

## The Toronto World

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SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 16.

### Montreal Will Benefit No Less Than Toronto by Making the St. Lawrence an Ocean Highway.

The great advantage of damming and deepening the St. Lawrence will be the almost unlimited generation of electric energy. This will benefit Montreal no less than Toronto and make them even more than now great centres of industrial activity. The benefit to be derived from this unleashing of power by central Canada causes one to marvel at the opposition to the scheme which comes from some quarters in Montreal. New York as the great port of the western world may shrink from having the great highway across the Atlantic moved northward for half the year so as to largely increase the business of Canadian ports, and incidentally to put cities like Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit and Chicago, not to mention Duluth, on the seashore. But how Montreal is to be injuriously affected by the navigation end of the St. Lawrence waterways scheme we are unable to perceive.

A certain number of passengers may be transferred from boat to train and a certain amount of cargo may be broken at Montreal, which under the new big scheme of development would come on direct to Toronto. On the other hand, the tonnage going up and down the St. Lawrence would be enormously increased. A certain amount of European imports may then be more conveniently distributed from Toronto than Montreal. But Montreal, like Toronto, will always remain a great distributing centre. She is today a great distributing point, not because ocean carriers are unable to go further up the river but because she is far enough west to be within striking distance of the consuming communities. If the St. Lawrence were only navigable as far up as Rimouski it by no means follows that Rimouski would become a second Montreal. On the contrary Canadian imports from Europe would come in bond thru New York as they do now, when the St. Lawrence route is out of business. Merely being on the sea does not make a city great, or Halifax, one of the finest ports in the world, would have achieved greatness by this time. The mere handling of freight employs comparatively few men, and Halifax shows no such increase in population after a century as Toronto often shows after one good year. There is tremendous activity handling the vast stores of grain that arrive every fall at Port Arthur and Fort William, but the actual number of men to whom this work gives employment is so inconsiderable that they are absorbed by the lumber camps after the close of navigation.

The railways will suffer some loss if cargo now broken at Montreal comes on by boat to Toronto. But Montreal will suffer not at all. Her greatness, like the greatness of Toronto, mainly depends upon manufacture, and her handicaps, like Toronto's, is the scarcity and dearth of fuel. If these cities have cheap and abundant power there is scarcely a limit to their growth and development. A few steamers more or less at either port will be of small consideration. The two great cities of Canada should join hands in promoting the development of the St. Lawrence and the gigantic production of electric power that is bound to flow therefrom.

### More Good Lawyers Should Be Public Servants.

W. F. O'Connor, K.C., explains that he did not appear before the board of commerce on behalf of the sugar refiners to get the celebrated "order" which has aroused the people of Canada. He says that it would have been unethical for him to appear as counsel in a proceeding in which he had acted as judge. Mr. O'Connor, however, was consulted by the refiners, and advised them to apply for aid to the government. In all this he may have acted, and probably did act, with scrupulous regard for the proprieties of the occasion. But the fact remains that lawyers seem to pass quickly from the role of protecting the public to the role of protecting invested capital.

We have not yet developed a lawyer who regards himself as a public servant. He is perhaps forced of necessity to sell his ability as a baseball player sells his services. But even in baseball there are certain powers of reservation vested in the clubs, so that a player at a moment's notice cannot jump from one club to another, playing on Monday with Toronto and on Tuesday with the club closely contesting Toronto for the pennant. The Dominion government seems to have no reserve list. R. A. Pringle, ex-M.P., was paper controller for a year or two, but immediately after laying

aside his robe of office, turned up as attorney for one of the big paper companies. Later on he was paid out of the public purse to probe into the proceedings and profits of certain big corporations who enjoy a fair measure of tariff protection. This temporary employment came to an end, and Mr. Pringle next turned up before the tariff commission as attorney for one of those big corporations which he had been investigating.

Our governments, Dominion and provincial alike, should have a legal staff equipped for all emergencies, and assured of steady employment. As it is, there seems to be a fatal hiatus between imposition and prosecution. Fraud is discovered and criminal practices unearthed, but the men who commit the crimes are not indicted. The ordinary crown attorney feels it is none of his business, and the ordinary attorney-general is not a lawyer of high rank. The legal machinery of the province is sufficient to get after hobs and porch-climbers, but it fails to grapple with malefactors of great wealth or law-breakers with finesse.

Our Dominion attorney-general is a good lawyer, but he takes the position that he is not called upon to enforce the law. It took him only a few hours to pronounce the board of commerce's embargo on sugar as contrary to the spirit and letter of the law. But how much better would it have been if he given this opinion before the order went forth? Perhaps he was not consulted, but our point is that he should have been, and that a good staff of first-class lawyers should be always at the service of the government. To permit irresponsible commissions to issue crazy horse orders without let or hindrance until the public is goaded to fury is not good business, either from the standpoint of the government or from the standpoint of the country.

### Should the Board of Commerce Be Abolished?

The outcry against the embargo on sugar gives rise to the suggestion that the board of commerce should be abolished. The idea seems to be that the board ought to be punished. However, as two members of the board have already permanent positions in the public service and are acting temporarily as such members without extra pay, relieving them of extra work for which they receive no compensation would not be in the nature of a punishment. They might be relieved from further service on the board as a matter of public policy, but the necessity for some board or official to curb combinations in restraint of trade, to punish profiteering and order a reduction in prices when the same have been enhanced by illegal combinations will not be denied. The profiteers would be glad, no doubt, to see the board abolished; we would prefer to see it strengthened. The legislation creating the board was hasty and ill-digested. It was not, as a matter of fact, recommended by a majority of the special committee of the house appointed to investigate the high cost of living. The bill creating the board of commerce and the fair prices act went thru parliament in the dying days of the session with little explanation or discussion. The World, however, pointed out at the time that the whole scheme was fatally weak because it nowhere provided for federal enforcement of federal law. The board found itself powerless to execute its own decrees. The board could adjudge that an illegal combination existed in restraint of trade and ordered the combination to be dissolved, but it was up to the combinationists to obey or disobey, as they saw fit.

Then the government, in selecting the board of commerce commissioners appointed three men, each one of considerable ability, but three men incapable of working in harmonious co-operation. The resignation of Judge Robson as chairman followed the preferring of charges against him by Commissioners O'Connor and Murdoch, which may or may not have been worthy of investigation. Then O'Connor and Murdoch parted company and later on Mr. Murdoch, the sole remaining commissioner, resigned himself after firing broadside charges against members of the government.

Whether or not any of these charges were worthy of investigation we need not for the moment decide. But the impression left on the public mind was that a stronger board of commerce was needed, but the government, instead of searching for the men in the country or abolishing the board altogether, designated certain government officials to constitute the board of commerce until the powers and jurisdiction of that board were accurately defined by the imperial privy council. This was supposed to put the board in a comatose state where only routine business would be transacted, and the public was therefore shocked and exasperated beyond measure when this "ad hoc" board imposed a tax of from eight to ten cents a pound upon every pound of sugar purchased by the consumers and directed that the tax be paid not to the government but to the sugar refiners.

But admitting all this we are not prepared to say that some tribunal should not be set to watch the profiteers and protect the people from illegal combinations in restraint of



It looks as tho the British miners are going to take another holiday.

The present board may well depart, unwelcome, uninvited, and unpaid. They will not be presented with engraved addresses and gold-headed canes upon their departure. But the government might well consider the propriety of drafting new legislation designed to check profiteering and provide for its enforcement by federal authority.

There is work to be done by the right kind of board acting in close co-operation with the department of justice and backed by the power of the nation.

### Remarked in Passing.

Perhaps MacSwiney has determined to hold out on a liquid diet until the price of food comes down.

A gentleman in London has been sent to prison for "quadrangamy"; he had four wives. Just how would you describe King Solomon's way of doing it?

Stranger things have happened than that the bite of a monkey should result in the founding of a Greek republic.

British miners would do well to remember the old fable of the greedy dog who lost his bone in reaching for its reflection.

Judging from the reports from Moscow the Bolsheviks must be enjoying an uninterrupted series of successes—if you believe them.

Ask a hundred people taken at random who constitute the board of commerce and ninety-nine will shrug their shoulders and reply "search me."

The board of commerce has fixed the price of a pound of sugar at twenty-one cents, which is just nine cents cheaper than its own valuation in the estimation of the public.

The Winkler constable whose wife made him stay in bed while robbers rifled the local bank must have been reading some of that safety week literature.

The government's fiscal action on the sugar question was no doubt predicated by the news that if something was not done Mackenzie King was going to cuss right out in public.

A man went to sleep in a New York barber chair and when he woke up had \$4.55 worth of barbering done to him. Well, you can't say Canadian sugar users slept long.

A glance at the front pages of the New York and Chicago dailies these days would seem to indicate that both those cities are in a state of war. A couple of gun fights a day on downtown streets seems to be the rule.

Montreal is laughing because Toronto failed to come across with any well-

## GERMANY FILLING HER COAL CONTRACT

Delivered Stipulated Amount During August and September.

London, Oct. 15.—The Australian federal government has escaped defeat by only four votes on a country's party's motion to reduce the estimates by £1,000,000.

The Australian naval estimates just issued provide for the expenditure of £3,268,000, as compared with £2,000,000 before the war. The personnel of the Australian fleet is given at 6,635. Before the war, the Australian naval man strength was 3,837.

## U.S. LIKELY TO BAR CANADIAN WHEAT

(Continued From Page 1).

Philadelphia, Oct. 15.—Governor Henry J. Allen of Kansas said here tonight that he would comply with the request of President Wilson and forward to Washington information in his possession concerning the recent decline in wheat. He expects to return to Kansas within a few days, and said that he would give the matter his attention then.

In a statement, Governor Allen said: "As soon as I have returned to my office, I will give attention to the president's request, and will forward to the department of agriculture and the federal trade commission, according to his request, the facts about the situation, as these facts have been developed among the Kansas wheat growers and wheat dealers."

"Almost immediately upon the reopening of the Chicago board of trade, the wheat market lost its natural stability, and began to manifest the fluctuations which characterize a manipulated market. The dealers in options, using the Canadian wheat they had bought, have driven down the wheat in the United States, and have scored the most sensational decline since the war."

"The president has no power to establish a differential. The only thing he can do is to thoroughly investigate the gambling on the board of trade, and bring such relief as is possible. When the next session of congress assembles, undoubtedly it will restore the tariff to 25c a bushel, which the Republicans protected wheat."

DONATES SCHOOL SITE.  
Brookville, Ont., Oct. 15.—G. F. Benson, president of the Canada Starch Company, has donated a site for the new consolidated school in Cardinal.

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## THE HOUSE 'ROUND THE CORNER

By GORDON HOLMES

CHAPTER X. (Continued.)

"I'll go and sit with Percy a little while now," said Marguerite. "Poor fellow! What a shame he should have met with this mishap after his gallant walk today. Perhaps that is why he fell. His muscles may have relaxed owing to over-exertion. Will you ever forgive me, Bob, for all the worry I have caused you?"

"No," he said. "I want you to remind me of it so often that we shall lose count of the number of times. But, before you go upstairs, let me warn you that Dr. Scalfie gave our young friend about twenty grains of bromide in one gulp. He may be dosing. If he is, don't wake him."

In a couple of minutes she was back in the library, where Armathwaite was seated with a book and a pipe.

"He's asleep," she whispered. "I'm glad to hear that. He's been sitting down. Are you too tired to answer questions?"

"Try me."

"Concerning your change of name—can you explain more definitely how it came about?"

"I told you. It was on account of a legacy."

"But from whom? Who was the Oglivey who left the money? A relative on your father's side, or your mother's?"

"Dad's, I understood."

"Did you ever hear of anyone named Faulkner?"

"Yes. Some people of that name lived here years ago. We were distantly related. In fact, that is how the property came into dad's possession. But he never really went into details. One day he said he had made a will, leaving me everything, subject to a life interest for mother, and that when he was dead a lawyer would tell me all that I ought to know. Then I cried at the horrid thought that he would have to die at all, and he laughed at me, and that was the last I ever heard of it. Why do you ask?"

"You remember that we promised not to hide anything from one another?"

"Of course I remember."

"Well, then, I think I have hit on a sort of a clue to the Oglivey part of the mystery, at any rate. By the merest chance, while awaiting the return of Mr. Burt's man from the village, our talk turned on the history of this house. He spoke of the Faulknors, and mentioned the fact that the eldest son of a daughter of the family, a Mrs. Oglivey, was born here. That would be some fifty odd years ago. How old is your father?"

"Fifty-four."

"The dates tally, at all events."

Meg knitted her brows over this cryptic remark.

"But," she said, "if you imply that my father may be the son of a Mrs. Oglivey, that would mean that his name never was Garth."

"Exactly."

"Isn't such a guess rather improbable?" I am twenty-two, and I was born in this very house, and I lived here twenty years except during school terms at Brighton and in Brussels, and we were known as Garths during all that long time."

Armathwaite blew a big ring of smoke into the air, and darted a number of smaller rings until, at last, he came, beautifully distinct at first, and then, as it were, faded away, and was soon caught in a current from an open window, and eddied into shapeless clouds. He was thinking hard, and had acted unconsciously, so it was with a sense of surprise that he heard the girl laugh half-heartedly.

"I've been forming mad and outrageous theories until my head aches," she said, answering the unspoken question in his eyes. "Some of them begin by being just as perfectly proportioned as your smoke-rings, but they fade away in the next breath."

"My present theory is nebulous enough," he admitted, "but it is not altogether demolished yet. Can you endure a brief analysis of my

thoughts? You won't be afraid, and lie awake for hours?"

"No. I mean that I want to hear everything you wish to tell me."

"The man who died here two years ago must have resembled your father in no common degree. Dr. Scalfie is not the sort of person who makes a mistake in such a vital matter as the identification of a dead body, especially when the subject is an old and valued friend of his. By the way, you called him uncle, but that, I take it, was merely an affectionate mode of address dating from your childhood?"

"Yes, it's a Yorkshire custom among intimates."

"Have you ever heard of a real uncle—your father's brother—or of a first cousin who was very like him?"

"No. I have asked my people about relatives, but we seemed to have none. Even the Oglivey of the legacy was never mentioned by either of them until mother read me a letter from dad received while we were in Paris."

"Exactly. This testamentary Oglivey appeared on the scene soon after Stephen Garth died, and was buried. Your father was well aware of that occurrence, because he was in Paris. He knew that the man who died was coming here, so he sent your mother and you to Paris to get you safely out of the way. Next day he died, and the Oglivey, and frighten yourself into the belief that I am proving your father's guilt of some dreadful crime. You or I might be convinced that he is incapable of any such act. May I not share your good opinion of him, yet try to reach some sort of firm ground in a quagmire where a false step may prove disastrous? Suppose Mr. Garth, as he was called at that time, merely got rid of his wife and daughter until an unelcome guest had been received and sent on his way again, and that fate, with the crassness it can display at times, contrived that the Oglivey should be the man who was killed, or committed suicide, at the most awkward moment it is possible to conceive, can you not imagine a hapless, middle-aged scholar availing himself of the most unlikely kind of expedient in order to escape a scandal? Your father is a student, a writer, almost a recluse, yet such a man, driven suddenly into the panic-stricken state of a man of off-times devices ways and means of humbugging the authorities which an ordinarily clever criminal would neither think of nor dare."

"On this phase of the matter, so that you and I may concentrate our intelligence on the line of inquiry most likely to yield results. Let me tabulate my contentions in chronological sequence."

A—Mr. Garth received some news which led him to disturb the peace of his home, and to leave his wife and daughter to his fate. His first care was to send his wife and daughter to a place far removed from Elmdale."

B—Mrs. Garth, aware of her husband's uneasiness, and agreed to Elmdale with the plan he had devised."

C—in order to secure complete secrecy, the whole staff of servants was dismissed, practically at a moment's notice, and probably paid liberal compensation."

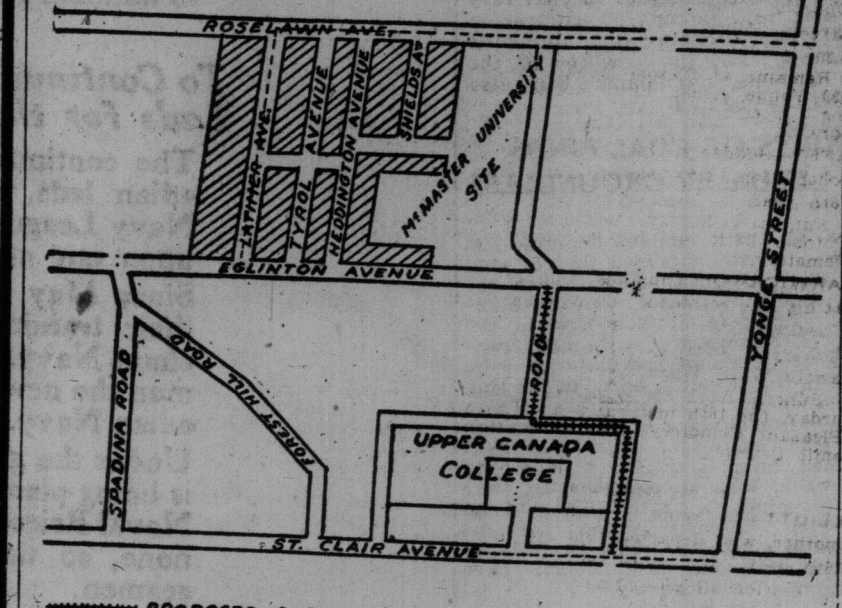
D—After a week of this gradual obliteration of himself in Elmdale, Mr. Garth is missed, with the inevitable outcome that his dead body is found hanging in the hall, and left there should be any doubt as to his identity a letter is left for the coroner, in which he asserts a thing, which his friend, Dr. Scalfie, knew to be untrue, namely, that he was suffering from incurable disease."

E—The statement, conveyed otherwise than in a letter, would have been received with scepticism; it was made with the definite object of giving a reason for an apparent suicide, and leaving testimony, in his own handwriting, that the disgraced body could be that of no other person than Stephen Garth. If a general resemblance of the dead to the living did not suffice—if the wearing of certain clothes, and the finding of certain documents and trinkets, such as a watch and chain, for instance—"

Marguerite, who had been listening intently, could no longer restrain her excitement.

Continued Monday Morning.

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