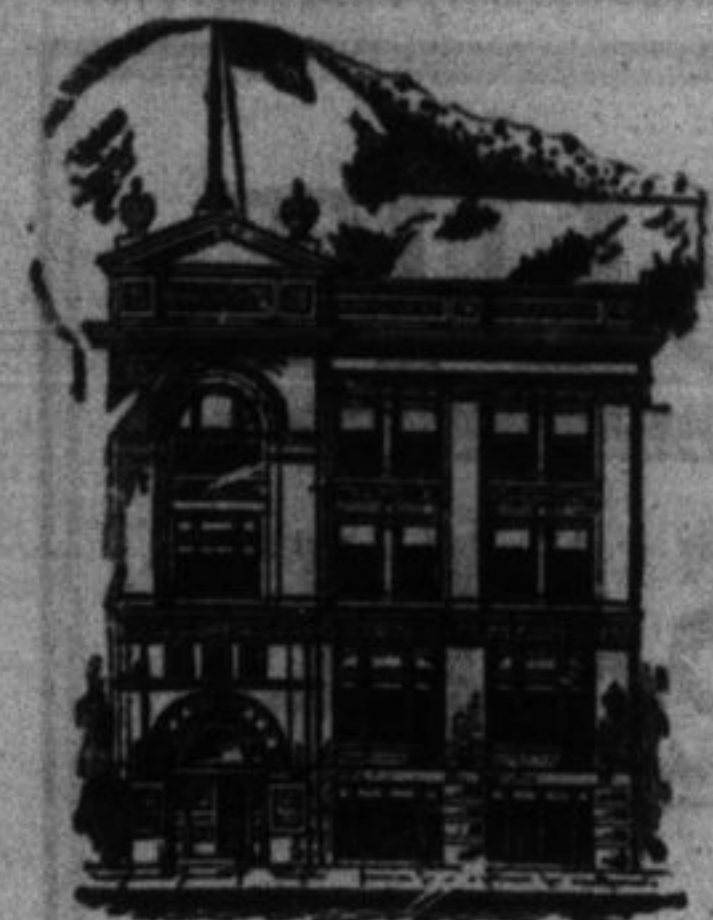


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33RD YEAR.



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CACKLING OVER LITTLE.

The federal prohibition measure, over which there has been so much discussion, is not very effective. It will be of precious little advantage to any province which carries prohibition. It would be of practically no benefit in seeing that the desires of the people, with regard to the drink traffic, are respected. It would have been of greater use had the amendment proposed by Mr. Guthrie been accepted. It aimed at preventing the importation of liquor within any province which had declared for prohibition. Another good amendment, that of Mr. Sinclair, was accepted — after a couple of conservatives had bolted from the party — and provides that the dominion officials shall prosecute offenders without and against the province in which the offense occurs. There has been a lot of cackling over this prohibitory measure of the dominion parliament; but, like the cackling which is so often heard elsewhere, it is over a very small matter. Hon. Mr. Doherty has expended his strength and small talk to very little purpose.

Is there a disposition on the part of the members of parliament to break party shackles and vote according to their own judgment? It would seem so, and it is an important sign.

MCGARRY IN A PASSION.

The province, when it launched its cheap power scheme, many years ago, assumed no financial obligation and does not assume any financial obligation to-day. It borrows money in the name of the province for the municipalities, but it charges them with all the costs of administration. Mr. McGarry, as provincial treasurer, now assumes a new attitude. It is that the province is in control of the Hydro-Electric Commission's finances, that the money it handles is practically the money of the province. A contrast, surely, with the position taken by Hon. Mr. Lucas when he was treasurer, and when in March, 1913, he said, "It is the municipalities that are paying, not the province." Mr. McGarry's contention means that Sir Adam Beck, outside of the government, is his small boy and Mr. McGarry is his boss. The provincial treasurer in a passion declared, "No one on this side of the house has any desire to detract from his (Beck's) ability, and when my honorable friend talks of jealousy it is all rot." And yet he realizes that his hand has been shown and that the people will not stand for some concealed method of asserting superiority over the chief commissioner of power. Hence he withdrew the clause of his bill which gave a new official power to perform any duty, not specified, when the order of the lieutenant-governor in council put it upon him. The scold of the provincial treasurer only serves to emphasize that which has been gravely suspected, namely, that the McGarry bill meant mischief to the chief hydro commissioner and the interests which he represents.

The Toronto Telegram sees in the proceedings of the legislature the surrender of the Hearst government to the Rowell opposition. This is a very important discovery.

WARNING TO GERMANY.

It is significant that at the very time that President Wilson indited his last and most powerful note, calling upon the Germans to modify their submarine policy; at the time the

German conspirators are being exposed and called to account; and at the time when so much is taking place to disturb the diplomatic relations between the Central Powers and Triple Entente, the leading citizens of America should address a message to the people of the Allied nations. No such document, in its quality and power, has ever appeared, and at a critical period in the history of the world. Who suggested it does not appear, nor is the information of first importance. It is sufficient to know that five hundred of the leading men of the United States, and representing in their wealth, power and intelligence nearly a hundred millions, have spoken on the war.

Apparently these leaders in public opinion hesitated about putting themselves on record, but at last they felt that they had to express their sympathy with the Allies. The American conscience, it is said, could no longer remain silent. It would not "run the risk of appealing to the neutral-minded without injury to its own integrity and self-respect." The signers of this document, including many of German education and extraction, desire the Germans and Austrians to be defeated, and declare that the conscience of the people cries out in protest against violations of international law and the law of humanity.

One paragraph sums up the meaning of the whole message: "It is because we believe that the success of Great Britain, France, Italy and Russia will mean the restoration of Belgium and of Serbia and the suppression of militarism, that we ardently hope for that consolation. In that hope we believe the future of civilization to be involved." President Wilson will read these lines with a new hope and encouragement. He will see in them an interpretation of a public opinion which he has been studying thus far with doubtful results. The effect will be a stiffening of the diplomatic back, and a peremptory demand for a change of policy which the German officers of state will not mistake or misunderstand.

The politicians of both the Mother Country and Canada are afraid of conscription. They fear the effect of radical legislation upon the electorate.

ANOTHER CONSPIRACY.

A new German conspiracy has been discovered in the United States. Many persons appear to be involved. Eight are under arrest and others are under surveillance and will some of these days be landed in prison. Four of the suspects are engineers of the Steamer Friedrich der Grosse, which, since the opening of the war, has been interned at Hoboken. These have been making bombs on the North German Lloyd liner and they have been filled with explosives at the factory of one Scheele and placed on the out-going ocean steamships, carrying munitions, by Germans. Two of these are the superintendents of the piers. Two others are the electrician of the Friedrich der Grosse and a chemist in the Scheele Works. All have been busy, and all have been serving most faithfully the German Empire, as it has been represented by Von Papen, before his deportation, and by his late associates.

The bombs made on the Friedrich der Grosse, and filled with explosives in the Scheele fertilized factory, were sent to ports in all parts of the United States. Some were shipped in boxes, some in suit cases and others in small trunks. There was no trade route covered by Allied ships that was not contemplated in this conspiracy. There have been explosions on ships at sea, and no one has been able to tell how they happened. The Kirkoswald, for France, with a valuable cargo, had a narrow escape. A bomb was found undischarged, and it was sent by the French government to America in order to aid the detectives in their efforts to locate the manufacturers. It served its purpose and was identified as containing explosives which corresponded with those found in the Scheele chemical works.

The uncovering of this conspiracy has caused a profound sensation. A couple of the arrested men, who were hired to do their parts and had no heart and no evil designs in what they did, have made confessions, and these will incriminate the principals. There are some "higher ups" in the plots who are wanted and cannot be found. With the news of the first arrests they disappeared. But they will be run down. The United States is a large country, but all too small for the criminals who essay to hide themselves.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The liquor men have nothing to fear from the dominion prohibition measure. It aims at doing the cause a modicum of damage.

Another political crisis impending in Britain. Another break-up in the imperial government probable. And all on account of recruiting. Which shows the slowness with which fixed ideas and customs change in the Mother Country.

Ministers of Ontario jealous of

Sir Adam Beck? Eager to appropriate some of his greatness and founded on well-earned success? There is good ground for this suspicion, and the McGarry wrath is a result of a reference to the matter.

"You don't know what the McGarry bill is about," shouted the provincial treasurer when Mr. Rowell criticized its features. McGarry was right. No one pretended to know what was behind the joker which the house, in sympathy with Sir Adam Beck, forced him to withdraw.

Ontario East, some persons insist, would not have electric power for many a day had it depended upon Sir Adam Beck. And Ontario West, or all Ontario, would have been without it until this day had Sir Adam Beck not forced it upon the government. He has all along been stronger than the ministry, hence the jealousy of McGarry and Ferguson.

The deputations of municipal men, and representing the electric light and electric radial interests, made it clear to the Ontario Government in the last interview with them, they had ideas that would not be ignored. Covert attacks upon Sir Adam Beck will not be tolerated. He may err in judgment occasionally, but the province will not stand for McGarry's interference with him.

Britain has been generous to the American packers whose products, to the value of many millions, were seized at sea and appropriated by the prize court. But she signifies that in future the shipments of these products shall be regulated by her judgment and they will accept her rule without a protest. Another evidence that Britain's navy rules the sea.

Some years ago, when Canadian cheese had the call, the Americans shipped their products via Canada and had them labelled so as to deceive the English people. Now Canadian eggs are demanded abroad and the Americans are shipping their eggs via Canada and by the Canadian route. Leave it to the average Yankee to play some sharp trick when he wants to advance his business interests.

PUBLIC OPINION

She Doesn't Care.
(Port Arthur Chronicle).
Germany hasn't a friend among the neutrals but she doesn't care so long as they fire only paper bullets.

A Poor Substitute.
(Toronto Star).
The mailed letter of Woodrow Wilson, as an offset to the mailed fist of the Kaiser, has been a hollow failure from the first.

Eating Dirt.
(Brandon Expositor).
They say every man must eat a peck of dirt before he dies. But

RANDOM REELS

"Of Shoes and Ships, and Sealing Wax, of Cabbages and Kings."

SUCCESS.

Success is a process which consists in climbing to the top of the ladder and sitting tight. Some men are born successful at a tender age and are able to denude their playmates of marbles and jack-knives with monotonous regularity. Others achieve success by working sixteen hours a day while their companions are trying to keep step with a five-piece dance orchestra, and a large number have succeeded through the aid of the unexpected demise of a rich relative who intended to leave his money in another spot.

As a rule, success is measured in money. It is a great surprise to a man who never had enough ready heading into 400 acres of alfalfa land and a herd of registered short horn cattle, and then discover that he is about to be run for Congress by admiring friends. Some of the most startling social successes on record in this country have been achieved by people who were about to substitute middlings for wheat flour. Money will oftentimes enable a man to succeed where sterling worth can't get a check cashed without being identified by the resident pastor.

Rippling Rhymes

HIRED HANDS.
Upon the farmers' rolling acres, the hired men, husky harvest makers, now push the gleaming plows; all days above their tasks they're bending, and when the twilight is descending they milk three thousand cows. They rise before the dawn is breaking, and give their sweat-stained mules a raking, with brush and currycomb; with pails of swill they go a-reeling, to feed the porkers, loudly squealing as they blow off the foam. They feed the calves and groom the chickens, and milk more cows to beat the dickens, before the rise of sun; and while the rest of us are snoozing, the glory of the morning loosing, their day's work is begun. The eight hour day? Don't josh or mock them; such levity would pain and shock them; some eighteen hours they toil, between the hour of their upgetting, and their retiring, tired and sweating, and caked with fertile soil. We boast and praise the festive farmer, and say he is the honest charmer who keeps the nation fed; but, by the booters, bards and sages, of him who tills the land for wages, there's mighty little said.

Woodrow Wilson eats dirt, not by pecks, but by bushels.

Ground For It.

(Hamilton Times).
Much capital is being made by the Grit press over Rowell's "banish the bar" policy of four years ago now being enacted by the Conservative Government.

Cannot Do It.

(St. Thomas Journal).
Sir Adam Beck declares that he will not resign from the Hydro Electric Commission. The Toronto Tory outfit will find it a difficult matter to push the Minister of Power from his seat.

The New Plan.

(Toronto Mail).
Sir Robert Borden says the Government's policy is to fill up present units recruiting before authorizing new ones. In Toronto eight or ten units are calling for men, and each unit grows slowly because so many are authorized.

Privileges and Taxes.

(Brandon Courier).
The Ontario House has passed legislation which enables municipalities if they so wish to impose a poll tax of \$5. Sensible move. The young man who isn't willing to contribute that much to the community in which he lives and whose benefits he enjoys, cannot be classed as otherwise than a municipal slacker.

Looting The Government.

(Ottawa Citizen).
Under Hon. Robert Rogers' policeman-telephone pole friend from Winnipeg, given the patronage job to handle Public Works dredging in British Columbia, a bill for 30,000 yards of rock-dredging, at \$9.10 per yard, came in to the Department where only 4,300 yards had been estimated for the whole contract.

**KINGSTON, EVENTS
25 YEARS AGO**

There was quite a heavy fall of snow to-day.

The election expenses of Sir John A. Macdonald in Kingston reached \$924.45.

Ex-Mayor R. J. Carson has purchased the Newlands estate, consisting of four houses, on the corner of Barrie and Princess street.

MAWSON TO TAKE POST.

Famous Explorer Will Appeal For Expedition.

San Francisco, April 19.—Sir Douglas Mawson, Antarctic explorer, reached here from Australia on his way to London, where he will assume duties in the British War Office.

It will be impossible to rescue Lieut. Ernest Shackleton, supposed to be marooned on the Antarctic continent, until next January, Sir Douglas said.

While in London, Mawson said, he intends to urge upon the British Admiralty the necessity of an expedition to rescue the ten men of the Shackleton party left with scanty provisions on the north side of the south polar continent when their ship Aurora was caught in the ice and carried away. They had landed there, intending to await the arrival with the Aurora of Lieut. Shackleton, who disembarked on the south side of the continent.

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