

Here and There



The annual statement of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the report which the company's president, E. W. Beatty, made to the shareholders at the annual meeting are matters of first rate interest, not only to the fast growing number of Canadian citizens who are part owners in the great railway, but to all interested in Canadian progress and development. By reason of the way in which the company's operations touch all phases of Canadian life and enterprise there can be no pronounced depression or prosperity in any part of the country without its being reflected in the earnings of the Canadian Pacific. There is a thermometer of the country's foreign trade also in the results of the operation of the company's steamships upon the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Thus there was considerable reason for gratification in the president's statement made at the annual meeting on May 7th, that the operations of the company had been conducted throughout 1923 in a satisfactory manner and with satisfactory results. Mr. Beatty pointed out that gross earnings for the year, which had totalled \$105,897,089, were greater by \$9,162,000 than those of 1922. Working expenses, however, increased by \$7,984,000 to \$158,358,079. This large increase in operating costs was due to large expenditures made upon the property in order that it might be kept to the highest possible physical standard and capable of rendering the best possible service to the community. As a result the property was never in so excellent a condition as it now is. Net earnings for the year were \$37,479,010, an increase of \$1,177,000.

The total tonnage moved by the company during the year amounted to 30,852,994, an increase over that of the previous year of 3,103,408, due to a heavier movement of grain, lumber, manufactured articles and general merchandise, the largest increase being in grain and grain products. Mr. Beatty pointed out that this satisfactory condition had extended well into the present year and that due to favorable operating conditions and heavy traffic net earnings for the first quarter of 1924 had increased over those of the same period last year by \$1,200,000.

Referring to the Government's system of railroads, Mr. Beatty said that the difference between it and the Canadian Pacific was largely in name only and in the treatment of personnel of shareholders. The securities of both systems were owned by private investors throughout the world and there was a significant steady increase in both Canadian and British holdings of Canadian Pacific common stock. Two phases of the general railway situation called for criticism. Under a statute passed in 1919 the Government-owned lines may construct branches without approval as to location and other details by the Railway Commission. Thus they may parallel or duplicate existing lines of any other company once the Minister approves and parliament authorizes the expenditure. Mr. Beatty stated that in his opinion it was equally in the interests of the Canadian people and of all Canadian railroads that the companies should be in the same position in this respect. The other phase was the result of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement of 1897. It had established special statutory freight rates under conditions of operating costs which no longer exist and differences in rates which would not be permitted under the general Railway Act because of their unfairness in relation to commodity rates on other articles and to the rates effective in other parts of Canada. The greatest advantage to shippers as a whole would be secured if all rates were made subject to review and change as conditions warrant by the tribunal constituted for that purpose.

In referring to the outlook for the future, Mr. Beatty said that while there was a noticeable lull in domestic and export shipments due in part to unsettlement in industrial districts, general business during the first quarter of the year had been satisfactory. The crop acreage would probably be about the same as last year and, generally speaking, soil conditions were excellent. "If the total yield approaches that of 1923," said Mr. Beatty, "there will undoubtedly be a very extensive autumn business and a vastly improved psychological and financial situation throughout the whole country. There is no real ground for pessimism in respect of the future of either the company or the country, though an extraordinary and too rapid advance is neither to be expected nor desired."

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SUFFERS NO MORE WITH HEADACHES

"Fruit-a-tives" freed her from years of pain

The Fruit Treatment seems to be the only way of completely ridding the system of the cause of Headaches. Miss Annie Ward, of 112 Hazen St., St. John, N.B., says: "I was a great sufferer for many years from Nervous Headaches and Constipation. I tried everything, but nothing seemed to help me until I tried 'Fruit-a-tives'". After taking several boxes, I was completely relieved and have been well ever since".

Practically all Headaches come from poisoned blood—that is, the blood is laden with impurities which should be carried from the body by the kidneys and bowels.

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25c. and 50c. a box—at druggists or Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

The Apple And Its Uses

The apple crop last year accorded to Bulletin No. 35 of the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa entitled "Canadian Grown Apples" amounted to 4,063,719 barrels. This was about one million barrels less than the crop of 1922. These figures compiled by the Fruit Branch are given in an introduction to a long list of fruit recipes which it is hoped will encourage the greater use of Canadian apples. This bulletin which is available at the Publications Branch of the Department shows that Canadian apples have been particularly successful in international competitions and are recognized as unsurpassed anywhere in the world. Apples are classified according to the seasons in which they should be used and as to their suitability for cooking, dessert and other purposes. The advice is offered that apples should be cooked in earthen or granite utensils and only silver granite or wooden spoons used for stirring. The recipes cover all manner of dishes that can be made from the "King of Fruits."

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THE SMALL HOUSE

The era of the big houses is past and the day of small houses or small apartments has come to stay. The high cost of building, unheard of taxes, scarcity of help, and outrageously dear fuel have united to work wonders and now the man who has a comfortably small house is the envy of his neighbor tied to a house big beyond his needs.

LOTS OF MONEY FOR THE UNION CLUB

The Union Club deal in London

England is a good example of how the King Government while it denies communities at home badly needed services can find hundreds of thousands of dollars for public buildings in countries over the seas. Following upon the heels of the Hotel Scribe deal in Paris. It shows that the Government's co-called policy of economy is not intended to apply to its operations abroad. Apparently all that is needed to put over a big deal is to say that you have the "best site" in either London or Paris and the Government will obligingly come across with a few millions.

When the Government first submitted to Parliament the \$1,300,000 vote for the Union Club it did not accompany the request with much information; but through persistent questioning on the part of the Opposition the following information was secured. The proposal was to pay £225,000 for a building in London for the accommodation of the Government officials and to spend £75,000 on improvements. A firm of appraisers said that it was worth £200,000 provided the buyers were very anxious to get it but a mere £25,000 extra was neither here nor there.

The question arose would any money be saved by the deal; that is would it be cheaper to buy just now or continue to pay rent? This question was quite relevant for it is by no means sure that the Government can get all its officials into the new quarters. The figures of Hon. Dr. King Minister of Public Works showed that it would cost \$36,229 more a year to occupy the building than it would to pay rent. This is a queer way of trying to save money and so impressed was Robert Forke the Progressive Leader with this view of the matter that he promptly refused to vote for it. So one may be sure that the deal was anything but good when Mr. Forke took this stand.

Mr. Meighen approved of the general idea of getting all the Canadian Governments represented in London into one building. He said that the idea of getting a suitable building came up when he was in office; but he added that the reason action was delayed was because "we had so much other expenditure to take care of that we thought it would have to wait." Wait it did and the country was not the worse for the waiting. But as in the Grand Trunk Pacific deal the Liberals could not wait.

Premier King got so worked up over this deal that he hotly told Parliament that the Government would stand or fall on this vote. To take so repulsive a stand on such a proposal was so extraordinary that it gave rise to suspicion. The House had been told that the Government through High Commissioner Larkin had secured an option on the building and that this would have to be taken up. Then it slipped out that the agreement to purchase had been signed by the High Commissioner as far back as June 26, 1923; that on that date £100 had been paid on the deal as part payment of the purchase money to be paid in full on March 25th, 1924. Further it developed that the Canadian Government had ratified a binding offer by cable as early as 26th May, 1923; which offer the Union Club had accepted subject to ratification by their members. So the Government was bound as early as 26th May and a formal contract was executed on 26th June. All this was before Parliament had the slightest information on the question. But in the face of this Mr. Hon. McKenna King stated in the House that negotiations were still proceeding whereas the Govern-

GLASS SLIPPER WAS SUCCESS IN NEWCASTLE

The opera "The Glass Slipper" was presented in St. Mary's Hall Newcastle on Monday evening May 18th before a packed house.

The piece achieved even greater success than it did in its performances in Chatham and Loggville.

After the performance the members of the cast were entertained by the Catholic Women's League under whose auspices the play was presented. Delightful refreshments were served. The cast made the trip to Newcastle by auto returning by the same means.

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