

THE COST OF LIVING

IS THE CRUX OF THE RECIPRO- CITY QUESTION.

Dr. Aykroyd Shows That the Con- sumer Will Benefit Just as Well as the Farmer.

Kingston, Sept. 14.—(To the Edi- tor)—I am convinced that the pending question for the Dominion House of Commons, will be decided on the econ- omies of reciprocity, and not on its political aspect. If the pact is defeated it will not be because of the fear of it leading to annexation nor on account of any disloyalty cry on the part of the opposition, nor the foolish statement of some thoughtless anti- the Yankees, when we are already trad- ing with them to the extent of hun- dreds of millions of dollars. When we in Ontario are burning their hard coal to keep us warm in winter, why shouldn't they have some of Mani- toba's hard wheat to make their bread more palatable.

Aren't all modern society, and the comforts and conveniences of civiliza- tion dependent largely on the fair ex- change of natural products throughout the world irrespective of any political lines or boundaries? And is not the United States our most convenient and natural market for much of the natu- ral products of our more northern clime, while we are their most conveni- ent and natural market for the prod- ucts of their southern climate? By trading freely with them in natural products we will get the benefit of a much longer season of production of the good things of old mother earth. Fresh fruit and vegetables for some months in the year when they are not grown in Canada. Even when they are grown we may have a shortage while they have a surplus, and vice versa. Thus there will be a more even balancing of trade, and prices through- out the year and from year to year, and a mutual benefit to all. The evenness of prices, some times high and sometimes low, is not a good thing for consumer or producer either. They never know what to figure on; the consumer, how much to buy at a given time or price, nor the producer how much to produce. Reciprocity would eliminate a lot of these things and make a far better balanced market.

How Consumer Benefits.

The cost of living is the crux of the question for the consumers, and es- pecially the wage earners, workmen, etc., in the cities, to consider. They may say and are saying, "Reci- procity may be a good thing for the farmer, but I am not a farmer. If the farmer gets more for his products, I will have to pay more and up goes the cost of living, which is working high. I cannot vote for the pact."

His fears on the score of higher cost of living is not well founded, and even if they were there will be compensat- ing gains under reciprocity. Let us see. It sounds paradoxical to say that the producer may get more for his product under reciprocity and the consumer pay less, but, nevertheless, that is what will take place with many kinds of produce when the pact is in force. This needs explanation.

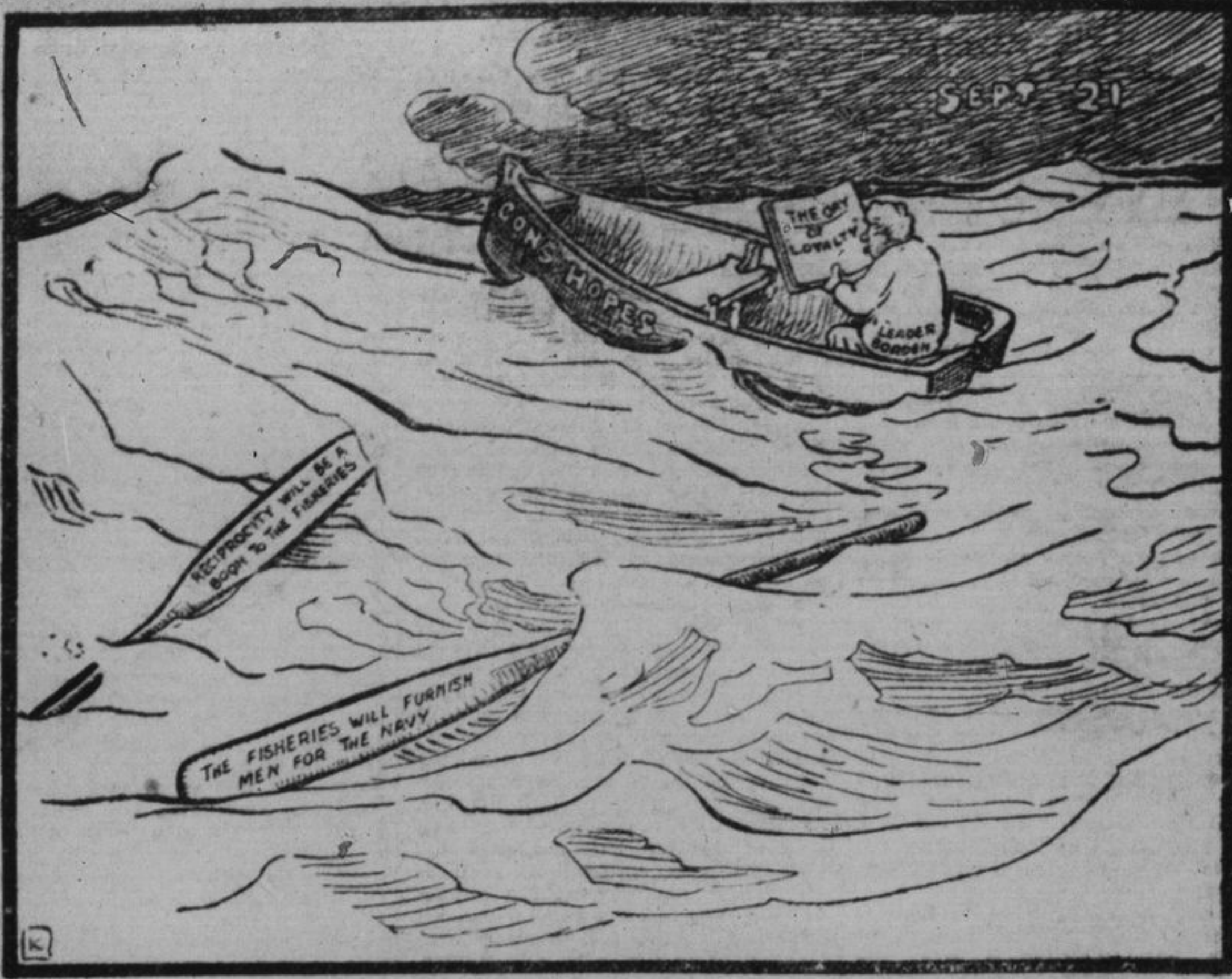
The difference between what the farmer gets for his raw product and what the consumer pays for the finished product, is very great for many products, and for a large portion of the year. Meats of all kinds, eggs, poultry, canned goods, fruits and vegetables. A producer may sell a product to a middleman, a combiner or a monoply for 40c., and the consumer pay 100 cents for it. It has been estimated by competent statisticians and economists in the United States that this is about the average difference. Here is a loss of sixty cents on a dollar's trade between the producer and consumer.

Who gets it? What is the cause of it? The middleman and the combiners get it. The cause is largely due to the restriction of trade. The duty on the exchange of natural products is the direct cause of part of it, but this duty indirectly is the greater cause by giving the combiners and middlemen a chance to fleece both the producer and consumer. Middlemen must have a fair profit for exchanging products, but their profits under pro- tection, so called, are often exorbitant. Free trade would eliminate some of the parasites, and reduce the profits of the necessary exchangers to a reasonable amount.

Suppose we save by reciprocity half of sixty cents difference in prices, and this seems quite probable then the producer would receive fifteen cents more and the consumer pay fifteen cents less, and both be benefited. Again, the farmer may not get more money than he does now for an individual product, say a bag of potatoes, but if he has a larger market for potatoes he will raise more bags of potatoes and thus make more money. Every business man knows that it is not by making a big profit on one article that he makes money but by a small profit on many articles. Thus you see the price to the home consumer of potatoes, or any other product, need not, and not at all likely would be raised by reciprocity, for the farmer would produce more, knowing he had a market for his products at a fair profit the year around. There is no question about the United States not wanting our farm products or they would not have come to us at Ottawa with the proposition of reciprocity. Because they are willing to buy from us is no reason why we should "turn them down." You have to find some one willing to buy before you can sell.

Wages Will Rise.

If there is more money coming into our country through freer trade relations with our neighbors to the south of us, will that not make our country more prosperous? And if more prosperous, will that not bene- fit the wage earner, the working man or woman? Will there not be a greater demand for labor along all lines? Will not wages rise? Will not manufacturers and farmers be forced to pay higher wages to get help? And miners will not have to go on strike for higher pay. Even if they are obliged to go on strike they can and will the more easily get their demands complied with if reasonable.



HE LOST FIRST ONE OPPORTUNITY AND THEN THE OTHER

The strongest argument for recipro- city is the need for greater markets. At no time in the history of the world was there a country whose pro- duction of natural products was in- creasing in such great proportion to its population as in Canada today. This is due to several causes: The rapid opening up of the fertile lands of our great west, due to unprece- dent- ed railway development, and the introduction of modern machinery in the cultivation of the soil, gasoline and steam plows, threshing machines, and harvesters, etc., by which one man can do as much as ten men could do a few years ago. If we cannot find a market for this rapidly in- creasing production of surplus prod- ucts over home consumption then our expansion and great progress, of which we are all so justly proud, will be impeded, there will be over- production and we will be confronted with the spectacle of elevators full of grain, and warehouses overflowing with goods, for which there is no sale, followed by stagnation and hard times. Then some people will wonder what is the matter, but it will never enter their noddles that it is because they did not vote for reciprocity. Those who argue against reciprocity on this point say we have the English market, and we have our home market which is our best market. Granted this is true. The English market is limited, and our home market, especially for grain, is becoming rapidly inadequate to absorb any- thing but a small fraction of our pro- duction.

The imports of food stuffs into the English market are about the same as they were ten years ago. Their population is not large enough to ab- sorb the food products pouring into that market. Last year England im- ported the equivalent in wheat and flour only 133,000,000 bushels, and we had to come in competition in that market with Russia, the largest shipper, India, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States. Canada, this year, has more than 200,000,000 bushels of wheat, seven million bushels more than England imported from all the countries of the world including Canada, last year. It is estimated that in five years we will produce at least 300,000,000 to 400,000,000 bushels of wheat. It takes for food and seed about seven bushels per head of popu- lation for home use. Suppose we have 18,000,000 people in five years, that would only take 70,000,000 bushels for home use. Where will we find a market for the remaining 300,000,000 bushels, more or less, we are al- most certain we have for export?

Less Wheat in States.

The production of wheat in the United States, as is well known to all who give this question of wheat any attention, is rapidly decreasing in proportion to the rapid increase of population, but now they are on an importing basis. It is doubtful whether they will have enough wheat for home consumption this year. Besides their exports of all kinds of food products have nearly ceased. This is absolutely true of cheese and butter. Thus you may see that not only the products of the western farmer, but those of our eastern farmer as well

will find a ready market in the United States under reciprocity. It will be a surprise to many to know that in the fiscal year 1908 and 1909, the United States bought and imported for their own use from the United Kingdom, \$2,750,000 worth of potatoes. Is not this a market we should cultivate when we have the opportunity? Some are saying, yes, but the Yankee will take the duty off our products when he wants to do so without our asking or without an agreement. Very well, he might, but that would not be fair to our consumers in the cities, especially, if we did not take the duties off the natural products produced in his country. Then the cost of living might go up out of all proportion, to the advantages gained to our urban population. Let us not make any mistake like that, but ratify this agreement now, and give it a fair trial, and do not forget that a clause is inserted in the agreement by which we can make any change we wish in it at any time our parliament is in session without any reference to the United States.

High Cost of Living.

The high cost of living not only in the United States and Canada, but in European countries as well is assuming serious aspects. There are several economic reasons for it. It is quite evident that those countries with high tariff walls on foodstuffs suffer most. The consumer always has to pay the duty, even on the home grown product, because the price is regulated by what he would have to pay for the same article if imported. Then the importers combine and monopolies, under protection, as I have pointed out, get in their work, every time a cent of duty is added they add two more cents to their profits, until companies, like the Davies Limited, who do business in this city in meats, can pay a dividend of 120 per cent a year.

Free trade in food products would reduce these exorbitant profits, and the consumer would get the benefit. Then there is another economic factor that only students of political economy recognize, and not all of them, but it is a factor, and a very great one, just the same. The enormous increase of the production of gold of recent years has thrown prices out of balance. There is more money in circulation per capita in the world now than ever before in its history, hence more money can be paid and is paid for articles of consumption. It does not matter whether the working man has this money or not. He has to come into competition with the man who has the money, in the purchase of his requirements. This is something that reciprocity cannot touch directly, but indirectly it may do much towards removing the trouble.

None of our economic systems are perfect, and our financial systems are far from being scientific and just. The making of gold the standard of value and then allowing unlimited quantities of it, to be thrown on the market, or as much of it as can be produced, is a very crude and almost a barbarous system, and it looks to me as if we were in for serious trouble ahead on account of this system. The only way we can stay off a more evil day is by a wider distribu-

tion of this great gold production. The cost of living is relative, and if we can give more money to the people, they can pay more for their necessities. That is an elementary fact. The wider and more evenly we can distribute the wealth of a country the better for the people as a whole. Now what we must do in Canada is to get as much of that gold or its equivalent as widely circulated as possible. How better can we do this than to get good markets at good steady prices for the products of our farms, our forests, our fisheries and our mines. Reciprocity will help to secure these markets, and bring more money into our country. As the greater proportion of our population is en- gaged in these pursuits the money will be most widely distributed, and generally spent, and the wheels of indus- try will be increased and kept hum- ming, wages will rise and relatively, the cost of living will be lowered. Yours for freedom and greater pros- perity.—S. A. AYKROYD.

SAYS LAURIER WILL WIN.

J. A. Stevenson, Winnipeg, Would Not Trust Empire to Bourassa. London, Sept. 19.—J. A. Stevenson, Winnipeg, writes in the Nation, re- viewing the election field. He says it is to be hoped the tariff reformers won't beguile themselves into the belief that voters for Borden will avoid their cause. However, it is quite un- likely Borden will win and probably the Laurier government will regain the same strength by reciprocity as the Asquith government did by the budget.

To Evangelize Continent.

New York City, Sept. 18.—Headed by J. Pierpont Morgan and James G. Cannon, president of the Fourth National bank, ninety-seven of New York's foremost millionaires and pro- fessional men will tonight, inaugurate by a banquet at the Metropolitan club known as the Fifth Avenue millionaire's club, a crusade to evangelize the United States and Canada. The meetings will be opened at Minneapolis on Oct. 2nd, and continued over the whole continent by men of the religious forward movement.

After Fifty Years' Service.

Montreal, Sept. 18.—On Sept. 30th, John W. Loud, freight traffic manager of the C.T.R. and G.T.P., will retire on a handsome superannuation allow- ance, after fifty years' service.

The family of Frank Kleins, of Milwaukee, was wiped out when their auto was struck by the Soo line flyer. Four were killed instantly and one died later.

Gun-jar rings, corks, all sizes; para- fine wax, McLeod's Drug Stores. At Hendon, Eng., Lieut. Gummell, of the British aviator school, was killed by a fall with an aeroplane while turning too quickly.

Wade's condition powders, two pack, ages 25c., at McLeod's Drug Stores.

PRESTON STEEL CEILINGS

Let us set you right on the ceiling matter

You are, perhaps, prejudiced in favor of plaster, for ceilings. That prejudice won't last long after you read our book about ceilings. For it shows you why you cannot really afford to buy any but

Preston Steel Ceilings

The book is aimed straight at those who have thought metal ceilings were too new an idea to be worth trying. Whether you are one of those or not, there is something in the book worth knowing. It shows you why a Preston Steel Ceiling is cheaper, far safer to sleep or work under, and vastly more beautiful to live with. Ask for the book, and outline your possible needs. The reply will interest you. 30



Branch Office and Factory MONTREAL, QUE. THE METAL SHINGLE & SIDING CO., LTD. PRESTON ONT.

900 DROPS

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Wm. A. Stearns

In Use For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, N. Y. CITY.

Vegetable Preparation for Assi- milating the Food and Regula- ting the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerful- ness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Drugs of Old Dr. J. C. F. PITCHER

Pumpkin Seed - Ricinus - Sassafras - Ammonia - Peppermint - Oil of Sassafras - Castor Oil - Sugar - Gum - Water

A perfect Remedy for Constipa- tion, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverish- ness and LOSS OF SLEEP.

The Simple Signature of *Wm. A. Stearns* NEW YORK. 116 months old 35 Doses - 35 CENTS

EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Wm. A. Stearns

In Use For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, N. Y. CITY.

SEPTEMBER SALE OF FURNITURE, ETC.

The fireside season begins. The time to put your home in order. Make your selection while stock is large.



Iron Beds \$2.00, \$2.50 up.
Brass Beds \$16.00, \$21.00 up.
Springs \$2.50, \$3.50
Mattresses \$2.50 to \$25.00.



Extension Tables \$5.00, \$6.50 Etc.
Pedestal Tables, Golden Oak, \$12 up.
Dinners, Buffets, Sideboards and Cabinets, all latest designs and finishes.

Robert J. Reid



"Air That Thrills With Warmth and Life"

Air that makes the balmy atmosphere of southern resorts seem so alluring during the nipping cold weather may be yours if you install a King Boiler and King Radiators in your home. No matter how the wind storms and blows outside, pure, healthful, even warmth is diffused through- out the house inside. Every room comfort- able and cosy, free from cold corners and draughty hallways—the southern atmo- sphere of soft, "mellow sunshine" is carried in abundance to every part of the house. This, the kind of heat you want, is the kind of heat you'll get if you install a

KING BOILER AND RADIATORS

in your new or present home. Rooms on the weather-side will be kept at exactly the same degree as those on the protected side. In fact, every part of the house will be equally comfortable and cheerful. "Cold corners are changed to warm corners, and rooms you hitherto shunned in the winter months become snugly comfortable and in- viting. Immunity from colds, congestion, ton- silitis, bronchitis, pneumonia—due to the vitiated, gas-laden air of old-fashioned heating systems—is a part of the benefits conferred by using a King hot water system. Besides the increased comfort and cheerfulness to the entire household. Hot water heating also promotes the growth of plants and flowers—a sure sign of its purity and healthfulness, for plant life cannot exist in an atmosphere that has been robbed of its life-giving element—oxygen. What must be the effect of such air on the human system, which is infinitely more sensitive and delicate? Before you build or remodel your home, get straight infor- mation on the heating question. Write for "Comfortable Homes." A post card brings it.

STEEL AND RADIATION, LIMITED
HEAD OFFICE: Fraser Ave., TORONTO SHOWROOMS: 78-82 Adelaide St. E.
Branches in All the Principal Cities and Towns



SOME OF THE GIRLS IN "THE BEAUTY SPOT," AT THE GRAND ON THURSDAY, SEPT. 21ST.