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SEVENTH YEAR.



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A ROUTE IN QUEBEC.

The expected is happening in Que-
bec. The Gouin government has, by
acclamations, already twenty support-
ers, and if the contests on Monday
next end as they are likely to do, the
Liberal majority will be as great as,
if not greater than, it was in the last
house. And this will not be a good
thing for the government. A strong
opposition is necessary in Quebec,
and it will never materialize under
the leadership of the men who have
been experimenting with the job. Mr.
Cousineau's tactics during the recent
campaign have certainly not popular-
ized him. He is not worthy of a
large following. He is not discreet
in his language. He is given to the
abuse of his opponents, and abuse
by any one, anywhere, is not calculat-
ed to win the favor of sensible men.

Harry Lauder is off for Europe,
and proposes to give \$500,000—of
his time—to the service of the men
at the front. He will give away a
little chin music, but nothing more.
Harry believes in the motto, "What I
have I'll hold."

FIGHTING THE ONE MILL TAX.

One of the big surprises in the po-
litical situation is the violence of the
attack made by the conservative
mayor of Toronto on the provincial
government over the special one mill
tax, which applies equally all over
the province. Mayor Church not
only declares that the tax is illegal
and unconstitutional, but claims that
the Ontario government is not even
spending the money so raised ex-
clusively for war purposes.

Whether or not Mayor Church is
right in his contention, the import-
ant phase of the matter is that,
again in this case, the government
would not have had to lay this
heavy extra burden on the people if
they had managed the finances more
economically.

The Mail and Empire, (conserva-
tive), links up Mayor Church's at-
tack on the government with the
growing antagonism between the
government and the municipalities
of the province on the question of
the management of the Hydro Elec-
tric Commission, in other words, the
McCarthy-Beech feud.

Even this government organ,
therefore, recognizes the widening
breach between the municipalities
and the government which obviously
must endanger the very safety of the
government's tenure of power.

Arthur Hawkes is right. Politics
ought to mean more than job find-
ing and profiteering. The science
of politics is the science of good
government by good men with good
plans. This is not the ordinary
idea, but it is the correct one.

A WEAK EXCUSE.

Had the Shell Committee the
time it might have itself secured the
formation of companies to make not
only fuses, but other munitions re-
quired, and saved some profits as
well as commissions. It was pressed,
and it did what promised returns at
the earliest date. That is all that
has yet been shown, and it may be
all that will be shown.—Montreal
Gazette.

Here is a weak apology for a very
great wrong. Time has given the
politicians an opportunity to think,
and our contemporary does not see
anything in the revelations which
have been made at Ottawa and that
reflect upon anybody. Had the
Shell Committee not been crowded
it could have looked up the contrac-
tors as well as the middlemen who
have been exploiting the business at
the expense of the imperial govern-
ment! And the fact is that when a
Canadian firm prepared itself for
splendid service, procuring the neces-

sary equipment and men, it was
thrown down deliberately, and at the
suggestion of some one "higher up."
Who this one is has not yet been re-
vealed. For there is nothing sacred
about him, and apparently there is no
reason why he should be screened.
The whole dirty business is so disre-
putable that it is amazing a re-
spectable Canadian paper can be
found to defend it.

The government's wastefulness in
public printing will never be removed
or reduced until a corps of editors
can be appointed to blue pencil and
consolidate the public reports.

BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY.

Sir Leo Chiozza Money is not an
alarmist, but an acknowledged au-
thority on financial and commercial
subjects. He has written many
timely articles during the war. His
last deals with the subject of pro-
visioning Britain against any crisis
that may occur during the subma-
rine crusade which the Germans are
carrying on. Writing to Every-
man, Sir Leo says that in April of
last year he advised the arming of
the merchantmen as one means of
guarding against submarine attack.

His proposition was ridiculed, but it
was acted upon by the admiralty, and
to that fact is due the salvation of
many merchantmen. They have
been able to defend themselves suc-
cessfully. Now Sir Leo makes two
further suggestions. First, he thinks
the government should take command
of all the shipping, and, under the
direction of the admiralty, use it in
laying in stores of food which will
protect the people from any contin-
gency of the war. Next, he would
have the shipbuilding continued with
all the energy possible, and on the
ground that at the best there can
scarcely be as many new craft put in
commission as there are of craft be-
ing destroyed.

In one week recently thirty ships
were sunk. If the submarine cam-
paign be continued, and enlarged,
the time may come when the losses
will be a hundred per week. In
order to guard against all this the
shipping should be put under the ad-
miralty, and it should increase the
activities of the air and sea defences
and make the food supply an issue of
national importance. Sir Leo writes
plainly, but without desiring to cre-
ate any public alarm. The navy is
invincible, and he wants to use it
more and more for the purposes of
trade and defence, and no one will
gainsay his advice.

There is one conservative paper
that is not afraid to follow out
Sir William Meredith's advice and
call a spade a spade. This is the To-
ronto Telegram, and it is not influ-
enced by any financial considera-
tion.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The Bishop of Kingston has put
into printed form a series of ser-
mons which he recently delivered,
and dealing with "the present crisis."
The discussion of the "Signs of the
Times" is the most suggestive. The
leading thoughts are not new. They
were made the subject of a discus-
sion with the editor of the Whig not
so long ago. But their repetition
rivets them upon the mind, as some
other thoughts from friends at the
front, and close to the theatre of
war, have been made impressive.

The Church does well to counsel
as to what it should, or must, do
with the many thousands who may
return from the battle line and take
up anew in Canada the labor of life.
Many of these soldiers have already
undergone an experience, that has
completely changed their view of the
world. They write to friends in no
unhappy or pessimistic manner. Their
vision of duty, of service, of sacrifice,
has been entirely changed, and Can-
ada, and Canada's churches, must be
ready for this new view point if there
is to be any permanent benefit from
their philosophy.

The Bishop of Kingston advises
the churchmen to study the signs
of the times. These signs teach that
the Church has been astray in the
training of her people for the work
of the day. They have not learned
to endure hardness; they have been
encouraged in self-indulgence; they
have avoided disagreeable duties;
they have followed the line of the
least resistance; they put too high an
estimate on money and have made it,
in place of God, the object of their
worship. The Eternal One has,
through the war, been calling his
people to account. The result must
be an awakening to the duties of the
hour, to usefulness, to power, to
prayer, and to repentance. The
good bishop foresees the dethrone-
ment of Mammon. "Surely God,"
said he, "has made it plain that nei-
ther money nor the men who worship
money, are destined to rule the world
or to play a part in His great de-
signs."

One is left in some uncertainty as
to the forcefulness of the bishop's
concluding words. Money has been
the root of all evil, even in a war. To
afford it the place which this war de-
mands the people have been advised
to save all they can, and some know
what it is to follow faithfully this
advice. But the great lesson with
regard to money, and the wickedness
of worshipping it, has not yet been
learned by some, and the truth with

regard to this has been seen in the
profligacy, the waste, the crime,
which the records of the day reveal.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Fancy a loss of \$50,000 in proof
corrections, in amending the matter
in the government reports and docu-
ments, after it has been put in print.
A little care, and a little editing, as
far as the copy is concerned, would
save all this.

The Toronto Bureau of Municipal
Research spent about \$30,000 in
making discoveries during the last
couple of years, and what has it
found? Tommy Church rules with
the crudest of ideas that any man
can have, and he seems to represent
the enlightened sentiment of the com-
munity.

The provincial treasurer boasts
that the Ontario government has
spent \$43,000 in recruiting in this
province. How much of this money
has been spent in Kingston? What
regiments or units have received the
benefit of it? The government can-
not afford to miss any credit for what
it is doing.

Rev. M. G. Johnston, the rector of
Trinity Episcopal Church, New York,
has resigned rather than qualify his
sermons and make them acceptable
to some of his parishioners. They
disliked his reference to them as
"sinners," and he knew of no other
word that fitted into their lives and
habits so well.

The Whig has heard about preach-
ers who were expected to study their
congregations before they launched
their denunciations against sin and
society, but not until a New York
case occurred recently was there any
visible evidence of the truth of this
statement. The man in the pulpit,
it seems, must go softly in his public
discourses.

PUBLIC OPINION

The "Ifs" Again.

(Ottawa Journal.)
If Canada had had a minister of
munitions to look after Canadian in-
terests there would have been no
room for men like Allison, who are
chiefly concerned in getting rich fast,
or like Carnegie, whose last thought
seems to have been that of giving
"adequate protection" to Canadian
manufacturers.

Premier Borden's Load.

(Ottawa Free Press.)
And so the Canadian Manufac-
turers' Association through their official
paper are getting after Tory leaders
and their conduct of the shell game.
Little by little we are beginning to
understand what the Toronto News
meant the other day when it said that
Premier Borden's burdens were get-
ting intolerable.

Not Worthy of Him.

(Montreal Herald.)
Sir George Foster's misrepresenta-
tion of Mr. Graham's reference to the
increase in recruiting that might re-
sult if the bi-lingual difficulty were
settled was a contemptibly small
piece of work. Sir George knew

right well that his working partner
in 1911, Armand Lavergne, and those
of his ilk, were carrying on a propa-
ganda against recruiting, giving as
their reason the bi-lingual trouble,
and he knew, just as well, that Mr.
Graham's reference was to this. Sir
George was the first man deliberately
to lower the tone of the debate on
this most serious question, and it was
wholly unworthy of him and of the
occasion.

Railways in Deep Waters.

(Windsor Record.)
A study of the financial statements
of the C. N. R. and G. T. P. as sub-
mitted to parliament, emphasizes the
magnitude of the problem before the
country in finding some permanent
solution of the railway situation.

The Canadian Northern statement
shows a floating indebtedness of \$92,
450,883, a total bonded indebtedness
of \$358,770,798, and fixed charges
exclusive of subsidiary company and
land securities, now amounting to
\$12,989,059 per year. Net earn-
ings for the last fiscal year, with re-
newal and equipment accounts still
to be considered, amounting to only
\$7,088,160.

The Grand Trunk Pacific state-
ment shows a total interest payment
to be met during 1916 and 1917 of
\$12,324,271, a total bonded indebt-
edness of \$193,251,104, with loss in
operation of branch lines, \$300,000.
Against this there are net earnings
of only \$600,000 on the Prairie Di-
vision, and \$600,000 rental from the
Lake Superior Branch.

KINGSTON EVENTS
25 YEARS AGO

The 14th band has thirty-three mu-
sicians.

Steamer Maud towed three grain-
laden barges to Prescott, and made
the round trip in ten hours.

Police Constable Timmerman re-
ports that the dirtiest yards are in
rear of business places in the heart
of the city.

General Hospital Board announces
that it is against the regulations of
the hospital for any of the nurses to
receive gratuities.

LIBERAL PRESS.

Contest of Leaders.
(Ottawa Free Press.)

Sir Robert Borden is perfectly cor-
rect when he asserts that the Do-
minion Parliament has no right to
dictate to a province and that prob-
ably Quebec stands to lose most by a
departure from the strict line of pro-
vincial autonomy.

But having said this, are we any
nearer to the removal of the powder
barrel?
The speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier
was a plea. It was a speech that,
if made by an English-speaking Can-
adian of the same eminence, would
have been hailed by any man who
appreciates the seriousness of the sit-
uation as the voice of wisdom, as the
voice of Canadian patriotism, as the
voice of a hero whose one thought
and aim was the removal of the pow-
der barrel that threatens his beloved
country with a dreadful horror. It
was the voice of an old man, a vet-
eran statesman who has been steady
these half dozen years to lay down
the public burden that he has borne
for a quarter of a century. It was
a speech that will survive in Cana-
dian history—that is if Canadian his-
tory is not to be swallowed up in
the triumph of the Hun. It was an
appeal for sanity—sanity in Quebec,
sanity in Ontario.

Random Reels

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

THE MESSAGE.

The message is an attempt to beau-
tify man by giving him the ruddy
and ornate complexion of the boiled
lobster. Some men are naturally
endowed with a bright pink com-
plexion, particularly in the region
of the nose, and cannot be massaged
without resembling the headlight of
a Mogul engine, while others leave
the chair with the dull reddish hue
of the Kickapoo squaw.

When the massage is properly
performed by a highly-muscled bar-
ber, it is guaranteed to banish writ-
ing, crow's feet and sleep at one
fell swoop. Nobody ever went to
sleep in a barber's chair just prior
to a whole-souled massage without
waking up immediately afterward
with the sensation of being on fire
from the Adam's apple up. This is
because the massage never does its
perfect work unless it is applied at a
temperature that would make boil-
ing pitch look as cold as a woman
strange audience in a wet town. Af-
ter a man has been overlaid with
thirty-five cents' worth of hot mas-
sage, he will have some new and
valuable ideas about the future state
toward which he is tending.

It costs money to buy a massage.
because it is necessary to expend a
good deal of pink salve and elbow
grease, along with four coarse-grain-
ed Turkish towels. These towels
after being charged with live steam,
and if allowed to settle down on all
four feet will raise blisters faster
than sliding down a hay rope. It
is a heart-rending experience to be
massaged by an absent-minded bar-
ber who has just come in from the
hay field with calloused hands, and
who piles on the towels until the cus-
tomer has to breathe through his
ears, like a fish. This is why it is
always better to be massaged by a
lady barber, who knows more than
one to undermine a good, serviceable
complexion, which is harder to re-
place than confidence in a busted
stock company.

The barber always knows when a
customer is in love, for he wants to
be massaged four times a week and
be left looking like a peony bed. The
courts have held that when a mar-
ried man has a face massage often-
er than once in three weeks it is
prima facie evidence that he is liv-
ing a dual life. If more wives
would make a note-book entry of ev-
ery time their husband has a massage
and brandish it in his face, there
would be less gallivanting on the
part of restless and untamed married
men.

Rippling Rhymes

DANDELIONS

Upon my lawn, I know not why, the dandelions
thrive; the grass may all curl up and die, but they'll
remain alive. I've tried about a million plans; to
have the vile things slain; and all the schemes were
also-rans and all my efforts vain. The fair petunias
that I bought, at fabulous expense, the sweet begonias
from the Netherlands, they all have died the death,
but still the dandelion stands, disfiguring the heath.
My vine and figtree withered away, the rosebush
passed away, the fern that grew in yonder jar shows
symptoms of decay; the lilac, when the nights were
cold, turned up its tender toes, and still the dande-
lion bold, its streak of yellow shows. If dandelions
were desired, if they would bring in mon, if every
gardener aspired to raise them by the ton, they'd
make a specialty of death, they'd languish from their birth, and shrivel
at the slightest breath, and perish from the earth.

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