

Canadian Railway Situation

The following interesting statement by Lord Shaughnessy on the Canadian Railway Situation appears in the Annual Financial Survey of the Toronto Globe.

AFTER forty months of this great world war, the railway situation in Canada presents a very different face from that of peace times, when the chief problems to solve were the problems of development and construction necessary to keep pace with a huge immigration.

An indication of the difference in conditions is shown in Canada's trade balance, which has been converted from a heavy "minus" to a substantial "plus," the exports for eleven months of 1917 exceeding those of a similar period in 1913 by over a billion dollars. As the total import and export trade for that period in 1913 was itself less than a billion dollars (to be exact \$994,467,000) the increase in trade—owing to the increase in transportation energy and increase of traffic have been coincident with a growing shortage of labor, a higher cost of living, necessitating higher wages, and immense increase in the cost of material necessary for maintenance and repair of roadbed and equipment, so that the added traffic has meant not increased profit but increased anxiety for the carriers. The labor shortage may be illustrated from the records of our own Honour Roll, which show that up to December 6th, 7,021 employees of the Canadian Pacific had enlisted for active service.

The satisfactory features are the efficiency with which the Canadian railways have done their part under such trying circumstances, and the remarkable absence of congestion as compared with the congestion that has been so noticeable on the railroads of the United States since our great neighbor to the south entered the war and faced identical problems. From the beginning of August, 1914, to November 30th, 1917, the Canadian railways have handled for the Imperial Government over 4½ million tons of supplies, exclusive of horses and mules, most of which may be considered as supplementary to normal traffic, but so admirably has the movement been timed with the arrival and departure of steamships that not a cent has been earned by the ships as demurrage.

The burden of financing such movement of traffic under such conditions has, however, proved too serious for some Canadian railways, and were it not that the Canadian Pacific is more than a mere transportation system and holds extraneous assets of great value that have proved an unexpectedly large source of income, we might have had difficulty in finding the very considerable sum that we have invested in war loans to the British and Canadian Governments not to mention the dividends that our shareholders and the financial world at large have become accustomed to expect.

The efficiency and absence of congestion with which our enormous war traffic has been handled might well be taken to heart by our American friends who, if I may venture

the suggestion, are looking too hopefully to the centralized effort of an overworked Government when they should depend more on the trained enterprise of the individual industrial units that have been so efficiently developed during times of peace, because any form of control that will have the effect of lessening the sense of keenness and responsibility on the part of these units, is sure to be disastrous in the results, for they are not too proud to profit by our experience in Canada, they should solve their traffic problem by placing under Government control not the railroads but the shippers, leaving the railroads with their trained operating staffs, untrammelled by political considerations, to find out how to carry the maximum traffic to given ports at a given time, over a given route, and helping these railroads to secure on fair terms the funds for necessary maintenance equipment. A Government Controller of Shipments, corresponding to our Director of Overseas Transport, is needed, not a Government Controller of Railroads. It is folly to send out an S. O. S. call for Government control or ownership of the railroads themselves, a control which experience has shown to be fatally opposed to economy and efficiency.

Realizing that the interests of localities stand second to the interests of the nation as a whole, the Canadian railways have agreed to reduce competitive services wherever possible, so that train crews and equipment should be released for the one vital effort, namely, the efficient transportation of war supplies, and for this purpose the Canadian Railway Association of National Defence has been formed, comprising the executive heads of the leading railways. They are doing this with the unqualified support of the Board of Railway Commissioners without disturbing—indeed, they are furthering—the admirable work of that body which, under its statutory position has semi-judicial rather than administrative powers. In this way the railways themselves are doing efficiently, economically, and without political interference what might have been done inefficiently and expensively under Government control. They are working together harmoniously because they are inspired by the same patriotic spirit, and the absence of friction with which their economies are being received by the public shows that the public has confidence in their judgment. Under such guidance the Canadian railways are in a position to maintain their present efficient operation of a very large volume of traffic, and, indeed, relieve the congested American railroads of traffic which appears to be becoming too much for them.

Our only real handicap is the difficulty of financing the operation of our railways at the old rates when the cost of labor and cost of material keep mounting up. With a reasonable increase of rates corresponding to this increased cost of production, the Canadian railways are well able to face even severer traffic problems than those which they have already so admirably solved.

HIS HEART BADLY AFFECTED

"Fruit-a-lives" Soon Relieved This Dangerous Condition

632 GERRARD ST. EAST, TORONTO.
"For two years, I was a victim of Acute Indigestion and Gas in The Stomach. It afterwards attacked my Heart and I had pains all over my body, so that I could hardly move around. I tried all kinds of Medicine but none of them did me any good. At last, I decided to try 'Fruit-a-lives'. I bought the first box last June, and now I am well, after using only three boxes. I recommend 'Fruit-a-lives' to anyone suffering from Indigestion'."
FRED J. CAVEN.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c.
At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

Redbank Red Cross Aids Halifax

The Red Bank Red Cross Society met at the home of the President Mrs. M. Beaton on Wednesday, Dec. 12th to make children's garments to be sent to the Halifax Relief Committee.—Two webs of shaker flannel were cut and made up committees were also formed to canvas Red Bank, Casalis, Stacey Corner and Silliker for money and clothing and groceries. The following was donated—Clothing from Mrs. Cliff Burns; H. D. Aetor; John Harris; James Parks; James F. McCurdy; Ronald Gillis; John Arsenau; Arthur Burns; Wm. Leach; Charles Hubbard; Hiram Brayton; Thomas McGregor; Timothy Lawlor; Thomas Lawlor; John Dupuis, Dan Hubbard; Sandy Payne; Irena McAlister; Edward Tozer; Robert Matchett; Arch Silliker; Ebenezer Trevis; Guy Johnston; Edward Matchett; Wm. Stewart; 'chiele Payne; Dan Silliker; Hazel Tozer; Ernest Tozer; Dave Dunnett; Edward Travis; D. W. Silliker; Eric Silliker; Angus McDonald; Misses Annie Sutherland and Bernetta Ring; Joseph Napke (merchant) one half dozen suits underwear, one half dozen ladies' vests. Groceries—Misses Annie Sutherland and Stella Power; Mrs. John Dupuis, Thomas Mullan; James McDonald; Alfred Leach; Edward Tozer; Glen McTavish; James Silliker; Minard M. Donald; Leroy White; (merchant) groceries value \$14.30.
Money—Mr. Marshall Bryenton \$10.00; Rev. P. V. Duffy \$5.00; Mr. Murdoch Sutherland \$5.00; Adam Hill \$3.00; Elmore Parks and Robert Parks Jr. \$2.50 each; James A. Gillis, Miss McIntosh, James B. Johnson, Rev. Jas. F. McCurdy, Wm. J. Murphy, J. S. Mullan, Daniel Cane, Wm. Tozer, and Sydney Parks, \$2.00 each; Wm. Lawlor, Arthur Burns, Thomas Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ferguson, Raymond C. Keys, Miss Eliza Keys, Mrs. Emilie Cane, George Leach, Michael Hogan, Walter O'Neill, Perley Tozer, Mrs. Margaret Murch, Osborne Johnston, Robert Tozer, Miss Reynolds; Mrs. Thomas Mullan, Miss Stella Mullan, James Hyland, Thomas O'Shea, Mrs. John Dupuis, Mrs. Dan Hubbard, Mrs. John Matchett, Mrs. George Hubbard, Mrs. Isaac Blackmore, Jedd Blackmore, Irven Sutherland, Wilbur Hubbard, Charles Hubbard, John Hubbard, John Mullan, Ronald Mullan, Wm. O'Shea, Perley Hubbard, David Goodfellow, Wm. Power, Jerry Keys, Hiram Brayton, Mr. David Hill, Mrs. George Sutherland, Mr. J. M. Aiton, Mrs. John Arsenau, Mr. John Arsenau sr., Albert Gillis, Mrs. John Harris, Mrs. Stewart Harris, Jennie Walsh, Mrs. Thomas Keys, James Power, Wm. Power, Archibald Ramsay, Dr. Boston F. J. Kehoe, Mrs. Kehoe, Mrs. J. J. Sullivan, Patrick Power, each \$1.00 James Parks \$1.00; Mrs. Wm. Nolan Jr., Mrs. Edward Johnston, Mrs. Frank Johnston, Robert Parks sr., Mrs. Robert Parks, Mrs. Wm. J. Dunn, Wm. J. Dunn.

Wilson Storey
Recitation—A Scared Santa—Pansey Beek
Song—Winter Flowers—Ruby Storey, Jessie and Rebecca Lucas
Recitation—Santa Claus and the mouse—Christie Gaston
Dialogue—Bo Peep's lost sheep—Edna Gilks, Annie Storey, Ole Storey, Clifton Storey, Timothy Storey, Weldon Storey, Lawrence Storey, Laura M. Storey, Walter Storey
Recitation—If I could knit—Eva Gaston
Recitation—What a boy can do—Kenneth Storey
Physical drill—Grades III, IV, V and VI
Recitation—Our Xmas—Gracie Betts
Recitation—The Two stockings—Laura Storey
Dialogue—Santa Claus—Lower Grades, Mabel Storey, Partelow Minner, Holly Gilks, Pansey Beek, Jack Storey, Harold Weaver, Frank Storey, Ralph Beek, Eva Gaston and May Beek
Recitation—Welcome Santa Claus—Helen Weaver
Mrs. Weaver acting as Santa Claus took the presents off the Xmas tree while Miss Edna Doak was entrusted with the work of distributing them. After this a few words were spoken by several of the visitors and—the teacher to whom such credit is due for the wonderful showing of the pupils.
Closing salutation of the day
God Save the King
Dismissal
The teacher, Miss Edith Mitchell received presents from the pupils and parents.
DIED OF BLOOD POISONING
As the result of removing a splinter from her chin with her fingers a few days ago Mrs. Harry Crawford of Houston, Mo. died on Thursday of blood poisoning. Mrs. Crawford was formerly Miss Bees of Donkstown, N. B. and went to Houston 19 years ago. She leaves a husband and four children.
First Reading, Lord Chief Justice, has been appointed British high commissioner in the United States.

Thomas Johnston, Charles Godfrey, Mrs. Wm. J. Walsh, Mrs. Mary McGregor, Mrs. Wm. Mullan, Miss Mary Murphy, Mrs. Wm. Lawlor, Mrs. Wm. Leach, Wm. Leach, Mrs. John Parks, Mrs. Arch McLean, Mrs. James Nowlan, Mrs. John Burns, Mrs. Fred Stewart, Mrs. Leach, Mrs. Alfred Nowlan, William McAllister, Mrs. Wm. Nowlan sr., Miss Cornier, \$50 each; Mr. John Parks, \$7.50; Mrs. Jessie Johnston, Mrs. W. R. Matchett, Mrs. Jessie Johnston, Mrs. W. R. Matchett, \$35 each; Mrs. James McDonald, \$45; Mrs. Robert Nowlan, Henry Matchett, Mrs. Robert Estey, Miss Catherine Hyland, Mrs. Robert Johnston, Mrs. N. H. Dunn, Mrs. Joseph A. Gillis, Joseph A. Gillis, Mrs. Andy Hickey, Miss Annie Silliker, Mildred Silliker, Miss K. Hyland, Gladys McTavish, Wilson McTavish, each \$25; Mrs. Marshall Blackmore, \$15; Mr. John Connors, Mrs. Wm. Parks, each \$10; Mrs. Sandy Payne, \$30; Mrs. Wm. Sullivan, Lumber Merchant, lumber value \$250.00.

Two boxes of clothing and one of groceries have been forwarded to Halifax. The money will be used to purchase supplies to be sent during the winter to the sufferers. The Red Cross wish to thank each and every one who in any way helped in this great work.
M. Bernetta Ring
Sec. Treas.

The Only Medicine The Baby Needs

Baby's Own Tablets is the only medicine a mother needs for her little ones. They are a gentle but thorough laxative which instantly relieve all stomach and bowels disorders thus banishing all the minor ills of little ones. Concerning them Mrs. Jos. Levesque, St. Simon, Que., says:—"Baby's Own Tablets are a marvelous medicine for little ones. They never fail to cure stomach and bowel troubles and neither my sister in law or myself would use any other medicine for our little ones." The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont. (adv.)

WILL NOT BE EXEMPTED
At military headquarters in St. John on Monday it was stated that instructions had been issued that category B and C men who had failed to report before Nov. 1st, 1917, will not be exempted on medical grounds only. A certain number of these classes, it was said, were required.

American steamer Argonne is reported to be ashore off the Nova Scotia coast.

Got a Cold?

Peps will give you relief. Simply dissolve a Peps tablet in your mouth. Your breath carries the medicinal Peps vapor, which is released, to each part of the throat, nasal and air passages, where a liquid medicine could not possibly reach. This vapor destroys all germs with which it comes in contact, soothes and heals the inflamed membranes and fortifies you against coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchitis and grippe. Peps contains absolutely no harmful drugs and is therefore the safest remedy for children.
50c. box, \$ for \$1.25. All dealers, or Peps Co., Toronto. Send 1c. stamp for postage on free trial package.

Peps
MAKE BREATHING EASY.

Reasonable Prices on a Good Assortment of

Men's and Womens' Fur Coats
Sheep Skin Lined and Mackinaw Coats
Winter Robes, Horse Blankets, Sleighs,
Driving Harness and Work Harness

If you need any of the above for the coming winter it will be worth your while to call and see our stock.

THE MIRAMICHI FARM IMPLEMENT CO., LTD.

Newcastle + Tracadie + Rogersville + Négusac

Don't Bother with "Special Pastry Flour"

You can get the same flaky lightness in your Pie Crusts, Tarts and Cookies, with

BEAVER FLOUR

as you can with any pastry flour.

Beaver Flour is milled of the famous Ontario fall wheat, strengthened with western spring wheat.

And more than that—Beaver Flour makes a loaf of bread that is a joy to eat—with fine, even texture and a delicious, "homey" nutlike flavor, unknown to those who still use the tough, tasteless, western spring wheat flour. Make the change today—order a barrel of Beaver Flour at your grocer's and have really delicious Bread and Pastry.

DEALERS—write us for prices on Feed, Coarse Grains and Cereals.

THE T. H. TAYLOR CO. LIMITED,

CHATHAM, Ont.

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We Wish our Patrons one and all a

Happy and Prosperous New Year

We thank you for your patronage during 1917 and ask for the same through 1918 when we will try if possible to render better service than ever.

Russell & Morrison

MEN'S OUTFITTERS

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

INCORPORATED 1868.
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

Capital Authorized	\$ 25,000,000
Capital Paid-up	12,911,700
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits	14,564,000
Total Assets	335,000,000

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL

340 Branches in Canada and Newfoundland

37 Branches in the West Indies

LONDON, ENGLAND: Bank Bldg., Princess St. E. C. NEW YORK CITY: 50c. box, \$ for \$1.25. All dealers, or Peps Co., Toronto. Send 1c. stamp for postage on free trial package.

BUSINESS ACCOUNTS CARRIED UPON FAVORABLE TERMS

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCHES

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES

In the Bank's Steel Lined Vault, rented at from \$5.00 per annum upwards. These boxes are most convenient and necessary for all possessing valuable papers such as Wills, Mortgages, Insurance Policies, Bonds, Stock Certificates, etc.

Newcastle, N. B., Branch—E. A. McCurdy, Manager

School Closing At River View

River View, Jan. 1—Mrs. George Donalds and Mrs. Ben Betts were visiting Mrs. David Holmes yesterday. We are sorry to report that Mrs. Holmes' health is not of an entirely satisfactory state.

Our school closed with an excellent examination at which the inhabitants attended on massed. The program was as follows:

Examined each class on reading, spelling, higher grades on geography and grammar.

Chorus—Santa Claus is coming.

Recitation—A dear little scener—Mabel Storey.

Dialogue—The four Xmas waifs—Partelow Minner, Jack Storey, Harold Weaver, May Beek.

Recitation—The tree that saved a town—Christina Minner.

Song—The first Noel—Annie Storey, Edna Gilks.

Recitation—Xmas Eve thought—Walter Beek.

Recitation—Old Santa Claus—Rhoda Beek.

Dialogue—The three snow shovels—Ralph Beek, Holly Gilks and

Wilson Storey.

Recitation—A Scared Santa—Pansey Beek.

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For Sick Headache, Sour Stomach, Sluggish Liver and Bowels—Take Cascarets tonight.

Furred Tongue, Bad Taste, Indigestion, Sallow Skin and Miserable Headache come from a torpid liver and clogged bowels, which cause your stomach to become filled with undigested food, which causes and ferments like garbage in a swill barrel. That's the first step to untold misery—indigestion, foul gases, bad breath, yellow skin, mental gloom, everything that is horrible and nauseating. A Cascarets tonight will give your constipated bowels a thorough cleansing and straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep—a 10-cent box from your druggist will keep you feeling good for weeks.

It Works! Try It

Tells how to loosen a sore, tender corn so it lifts out without pain.

Good news spreads rapidly and druggists here are kept busy dispensing freecone, the ether discovery of a Cincinnati man, which is said to loosen any corn so it lifts out with the fingers.

Ask at any pharmacy for a quarter ounce of freecone, which will cost very little, but is said to be sufficient to rid one's feet of every hard or soft corn or callus.

You apply just a few drops on the tender, aching corn and instantly the corns is softened, and soon the corn is so saturated that it lifts out without pain. It is a sticky substance which dries when applied and never inflames or even irritates the adjoining tissue.

This discovery will prevent those needless deaths annually from lockjaw and infection heretofore resulting from the surgical habit of cutting corns.