

## The Toronto World

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 1.

### A New Year's Gift.

One first duty rests on every voter in Toronto today. It is to go to the polls and mark his vote. Men and women alike in this have a grave burden to bear, not only for themselves, but for their children and for all who come after. In 1919 we have about four times the number of people living in the city that we had thirty years ago. It is quite likely that in thirty years more, Toronto will have followed the precedent of Chicago and quadrupled itself again. That would mean 2,000,000 in 1949. We have long ago predicted 1,000,000 for 1934, the city's centenary year. These are not idle statements, but fair deductions from the experience of other cities in similar circumstances. We are on one of the crossroads of the world in Toronto, and such places invariably grow to huge proportions.

This is what the voter should think about in connection with his electoral duties. He or she is helping to lay the foundation of a city that will dominate by its character, its aims, its ideals, millions of people, not only within its own limits, but by its influence over all who are associated with its national destiny.

The municipal electoral meetings give little evidence of the consciousness of such a destiny for Toronto. The more immediate problems are too often regarded from the standpoint of expediency, or of personal interest, or some other private determining factor. It is this private point of view that makes the difference between a politician and a statesman. It should not be too much to ask our citizen politicians to look beyond the immediate year of their ambition and to think of all that Toronto means in years to be for Canada, already marked as one of the great nations of the future. If the people do not think of these things it is useless to expect the city fathers to do so. The men who show vision and public spirit and consideration for the generations to come should be encouraged and voted for, so that others may learn what is worthiest in public service.

Too many of our policies are of the penny-wise order. Too many of our undertakings are crippled by the fallacy that they will do our time. The best is no more than we should desire to offer the place we call home, and the first best gift we can give our city is a thoughtful, conscientious and discriminating election on New Year's Day. We cannot expect to receive service if we do not give it.

### A League or an Alliance?

There is still a difference of opinion in many minds concerning the possibility of disunion between France and the United States over the proposed league of nations, as represented by the views of Premier Clemenceau on the one hand and President Wilson on the other. British papers are less expectant of a breach than American ones. In the United States the dread of "entangling alliances" predisposes editorial writers against the idea of a union of nations.

President Wilson is quoted as having no interest in the peace of Europe, but in the peace of America.

"If the future had nothing for us but a new attempt to keep the world at the right point by a balance of power, the United States would take no interest in it, because she will join no combination of power which is not a combination of all of us."

This, however, is a counsel of perfection, and if this is what a league of nations means, it is quite safe to say it will not be reached in our generation. The wisest league of nations we can conceive of at the present time is unlikely to include much of Germany, much of Russia, and some other parts of the world. President Wilson cannot be so impractical as to suppose some sort of beginning is unnecessary, and that a league of nations will spring into being fully developed by instantaneous consent, like Minerva from the head of Jove.

If we are to have a league of nations it cannot be at its outset any more than Premier Clemenceau proposes. If England, the United States, France and Italy were agreed, as he says, that there should be no war there would be none. If President Wilson refuses to accept the half loaf and prefers no bread, then he is a less practical man than Premier Clemenceau, who wants a league of nations, but is satisfied to begin with what he has, and would be glad to consolidate and solidify it rather than throw its substantial proportions away for a shadow.

We sincerely hope that a league of nations may be realized, but the desirable is one thing and the possible is another. Is it possible to receive Germany and Russia into such

a league within any term that can now be set? Does President Wilson include Germany and Russia when he refuses any "combination which is not a combination of all of us"? That is the problem that is puzzling the outsiders at present. Our view is that on the main principles of the peace settlement the major powers are all agreed, and that being so, and these principles being in harmony with liberty and justice, it can only be a matter of time until the turbulent or distrustful nations recognize their own interest by joining with the rest.

Joint action by the major powers has already been taken and is being taken. President Wilson cannot mean therefore that he declines to act with the other powers in straightening out the international tangles. He is now engaged in this. What he may mean and probably does mean is that he will not cease to operate with the anti-Turkish powers, but that the United States will sign no treaty of alliance, nor seal with her great seal any league of nations that does not include all of them.

Which simply means that he does not expect an immediate fulfillment of his hopes in this respect, but none the less will he endeavor to bring them to pass.

### Electrify the Steam Lines.

The Markham Economist and Sun prints the following comment on the paragraph quoted from The World, and but for the error of stating that the Grand Trunk has been taken over by the government, our contemporary is on sound lines: "A straight challenge has been issued by the Hydro-Electric Union of Municipalities to the federal government, in connection with its Grand Trunk Railway policy. The municipalities wish to know what the government is going to do. They are tired of procrastination, and if the government will not take over and electrify the Grand Trunk lines they will build a parallel to the Grand Trunk in Ontario and serve the people on a cost basis."

In 1914 the municipalities of Scarborough, Markham, Whitby and Reach, as well as the Villages of Markham, Simcoe and Port Perry, carried a bylaw by overwhelming majorities to build a Hydro power trolley line from Toronto to Port Perry. The war intervened and the project had to be laid over. Since then the Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern lines have passed into the hands of the federal government.

The war is now over, and it is up to the federal government to act. The

## HIS CONTRACT FOR 1919



great mass of the people of Ontario are with the Hydro and so are the people of Canada generally. The government can either make the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk sources of revenue or they can make them sink holes.

Which is it to be?

### COMES TO TORONTO.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—George Parker, Ottawa agent for the Dominion Express Company, has been appointed to the important position of superintendent of the Ontario division of the Dominion Express Company with headquarters at Toronto. Mr. Parker, who has held a prominent place in the business life of Ottawa for the past thirteen years, leaves Tuesday night to assume his new duties at once.

## THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

Today's chapter of "The Wife" will be found on Page Seven.

May Release Sinn Feiners; Count Plunkett Already Freed

London, Dec. 31.—The release of all Sinn Feiners interned in England is expected virtually at once. Count Plunkett, one of the Sinn Feiners elected to parliament in the recent balloting, already has been released.

## IDA'S SELECTIONS FOR TODAY'S RACES

Weather clear; track heavy.

The two best bets running at all tracks—John O'Neill and Sam McBride.

First race, the Mayonary Handicap—John O'Neill, Jr., The People's Entry.

Second race, Board of Control Cup—Sam McBride, R. H. Cameron, W. D. Robbins, Alf. Maguire.

Third race, Aldermanic Sweepstakes Entry.

Ward One—Hitz, Johnston, Fenwick.

Ward Two—Ball, Risk, Winnett.

Ward Three—Ramsden, McGrice, Johnston.

Ward Four—Cowan, McMullin.

Ward Five—Graham, Phinmore, Blackburn.

Ward Six—Birdsall, Manley, Ballantine.

Ward Seven—Riding, Whetter, Chisholm.

Ward Eight—Brown, Miskelly, Williamson.

## IDA AT THE ELECTION FEAST

BY IDA L. WEBSTER.

Today the citizens have a chance to take the affairs of the city into their own hands for one day at least, and they may elect whom they will to work for them for the balance of 1919. In choosing the men for whom you will mark your ballot use discretion. Heretofore this has not been done just as thoroughly as it should have been, and the result, as you know, has been almost disastrous.

Men have been elected to the various offices through the civic government for apparently no other reason than because they happened to be friends of your friends. Besides that, partisanship has played a great part in all other campaigns, but we have been given to understand that this year there will not be nearly so much of it. In picking men for the board of control you are thrusting the heaviest sort of responsibility on their shoulders, and so the most deliberate judgment should be used. If the city is to be a success then the men at the helm must be the right brand. There is no use expecting illies to grow where you have only planted wild daisies.

When we boosted Sam McBride we did so because we knew that he would make the right kind of a controller for the new year. We knew that because he has been the right kind of one during all the time he has been in the chamber.

He is fearless when he knows that he is in the right. He is equally fearless when the citizens' welfare is at heart, and what is more to the point, he will fight for you, irrespective of who may be against him and how many. He is one of the men who cannot be told what to do by any newspaper or private word-of-mouth "power behind the throne." Taking everything into consideration, we again unhesitatingly say "Vote for Sam McBride."

In the following articles we will endeavor to show you why you should make your choice for mayor according to our selection. Also please accept our very best wishes for the new year.

### Why Church Should Not Be Elected.

Also there has been some stuff printed saying that the citizens should not fail to elect Tommy Church, yet not once has this most ardent supporter made a statement as to why he should be made the mayor of the city for the fifth term. Other, of course, than the fact that this one particular person, and his coterie, desire it.

The fact that they were not able to make his advertisements read in a more intelligent and businesslike way is due to the fact that there was no thing which they could enlarge upon. He has done nothing to make him eligible for another whack at a civic position.

Had it been possible for them to lead out one thing and say, "Look, he has done this for your good," they would have done so, and would have relied upon the milk they "not did for his publicity. Naturally when the soldiers and their families were pointed to, the men behind the wheel knew that they would not be publicly contradicted by the people in question, and at the same time they must have known that they were stepping out of the arena of an election, and into the circle of a knitting club.

Tommy Church has voted for the spending of your money as the he had been dealing in so much water. For instance, at one of the meetings of the city council a delegation from the Sick Children's Hospital came to the council and asked them for a grant. The first speaker started to say that there was a deficit of about \$87,000, but before he could proceed with his sad story and ask the city for a grant, the mayor chipped in and said: "O, \$87,000, that is not much, considering the excellent work they are doing. Certainly let them have it."

John O'Neill then took the floor and discovered that the delegation was only asking for \$40,000, but if his words had not been stopped, he would have granted the whole amount. Another instance of his poor business ability was shown when he said to the delegation from the Sportsmen's Patriotic: "You may as well have \$3000," they having asked for \$2500.

It is not plausible to think that people, or rather committees, wait upon the city council and ask for less money than they want, so that when you consider that Thomas Langton Church has forced more than they named upon them, you must admit that he has shown the very worst kind of business methods.

There are numerous cases of the same kind which we might mention, but what is the use? The idea is that he is being boosted for mayor because he is wanted by a certain element, and at the same time he is not capable of filling the position. That soldiers' friend bunk is easily found, and most particularly among mayors.

### Why O'Neill Should Be Elected.

John O'Neill has served most faithfully in the city council for several years. His record is one upon which you will not find the slightest blemish. He has been father to more beneficial schemes for the City of

## As Man to Man

For over two weeks past I have daily availed myself of the advertising columns of all the city papers to present to my fellow-citizens the civic problems which will confront our municipality during the New Year and during the reconstruction period.

Freely, frankly, fully, honestly, and, I trust, unequivocally, I have stated my own convictions as to the proper way in which to solve these problems.

It has been my purpose to make these daily talks with my fellow-citizens clear-spoken, straightforward, man-to-man declarations of my position.

The Evening Telegram subjects me to attack. It tells its readers that "Controller O'Neill's attitude towards the transportation problem has been one of such vacillation that the citizens dare not gamble upon his standing steadfast when the time of crisis comes." It charges that Controller O'Neill has failed to "intimate whether he would take over the Street Railway franchise if elected as Mayor."

As man to man: Is the attack honest? Is the charge true?

On December 19—just eleven days previous—the Evening Telegram in its own columns, over my signature, published the following:

### "Taking over the Street Railway."

"The one great opportunity to secure a public-owned transportation system is presented to the city at the expiration of the Street Railway franchise in 1921. For years the citizens have endured an inadequate, inefficient service, and have waited for the day when they shall take it over."

"Toronto must own and operate through a Commission, its transportation system to obtain a proper and unified service for all sections of the city."

"This important utility cannot be obtained without determined effort by the people. They will be confronted by hidden and by open opposition. The city and its representatives must needs be alert and ready to foil every attempt, however plausible or insidious, to obtain a renewal of the franchise."

"Obtained and operated by a Commission free from interference, and not subject to municipal politics, the transportation system will be a valuable asset financially, and an important factor in the upbuilding, progress, and prosperity of our city."

"Toronto must be through for all time to come with the inconvenience and inadequacy of a privately-owned public utility of such importance as her Street Railway."

As man to man: Has the Evening Telegram told its readers the truth?

John O'Neill

## A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

### A NEW YEAR'S WISH.

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Turn over now the page—Another Chapter's here, Not further step to Age, But forward stride to cheer.

May all your coming days Be bright with happiness, And all your plans and ways Be lighted by success.

And may you reach the goal That beckons unto you Who deep down in your soul Seek purpose high and true.

Daughter of Sir Louis Davies Weds Capt. C. B. Magrath

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—A marriage of unusual interest was that which was solemnized last evening in Christ Church Cathedral, of Miss Mary Florence Davies, younger daughter of Sir Louis Davies, chief Justice of Canada, and Lady Davies, to Capt. Charles B. Magrath, late of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, only son of Mr. Charles Magrath, Canadian fuel controller, and Mrs. Magrath. Rev. Lennox I. Smith officiated.

RELEASE ARTHUR SKIDMORE.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Arthur Skidmore, of Stratford, who had been imprisoned for possessing seditious literature, is to be released and the fine of \$500 which had been imposed upon him remitted. The undersheriff of state has been ordered to telegraph the jailer at Stratford to release Skidmore immediately.

### A Prayer for the New Year.

Oh, God, forgive the wrongs that we Commit so idly, wantonly. Most of our sins, it seems to me, Are thus committed—thoughtlessly.

In petty things, To me, then, These, In greater things more selfishly, Division—discord, endlessly—

While, Oh God! give us grace to see How near the way, how easily We may attain felicity.

—V. J. Warren.

Toronto than any other man who ever sat in the council chamber. He has had the courage of his convictions, and has never failed to voice his views even tho he might have gone contrary to all the powers which are supposed to be or not to be. In short John O'Neill is the man for the job.

The stuff which was recently printed to the effect that he had not made a success of his own business is too utterly ridiculous for comment. He has been a huge success. Not only that but he has made money, which is after all the surest proof that he is a real honest-to-goodness business man.

There have been many little underhanded, sneaky allusions to his religion. That has been done for the purpose of stirring up the Orange element against him. Fortunately for the good of the City of Toronto, the people of today are too broad to allow such a thing to enter into their election voting, so that in saying that they were going to vote for John O'Neill, the nonsense, the newspaper in question has merely been wasting its time and type.

Those who believe in an untrammeled civic administration, must vote for John O'Neill. He is not beholden to anyone. No man can tell him to do a thing. He cannot be threatened with the fear of anyone's displeasure. He is a free lance, working to the best of his ability for the good of the people whom he represents.

Toronto needs a business man at the steering wheel. The soldiers will find their best friend in John O'Neill. The citizens will grow to rely upon him, and to know that his word is as good as his bond. He is not temperamental, nor does he continuously change his mind.

Vote for John O'Neill and make Toronto the greatest place on the American continent.

### INLAND REVENUE RETURNS.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Inland revenue during November realized \$3,443,694, as compared with \$3,000,407 in November, 1917. Excise duties on tobacco brought in \$1,904,048, the largest individual item. Excise on cigars also realized \$117,783 and excise on spirits \$397,250. Revenue from war tax under inland revenue was \$1,372,325.

### FLU DEATHS AT WINDSOR.

Windsor, Dec. 31.—There were five deaths here yesterday from influenza, with 22 new cases.