

The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1820
A Morning newspaper published every day in the year by The World Newspaper Company of Toronto, Limited, H. J. Maclean, Managing Director.
WORLD BUILDING, TORONTO
NO. 40 WEST RICHMOND STREET
Telephone Call 1445
Main Office—Private Exchange connecting all departments.
Branch Office—40 South Main Street, Hamilton
Telephone 1945
Daily World—22 per copy, \$3.00 per year, \$2.00 for 6 months, \$1.15 for 3 months, 50c per month, delivered, or \$4.00 per year, 40c per month, by mail, in Canada (except Toronto), United Kingdom, United States and Mexico.
Sunday World—22 per copy, \$2.50 per year, by mail.
To other foreign countries, postage extra.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 22

The Old and the New.

The thirteenth parliament of Canada has been chosen. In some ridings the result may be changed by the soldier vote. There are also four deferred elections, but generally speaking we know the personnel of the new house.

A large number of the men who sat in the old parliament will also sit in the new. The Ontario and Quebec delegations are altered, but not radically changed. Most of the maritime province members come back. The new blood will come from the west. From that section of the country at least forty new men take their places in parliament.

Many members of the old house have recently gone to the senate or have accepted positions of trust and emolument under the crown. They include from Ontario some well-known parliamentarians who fought the battles of the Conservative party in the house or commons during long years of opposition; as for example, Senator Blain, of Peel; Senator Beupre, of East Simcoe; Senator Claude Macdonell, of Toronto; and Mr. A. C. Boyce, of Sault Ste. Marie, who has become a member of the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners. Other Ontario members of the last house who will not be seen again in the green chamber are: Judge Lewis, of Huron, and Senator John Fisher. A number of western members have also gone to the senate. Hon. Dr. Roche, who sat for years for the riding of Marquette, and was a member of the Borden government until the formation of Union government last October, becomes chairman of the civil service commission. Clarence Jameson, of Digby, N. S., the only poet of whom the twelfth parliament boasted, has also been appointed to the civil service commission.

Tall timber on the opposition side fell before the cyclone of last Monday's election. Hon. Frank Oliver, a typical westerner, will probably cross the great divide. Manley German, a lover of sport, took the count. Hon. Wm. Pugsley went over the top just in time to land in the gubernatorial chair at Fredericton. Hon. George P. Graham ran not at all, but may walk into the house via Maisonneuve. E. M. Macdonald, of Pictou, is among the missing; and so are W. E. Knowles and Dr. Neely, of Humboldt. J. G. Turritt, F. F. Pardee, and others who once fought the battles of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, will sit in the next house behind Sir Robert Borden. Indeed, Sir Wilfrid will scarcely have more than twenty supporters in the house outside of Quebec.

The first session of the house will be short, and devoted mainly to supply. It will not be until January, 1918, that the Liberal parliamentary contingent will be called upon to display much skill in tactics or debate. Judge Mackenzie of Cape Breton still follows the white poodle, and so does the fiery George W. Kyte. Hon. Charles Murphy is a fair parliamentary speaker, and there are some good debaters like Lemieux and Mr. Ernest Lapointe from Quebec. The Liberals are building great hopes on S. W. Jacobs, K.C., the newly elected member for the riding of Sir George Etienne Cartier, and A. R. McMaster, K.C., who carried Brome at the last election. Indeed, Mr. McMaster is spoken of as the next leader of the Liberal party, being an English-speaking Protestant on good terms with the majority in Quebec.

The "Conservative-Nationalists" disappear en bloc. Quebec may be Nationalist in sympathy, but she has lost faith in the candidates who were named for parliament in 1911 by the late Hon. F. D. Monk and who, it is alleged, were financed by Baron Astolstan and Sir Herbert Ames. Even Armand Laverne was defeated by the Laurier candidate last Monday in Montmagny, and the green chamber is not likely to welcome again to its portals Hon. P. E. Blondin, Hon. Albert Sevigny, J. H. Rainville, Captain Barrette and other Nationalists. Joseph Girard, who always picked the winner and came in time after time as a government supporter from Chicoutimi, backed the wrong horse this time and was defeated by 7,000 majority.

The house gains in virility by the infusion of new blood from the west. The farmers named a number of Union government candidates and have thus returned some men who are frankly radical. This group, which includes J. A. Maharg, president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, and R. C. Henders, president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, will hitch its wagon to the star of Hon. T. A. Crefar, minister of agriculture and president of the United Grain Growers, Limited. It will be Mr. Crefar's task to bring eastern Canada and the western farmers closer together. It will be a task which might well attract the ambition and at the same time overtax the capacity of many a public man. But Mr. Crefar has marked ability, and he will be supported in the cabinet by those pastmasters in politics, Hon. Arthur Meighen, Hon. J. A. Calder and Hon. A. L. Sifton.

Some members of former parliaments who were not returned in 1911 reappear in the election returns of 1917. Hon. W. S. Fielding returns from Nova Scotia and R. L. Richardson from Manitoba. Hance Logan will come back from his old riding of Cumberland, N. S., unless the soldier vote elects Hon. E. N. Rhodes, which, by the way, seems probable.

Among the well-known members of the last parliament who did not seek re-election are Sir Edmund Osler, Sir Rodolphe Forget, Sir George Perley and R. B. Bennett, of Calgary. Other parliamentary veterans who will not be among the members of the new parliament are Hon. David Henderson, of Halton; Hon. Andrew Broder, of Dundas; and W. B. Northrup, K.C., of East Hastings.

The new house comes to power with an unmistakable mandate from the people. It will give inspiration as well as support to the Union government.

Investigating the School System.

There has been no more serious sign of weakness in the board of education than the refusal of the trustees to permit a survey of their system by the bureau of municipal research. In the last few years, the bureau has done much work in Toronto that it does not now need to be explained or apologized for, and the refusal of the board to permit a scrutiny of its affairs suggests a reluctance for publicity which is, to say the least, not creditable.

One trustee stated that the bureau of research had shown hostility to the board of education in the past. This is as childish as the enmity entertained by the little boy to the doctor who reported upon him annually as afflicted in succession with measles, scarletina and mumps. The bureau works in an absolutely scientific way, and has no enmity and no amity for anything but facts.

Dr. Hunter and Mrs. Courtois were in favor of an investigation by educational experts, if not by the bureau, and this indicates a progressive spirit. There are experts and experts, however, and they differ as day and night. It was experts who designed the present system, no doubt, which turns out boys who cannot spell, write, read or count. These facts are ascertainable daily without investigation by employers in search of office help. The system is beneficial to the private commercial colleges, where spelling, writing and arithmetic are specialized. It is a pity that the public schools could not specialize on these staples and let private enterprise supply the adornments.

Mr. McClelland and Dr. Noble are on the right track on this matter, and should make "the three R's" an issue in future.

German Attack Pending.

Germany's concentration on the western front unquestionably betokens an intention for mischief. It is one thing to propose, however, and another to dispose. Since the Cambrai reverse, as it is now evidently regarded in England, and since the serious situation in Italy, due to the failure of the Russian front forces to maintain their attack, a new sense of the whole world situation is awaking in the allied leaders, and Premier Lloyd George's speech in Paris was the beginning of a new era.

The world cannot go on fighting for ever. There is a point of exhaustion which lies approximately within calculation. Apart from this Germany is aware that her chance of victory is incomparably less than that of the allies with America behind them. They are less anxious about the future with the consciousness of America behind them than the Germans are with the consciousness of America in front of them.

So the Germans wish to urge on the attack while the American forces are still immobilized. They must strike their blow as speedily as possible while their strength, reinforced by troops drawn from the Russian front, is at its greatest, and while the strength of the allies, divided to help Italy, is at its lowest.

The work of the new international army council is apparent in one of the latest movements. It was the old way of war to divide and conquer, or with separate opponents to defeat them successively. National jealousies nearly always made this possible. If one method of division failed, another was tried. Russia is an example of one method of German action, Italy of another. Germany, making up in craft what she lacked in strength, has evidently determined to take the weaker of her two western adversaries at a disadvantage, and if possible defeat her. The united war council sees the policy and sets out to defeat it by placing British reinforcements at the disposal of France in case of an attack in force by Germany at a weak point. Similar action will enable French forces to be called upon in case of a strong attack on the northern lines anywhere.

The allies are not again to be caught napping as in Italy. By improved lateral communications they will counter the advantage of interior communications which the central position of Germany confers. The best thing that could now happen would be such an attack as Germany designs in her closest mass formation. The sooner the German forces are worn out the better for the world in general, and the closer will peace be brought. There can be no real peace without an overthrow of the Hohenzollerns, and a winter campaign will mean the defeat of the German armies by May, and a political revolution in Germany, which will assist President Wilson's object of making the world safe for democracy.

A Petition.

All that a man might ask, thou hast given me, England,
Birth-right and happy childhood's long heartease,
And love whose range is deep beyond all sounding
And wider than all seas:
A heart to front the world and find God in it,
Eyes blind enow, but not too blind to see
The lovely things behind the dross and darkness,
And lovelier things to be;
And friends whose loyalty time nor death shall weaken
And quenchless hope and laughter's golden store—
All that a man might ask thou hast given me, England,
Yet grant thou one thing more:
That now when envious foes would spoil thy splendor,
Unversed in arms, a dreamer such as I,
May in the ranks be deemed not all unworthy,
England, for thee to die.

—R. E. Verne (written in the trenches), in The Times.

The question of federal inhibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the United States has now passed out of the hands of congress into those of the state legislatures. Twelve legislatures are to sit in 1918, eleven of these in January, and one in May, and these will probably be the first to pass upon the matter of ratification; yet, where the prohibitionists are in control, they can determine whether or not it would be wiser to have action postponed until the people shall have had an opportunity of voicing their sentiments in the election of new legislatures. Thirty-six states, at least, must pass favorably on the amendment before it can be incorporated in the organic law of the nation. Twenty-seven states may be counted as under prohibition law at the present time, but there remain few of the forty-eight that are not under local option, or limited prohibition, and therefore largely dry. Some that admit license in certain localities, on a state test, would, in all probability, vote for prohibition. There may be one or two states under prohibition that are now disposed to refuse to make prohibition national, but this is hardly probable.

ENEMY ALIEN BOMBER ARRESTED IN NEW YORK

Described as Associate of Von Rintelen, Most Notorious of German Agents in U. S.

New York, Dec. 21.—Another enemy alien alleged to have been implicated in incendiary bomb plots to destroy sugar and munitions steamships and start water front fires was arrested by federal agents here today. The prisoner, described himself as Charles (fig. 32 years old, and said his home was in Richmond Hill. He is believed to have been an associate of Franz von Rintelen, one of the most notorious German agents in the United States, who was re-indicted today for placing an incendiary bomb on a British steamship.

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With the arrest last October of three men charged with "conspiracy to destroy ships in the port of New York and en route to allied countries," members of the bomb squad said their investigation of the gang's operations revealed that a meeting was held in Schimmel's office in March, 1915, attended by Von Rintelen, Otto Wolpert and others, at which \$10,000 was subscribed to pay men to place bombs on allied steamships. Fire department records show that Schimmel was refused a permit at that time to keep explosives in his home in the Bronx.

EIGHT MILLION TONS OF SHIPS BUILDING

Fourteen Hundred Ships on Ways in U. S. Yards, American Shipping Board is Told.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Declaring that this country has now more than 8,000,000 tons of shipping under construction or contract, Chairman Hurley, of the shipping board, today took the stand at the opening of the senate shipping investigation. It marked the beginning of the second big investigation under way or pending in the capital.

Hurley read a long statement to the committee outlining the government's program. It showed: 1,427 ships of 8,573,108 dead weight tons under construction and contract. 74 new shipyards in the United States since January 1, 1914. 149,270 workmen on merchant ships, Dec. 8, an increase of 46.2 per cent. in nine weeks.

Two and three ships being instituted where there was formerly only a single line.

Welcoming the investigation, Hurley's statement to the committee pleaded for time. He did not refer to past rows in the shipping board and emergency fleet corporation, altho the probes expected to question him about them.

HANNA IMPOSES LIMIT ON MILKMEN'S MARGINS

Five Cents Per Quart Allowed in Excess of Wholesale Cost.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—The food controller has limited the amount which distributors of milk may add to the actual cost of the product delivered at their premises. From and after January 1, until further notice, the amount so added must not exceed such cost by more than 5 1/2 cents per quart anywhere in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, or by more than five cents per quart anywhere in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or Prince Edward Island. No distributor selling milk in any locality where the amount now paid to distributors is less than the maximum prescribed in the order may increase such amount without the written consent of the food controller.

Retail dealers are forbidden to charge a higher price for milk than the milk distributors charge the customers in the same locality. If the cost of labor, or other factors, increase the cost of distribution, any distributor may submit evidence to the food controller and make application for an increase in the margin allowed in that province.

CALGARY'S COAL FAILS; RAILWAYS ARE BLAMED

Strike at Lethbridge Coalfields of C. P. R. Adversely Affects Situation.

Calgary, Dec. 21.—The coal situation in Calgary has assumed a most serious aspect, with the local dealers refusing all orders for domestic coal of a quality such as turned out by the large producing mines of the Crow's Nest Co. and other fields in Alberta.

UNITED STATES TO FEED STARVING FINLANDERS

Forty Thousand Tons of Grain Will Proceed by Way of Sweden.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Permission on the shipment of about forty thousand tons of corn and oats to Finland by way of Sweden has been granted by the food administration and the war trade board upon evidence that the people of the Finnish people are starving.

To the Dump



WOMEN AGENTS USED TO FOMENT UPRISING

Germans Planned Employment of These Thruout World to Undermine British Rule in India.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—Utilization of women agents thruout the world formed a salient part of the plan of an alleged conspiracy to foment revolution against British rule in India, according to testimony today of Mrs. Saran Gada, the Swiss wife of a high-caste Hindu, in the trial of 31 persons charged with conspiracy in the proposed revolution.

Mrs. Saran Gada testified that in Switzerland in 1914, before the outbreak of the war, she had been begged by Har Dyal, alleged to have been one of the chief conspirators, but who evaded arrest, to go to the United States, England and India, to disseminate propaganda favorable to the proposed revolution. She told Dyal she would have nothing to do with the movement.

Mrs. Saran Gada said that in Zurich she had translated into Hindustani William Jennings Bryan's book on "British Rule in India" for the "Pro-Indian," an alleged revolutionary magazine.

The witness testified that she met Tarak Nath Das, one of the defendants, in the United States in 1912, and corresponded with him. Letters purporting to have been written her by Tarak Nath were introduced. One of them read:

"I have formed an acquaintance with Professor McElroy, head of the chair of political science at Princeton. He told me he would like to participate in a widespread campaign of political education, but he had no social status, and fears his work would not be effective."

HAD A MUSKRAT SKIN.

Special to The Toronto World.
Bristol, Conn., Dec. 21.—For having a muskrat skin in his possession, muskrat killing being out of season, J. E. Starkey was assessed \$10 and costs.

BUTTER EXPORTS LIMITED.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Exportation of butter, except to nations associated with the United States in the war against Germany, has been prohibited by the war trade board. This was disclosed tonight in a statement by the food administration, requesting butter makers and dealers to abandon certain types of packages used in shipping butter to the Orient, the tropics and other countries, except the allies.

TORONTO AVIATOR KILLED.

Lieut. Russell Jenner Meets Death in Texas.

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 21.—Three aviators in training here were killed this morning when two machines collided in the air. Two of the men were in one machine. The collision took place at a low altitude and less than half a mile from the landing field.

The dead are: Arthur Eden Webb.

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