with Britain. There was no coalition against Germany. Peace could have been arranged in the Balkans had Germany and Austria been willing. Instead of all this we have the statements of Herr Thyssen, one of the greatest coal, iron and steel magnates in Germany. He declares that the war was deliberately planned by the Hohenzollerns to save their dynastic privileges, and that they plotted and conspired to get the leading men of Germany committed to their policy. This was going on in definite fashion in 1912, and the barefaced falsehood of the Kaiser in accusing Britain or France of having forced on the war is only too obvious. Pro-Germans have indeed food for reflection here.

Having assured themselves of the necessity of a war to keep their military system going, the Kaiser spread before his merchant princes. Thyssen was promised a free grant of 50,000 acres in Australia, and a loan of \$750,000 to develop his business there after the war. Other firms were promised favors in India which was to have been conquered by the end of 1915, and a syndicate with a capital of \$100,000,

000 was to have been formed to exploit the resources of Canada. Canadian stockholders please note well. Those who think that there should be no fighting till Canada is attacked should satisfy themselves as to what was to have become of them by the time the syndicate got into operation. If they had not met the fate of so many Belgians they would have probably been drafted to work in the mines at Copper Cliff and elsewhere for the Kaiser.

The Kaiser himself in 1913 was delivering flowery speeches in private to gatherings of business men about the results of the coming war, of which the British Empire was to be the main victim. The Hohenzollerns have dug a pit into which they themselves are falling. When the war is over it will not be the Germans who will be disposing of the wealth of the Kaiser. And when the peace council is called the evidence of such men as these three witnesses will be very awkward for the Kaiser and other militarists who will be on trial for the atrocious crime against humanity thru which he had hoped to saddle his family on the neck of the world.

"Vengeance is mine! I will repay!" saith the Lord. There are a lot of people willing to assist, but we may be satisfied that the eternal laws will not be balked and Nemesis will not be evaded.

### Liquor Dispensers and Prescriptions.

In the campaign speeches that are being made in the election campaign in Northeast Toronto an opportunity might be found by Hon. Dr. Cody to say something about the abuse of the regulations of the provincial liquor act, whereby prescriptions are handed out wholesale by some medical men, and whereby also, what is an even worse public danger, the specified places where these orders are filled have become profiteering establishments which are no credit to the administration of the act. It is reported that these privileged places are making enormous sums out of these franchises; and an establishment of this sort should not be in private hands, but directly under the government, with the profits earmarked for hospital or Red Cross or some such funds.

The whole system of doctors' prescriptions for liquor is loose and unsatisfactory, and in many places makes farcical the administration of the act. If some method of checking the unwarranted issue of prescriptions cannot be devised, such as by requiring the submission of all prescriptions to a board of supervising authority, then the government should appoint a competent and reliable person, such as the medical coroner in each district, who alone would have authority to issue them.

We believe Hon. Dr. Cody is in sympathy with the successful operation of the Ontario Temperance Act, and if he could say, or prevail on some of his new colleagues to say something on these questions of the liquor dispensers and liquor prescriptions, it would be to the interest of the public generally.

### Canadian Nickel-Copper Steel.

(From The Montreal Gazette, June 15.)

The famous nickel-copper deposits of Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, at present the principal source of the world's nickel, promise to provide us with nickel-copper steel, rivaling nickel steel in many respects, says Engineering of London. That would be a great step in advance, and not only for Canada, which has not so far profited from its wealth in nickel ore to the extent it should profit. The deposits form a basin, 25 miles long by 15 miles wide, which was discovered early in the 'eighties, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was cut, and are owned by several companies. The Canadian Copper Company, first established, sent its ore to the Orford Copper Company of Constable Hook, New York, until the two amalgamated with the International Company, which has now a refinery at Port Colborne, Ontario. Later, the Mond Nickel Corporation and the British-American Nickel Corporation entered the field. The different companies work different processes, but they all practically produce the same product of a matte, which subsequently goes to the United States or to England. The ore is roasted in open heaps and smelted down to mixed sulphides of iron, copper and nickel; this matte is then Bessemerized to eliminate the iron and to obtain a final matte, richer in copper and nickel, retaining also the platinum and palladium and other precious metals of the ores. Many hundreds of tons of sulphur are burnt to waste per day in the roasting, the fumes desolating the district, and thousands of tons of iron pass into the slag. Numerous attempts have been made to produce alloys of nickel, copper and iron in the furnace. All the inventors, except Shuter, endeavored to select ores poor in copper, but without the impression that copper was undesirable in steel. Recently, we see from a paper read by Mr. R. W. Leonard before the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, G. H. Clamer of Philadelphia, has used a model metal alloy of Ni-Cu from Sudbury ores in the manufacture of a steel, which is utilized for making armor-piercing shells, and Mr. George C. Colvocoresses, late of the Orford Copper Company, has succeeded, by patented processes, in smelting Sudbury ores, or the slags of the present processes, to produce a nickel-copper steel (Ni-Cu-steel), in which copper to a certain extent replaces nickel with the same or similar beneficial effects. The experiments of the latter were conducted in the plant of the Canada Cement Company at Montreal, with 200 tons of ore and 40 tons of slag from Sudbury, under the supervision of Mr. H. A. Morin, a former colleague of Mr. Col-

vocoresses. The ores contained about 40 per cent. of 50 per cent. of iron, 1 per cent. of 10 per cent. of nickel, 1 per cent. or 1 1/2 per cent. of copper, 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. of sulphur, besides silica, alumina, lime and magnesia; the slag was slightly richer in nickel and copper apparently, much poorer in sulphur, but much richer in silica. We do not reproduce more figures, since the paper forwarded to us evidently contains misprints difficult to check; neither the ores nor the slags were fresh, but had been weathering for many years in open heaps. The ores were roasted in a reverberatory furnace for 5 hours; the roasted ore was mixed with lime and coke breeze or coal, the high silica content calling for much lime in an electric, open-hearth steel furnace, which it is said, was not in very good condition. The slags were treated similarly, and in their case the 2.2 per cent. of sulphur was reduced to 0.045 per cent. Altogether 107 large ingots were obtained, and the pig-iron produced contained 3 per cent. of carbon, 2.2 per cent. of nickel, 0.4 per cent. of copper, and 0.1 per cent. of phosphorus. The steel was made in a Bessemer converter, and the presence of copper seems to impart a greater resistance to corrosion and lesser liability to corrosion to the steel. The mechanical tests made by the Nickel Steel Corporation show that the steel was satisfactory, and there are independent favorable reports by Dr. A. Stansfield and Professor G. A. Guess. It will be interesting to watch the development of this alloy.

### CONCILIATION BOARD IS NOT AGREED TO

City Council Warmly Discusses the Proposal for Over Five Hours.

For over five hours the city council, at yesterday's session, debated the appointment of a conciliation board to consider the case of those employees who want their wage increase dated from the first of the year instead of from April. The controllers had recommended against the appointment of such a board, and the upshot of the half dozen motions and counter-motions was the final rejection of their proposal, thus leaving the question unsettled and in the same position as when it first came up months ago.

A meeting of the board of control, the city council's executive committee, was announced for today when he proposed asking that body to appoint Finance Commissioner Bradshaw, the president of the board of trade and the trades and labor council to act as conciliator.

The vote of council which disposed of the matter for the time being was 10 to 10. The board of control had recommended that to appoint a board of conciliation which was lost by 15 to 10. The division was as follows: For—Marsden, Ramsay, Ball, Cowan, Plewman, Sykes, Honeyford, Robbins, McBrien, 10. Against—O'Neill, McBride, Rink, Weir, Beamish, F. M. Wilson, Macdonald, W. J. Wilson, Beardsall, Nesbitt, Ryding, Hiltz, Mulkin and the mayor, 15.

Controller McBride said the adoption of the board of control would create a vicious principle. Council should deal with the troubles of their employees and not call in outsiders. If they could not do so, they should resign. It cost the city \$300,000 a year for sick pay, holidays and such trifles, for the men who had now banded together to get what they wanted. They had been pampered too much, but in spite of that they could not be driven away with a galling gun.

Superior Demands. Controller Robbins supported the employees' demands, while Controller O'Neill took the ground that council had functions, and the present dispute was one of them, and should be disposed of on its merits, and not delegated to any other body. Workingmen were entitled to having consideration in the matter of wages, but the taxpayer also was to be considered. The approval of the appointment of a board of arbitration meant adopting the principle of referring every little thing to outsiders. Surely council was capable of discharging its own duties without outside interference. There was no objection to the employees forming a union to further their interests, but they could be assured, evening with men unless we are going out or are entertaining at home. But I wouldn't mind anything if he had acted as if he loved me, and."

Mayor Church took the stand that the Dominion Government had no power to order the appointment of a board of conciliation. A municipality was not a public utility corporation nor an employer of labor as far as the Industrial Disputes Act was concerned. Toronto was a fair and just employer of labor. The same could not be said of the Dominion Government as was evidenced by their treatment of the postal employees. The mayor was strongly against a board of conciliation. The city could handle its own affairs. However, he was in favor of granting the employees their increase. This was no time for strikes, and further, the Socialists might take the occasion to cause trouble. The city should conciliate by conciliating.

Ald. H. H. Ball regarded the remarkable agreement when a strike was imminent, particularly after the question had been considered for six months. He made no mention of the fact that the higher wages because of the high cost of living, and they were justified in forming a union. They had put their request before the city and it had not been met. Why, then, should a board of conciliation not be appointed?

Controller Maguire wanted a conciliation board as the only fair way to deal with the dispute. If the men were agreeable to the mayor's suggestion to grant them their increase, he approved.

Ald. Graham and Gibbons were strong for a conciliation board, while Ald. Blackburn did not think council should be asked to adopt that course. It was the only consistent attitude he could take.

At this point Mayor Davidson of Winnipeg was introduced to council. Winnipeg had a labor problem on its hands, he said, and his advice to Toronto was not to have a strike, if it was possible to avoid it. He did not care how the trouble was settled, so long as the men did not go out.

The proposal to charge a license fee of \$200 a year to be paid by balliffs provoked considerable discussion, but council finally decided to make the amount \$100.

The balance of the board of control's report was adopted without change.

## FARES TO ISLAND TO BE INCREASED

City Council Decides That This Raise is Justified.

The Toronto Ferry Co.'s claim that their business was such as to render necessary an increase in their adult rates from ten to fifteen cents was held to be justified by the city council last night, and that body accordingly gave its permission to make the extra charge. Before this becomes effective, an order-in-council is necessary, and as this has not been applied for, the present rates will prevail for the time being.

The matter was settled when council adopted the report of the board of control recommending the increase, but later in the session Ald. McBride made an effort to have the existing fare prevail. His motion to that effect was discussed in a desultory fashion, when it was discovered there was no quorum, and adjournment automatically followed.

The Central Railway and the Imperial Association sent deputations to protest against the increase. J. R. MacNicol argued that the fare was not to be increased, but should be reduced to five cents. He did not accept the report of Commissioner Bradshaw, which the Auditor General had audited the company's books and reported that the increase was justified. He said that the company's books and reported that the increase was justified. He said that the company's books and reported that the increase was justified.

Sergeant Major Gardner, a returned man, also protested against raising the rates. It would be a great hardship for poor people.

To the statement of George Wells that

the ferry bill had been railroaded thru council the mayor took strong objection. Every opportunity for discussion had been given.

"Strict care should be run to the island and the ferry service cut off," said George Shields.

The report of the city officials of the audit of the company's books showed that its revenue varied from \$106,000 in 1915 to \$138,827 in 1917, and the average for a period of six years was \$125,121. The following figures as to passenger traffic, rental and total receipts were put in:

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