

selves, as none are able to read or write except the interpreter.

The Blood band of the Blackfeet Indians was the last to accept treaty from the Canadian Government. The document was signed by Chapo-Mexico (or Crowfoot) and fifty other Minor Chiefs and Head Men, at Blackfoot Crossing, on September 22nd, 1877. On the document sent to the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs is the name of one Minor Chief, Heavy Shield (or Sakoye-aotan), who signed the original treaty in 1877. The band numbers some 1,140 souls, 805 of whom are pagan. Their wealth is immense, averaging about \$5,000 per capita.

On the occasion of the signing of the treaty at Blackfoot Crossing, in 1877, Crowfoot made a striking speech to Lieutenant-Governor Laird. His skill in dealing with his Indians and his high regard for the treatment accorded them by the Government is seen in his words on that occasion. He said:

"It always happens that far-away countries hear exaggerated stories of one another. The distance between them causes the news to grow as it circulates. I often hear things of far-off places, but I do not believe them; it may be very little, and be magnified as it goes. When I hear such news about you as you hear about me, I don't believe it; but I go to the Indian Agent, or someone else in authority, and ask and find out the truth. Why should the Blackfeet create trouble? Are they not quiet and peaceable, and industrious? Let our white friends have compassion. I have two hearts—one is like stone and one is tender. Suppose the soldiers come and without provocation try to kill us—I am not a child—I know we shall get redress from the law. If they kill us, my tender heart would feel for my people."

In 1875, Sitting Bull, who had fought Custer, visited Crowfoot to secure his help, but he firmly refused.

In protesting his loyalty, Crowfoot said:

"To rise there must be an object; to rebel there must be a wrong done; to do either we must know how it would benefit us. We do not wish for war. We have nothing to gain; but we know that people make money by war on Indians, and these people want war, to steal the right of warring men—that is to fight without the consent of the Government—don't let them. The Queen does not want war when there is no cause. She is not in favour of war. Let the Government know that we favour peace, and want it."

The spirit that prompted the greatest of all the Chiefs of the Blackfeet tribe to utter words such as these is still present with the Blood Indians, and if the Empire should call for volunteers among them, a ready response would be forthcoming. Their interest is great, and they have been besieging the office of Agent Dilworth, since the outbreak of war, for news from the front.

Bungles of Burgomaster Tryon

Who Prefers Experiments to Economy in the Awarding of Civic Contracts

By THOMAS TODD

BURGOMASTER TRYON is the most paradoxical person in Canada. This is not intended for mere abuse; neither for any one singular person. In fact, the Burgomaster is a multiple personality who may be found in hundreds of towns and cities in Canada from the 5,000 pop. up to 500,000 and more. He is sometimes a mayor, an alderman, a controller—or he is the complex personality represented by those who spend the people's money for things the people want in the interests of the public. For there is sometimes that distinction between people and public.

What the Burgomaster Tryon has been doing in various unmentioned municipalities of Canada during the past little while is what makes the interest of this article. Read it and then see if this burgomaster of experiment does not live in your town; if he is not one of those either in office or expecting to get into office next year. If he is, you may conclude that the Burgomaster is a public menace who should be buttonholed on the street and in the club and round the town hall; and the self-protecting ratepayer should hold the Misfit with his glittering eye while he unfolds a tale of truth to harrow up his soul.

OUR first news of the operations of Burgomaster Tryon comes from a large Canadian city called Toronto. The B. M. knows that just at present the manufacturers of this country are working like Trojans to keep "Business As Usual" on the programme. He knows what sacrifices of profits they are making to do it; how they have determined as a first principle to keep Canadian labour employed on the principle that the employment of labour, whether on the land or in the factory, is the index of a nation's prosperity. He knows all this. He knows that such a programme could only be carried out if the people at large, individually and collectively, stand behind the movement so that the home market can be kept up.

So, not long ago, when the Board of Control placed contracts for the supply of fire apparatus, Burgomaster Tryon went dead against the interests of the people by refusing to let the contract outright to firms in Canada. The total amount was \$50,000; quite enough to represent \$10,000 paid in wages and to be re-spent by labour in the buying goods made in Canada. It was divided among three firms, two of which were in the United States; and these two together got \$30,000 of the amount. The combined Canadian tenders were \$7,000 less than those of the outside firms.

Why is this? Because Burgomaster Tryon wanted to have two or three different makes of apparatus—just to try them out to see which was the best. This experiment Tryon was willing to make at a cost of \$7,000 cold cash to the taxpayers, and an indirect loss to the community of thousands of dollars in wages. The taxpayers will remind the Burgomaster that when the country is faced up with one huge experiment in the shape of a world war, it is a mighty poor time to make other kinds of experiments. If Canada had waited to let England experiment with the war before sending our troops to the front, we should all have been in the same class with Burgomaster Tryon.

Some time before the war, when business began to slump, a manufacturing concern, one of the largest

employers of labour in Toronto, tendered to Burgomaster Tryon on three city contracts. The total amount involved was \$64,538. This would have been business enough to keep a large number of men in that Canadian company employed and competent to

THE ANSWER

By A. M. BELDING

THEY who had sought far lands beyond the sea,
And peopled them with children of the free,
Who never trembled at a king's command,
Nor feared a ruthless war-lord's iron hand;
In Freedom's name, steadfast whate'er befall,
They come, oh Mother England, at thy call.

From conquest of the wilderness they come,
Strong-limbed, clear-eyed, imbued with love of home,
To challenge men whose eager, jealous hate
Would make the homes of England desolate;
From field and mart, from camp and cot and hall,
They come, oh Mother England, at thy call.

The things your statesmen hold inviolate,
The plighted word, the honour of the state,
They prize not less, whose vision holds the day
When these shall rule in universal sway;
Lest blood and iron should the world enthral,
They come, oh Mother England, at thy call.

To fields whereon of old their fathers fought,
Nor deemed the badge of courage dearly bought
At cost of life itself, where duty led,
And noble deeds a deathless lustre shed;
With hearts as brave and true, whate'er befall,
They come, oh Mother England, at thy call.

Not lightly do they cross the seven seas,
To grace a pageant on the English leas;
For some must make a covenant with Death,
Where strikes the deadly cannon's iron breath;
They count the cost and fear it not at all,
They come, oh Mother England, at thy call.

St. John, N.B.

spend Canadian wages for things made in Canada. It would have placed Canadian pumps, machinery and iron castings in the service of the city of Toronto, and would have been another item in the Canada-First programme of all patriotic and business-minded Canadians.

WHAT did Burgomaster Tryon do about it? He looked over the tenders, three out of four from outside places. When he found that the combined tenders from New York, Glasgow and Philadelphia were \$307 less than the tender from the Toronto firm, he said:

"Well o' course, that settles it. We can't afford to pay \$307 extra to keep our own men employed. I move the contracts go to the three outside firms

mentioned. Variety is the spice of life."

And it was so.

In Winnipeg the experimental, Canada-last Burgomaster had his innings also. Winnipeg needed 1,100 tons of cast-iron pipe, which would cost about \$50,000. Among the tenderers for the contract was a firm in Fort William and a firm in Birmingham, Ala. The

Fort William firm was running slack; in fact, much of its plant was idle, waiting for something like this only 400 miles away. The tender from Fort William was \$800 more than the tender from Alabama. No doubt had the management known that it was necessary to meet the price of an outside competitor they would have done so.

What did Burgomaster Tryon do about it? He sniffed over the two contracts, buttoned his coat and said:

"Nope. Business is business. We don't care about Fort William. What did she ever do for Winnipeg? I move the contract be awarded to this here firm in Alabama."

And it was so.

The Works Department of another Canadian city bought a year's supply of paving brick at a cost of \$40,000. It happens that Canada has as good brickyards and brickmakers as any in America, and could easily have filled the contract. It was a slack time in the building trade. Hundreds of men were on part time or no time at all.

What did Burgomaster Tryon do? He thumbed over the contracts, bit his top lip, and said:

"I move that the contract be awarded to that firm in Ohio."

And it was so.

FURTHER, on the advice of this cautious burgomaster, a Canadian city sent \$20,000 to the United States for city automobiles. He knew right well that four miles from the City Hall there is an automobile factory, all-Canadian in capital, management and wages, as capable of turning out such automobiles as any other firm in the world. But he said he reckoned that firm might be able to tender on some contracts down in Tennessee or Pennsylvania for all he cared; he moved that the contract go to a United States firm.

And it was so.

It was so again when that same city needed road rollers, and a firm in Western Ontario sent in a tender which happened to be \$35 more than the lowest. Burgomaster Tryon experimented again and placed the order outside. When the Toronto police force needed forty new bicycles, the Burgomaster moved that they be bought outside of Canada—not because Canadian bicycles are not among the best in the world, for he admitted that; but because there was a difference of a few dollars in the price.

By these methods of Burgomaster Tryon operating in cities and towns all over Canada, the municipal authorities have been saddled with some fine problems of administration. Chickens always come home to roost. Hundreds of men who should have been employed in Canadian factories have been pressed into the bread lines that were such a daily spectacle in some Canadian cities last winter. Burgomaster Tryon rubbed his hands and said he supposed the city would have to do something. Men couldn't be allowed to starve. Put them on some sort of road-grading in the dead of winter. Then charity. For the Burgomaster, like Kaiser, puts his trust in God.