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A LIMIT TO CITY'S BORROWING.

Urgent claims are being pressed by the residents of the eastern and western sections of the city for improved sewage and drainage. Equally strong requests are coming from business and residential interests in certain sections for pavements, sidewalks, etc. To carry out the programme as it presents itself would mean a large outlay of money this year in St. Catharines. Even if a portion of the proposed work, that is not regarded as pressing, were left over till next year the outlay would still be considerable.

It may not, of course, be generally understood that only a percentage of this money is charged against the borrowing power of the municipality. The largest percentage is charged directly to the ratepayers on the local improvement plan and is paid back to the city in the form of yearly taxes. Nevertheless the municipality has to finance the whole work for the year in which such work is done, and those who are asking for expenditures of one kind and another should not fail to calculate that sometimes Councils cannot do all they would like to do or that they think should, in the public interest, be done.

It should not be overlooked, either, that for years on account of the war, no pretentious programme of public works was carried on. The outlook was too uncertain and many undertakings were left in abeyance. These are now all being put up to the Council with a rush, and we admit it is not easy for those who are unable to familiarize themselves with all the phases of civic finance to appreciate why many things that are obviously needed cannot be carried out. It is becoming quite apparent to the Council, however, that

enough money cannot well be found for all the works that are asked for this year. The corporation can only borrow so much and its limit will soon be reached, judging by the requests that are made. There may indeed have to be some disappointments but citizens who will take time to consider carefully the finances of the city will not blame the Council for endeavoring to distribute what it will have available, in the best possible way, so that every interest will have reasonable treatment.

NEW YORK PRESS VIEWS

The New York World, which has been a consistent supporter of Mr. Wilson, commenting on the Italian situation, declares that the recognition of Italy's claims to Fiume would have laid the foundations of another war and continues:

"A peace that gave Fiume to Italy could have been only a paper peace, and the work of the Congress would have been nullified before the ink was dry on the parchment."

The World praises Wilson's stand and believes it will redound to the credit of the Peace Conference.

The Herald, however, in a strongly-worded editorial asserts that President Wilson's declaration regarding Fiume runs counter to the sentiment of the American people.

"To Americans who have felt that their country was fighting to uphold the integrity of agreements the spectacle of an American President insisting that Great Britain and France repudiate their implied promises to Italy is anything but pleasant."

"Every consideration of sentiment and of justice," demands that Fiume go to Italy rather than that its disposition be dictated by the interests of the Slav peoples, who, like the Croats, fought under the flag of Austria-Hungary against Italy and for Germany."

The Times takes rather an optimistic view of the situation and predicts that Orlando and Sonnino will finally sign the peace treaty.

"Italy aided her partners in the war. She was helped by them. She is going to stand in need of help from her partners in Peace. No nation can afford to dissolve that partnership."

THE BOLSHEVIST SCHEME

A Swiss newspaper, The Lausanne Gazette, has printed a document prepared by Lenin, Trotsky, Jukovsky, Radek and Chicherin in November last, writes the Toronto Times. It is addressed to the representatives and agents of the Soviet Government abroad, and is in the nature of secret instructions for the fomenting of revolution. One of the original copies is in the possession of Serge Persky of Lausanne.

The activity of the Soviet agents is to be fourfold: First, as relating to the sphere of international relations, support is to be given to all chauvinist movements and national conflicts; agitation is to be started to stir up international strife and attacks are to be made on the representatives of foreign powers. Secondly, in the political sphere all means are to be taken to compromise the prominent men of the country, to cause attacks upon those in authority, and to agitate against the Government.

The third sphere of operations is economic. Railway strikes are to be provoked and kept going, bridges and rails are to be destroyed, so that a disorganization of traffic can be effected. Every effort must be made to impede

the despatch of flour to the towns. The shops and exchanges are to be flooded with counterfeit bank and government notes in order to create financial difficulties.

For military circles the fourth form of activity is prepared. Intense propaganda is to be carried on amongst the troops and strife is to be stirred up between officers and men, and attacks on superior officers are to be organized. Arsenals, bridges, railroads, and magazines are to be blown up and consignments of raw materials are to be seized. In this way the army will be completely destroyed. In addition, an intensive espionage campaign is to be carried on.

The thing is fairly comprehensive, to say the least. There is evidence to show that the invasion of every country by these agents is planned under various disguises. We have no doubt that Canada has been considered suitable for such revolutionary activity. Let it be remembered that violent political retribution and every form of intensive disputing lead to the edge of the pit into which Russia has fallen. It is a time for Canadians of good will to stand together whatever be their class grievances.

WHAT EXCHANGES SAY

Red Cross Work
 Winnipeg Telegram: Even locally there is much work which remains to be done. The aftermath of the war has left much to be accomplished which can be accomplished by no better means than by the use of the Red Cross organization. It will be a long time before Manitoba can afford to do without the Red Cross, even from the viewpoint of the local work to be done. But when one considers it in a world sense, there is no reason why that organization should not continue its usefulness permanently.

Keep Dominion Day.

Saskatoon Daily Star: It will need all the organizing ability of the citizens to ensure the success of Dominion Day, and it is for that reason The Star suggests early action in making arrangements for the event. That excellent institution, the Dominion Day picnic, has been in danger of neglect for some time, due in part to the preoccupation of the war, but also to the growth of a certain selfishness in the communities. Let the autoist come down from his machine for the day, the golfer rest his clubs, the man or the woman with a convenient "date" on, forget about it, and join with Saskatoon, its wife and its children in holding high holiday. A Dominion Day committee representative of all phases of the community life is needed on this occasion which has a special significance in that it will be a reunion of soldiers and civilians and a commemoration in the real sense of the term of the new national life that has developed from the war.

A Word to Parents

Peterboro Review: Branches of Boy Scouts are being organized in a number of churches and other places in the city. The boys themselves cannot be expected to take an active interest in the revival if their parents are indifferent. If any of the latter are in doubt as to the wisdom of having their boys join, let them ask the opinion of some person who has had one or more sons come through the course of training. If there is any institution warranted to make sturdy and honorable men out of Canadian youth it is the Boy Scouts.

JORDAN STATION

We learn that the new Equalization of Taxes undertaken by the County Council has raised the taxation of Louth Township by \$300,000. That means that a good share of improvements that the County contemplates is to come to this Township. By using this, six miles of County Provincial roads would be constructed and the township would be money in pocket. That six miles could be constructed with a view to turning traffic at Vine Road from the Stone Road up the Middle Road to St. Catharines. This would save the Government Highway and afford comfort for those who have occasion to go to Hamilton from both sides of the Twenty. It would thus minister to the largest number. Let the middle Road be stoned to the Jordan-Jordan Station Road, which is 4 1/2 miles, and let the Road from the Stone Road (town-line) Vineland through Culp's Corners directly across the Twenty be stoned and a bridge put across, which is 1 1/2 miles. That would do the trick. At the expense of this Township Council would have to put up only 18 per cent. Let a deputation from both sides of the Twenty go before the County Council and put the case.



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SHIP NEWS

The trip capacity of the ore carrying fleet is 26,000 tons less than at the opening of 1918, and so the capacity for the season will be reduced 620,000 tons, figuring on twenty trips. The steamer Chester, which was lost on Lake Superior, had a carrying capacity of 10,000 tons and a number of ore carriers, including the steamer C. R. Van Hise, were taken over for salt water service.

The season opens with 377 ore carriers, and their capacity per trip is 3,029,400 tons. At the opening of 1918 the trip capacity of the fleet was 3,055,400 tons, and in 1917 3,113,200 tons.

Three Largest Fleets

In the number of vessels the Pittsburgh Steamship Company leads the list with 99, with a trip capacity of 802,200 tons. The Interlake Steamship Company, with 52 vessels, is second, and the Hanna Fleet, with 28, is third.

MOTOR RACING IS NOW PURELY A SPORT

There was a time when automobile racing was one of the important events on the motoring calendar, because aside from its sporting features it had a serious purpose in helping to make automobiles better, says William C. Poertner, president of the Peetner Motor Car Company, metropolitan distributor for National and Scripps-Booth cars.

"Racing is no longer looked upon as anything except a sporting proposition, and it is doubtful if a contest of any real instructive nature will be held during the present season. In the early days practically every important motor car manufacturer had a racing team. It is seven years since the National Motor Car and Vehicle Corporation of Indianapolis sponsored a racing team. However, the official records of the contest board of the American Automobile Association, which were released recently, show that several marks established by National cars prior to the company's withdrawal from competition have yet to be beaten.

"The following American records are credited to the National: Speedway records, stock chassis, 301-450 cubic inches, for 5, 10, 15 and 100 miles. These records were established on the Indianapolis Speedway during the season of 1910. The National stock cars in the 5 and the 100 mile events were driven by Tom Kincaid, and the 10 and 15 mile records were made by Johnny Aitken at a speed of better than 75 miles an hour. Straightway records, stock chassis, 301,450 cubic inches, for 5 and 10 miles. These records were established on the beach at Jacksonville, Fla., in March of 1911. The 5 mile stock car record was made by Howdy Wilcox and the 10 mile record by Charley Merz. The National is still the world's stock champion by virtue of its victory in the Elgin National stock car trophy race of 1911, and probably will hold that title for all time, since there is no indication that stock car racing ever will be revived.

ITALIANS IN CANADA BACK PREMIER ORLANDO

Welland, April 24.—On account of the news being unfavorable as to the stand being taken by the "Big Four" in recognizing the rights of Italy, in regard to Dalmatia and Fiume, Vanni Oranava, Editor of the local English-Italian Newspaper, "The People's Journal," has sent today to Premier Orlando of Italy at the Peace Conference the following cablegram:

"In the name of our glorious dead and mutilated heroes, the Italians in Canada are with you, approving your stand for the sacred right of Italy, acquired by the blood, sacrifice and valor of our arms."

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