CURRENT COMMENT.

Tariff Laws and Taxation.

Apart from partisan politics there is very little difference of opinion in the country over the reasonableness of raising a large part of the revenue of the country, if not the whole of it, from tariff levies. Just how these are to be determined is the only problem upon which it is necessary to seek agreement. The Labor party has adopted as a plank of its platform the appointment of a competent and entirely non-partisan and independent commission, which would from time to time make such tariff changes and adjustments as would prevent inequitable incidences on any industry or class. There appears to be very little difference between the avowed aims of the various parties in achieving tariff reform. Any of the parties could adopt the Labor proposals without doing violence to their traditions. The point is whether any Government would be willing to place itself in the hands of such a commission, and would a Labor Government itself, if installed in power at Ottawa. It is useless to propose for another what one would not do oneself, and ther is a belief among other parties that a Labor Government, if actually in a position to create a non-partisan tariff commission, would hand over the tariff-making authority to other hands. Of course the constitutional question whether a Government would be justified in handing the purse-strings over to any other authority has also to be considered; but a British democracy may do as it pleases. There is a growing belief that the income tax is a much more just and equitable source of revenue than any other. If income returns could be accurately secured no doubt this is true. It is so notorious, however, that the small income is figured to a dollar, while big incomes escape by huge percentages, that income tax makes the average citizen restive. Demonstrate that every income is fully assessed, and the tax would be cheerfully paid.

A University Memory.

Suggestions of another commission for the investigation of the Provincial University at Toronto recalls the effort in 1895 to get the university on a better basis. That movement arose among the students, led by James A. Tucker, the brilliant young student who was rusticated by the authorities for the part he played. They called it insubordination. It was what the university authorities themselves should have inaugurated. They have maintained a petty vendetta against his memory. He took his degree in a leading United States university, and made his mark in the literary world, editorially, and as the author of a volume of poems well worth reading, in spite of the sweeping denunciations of all Canadian verse by some provincial critics. James Tucker left his mark on his contemporaries, and his memory will survive when that of the authorities who expelled him and then succumbed to his ideas has been forgotten. His classmates have frequently attempted to have the university honor itself by granting him a posthumous degree; but the petty spirit that drove him to another university still survives and refuses Tucker the recognition he receives outside the senate chamber. When a few more of the fossils are duly stratified, Tucker may receive his long-delayed recognition. Meanwhile the university is to be investigated again, and this means that the Government also will come in for perquisition in this connection. Among many elements making for the overthrow of the Ross Government was its unaccountable niggardliness towards the Provincial University. At present the university is notoriously short of funds, and among the professors are men of the most distinguished talent working for much less than many artisans and mechanics are receiving at the present time. There is a certain type of mind that dismisses this with the remark that they should turn artisans or mechanics. It is exactly that type of ignorance from which a university is expected to redeem a nation. Men must live if they are to work, and no man who lives by the labor of his hands ever devotes himself so closely and continuously as the mental worker. If the Government decides that these men cannot be paid enough to live on, there are many other institutions elsewhere which will be glad to pay them. This would mean a lowering of our university standards, and the effect would be increasingly felt among our Ontario people as time passed. We can only develop smart men and wise men by the highest forms of education, and if we do not possess these and the masters of them, then our standard of intelligence is bound to sink. There is no other worth-while standard by which to measure a nation.

Truths of the Western Front.

One of the first of what may prove to be an interminable series of revelations of the inside history of the great war has appeared in the September Blackwood, indited by Captain Wright, formerly assistant secretary of the Supreme War Council. It is significant that Sir Henry Wilson's name is coupled with General Foch's in connection with their plan to create a general reserve for use in any emergency. Wilson and Foch worked this out together, and were counter-checked by Haig and Petain, who, unknown to Foch, met in February, 1918, and formed a plan incompatible with his. When their plan went to pieces, as all plans did up till the time Wilson and Foch got full command, the British army met the "greatest defeat we have ever suffered in our history, measured by any standard." At this crisis Foch was given his opportunity, and, of course, Wilson, who had foretold every move in the previous January, but was not listened to until some one told the Government to sue for peace terms to Germany, co-operated with Foch in every detail. Wilson was justified at the big parliamentary dinner offered him by the Government and most of the important people, when Lloyd George referred to his forecast made in January as the most remarkable military prediction in history. Had Wilson and Foch been given control earlier, the war would have been ended so much the sooner, but political and other influences kept other leaders at the front. It is to this fact that may be attributed the prolongation of the war during what Captain Wright terms "the years" during which the Allies were as seven to the Germans' four on the Western front. We had the generals, but would not give them command.

A Benevolent Anarchist.

Henry Ford took steps a number of years ago to be able to cut prices or do anything else he liked with his own business. He had on one occasion, it is related, signified his intention to carry out a certain policy, when he discovered that his banker was not prepared to support him in it. This was new light to Henry, who immediately determined to become as independent in reality as popularly but quite erroneously all wealthy men are supposed to be. When next he wished to make an independent move he had not to consult his banker or any one else. He had his own gold reserve and his own consolidated fund. If Henry had had to appeal to any big financial interests for backing when he decided to make an average cut of $142 on his flivvers, it is not too much to suppose that the cut would have been postponed indefinitely. Theoretically it has been held that prices could not be sustained at their highest level continuously, but the man who spoke of bringing them to their former level, or considerably in that direction, was considered to be more or less of a Bolshevist. Now Henry Ford comes along and does the veritable thing that may create a panic, or precipitate a commercial catastrophe for those unable to ride the waves of fluctuating values. To leave the enigma unsolved in the persons of railway patrons of undetermined sex was to bring anarchic elements into society and countenance their remaining. It is more than suspected that Henry Ford is a revolutionist, though it is not clearly known on what pivot he would revolve, and many worthy people, on hearing of the cut in Henry's prices, were thoroughly convinced that he had set about undermining the social structure.

Socialist Symptoms in New York

Probably we have no right to make remarks about the New York Legislature, but the repetition of the exclusion of the Socialist members from the Legislature of the Empire State suggests that the title is perhaps well applied. Theoretically, of course, New York is a democratic state in a democratic nation, but there is absolutely nothing democratic in the exclusion of duly elected members from a popular chamber. It may be contended, and probably with some truth, that these Socialist members do not represent a truly democratic policy, but if this be admitted it must be accounted for, and will be found to be a reaction from the less than democratic practice of American politics. An excellent parallel case may be found in the British Parliament when Charles Bradlaugh was elected for Northampton in 1880 and began a struggle for his seat which lasted six years. In the result, Bradlaugh's "transparent honesty and courageous contempt for mere popularity" won him the respect and confidence of the House of Commons. It would have been much wiser for the New York Legislature, from the British point of view, to permit the five Socialist members to take their seats and show what stuff they were made of. It could not be that the other members feared to place themselves in competition with Socialist representatives, or had any doubt that they might be able to convert them to their horrid views. It takes some democracies a long time to learn that unpopular causes thrive on opposition. If a movement has no real basis, no ground for existence, it will quickly fade away. If it has some grievance to redress, some evil to remove, it is better to hear what there is to be said and by eliminating the cause do away with the effect. The five Socialist members are merely a social symptom. The disease remains, even if the rash that arises from it be poulticed over or hidden from sight. Keeping out the Socialist members will not heal the malady of which they are the outward and visible sign.

CLOTHING PRICES DROP!—SUIT FOR 15C

The high price of clothing is largely responsible for the manufacture of a number of paper articles imported from Austria and Germany. Chief among these is an all-paper suit that retails at the nominal sum of 15 cents.

These articles have become popular in parts of Europe, especially where clothing is worn more for service than appearance. Tablecloths, rugs, etc., are also among the paper articles. The design and color is similar to those now in use.

Canadian National---Grand Trunk

When the lines of the Grand Trunk Railway System are merged with those of the Canadian National Railways, the figures dealing with the operations will be truly startling in their magnitude. They will be:

Mileage	22,375
Employees	90,000
Locomotives	3,020
Passenger Cars	3,200
Freight Cars	120,000

It is estimated the tonnage to be carried annually will be in the vicinity of 60,000,000 tons, and that the passengers to be handled in the cars of the amalgamated lines will approximate 22,500,000 in a twelve-month.

It is not possible to give figures at present as to the division in these headings as between Western and Eastern lines, but there will be in the neighborhood of 28,000 employees on the western divisions of the systems, and approximately 62,000 on the eastern lines.—C. N. R. Statistics Department, Toronto.

THE BRAIN BOX.

CONDUCTED BY E. GUNN RAMSAY.

Registered According to the Copyright Act.

Are you a carrier—or a bringer?

Silly question you say? Not at all! There are two kinds of active people in this world who work in direct opposition to each other.

One carries, one brings. No! this does not mean the same thing.

"If it were not for these "carriers" if it could be made possible to instantly detect these people and to treat them, we would soon succeed in stamping out the greater part of infectious disease," said a doctor a few days ago. He was speaking at the inquest upon three members of one family, who had all been poisoned by their own mother.

Quite unintentionally, the meal which with the utmost loving care she had prepared for them, had caused their death. The food was examined and found to be fresh, pure, uncontaminated before cooking. ....

Cooking, so the experts claimed, had not harmed it, yet the poison was there. A remarkable case.

The mother was finally found to be one of those people who, without becoming sick themselves, from a disease, carry it around, and infect others. They may be apparently well, yet others who come in contact with them may lose their lives, the unfortunate "carrier" being all the time unconscious of the scourge he or she is keeping alive and passing on.

In direct opposition to the "carrier" comes the man of science, the healer who brings his skill and knowledge to heal and cure what the other has upset. The "Bringer" of good.

What a picture of two other classes of people in the world who upon a different plane are carrying and bringing.

There is the "carrier" of rumors and reports, who, without intentional mischief in his mind, passes on something he has heard of another. The one who spreads news that is damaging in its results and often false.

He may be quite a good fellow in many ways, who would not intentionally harm anyone, but because of lack of thought, or a weak, careless temporament, which does not stop to find out the truth before speaking, he is probably ruining the lives of many around him.

In business life, such a man will pass on evil reports, of one worker to another, or by his gossip cause some one to be misjudged, whose intentions are really the kindest and best. This carrier is the author of riots, of misunderstandings and strife, which, like a disease, affect all whom his rumors touch.

He, this "carrier," is(one to be marked a public danger, and shunned by all who would keep clean in action, until such times as he has been "sterilized" or taught to be sane and careful in his speech and judgment.

The "Bringer" is he who is always seeking to pass on, to collect and encourage all that is best in those around. Where he sees a good deed, good workmanship he will bring it to the attention of others.

He is quick to appreciate good, slow to blame others for faults of which he does not know the origin. Wherever he goes something of help and good is brought. In business he brings the best ideas; the truest workmanship. He brings out the best in others, not their worst. He brings upon his country honor and prosperity and not disgrace. The "carrier" of disease is unconscious of the ill he or she passes on.

A person who does not know what he is doing, who acts blindly is a menace in any event.

The man whose chief aim is to bring, to contribute, to give of the best, is a good citizen.

Empire Sport.

Lord Desborough, the brilliant athlete of the last generation, and father of the two distinguished Grenfells of the great war, addressed the Empire Club in Toronto during the meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce which he was attending. His subject was "Empire Sport." What was required for sport of the highest kind was the spirit of unselfishness and consideration for others. The Marylebone Cricket Club had recently sent a team to Australia, and its members were chosen to a large extent on account of their clubable qualities, so that in the long months of association together they would maintain the spirit of comradeship. He declared that Canada's contribution to the war had been most distinguished in the flying service, and their great success in this had been due to their team work. In a great crisis of their history it was due to the spirit of co-operation that they were able to maintain the supremacy in the air that enabled them to win the war. He was glad to see a change in the spirit in which the competitors at the Olympic games had participated, coming not merely with the idea of winning medals, but being as ready to salute the winners as if they were their own men. Before he left Britain he had seen, he said, the best athletic sports he had ever witnessed, the contest between the United States and the British Empire, and he congratulated Canada on producing the hurdle champion.

STRANGE CRADLES.

An infant in Guinea is usually buried in sand up to its waist whenever the mother is busy, and this is the only cradle it ever knows. The little Lapp, on the other hand, fares most luxuriously in its mother's shoe. These Lapp shoes are big affairs of skin stuffed with soft moss, and can be hung on a peg or tree branch safely out of the way.

ADVICE TO GIRLS

By Rosalind

Registered According to the Copyright Act

Dear Girls,

Are you all away on holidays? Or is this your exceedingly busy season—or what? Not a letter have I had this week. It is such a very sudden thing that I fancy the trouble lies in the post offices. Inquiries at the Toronto Branch say that there is no mail there for me to-day; that any that comes in is immediately sent on to the office. I wonder if in some of the smaller places, the post masters think because there is only one name on the envelopes they are misdirected and are holding them back for that reason.

Whatever the explanation, I missed my letters very much and cannot understand everybody's silence at once. There are dozens of you who intended to write to me last week and you just kept putting it off from day to day. Sit down right now and send me a nice, long, friendly letter about yourself, your interests, your work, your ambitions, 'neverything. And to satisfy the post master, better send it to

Miss Rosalind,
515 Manning Chambers,
Toronto.

The History of Your Name

PENROSE.
RACIAL ORIGIN—Welsh.
SOURCE—Geographical.

The family name of Penrose, while not exactly widespread in Canada, deserves some mention from the prominence it has attained in the public eye through a United States senator.

There are numerous and varied explanations offered for the origin of this name, but none of them appear to stand the test of comparison with the laws established by the development of family names in general, with the exception of one.

Penrose is the name of what is today a mere hamlet near Land's End, in Cornwall, though there are indications that in medieval and early modern times it was a more important place than it is to-day, when the growth of modern cities has overshadowed the prominence of many localities which were prominent landmarks in olden times.

There is a Penrose family living in Penrose to-day, with large estates which have been in the possession of the family since the fifteenth century, a time at which the formation of family names, though well under way, had been by no means completed. Naturally this particular family took its name from the place, in the form "de Penrose." But undoubtedly the name, in the same form, sprang up in other parts of the country in the case of former residents of Penrose, who may or may not have been related to the owners of the estates, but who used "de Penrose" as a distinguishing name in the sense of "from" Penrose rather than "of" in its possessive meaning.

ABOUT CANADA.

Five years of painful toil and anxiety on the part of Selkirk settlers at the Red River seemed at an end when the summer of 1815 came. The fields were in the grain and the colony was rejoicing in the prospect of a fine harvest—its first in the new land—when the blow fell. For months they had been harassed by the North Westers and by Indians, but the danger seemed past.

Then it came. The blow fell when one day a horde of the Bois-Brules appeared, and before the sun had set they had made a hostile attack upon the camp and upon Governor Semple, who was in temporary charge of the colony. The Governor and twenty men were murdered on the plains, a number of the settlers were taken prisoners, and again the order was served on the remainder to quit the land. Painfully they betook themselves to their boats and set out for Norway House, at the northern end of Lake Winnipeg, to await help and news of Lord Selkirk.

The colonists, of course, had little to lose. The last year they had been living in tents, for in the previous summer when they were driven away most of the houses had been burned. In 1816 there was only one residence at Red River, and that was one in which the governor had resided. The settlers were employed by the Hudson's Bay Company during the day on the land, although they slept inside the colony during the night. But the little they possesesd had to be left behind under pain of death. Then the Bois-Brules sent a messenger far and wide to tell how they had won a great victory, and had driven out the colony Lord Selkirk had established.

In this way ended the efforts the lord had made to improve the condition in life of the Scots and the Irish; five years of anxiety and hardship ended in a toll of over twenty deaths

Burmese girls smoke cigars.

A new wheeled table for serving meals in hotel rooms keeps the food warm as long as desired in an oven beneath the top that is heated by a hot brick.

According to a Brazilian chemist the fibre of a plant which abounds in the state of Para can be utilized in the manufacture of several varieties of paper.

Claimed to be more powerful than a rifle of the same calibre using powder is an air rifle of recent invention, made in both single shot and repeater models.

WASTING OF COAL DURING SCARCITY

Shortening Periods of Use and Efficient Operation of Furnaces to Offset Shortage of Coal.

Eastern Canada is facing a serious coal shortage. Due to labor troubles, the output is below the average, while railway companies are handicapped by shortage of cars. Hon. Frank Carvell, Chairman of the Railway Commission, which is now in control of the fuel situation, has stated that we will be fortunate to get coal, regardless of price. Every effort must be made to reduce the consumption, and to secure the greatest heat efficiency possible from the supply available.

Much coal is wasted by the too early starting of furnaces. The first chilly weather brings the furnace into use. This fall in temperature is almost invariably followed by a warm period. If, by the use of other heating appliances, such as kerosene or electric heaters, or by burning wood in the furnace, the period for consumption of coal could be shortened, a considerable saving of coal could be effected During 1919, Canada imported 4,758,419 tons of anthracite coal in chestnut, stove and egg sizes. Our heating season is approximately seven months, a portion of which at the beginning and end is comparatively mild. By an average lessening of the coal-burning period of 20 days say, five per cent of this anthracite would be saved, or 238,000 tons. With coal selling at an average price of $15 per ton, this saving would represent upwards of $3,500,000. All of this coal has to be hauled by rail. To move this 238 000 tons requires 4,760 cars of 50 tons each.

Economy in furnace operation would also considerably reduce the coal consumption. Much unconsumed carbon is discarded with the ashes, and much of the heating efficiency of the coal is also wasted through carelessness in firing or in defective installation.

The Mines Branch of the Federal Department of Mines has issued a bulletin, No. 28, "The Economic Use of Coal for Steam Raising and House Heating," by John Blizzard, B.Sc., which gives valuable information regarding the economic and efficient operation of steam boilers and heating furnaces.

Every care should be exercised in the use of coal. With the limited supple available, the extravagance of some means that others will suffer.

NEWS OF THE MOVIES

By William Willing.

The Devil is having his innings these days—in picture productions. Recently we had "The Devil's Tool" and "The Devil's Passkey" and now we are to have "The Devil" with George Arliss, and "The Devil to Pay." In the last named Fritzi Brunette is the featured player, and is said to reach the zenith of her career as an emotional actress. "What next," says Fritzi."

"Penny," an adaptation of the book "Penny of Top Trail Hill," by Mary Maniates, author of "Amarilly of Clothes-Line Alley," is the title of Bessie Love's next picture production. The locale of the story is a western rancho, where there will be opportunities for Bessie to display her ability as an equestrienne, at which she is adept. Production has been begun under the direction of Arthur Berthelet.

Director Lloyd Ingraham is right in the midst of the "shooting" of "Lavender and Old Lace," the first of Myrtle Reed's novels to be produced as a photoplay. This best loved story of the gifted novelist will be followed by others on the screen. A company of film favorites, including Marguerite Snow, Seena Owen, James Corrigan, Lillian Elliot, Victor Potel, Zella Ingraham and Louis Bennison is at work on "Lavender and Old Lace."

For the first time a movie stuntman will go over the Yosemite Falls for the "Sage Hen," starring Gladys Brockwell. The drop is 128 feet.

On her recent trip East, Bessie Love visited Niagara Falls for the first time. She took the trip below the falls on the "Maid of the Mist," dressed in rain coat, hat nd rubber boots. A little fellow-passenger eyed Bessie with deep intent, and Bessie was about to speak when the child suddenly exclaimed, "Oh, Mamma, look! There's that little boy that sells Uneeda Biscuits."

"So Long Letty," the Robertson-Cole super-special, produced by Al. Christie for early fall distribution, will win screen audiences everywhere, it is predicted, because it will wield the same attraction for both women and men as did the stage version of the story, which was made famous by its Oliver Morosco presentation.

The screen version of "Iris," the famous stage production of Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, which is to be released early this fall by Robertson-Cole as a super-special starring Pauline Frederick has been completed. It will be received in the East within a few days, and soon thereafter a release date will be fixed.

Otis Skinner, America's foremost romantic actor, has just returned from the West Coast where he acted the part of "Hajj," the beggar, which is the central rike of the Robertson-Cole production of "Kismet" to be released during the fall. This marks Mr. Skinner's first appearance before the camera in a part and play which, critics agree, was the best of his stage career. He acted "Kismet" for three years in New York City, and hundreds of other leading American cities.