The Toronto World

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TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 4.

Toronto Base Hospital

There should be no hesitation about supporting the request of the military authorities for help in establishing a Toronto base hospital. Arrangements have been completed, and all that is required is the consent of the authorities to take over the old General Hospital building for the purpose. The expense will not be so great as might be expected, as the government has already spent $16,000 on its rehabilitation and is prepared to spend $12,000 more to get it into shape.

It is not generally realized that with a small army approaching 20,000 men in Toronto there must necessarily be a considerable amount of sickness. There are at present at the Exhibition camp, Col. Mewburn stated, 500 cases. It is evident that a hospital is needed. These men must be moved when the regiments proceed to their summer camp.

The hospital trust have no objection to the use of the old building, beyond the possible loss of revenue which the trustees would like to see guaranteed. They estimate this at $15,000 a year. Mayor Church had no hesitation, but some of the controllers wished to think it over. The more they think about it the more strongly they should be in favor of doing whatever can be done to preserve the health of the soldiers, and at the same time, of course, the health of the whole community. Col. Mewburn speaks with experience and authority, and when he asks for the old General Hospital he makes a request which should be granted without delay.

Taking Heart

With the spring opening for war styles creating such vivid interest on both the European battle fronts, it is natural that the smaller nations should begin to evince a new liveliness and expectation about what is going on. We heard from Holland last week. Greece is also waking up. These little nations begin to see on which side of the fence the cat is going to jump down, and they desire above all things to get in right.

There is probably no shrewder diplomat or statesman in Europe than Venizelos. He must have judged that the psychological moment had arrived for him to raise his voice once more when the government had summoned up sufficient courage to protest against the bombing raid of Saloniki. Bombing innocent non-combatants is quite the proper thing to the German mind, but nothing irritates the non-combatant so much as to find himself treated as a first-class fighting man while his women and children are slaughtered before his eyes and he stands helpless before the death in the skies. The more the Germans bomb other countries the more furious do their enemies become, and instead of terrorizing them, the effect is to stir them to greater hostility.

Greece has been exceedingly annoyed over the raid on Saloniki, and Venizelos takes the opportunity of calling attention to the straw men in the government and to the intrigues by which the pro-Germans have endeavored to create ill-feeling between the king and himself. Venizelos has acted on the principle of lying low and saying nothing while his enemies got rope enough to hang themselves. He is undoubtedly still the most influential man in Greece. The Bulgarian terror is a much more real one to Greece than the zeppelins, and the appeal of the patriotic statesman will lodge deep in the hearts of all his countrymen who are not given over to the folly of trusting Germany.

Italy is not a lesser power, but the visit of Premier Asquith to the Quirinal is another of the incidents which will stir the interest of the smaller European courts. It is an almost unprecedented occasion, and indicates more than anything else could how closely knitted are the ties that bind the great powers together. The declaration of unity from the allies—"one and indivisible," as the old French motto might be applied—means to the lesser powers and to the world at large, more than anything else can do, the fate of Germany. Besides, it is an omen of good for the future settlement of the peace of the nations on a secure and temperate basis. So the little nations are taking heart.

No Khaki, No Ballot

Captain Machin has struck a note which found a ready response among the audience he addressed and will spread a ripple of agreement over the country. He has no doubts whatever about the necessity for conscription. There is still a difference of opinion on this point among many influential people. Even in Britain where the sentiment in favor of conscription is very strong, and the government has taken steps which are almost everything but conscription, there is a decided objection in high quarters to adopting the actual calling out under compulsion of the men who ought to be in the ranks and who continue to shirk. Should Britain take the final step in this direction and the war be prolonged beyond the year, we may be sure that conscription will be required. Captain Machin drew the obvious lessons from the shirking of those of military age and fitness. It is incomprehensible to the ordinary man who understands what the war means, why anyone not prevented from going does not hasten to the front. The ordinary man desires to do his duty. The number of men who shirk would indicate that there is some lack of moral stamina in the young men of the rising generation. Those who refuse to go have either motives of fear or self-interest to restrain them. Neither principle is a desirable one as the main impulse in the young men who are to build up the Canadian nation.

Captain Machin suggests as a means of recalling them to their duty, that no man of military age and fitness who does not do his duty in the ranks will be permitted to exercise his franchise in future. The right to the ballot, in fact, would be dependent upon military service, or a certificate of exemption. The trouble is that men who are blind and deaf to the responsibilities of military duty will care little for civilian duty either. They are the men who stay at home on election days, and permit a tenth of the population to elect the city fathers and the saviors of the country. Carlyle's cynical size-up of the majority of the people does not easily commend itself, but it arises aptly enough in considering those who shirk from all responsibilities of citizenship.

A Life Laid Down

Lord Shaughnessy has displayed a fine public spirit in his reference to the bereavement that has come upon his family thru the war. His son was no slacker, but took his place and played his part like a man. Many bright hopes, no doubt, perished when he fell, but his father has taken the loss in a manly way, and joined his sorrow with the sorrow of thousands who are in the same plight as himself.

Privately the sacrifice, as he says, is "cruel and overwhelming." But for others, for the friends of all the thousands who have done as his son has done, and for all those who sorrow in a similar way, and again for all those who have not yet understood or realized their duty to their country, he places his son's life as an example, a consolation and a memorial. He hopes it will arouse a feeling of responsiveness and patriotism in the hundreds of military age, who for one reason or another have failed to realize their responsibilities as citizens.

This would be the sweetest consolation of all, if a life laid down should stimulate others to take up the necessary task and carry it to the victory for which so many lives have already been consecrated. It is an evil thing for young men to live while the death of their comrades and the men of their own generation is unavenged, and they who survive remain unmoved.

FARMERS OF FRONTENAC FACE LABOR SHORTAGE

Some Talk of Selling Their Stock Unless Necessary Help is Secured.

KINGSTON, April 3.—That many farmers in Frontenac County will be compelled to sell their stock unless there is some means of getting the necessary help is the statement of several prominent farmers of the county today. The farmers are of the opinion that the militia department should release some of the men in the training camps to help with the seeding.

There were 1586 men recruited for units in military district No. 3 in the last two weeks. There were 234 men secured for Kingston units.

For a brutal attack on a young citizen under the influence of liquor Christopher Derbyshire, a soldier from Toronto, was fined $10 and costs at the police court.

A CHANCE FOR THOSE GOING WEST.

Homeseekers' Excursions, C. P. R.

Homeseekers' Excursions to Western Canada at low fares via Canadian Pacific, each Tuesday until Oct. 31, inclusive. Particulars from any Canadian Pacific agent, or W. B. Howard, district passenger agent, Toronto. 23

FERRY SERVICE RESUMED.

BROCKVILLE, April 3.—The river is open at this point and the ferry Bigelow resumed her trips between here and Morristown, N.Y., for the season.

CORNER LOT FANS

URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER NICKEL

Resolution Introduced in Legislature Yesterday by Sam Carter.

VITAL TO THE EMPIRE

N. W. Rowell Favors Refining in Ontario—Project is Too Big, Say Objectors.

(Continued From Page 1.)

should be at once entered into by the government of this province with the government of the Dominion of Canada and the government of the United Kingdom, to secure united action to acquire the absolute control of the nickel mines and nickel product of the Province of Ontario."

Is Vital Question.

"Except for the temperance bill, there was no more important subject at the present time than the nickel industry," said Mr. Carter. "Nickel was so vital to the manufacture of munitions.

"Since nickel was produced only in French colonies and northern Ontario, what a splendid thing it would be if these peace-loving countries could control this product to the elimination of war," he said. "The government should not hesitate to take over the industry in the interests of the empire.

"There would never again be such another opportunity as at present. Even tho there were some little inconvenience to private individuals, the province should take over the product for the public welfare, giving bonds at a fair rate of interests—from 4 to 4½ per cent.

Refining Also.

"Not only the mining of nickel, but also its refining and manufacture should be developed by the government in Ontario," said Mr. Carter. "Properly handled, it would be a greater natural resource than Niagara power."

In the interests of labor, too, Mr. Carter thought the government should take over the industry lest fortunes should be made at the expense of the laborer.

Providence had made the opportunity. It would be a crime to let it slip. They should have a declaration of the government's policy in this matter.

Holdings in Sudbury.

R. R. Gamey, Manitoulin, said that if the motion was intended from a patriotic point of view it would be necessary to confiscate all the nickel holdings in Sudbury district, not only the holdings of the Canada Copper Company, but of the Mond mines also. He did not think that the last speaker had realized the magnitude of the scheme he had advocated.

Even from a patriotic standpoint, Mr. Gamey did not agree with the motion. There were so few people outside the present nickel companies who could be secured by the Government to build up a new machine for refining the nickel.

Interrupt Output.

Then, too, nationalization of the nickel industry would of necessity interrupt the very large output of the Mond mines at Sudbury, which did their refining in England.

As a matter of fact, the whole question was so big that Mr. Gamey did not think anybody seriously thought that anything would be done.

Surely, he argued, it would be the part of wisdom to wait until they had the report of the nickel commission. The province might find itself at a serious disadvantage thru inexperience in competition with the Bethlehem still works.

Produced in Canada.

The empire had paid out to the United States $300,000,000 for lead, zinc and copper since the beginning of the war. Much of this could have been produced in Canada if this country and the imperial government had had greater foresight. The imperial government had not accepted the profier of co-operation when made by Canada years ago.

No better labor conditions existed than in Sudbury district. The two great nickel firms treated their labor well. "In may view," said Mr. Gamey, "the International Nickel is a grasping and unscrupulous corporation." But they were not "grasping and unscrupulous in dealing with their laborers," he said.

Should Go Further.

Nothing else would discourage foreign capital as such a gigantic confiscation, such as the motion proposed. There were so many things in the way of metals that might be aided. They should go further in assisting mining. If they wanted to do something big, let them see what they could do for all the metals in the province, but not in the way of confiscation or over-taxation.

Gamey at Fault.

J. C. Elliott, West Middlesex, strongly urged the justice of the resolution. He made it his chief point that Mr. Gamey had been at fault in speaking of the resolution as calling for "confiscation." It called, not for confiscation, but for expropriation, a very different thing.

Mr. Gamey had said the government had not such knowledge of the nickel industry as Mr. Schwab. Then it was high time that the government should learn more about an industry which was such an important one in this country.

He did not expect that the nickel commission would report until after this session of the legislature had ended. Was the question going to stand over? Was the present opportunity going to be let slip?

Labor Support.

Allan Studholme, East Hamilton, said he was sure Great Britain would be glad to co-operate with Ontario for the control of the nickel in Ontario.

Mr. Gamey had spoken of "confiscation." Was not the country confiscating, by conscription, the life and liberty of the subject? How much more then should they confiscate, if necessary, this industry for the defence of the empire now struggling for her very life!"

Would Mr. Gamey argue that there were not enough brains in Canada and the empire to develop the nickel industry? They had been able to make a success of the hydro enterprise, why should they not of this other great national resource?

They could never convince him, said Mr. Studholme that they could not do for themselves what others were able to do for themselves, and make millions of profit.

Resolution Absurd.

C. R. McKeown spoke of the resolution as being absurd and unjust. The government should not take the money of the people to speculate with mines, in which the ore might run for only a few inches. He advocated, rather, encouragement to foreign capital to come to Ontario.

N. W. Rowell, leader of the opposition, said the misfortune of the present situation was that, while they were waiting for the report of the nickel commission, the Dominion Government was instructing the International Nickel Company to refine some of its product in Canada, but in Nova Scotia, not in Ontario.

Opposition Leader's Views.

He was sure Great Britain would take a very different attitude now toward conserving the raw material for armaments, the way battleships of the German fleet were built of nickel-steel, the metal of which had come from Canada. It was well known that a very great deal of the product of the International Nickel Company had gone to Germany.

If difficulties in the hydro had been looked at as the government was looking at the nickel question, that afternoon, there would have been no progress in that direction. It was by looking difficulties like these in the face that strong men made progress.

Norway Mines.

Mr. Rowell said he believed that the output of the nickel mines in Norway had been controlled by the German Government. Mr. Gamey said he had information that four months ago the nickel from Norway was going to Germany. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson said both speakers were probably correct.

Nickel was a vital factor in naval warfare, continued Mr. Rowell; so vital that after the end of the present war, even if the German navy were defeated, they would be able commercially to secure nickel to build again a navy which would face Great Britain in any future war.

Refining in Ontario.

If the imperial government continued to control the manufacture of munitions, it was of the highest importance that the government should have control of the nickel industry.

They did not want to take a dollar's worth of property without giving a dollar in return. But it would be a good speculation.

The whole question had been discussed by the associated boards of trade, which met in Toronto a year ago.

They had decided that all nickel should be refined in the Dominion and under government control. Mr. Rowell thought the refining should be done within the limits of Ontario.

It was not a simple problem; it was complex. But it was a problem that could be worked out with honor to the province and satisfaction to those concerned.

The whole of the industry in Ontario could be bought up for the cost of 5 days of the war. He was in favor of "absolute control within the empire of the sources of supply of such an invaluable and essential product for military, naval and domestic purposes."

About a year ago, said Hon. G. H. Ferguson at the evening session, it was realized how important the nickel deposit was to the province. The government had therefore appointed the nickel commission. When that commission presented its report, the government would be in a position to suggest legislation to aid, not only the nickel industry, but also the other metals as well.

How did Mr. Rowell propose to keep the nickel from the hands of the enemy if the government did control the nickel industry? Canada's consumption of nickel was practically nil in comparison with its production. They were forced to rely upon commerce.

The attitude of the imperial government had not changed, as Mr. Rowell had said. He read a letter which had been sent from Sir George Perley to the Canadian Government, saying that the British Government was perfectly satisfied to continue to deal with private firms.

There had been previous offers of a similar nature. These had not been encouraged. The British Government had always maintained that it was satisfied with its private arrangements; that, as Britain commanded the trade routes of the world, the admiralty could never be cut off from its nickel supply.

Could Not Do More.

Mr. Rowell had spoken of the recent order prohibiting the exportation of nickel and argued from it that there was need for drastic action. This order had merely prevented indiscriminate exportation of nickel. They could not have done more if they had had government control of nickel. Once it had reached the hands of foreign dealers, they would have no control over it. They would not have so much control of it as they had at present under the agreement between the British Government and the International Nickel Company, with which the former had so often expressed its satisfaction.

The government was not by any means satisfied with the arrangement by which the nickel company was to be obliged by the central government to set up a refining plant at the seacoast in Nova Scotia. They were eager to have the citizens of this province become the vendors and suppliers of raw material. The government wanted to put out the finished product, so that they might control the nickel markets of the world with metal refined within the borders of this province.

The nickel commission had powers to seek a method of refining nickel in Ontario, and they were not without hope that they would find such a method. At present the method used in refining nickel were a secret. It was argued that it was impossible to refine the nickel in Ontario. Would it not be most inopportune to take over the nickel deposits at this time, when Great Britain had an arrangement for the supply of all the nickel needed from the International Nickel Company, while Ontario had at present no method of refining the ore, if they had it? They were trying to find a method of refining.

Access to Books.

They had the assurance that an imperial official had access to the books of the nickel company, so that he could trace every pound of nickel put out by the refineries. They could assure themselves that since the beginning of the war not a single pound of nickel had reached the German Empire. It was impossible to think of building a refinery during the war.

The opposition had spoken glibly of forcing the International Nickel Company from New Jersey into Ontario. They might, on the other hand, force the company out of business. The deposit at New Caledonia was easier to extract than the Canadian. Labor was cheaper there. It had been possible to transport ore from New Caledonia to France to be smelted, and thence to the United States to be refined and sold in competition with the product of the International Company. If they restricted the company by heavier taxation, they would only make it harder for the nickel company to meet its competition. It might be forced out of business, leaving Ontario with its ore on its hands. He thought the resolution should be refused. The government would do everything in its power to assist the nickel industry in Ontario.

Proudfoot's Questions.

W. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) said that Mr. Ferguson objected rather to the source than to the wording of the resolution. The government should be glad at this time to accept good advice from any source.

Did Mr. Ferguson know that New Caledonia nickel was inferior to that from Canada? Was he aware that the International Nickel Company had holdings in New Caledonia? Did it not seem to Mr. Ferguson that if the nickel from New Caledonia could be procured more cheaply that the nickel company would use New Caledonia nickel, and not Canadian?

Conditions might be good in the little Town of Copper Cliff, as Mr. Ferguson had said, but still it was a small town. If the nickel were refined in Ontario, Copper Cliff would be not a small town, but one of the most important and flourishing towns in the province.

Mr. Proudfoot thought Mr. Ferguson must be wrong in thinking that not a pound of nickel had reached Germany since the war. He had heard, time and again, of consignments of nickel being captured on the way to Germany. Or did Mr. Ferguson discriminate between nickel manufactured during the war and stock on hand?

Whether the value of the mines were $2,500,000, as indicated by the figures filed by the Canada Copper Company, or $5,000,000, or $10,000,000, did not make any difference. The amount was not too large for the government to handle, and the speaker remembered that, according to Sir Thomas White's figures, this company had made some nine million dollars profit last year.

Mr. Proudfoot hoped that the report of the nickel commission would stir the government into action.

There was no way for the government to handle the nickel industry but to take it over, said Mr. Proudfoot.

If Mr. Carter had not placed the motion on the order book, Mr. Ferguson would have placed such a resolution, or even a stronger one, upon the order book himself, said Mr. Proudfoot in conclusion.

Mr. Sam Carter spoke again to his own motion. The proposal was so big that the opposition had been "scared to death." It was a big project, it was a difficult project, but the bigness was not to be compared with the harnessing of Niagara power, and its difficulties were not to be compared with the advantages to be gained.

Not a man on the other side had uttered a word to save the great natural resource for the people.

To Prevent War.

To stop nickel from Ontario getting into munitions of war would be the greatest possible prevention of war, said Mr. Carter.

The "wickedest thing" the province had done was to bring in promoters. They had advertised "holes in the ground to catch suckers." Mr. Carter singled out Mr. Gamey as a man who had "shoved his stock in to the public." The credit of the province had almost been lost thru gambling with the province's resources.

The speakers of the government had spoken in a small way of a large affair. The difficulties of handling the project were small in comparison with saving the empire. The members of the government were "like little babies" in the face of the patronage system, said Mr. Carter.

A. E. Donovan, Brockville, by permission, then attempted to tell a story. He was stopped by the speaker after Mr. Carter had asked if the discourse was German.

The resolution was lost on division.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

GOOD EITHER WAY

(Copyright, 1916.)

LAMBLIKE or Lionwise it makes
Small difference at all to me
How my good friend old March betakes
Himself into obscurity.

The Lion is a noble beast,
And brave as any one could wish,
And as for Master Lamb, at least
With mint he makes a pleasant dish.

TEN PERSONS KILLED IN RAID ON SCOTLAND

Eleven Others Were Injured — Children and Women Among Victims.

SIX ZEPPS ATTACKED

Berlin's Extensive Claims Are Ridiculed in Official British Statement.

LONDON, April 3.—Three children were killed and two women and four children wounded in last night's zeppelin raid on the Scottish coast, it was officially announced this afternoon.

In all, only ten persons were killed and eleven injured. There were no casualties in England.

The official statement says:

"It appears that altogether six zeppelins took part in the raids of last night. Three raided south-east counties of Scotland, one the north-east coast of England, and the remaining two eastern counties of England.

"The vessels which raided Scotland crossed the coast at 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m., and 10.15 p.m., respectively, and cruised over south-eastern counties of Scotland until about 1.10 a.m.. Their course gave no indication of any special locality for attack, but 36 explosive and 17 incendiary bombs were dropped on various places, damaging some hotels and dwelling houses.

Following are the casualties which are reported at present in Scotland: Killed, seven men, no women, three children; total, ten. Injured, five men, two women and four children; total, eleven.

"One vessel visited the north-east coast and dropped 22 explosive and 15 incendiary bombs. The two remaining ships crossed the English coast about 10.15 p.m., and cruised over eastern counties until about 1 a.m. They were both engaged at various times by anti-aircraft artillery, and appear to have been prevented by this means from selecting any definite locality as their objective.

"Thirty-three explosive and 65 incendiary bombs were dropped by these two vessels. As far as has been ascertained no casualties were caused in England."

Berlin's Claims Absurd.

Concerning the zeppelin raids the German official statement received here by wireless today, said:

"Army and navy airships during the night (Sunday), attacked the docks at London and other important military points on the English east coast and also on Dunkirk."

The British wireless company which handled this message appended a footnote as follows:

"Regarding official statements of zeppelin air raids of Saturday and Sunday, we are officially informed that they are examples of the imaginative inexactitude characterizing these messages."

An earlier Berlin statement on the Sunday night raid, said Edinburgh and Leith were among places attacked, while a statement on Saturday's raid said large industrial plants on the south bank of the Tees were hit by bombs, as were also port establishments of Middlesbrough and Sunderland.

Middlesbrough is at the extreme north of the York coast; Sunderland is on the Durham coast, further north.

The total number reported killed in the raids of Friday, Saturday and Sunday is 69, while the number injured is 177.

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