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THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 21.

**High Time to Take Over the Grand Trunk.**

A year ago Sir Robert Borden at the Toronto Exhibition announced to the people of Canada that it was the intention of his government to take over and absorb into the Canadian National Railway system the Grand Trunk Pacific and the old Grand Trunk as well. The Grand Trunk Pacific has been placed in the hands of a receiver and negotiations have been languidly proceeding for the acquisition of the old Grand Trunk. In our opinion it is high time that these negotiations cease. The government should either appropriate the Grand Trunk or by withdrawing financial support force that system into liquidation. The people are getting tired of the extended negotiations and long delays.

What makes them more tired is the suspicion that the Canadian Pacific Railway is taking advantage of this interregnum to get business away from the government system. The Canadian National cannot properly function until it is joined up with the old Grand Trunk. Meanwhile the government telegraph system is being managed in such a way as to suggest sabotage.

Almost incredible but well verified complaints come to us respecting the non-delivery of the belated delivery of messages. For this the Canadian National Railway system must be held responsible because the G. N. W. Telegraph is as much a part of that system as is the C. P. R. Telegraph a part of the Canadian Pacific railway system.

In short, the government should get a move on. To come down to our own locality, why should not the radials like the Toronto and Eastern and the roads to Woodbridge and Guelph be turned over and turned over promptly to Sir Adam Beck and the Hydro Radials?

Indecision and delay should not become the fixed characteristics of the Ottawa government. The railway problem no more brooks delay than does the high cost of living problem. Both should be tackled with energy and dispatch.

**The Voting Lists and the Convention.**

Mr. Hartley Dewar accused those in charge of preparing the voting lists with leaving off 20,000 names. We do not know where he got his figures, and presume it is an estimate based on ascertained facts. Premier Hearst declared in reply that the thing was impossible, that the compilers had instructions to put everybody on, that they were not interfered with, and, finally, that Mr. Dewar had strayed from the path of truth.

Judge Coatsworth is in charge of this registration business, and he thinks the case is so bad that he declares he is going to ask the government to investigate the lists turned in by the enumerators in some of the subdivisions, to find out why so many of the names were left off. Hundreds of soldiers were left off in one hospital alone.

There is nothing so significant of weakness and disintegration in a government as tampering with the voting lists. Premier Hearst undoubtedly means well, but he doesn't know all that is going on. His confidential informants are not reliable, and he is not getting the news. We have pointed out again and again in the last few weeks the parallel that exists between present conditions and those in 1904, when the Ross government was tottering to its fall. Premier Ross could not be told anything at that time in opposition to his utterly erroneous confidential information. Premier Hearst appears to be in a similar position. The candid friend is rarely in favour when he brings disagreeable news, and the World does not suppose that its columns are read with joy and gratitude at cabinet meetings. All we have done, however, is to point out undoubted facts, easily verifiable, uncontradicted up till the present, and we believe uncontradictable.

The situation permits of one remedy. That remedy is a convention of the Conservative party of Ontario, to be held before any election is called. One authority threatens the calling of an election on fifteen days' notice. The government is scarcely mad enough to do this, but there are doubts if it is wise enough to call a convention and secure the sense and support of the party.

On this head we have pleasure in submitting an article from The Ottawa Journal of Tuesday last, which indicates that The World and The Hamilton Spectator are not alone in asking for a convention.

**Look on This Picture and Then on That—How the United States Leads Canada in Going After the Profiteers**

The attorney-general of the United States is a busy man these days, for he is prosecuting the activities of district attorneys and federal officials all over the country. Some idea of what is being done may be gleaned from a Washington dispatch to The Christian Science Monitor, herewith reprinted alongside. Great hoards of food have been uncovered in Boston, Detroit, St. Louis, New Orleans and many other places. It will be observed that as these hoards are discovered the United States district attorney applies to a federal judge to "libel" the goods; that is, he proceeds much as an ordinary litigant would proceed to libel a ship on which he had a claim. The admiralty court would keep the ship in port until the claim was adjudicated. So the hoard of food is in the possession of the court until a summary enquiry is made, and then it is forced to sale and the profiteer punished. Some five hundred men are already under arrest in the United States for profiteering.

Near Boston the other day officials tracked some greasy profiteer to his lair and there found hoarded five million pounds of sugar, millions of pounds of butter and cheese and fourteen million dozen of eggs. These stores were libeled and will be forced to sale. The profiteer himself is being dealt with by a special grand jury immediately empaneled by a federal judge. We have little doubt that he will be summarily punished.

At Washington the house of representatives is busy putting more teeth into the laws against profiteering, and the president may be going to proclaim to fix the price of all commodities. Dealers selling at a price higher than that fixed by the proclamation will be liable to two years in the penitentiary. Attorney-General Palmer is on the job and his district attorneys, deputy marshals and special agents are everywhere at work.

What is going on in Canada? The Dominion government is not uncovering any hoards of food, forcing them to sale or bringing the profiteers to justice. The attorney-general of Canada is doing nothing, whatever to enforce the laws against profiteers. True he has no district attorneys or deputy marshals or special agents to do this work for him, but these should be provided at the earliest possible moment. We observe that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police and the Dominion police are to be consolidated, a press report says for federal enforcement of the federal law, but generally speaking the Royal Northwest Mounted Police has done constabulary work for the western provinces which should have been done by the provincial governments and municipalities. However, this consolidation may be the first step toward putting at the disposal of the attorney-general a force to ferret out hoarding and arrest profiteers.

But we have an attorney-general for the Province of Ontario, altho we are not reminded of his existence by anything he does to reduce the cost of living or punish the extortionate dealers. He has under him many crown attorneys. In every county and province there is a grand jury, and a special grand jury at any time may be empaneled upon the request of the attorney-general. But nothing is being done by the authorities in Queen's Park to uncover hoarded food or punish the profiteers.

The province passes the buck to the Dominion, and the Dominion, not to be outdone in generosity, passes it back to the province. We have created a board of commerce, but we have not given it the powers of a court. It cannot seize hoarded foods or send profiteers to the penitentiary. Its functions seem to be one of inquiry, and, as The Ottawa Citizen observes:

Heaven knows we have had enough futile and money-wasting enquiries, commissions and what not to date. Still, we have great faith in the ability and integrity of Judge Robson, the chairman, and W. F. O'Connor, K.C., the other member of the commission. They will do their best, but they can do little unless the full power of the federal government is thrown into the struggle. The government must have federal courts, federal district attorneys and federal officials under the supervision and direction of the attorney-general, to do work like that which is now being carried on by the government of the United States.

For years W. F. Maclean, in the house and in the columns of The World, fought almost a single-handed fight for federal enforcement of the federal law. Now others are beginning to see that the national government itself must deal with a national evil like the high cost of living. The Ottawa Citizen contrasts the striking activity of the United States government with the somnolence of our government at Ottawa. The Globe splutters about constitutional limitation, but is forced to admit that federal enforcement of federal law is the only remedy for profiteering. The Star has been converted by The World and now shows all the zeal of the new convert. Only yesterday it announced that it had "for years" advocated federal enforcement of federal law. The "years" was doubtless a misprint for "days." Careless proofreader!

Our rulers at Ottawa had better wake up. W. F. O'Connor, K.C., has gone to Washington to get some pointers from the United States Federal Reserve Commission, and we only regret that Sir Robert Borden's temporary indisposition prevents his going to the same place to get some pointers from President Wilson. Our old friend Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice and attorney-general of Canada, is in robust health after his months of holidaying overseas. Let him go to Washington and get some pointers from A. Mitchell Palmer.

When Mr. O'Connor returns we hope he will bring with him a lot of ginger. Ginger is what is needed by our Ottawa ministers, many of whom are away fishing, golfing and summer holidaying. Yet this is no time for holidays or merry-making. The bulk of our people today are insufficiently nourished, because they cannot buy the proper food. Nearly all of us are suffering privations because of the extortionate prices charged for so many necessities. If our rulers at Ottawa do not know this they will learn it of very soon from an impatient people. They will be held responsible for the inertia which prevails in Canada, contrasted with the activity in the United States. The Washington authorities are moving vigorously; the authorities at Ottawa on the subject of the high cost of living are inert as

A painted ship upon a painted ocean.

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can see nothing in the demand for an Ontario Conservative convention but an attempt to oust Sir William Hearst from the leadership and, consequently, are opposed to it. To our mind that is both bad reasoning and bad democracy. If, as these papers claim (and we have no reason for doubting it), Sir William Hearst has the confidence of the overwhelming bulk of the party, then why should his friends fear a convention? And, quite apart from the personal aspect of the matter, is not a convention the best way to settle the leadership? No leader is bigger than his party. If the Conservatives of Ontario feel that Sir William Hearst's leadership is inadequate, surely it is their undeniable right to dispense with it. If, on the other hand, they feel that he is the best man for the job, they could there be of expressing their opinion than by an open convention?

For our part we feel that Sir William Hearst has been a good premier, and that his regime has been beneficial to the province. But we cannot see the sense of opposition to a party convention. A convention is a good thing for any party. It promotes unity; it would be rebels to get "grouches" out of their system; it advances the "get-together" feeling and inspires enthusiasm. The recent gathering in London at Ottawa was a conspicuous example of this.

Conservatism both in England and Canada has advanced a long way since Mr. Gladstone not too truthfully described it as "disturbance of the people, qualified by some of our Conservative contemporaries, afraid to trust the party's leadership and policies to its rank and file, appear anxious to deserve the indictment."

**SOLDIERS CONGRATULATED.**

"I wish all enumerators turned in as neat work as this. Allow me to congratulate you gentlemen," said Judge Coatsworth yesterday, to the Hon. Mr. Sergeant. Mr. McCrae of Christie Street Military Hospital, who turned in a list of 417 names of soldier voters in the hospital. L. L. Monahan pointed out that a soldier could not vote unless he was in the list. Ward Six, north of Bloor street, was taken up by Judge Coatsworth's court.

**STORIED FOOD WILL BE PUT ON SALE**

Release of Millions of Dollars' Worth in All Parts of the United States Planned as Means of Forcing Down Retail Prices. From The Christian Science Monitor. AUG. 15.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Food worth millions will be dumped into wholesale markets to force down prices in every section of the country, beginning on Wednesday, under plans being made by district attorneys and officials of the federal department of justice. Two million dollars' worth of butter, eggs, and sugar libeled in St. Louis, Missouri; Kansas City, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; Toledo and Canton, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan, will be sold first.

Food worth more millions will be seized this week under evidence now being gathered. Biggest seizures are expected in Boston, New York, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Chicago. Libel action is the first step in seizing the food. This is taken by district attorneys. It is a request to a federal court to enjoin the removal or sale of food from the place where it is stored or hoarded. The next step is a hearing at which the court determines whether the charge of hoarding is justified. When the court so decides, an order is issued from the bench directing the forced sale of the food libeled. Federal attorneys in many cities now are preparing arguments in libel cases. Many federal courts will hold hearings today.

Meanwhile other federal officials are continuing to collect evidence of hoarding in many cities, assisted by the local price-fixing committees organized by state food administrators at request of the attorney-general.

Federal officials here estimated that 500 may be arrested and charged with profiteering and hoarding this week through efforts of federal and state officials. Grand juries in Ohio are considering complaints against more than 200 suspected hoarders and profiteers.

The campaign of seizure, sporadic at first, is now well under way. Reports reaching the attorney-general showed that in St. Louis 15,500,000 eggs had been seized, in Detroit 7,000,000, in Boston 600 barrels of flour, and in other cities stores in lesser quantities.

At Kansasville, Mo., a single hoard of 200,000 eggs was obtained at Jersey, N. J., and in Atlantic City, N. J., 100,000 eggs were seized.

"Seized about 100,000 pounds of beans which were held in local warehouses here during active period of war."

A message from Knoxville, Tennessee, reads:

"Have filed 10 libel proceedings at Chattanooga, seizing 5,000,000 cold-storage eggs."

**Lamb and Mint Sauce.**

The World must give credit to The Mail for taking some part in the discussion of the high cost of living, inasmuch as it published yesterday an article headed "The Why and Wherefore of Mint Sauce with Lamb," in which it gives the origin of the use of that useful herb which "doth stir up the mind and the taste of a greedy desire of meat." But will The Mail tell its readers how many of them are in a position to employ mint to increase their "greedy desire for meat" at the present prices thereof.

But still The Mail is doing something.

**TWENTY ABANDONED BY KOLCHAK'S FORCES**

Anti-Red Troops Have Occupied Several Towns on the Dnieper River.

London, Aug. 20.—Retreating anti-Bolshevik forces of Admiral Kolchak have abandoned Tiumen, 150 miles southwest of Tobolsk, and just east of the Russian-Siberian border, according to Omak despatches received here today.

Anti-Bolshevik forces have occupied Kherson, Nikolaeff and Oherkany, on the Dnieper river, below Kiev, according to an official statement sent out by wireless from the Soviet army headquarters in Moscow. The statement adds that on the eastern front, Bolsheviki forces have occupied Hietak after a fierce battle. Hietak is 40 miles southwest of Orenburg.

A despatch from Omak says that two thousand Bolsheviki and Magyar who had escaped from prison camps at Krasnovorsk were surprised on July 30 by Siberian troops of the Russian army being killed and the rest, with the exception of sixty, being surrounded and captured, according to a Czech report.

The prisoners had planned to attack the prison camps from a hill, but were defeated. Czech troops prepared to co-operate with the Siberians against the Bolsheviki and Magyars, but their assistance was not required.

**ELECTRICAL WORKERS SEEK ARBITRATION**

The Electrical Workers' Union announce that a board of arbitration will be applied for unless the Bell Telephone Company opens negotiations on the wage scale which has already been submitted to them. The question of their demands has been under consideration for some time, and the company asserts that as soon as the management returns from vacation the matters will be adjusted.

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**IDA AT THE CITY HALL**

BY IDA L. WEBSTER.

Yesterday, at the city hall, there was more life than has been exhibited in that edifice for some time. This was due absolutely to the fact that there was both a board of control meeting, and a city council one.

In the former the outstanding points were: Alf Maguire's new grey suit, with the purple bouquet; the absence of Controller Cameron; Controller Robb's effort to show some fairness toward the civic employees, the mayor's good-looking neckwear, and Sam Mc Bride's lack of excitement.

The business was nothing to tell you about, simply because it is not worth repeating, even though there were almost one hundred motions on the order sheet. As usual, there was a soldier's insurance case, but as usual with these business cases, the matter had to be held over to another day. Anyone in need of money would certainly not want to apply to the good natured Toronto city council, else it is a safe bet, they would die of starvation.

In the council meeting, affairs progressed at a great rate of speed. So, instead of the city council receiving dollars was voted away in less time than it takes to write about it.

While the members were slowly filing from the chamber, Alderman Baker still remained at his chair, reading forth volumes of speech. What his idea was, no one seemed to know, for that matter, care very much. He talked on, no doubt, with great eloquence, but at the same time, with no purpose. However, after the gentleman had had another season in the city council, he will learn the ropes, and know when to talk and when to keep quiet. The latter stunt is about 8000 were present. The returned men were then entertained at the amusements provided for the afternoon.

Alderman MacGregor was missed by few prescription hunters who felt that it was a pity that the coveted title of doctor, he would lose, and in addition to that, he would lose his name, and make himself agreeable. Known as a sure thing, he will refrain from sending himself in future, and thus give the poor unfortunates, who are seeking solace, something to live for.

**PICNICKING EMPLOYEES HAVE NARROW ESCAPE**

Local civic employees had a narrow squeak yesterday when the band which was playing at Niagara Falls, ran off with the car, which was being driven slowly at the time, and the motor car was quickly able to bring it to a stop. The car was then driven to a safe place, and the band members were not injured. A split rail was the cause.

**PUMPING STATION MEN APPLY FOR INCREASE**

Engineers and machinists employed at the pumping station have applied to the board of control for a 33 per cent increase of wages from \$31 to \$38 per week of seven days. The high cost of living is given as the reason. The board has refused the request, and the men assert that the Hydro Company increased their switchboard operators to \$33 for a six-day week. The request was sent to the finance commissioner for a report.

**Writ Issued Against Trustee For Doric Reserve Mining Co.**

A writ was issued yesterday at Ottawa by the Ontario court, against the trustee of the Doric Reserve Mines, by F. H. Gooch, on behalf of himself and other shareholders of the Doric Reserve Mining Co. The writ is to secure an issue of bonds worth \$15,000, and for the sale of certain lands.

**CITY APPEAL IGNORED.**

No advice as to what consideration the cabinet is giving an appeal entered by the city against the decision of the Dominion Railway Board permitting the Bell Telephone Co. to increase its rates has as yet been received, and in the meantime a peculiar situation has developed. Sir Harry Dreyton was chairman of the railway board when the judgment permitting the increase was issued. Since that time Sir Harry has been taken into the cabinet. The city's appeal from the judgment of Sir Harry Dreyton, chairman of the Dominion Railway Board, must now come before Sir Harry Dreyton, cabinet minister, with his colleagues, for consideration.

**TOBACCO FIRM LEAVES CITY.**

Hamilton will be the new home of the firm known as the McAlpine Tobacco Co., which has occupied the factory on the corner of McAlpine and McCullum streets. A. S. Lewis, assistant manager, stated yesterday that arrangements had been practically completed, and that the firm would be moving out directly. The new quarters are a great improvement on the Toronto building, and are a part of one of the Tuckett factories in North Queen street.

**ALL OFFICERS INVITED.**

Individual invitations to the banquet to be given at the King Edward Hotel are not being issued to army officers, but all officers are invited. Only four hundred tickets will be issued. Captain Donald, at headquarters, will give any information concerning them.

**REFIT SPADINA HOSPITAL.**

Spedina Military Hospital, which was taken over some time ago by the D. S. C. R., is being refitted to accommodate more patients.

**CANON DIXON STILL RECTOR.**

It is understood that Canon H. C. Dixon's resignation has been refused by the Bishop of Toronto, and that the popular pastor will continue in charge of Trinity Church.

**GUELPH WELCOMES ALL ITS VETERANS**

Celebration is Historic Civic Event—Public Holiday, Parade and Festivities.

Special to The Toronto World. Guelph, Ont., Aug. 20.—Today was easily the greatest day in this city's recent history, for it was given over to a civic welcome to our veterans, returned men of Guelph, and right royally was the event celebrated by the citizens. Guelph sent a great many men to the front, and these have been coming back in twos and threes and in large numbers since the war concluded, but anything except a handshake and a formal welcome to our veterans, returned men of Guelph, and right royally was the event celebrated by the citizens.

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**MINISTER OF RECONSTRUCTION OFFERS TERMS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED.**

London, Aug. 20.—An agreement has been reached between Sir Auckland Geddes, British minister of reconstruction, and the locomotive engineers and firemen, settling the men's demands, it was announced today. The insistence of the railroad men on August 14 that the long-pending wage dispute be settled immediately, threatened for a time to result in a strike that, railroad men said, would have disorganized the entire railway system of the country.

**STRIKE IS HEATED OF BRITISH ENGINEERS**

The government offered the locomotive engineers and motormen of electric lines fifteen shillings daily and the firemen eleven shillings, these wages being a substitute for the present system of wages and was recommended acceptance of the government's scale.

**DRESS REGULATIONS.**

Admiral Sir Charles E. Kingmill, director of Canadian naval services, has granted permission to officers and ratings of the Royal Canadian Navy and the R.N.C.V.R. to wear uniforms during the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales to Toronto.

**BEFORE JUSTICE LOGIE.**

The following cases will come before Justice Logie in the weekly court tomorrow at 10 o'clock: Re T. A. Coles, an infant; Ping Lee v. Grayford; Leslie v. Porteous; Carr v. public school board; Bed v. Chartered Trust; Willis v. board of education; Bailey v. Davy, and Suslunz v. Suslunz.

**BILLY SUNDAY COMING.**

Billy Sunday, the American evangelist, will appear at the first of the mass meetings arranged by the Ontario Referendum Committee, on Tuesday afternoon, September 2.

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**OSGOODE HALL NEWS**

Single court list for today at 11 o'clock a.m.: Before the Hon. Mr. Justice Logie: 1. Re G. A. Coles. 2. Lee v. Crawford. 3. Leslie v. Porteous. 4. Carr v. Public School. 5. Bell v. Chartered Trust. 6. Willis v. Board of Education. 7. Bailey v. Davy. 8. Suslunz v. Suslunz.

Before Falconbridge, C.J.K.B. Bailey v. Davy; McKittick and Co. for plaintiff, obtained injunction restraining the defendants until Thursday, August 21, from disposing of business known as Atlas Iron Works at 515 West Queen street.

Judges Chambers. Before Logie, J. Martens v. Stewart; Motion under rule 107 for order granting plaintiff leave to appeal from an order of Mr. Justice Kelly, by way of appeal from order of the master in chambers. Judgment: Mr. Justice Kelly's reasons for his order state that the affidavit of defence sets up an arguable defence and that cross-examination thereon has not shown that the defendant should be deprived of his right to have his defence tested in the regular manner. In this I agree. Leave cannot be given to appeal.

Before Gooch, J. Gooch v. Anderson-Lieberman (Lennox and Co.); Obtained an order vacating his pendens.

Before Gooch, J. R. T. Harding for Jenkins, moved for order amending ball order. E. Bayly, K.C. for crown. Order amended and ball accepted for \$500 costs, instead of bond for \$1,000.

Weekly Court. Before Logie, J. Hannan v. Hannan; M. L. Gordon, for defendant, moved to withdraw undertaking not to interfere with business or cash register. A. A. Macdonald, for E. P. Walkinshaw for defendant. Judgment: Mr. Justice Kelly's reasons for his order state that the affidavit of defence sets up an arguable defence and that cross-examination thereon has not shown that the defendant should be deprived of his right to have his defence tested in the regular manner. In this I agree. Leave cannot be given to appeal.

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