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SERVING THE GERMANS.

The minister of mines, the Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, is annoyed over the report that the German submarine Deutschland will load Canadiana nickel to the value of about \$600,000 for return cargo. The nickel is on a point on the Chesapeake Bay where it has been accumulating for some time. Mr. Ferguson's argument is that the International Nickel Co. has given a guarantee that not a pound of Canadian nickel shall be shipped to Germany, and he proceeds to soothe or dope the people by declaring that the imperial government is entirely satisfied with the arrangement.

But Mr. Maclean, M.P., who has ably seconded Judge Barron in the discussion of the question, is assured that the nickel is Canadian because Canada has a monopoly of the metal in America, and Germany is being supplied with this ore through the diplomacy or duplicity of her friends.

When one of the Germans, Mr. Hilkin, interested in the marine service, was asked if the Deutschland would return to Germany with a cargo of rubber and nickel, he replied facetiously, "It will be four o'clock in the morning in August or September." That is the reply the enemy would be expected to make. If the nickel be not Canadian in its origin, where did the pile on a point in the Chesapeake Bay come from? Mr. Ferguson says about a thousand tons of nickel are made annually from the bye products of copper. Is the cargo on the Chesapeake Bay made up of this particular nickel? The army of secret service officers, to which Mr. Ferguson refers, if any good, should be able to settle this question.

Mr. Maclean is in dead earnest in demanding that Canada shall control the export of her nickel. He promises some further revelations if the local and federal governments do not wake up. "It is necessary that further representations should be made," he writes, "it may mean a short shift for the great Conservative party, the bulk of whose members, we believe, are absolutely patriotic on this subject." He says that the people resent what has taken place in the past, and are determined that Canadians shall manage the refining of their nickel ore, shall market and have complete control of it, and that none of it shall ever again fall into the hands of an enemy country like Germany. Strong but expressive language.

The Stratford Herald quotes the Premier and his Attorney-General as saying that the Prohibition Act is a war measure only and that they will be guided by the will of the people when the time for the referendum comes. Hedging on the subject already, eh? Intimating that they are ready for a backdown or retreat? Too late. The die is cast.

MR. HEARST'S TROUBLES.

The disappointment and grief of Hon. Mr. Hearst over the result of the election in North Perth is deeper than any one outside of the man himself has any idea of. An aspect of it came out in a local discussion, and through the observations of a conservative who knows Mr. Hearst very well. He said the premier, although personally likeable, genial, progressive and amiable in his manner, was not the choice of the party or that section of it which is represented by the conservative members of the house. He was, on the contrary, the compromise candidate, and because two

greater men, Sir Adam Beck and Hon. Mr. Hanna, could not win out. The result is a government which is not directed by one of masterly mind, and one who was elected because he was believed to be the best or only available man for the office. Mr. Hearst is not "the" strong man of the cabinet. He is one of several. The others assert superiority, occasionally and with embarrassing effects. There has been friction, difficulty and dissension in the government.

Prior to the last session Hon. Mr. Ferguson took it upon himself to assume great responsibilities with regard to the power question, and in doing so he came into direct collision with the chairman of the Hydro Commission. This was followed by the challenging of the accounts of the commission and the appointment of a controller of its finances. The final act was the curtailment of the commission's power and the assumption by the government of the "last word" in power deals and contracts.

The climax was reached in the liquor deal. The license holders say that they helped to sustain the government in the last election. They contributed their energy and means to the killing of prohibition. They thought they had finished it. Then, to their great surprise, Mr. Hearst announced that he was in favor of immediately adopting it. He seems to have concluded that it was coming anyway, that it was an issue of the war, and, in a subterfuge of having it forced on him, he acted hastily and surprised his political friends by the vigor of his course.

Did he use his position to make his colleagues accept of his dictum? Did he commit the strong men of the government to the prohibition policy before he consulted them? Did he cross the bridge, between prohibition and anti-prohibition, and burn this bridge, so that there could not be any retreat on the part of himself or his colleagues? That is the surmise, and there is guinness all over the province since the North Perth election which is without a precedent. The conservatives do not want to talk politics. If they must do it they confess among themselves that there is something wrong with the government, and the sooner they discover what it is the better.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Deseronto's loss by fire, and to the extent of wiping out its woodenware factory, is a serious one. The little town cannot afford visitations of this kind, with the disaster which attends them.

A direct tax by the federal government for Patriotic Fund purposes. That is the prospect. With special and direct taxes the people have become pretty well used already. The city and the province have blazed the way.

The recruiting meetings planned for Kingston have been a failure. They did not even materialize. What is wanted is an organization, with a plan and a purpose, under the direction or influence of ministers of the government.

The discontent and disorder among the London soldiers indicate a regrettable lack of discipline. Is the fault wholly theirs, or does some of it lie with the Militia Department? Recruits should not be detained too long at home inactive or inert.

The nation that can only use, for trading purposes, submarines that dive and disappear when they approach their craft, is not likely to supplant Britain in the control of the seas. The Kaiser is welcome in his master stroke in naval architecture.

Sir Adam Beck is perhaps well out of the local government under the circumstances. The Hydro Commission will survive the Hearst Government. But it will not be an arbitrary institution, and it will not throttle everything in the way of private power enterprise.

The tendency is to throw the responsibility of defeat, in the last bye-election, upon Hon. Mr. Hearst. He was not the choice of the party for the premiership, it is said. Just found this out now. A little cabal in Toronto decides to run things with high hands and falls, and the leader must go. Is that it?

The ministers who invaded North Perth, and deluged it with their small talk were not surprised with the results of the election! Nor will they be surprised with the results of the general election later on. The people have pretty well made up their minds what they will do with this precious combination.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Kingston Orangemen paraded to Chalmers Church. Rev. M. Macgillivray delivered the sermon. The Separate School Board will award tenders for a new school of four rooms, a large hall, with apartments for the caretaker. The contract for the masonry work at the House of Providence has been awarded to George Newlands.

PUBLIC OPINION

Very Busy All Around. (Montreal News) Germany is now busy on all her fronts. She'll be on her back soon.

A Patriotic City. (Windsor Record) Since November of last year Windsor has raised a \$230,000 for patriotic purposes. Not a bad record, what?

Putting on Style. (Hamilton Times) New York is going to have a "splash" week when everybody is expected to take a bath whether they need it or not.

Hamilton is Airt. (Hamilton Spectator) That new high water mark—\$4,000—set by the Board of Education when it engaged that technical expert, looks like a costly move, judging by the way the old employees are endeavoring to get in the running.

LIBERAL PRESS. Great Change in Votes.

Toronto Globe. Mr. May's election is no more a triumph for the liquor interests than Mr. Makin's election would have been a triumph for prohibition. The truth is that Ontario is tiring of the sort of Government that is provided from Queen's Park, and is turning toward Mr. Rowell as the ablest man in the public life of the province. Ever since the death of Sir James Whitney this tendency has been marked. No other meaning could be read into the bye-election of 1914 in West Hamilton, when a Conservative majority of 1,411 in June was reduced to 36 in November. In Dunsmuir, when a successor to Sir James was elected, the Conservative majority of 673 shrank to 62. In Peel, where Mr. Fallis' horse-trading methods alienated hundreds of Conservative electors, a Conservative majority of 627 in June, 1914, was changed to a Liberal majority of 395 in February, 1916. North Perth is but another example of a tendency that was clearly marked long before any breach occurred between the liquor interests and the Government and when the reason advanced by Conservatives for the turnover in North Perth was not operative. Ontario, by these remarkable reversals of majorities, is trying to wake the Seven Sleepers of Queen's Park.

War Expenditures.

Ottawa Free Press. On the authority of a Toronto newspaper and without confirmation, the Free Press made the statement the other day that "Canada has been financing its own war expenditure for nearly a year." This, C. M. Giddard, of the Canadian Liberal Headquarters, informs us, is not quite correct. The last issue of the Canada Gazette, we find, contains the following item in the Dominion financial statement: "Temporary loans, \$189,207,017." Debiting \$45,000,000 from this (the short loan made in August, 1915, in New York), there is left a balance of \$144,207,017. This balance was advanced to the Dominion at the outset of the war by the British Government for the purpose of financing Canadian war expenditures. The whole of it, we are officially informed, has been gradually taken by Canada as needed, some of it during the past year.

Sickness is often a mask worn by lazy people.

Random Reels

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

THE TURKISH BATH.

The Turkish Bath is a successful method of finding out what purgative feels like.

Long before the people of this country had come to know and love Turkey it was the custom in that strange land to take a bath every once in a while. The peaceful, hyena-hearted subjects of the Sultan tried out several kinds of baths before lighting on the one which has brought comfort to so many burdened souls and volcanic stomachs. They tried out the sponge bath and the wash-basin room and located at once on its virtues and the tub bath and the mud tin, which it proceeds to parboil at bath and the alcohol rub, but slow and easy stages. When the none seemed to meet the needs of low stage and can hardly be told from a tomato salad, the steam is still used in Turkey at painful and irregular intervals. The Turkish bath was brought to this country to stimulate the crop and uses it as a draw shave. This of total abstainers and has been an efficacious aid to temperance. After a long tow with a sand-paper finish is one of the most soothing proffered aid to temperance. After a long tow with a sand-paper finish is one of the most soothing proffered aid to temperance. After a long tow with a sand-paper finish is one of the most soothing proffered aid to temperance.

Rippling Rhymes

CAMPAIGN WHISKERS

The statesman Hughes, as all men know, lets his alfalfa always grow; no richer growth has been produced, and there the robins come to roost. And Fairbanks, too, who hopes to win, has ballast on his shapely chin, and Marshall wears a long moustache, to strain his soup and corn beef hash. But there is comfort in this thought: There are no sideboards in the lot. More proudly would our banner wave, if all the candidates would shave, for whiskers indicate a mind unfitted for a statesman's grind. I greatly fear one can't command the confidence of this broad land, or reach the people's trusting heart, if whiskers have a place or part. Yet there is solace in this bunched; There are no sideboards in the bunch. I'd view this summer's thrilling fight with more of rapture and delight, if all the candidates would go to barbershops, where artists mow the spinach off for fifteen cents, and make men look like human gent's. I cannot whoop for those who wear a package of ingrowing hair. Yet this one fact must be allowed: There are no sideboards in the crowd.



WILLY MASCH

AMERICAN PRESS.

A Japanese Move.

Rochester Post-Express. Japan and Russia have mutually agreed, as announced at Petrograd, that neither will take part in any arrangement or political combination against the other and that they will consult and co-operate whenever the interests of either one are menaced. The meaning of this convention appears to be that the contracting parties propose to assert and maintain those favored nation relations with China to which they consider themselves entitled. Perhaps it may be taken as a polite announcement of Japan's Okuma doctrine so to call it, of the nature of our Monroe doctrine, warning the Western nations not to exploit the Orient. In any event it can be taken as a hint that the powers which question the right of the contracting parties to dominate their spheres of influence in China will invite trouble on themselves. The arrangement may make for peace; for if Japan has interests enough near home to keep her busy and make an outlet for her manufactures, she may be less concerned to get a foothold in our hemisphere.

CONSERVATIVE PRESS.

The Thumping Class.

Toronto Telegram. Ontario mourns that Hon. I. B. Lucas and Hon. W. J. Hanna should have respectively sniffed treason and threatened "perfidies" in the case against F. Wellington Hay, the Liberal candidate in North Perth. In Mr. Lucas and Mr. Hanna are a pair of Prussian State councillors and Sir Sam Hughes, K.C.B., is the Kaiser, then the orators at Stratford were right in tearing passion to tatters and otherwise reducing the discussion of public affairs into a similitude of the trial scene of Bardell vs. Pickwick. If Stratford be a portion of a British country, criticism of Sir Sam Hughes, K.C.B., is no crime. Hon. I. B. Lucas and Hon. W. J. Hanna put themselves in the tub thumping class of H. B. Morphy, M.P., with their attempts at PLAT-FORM PRUSSIANISM.

WESTERN GRAINS COMING ON WELL.

Improved Weather Conditions Are Causing Rapid Growth.

Regina, Sask., July 12.—The Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture in the fortnightly crop report, issued to-day, states that all crops are making good progress. Wheat ranges from eight inches in height in the Eastern central districts to 30 inches in the Prince Albert and Battleford districts. A small percentage of the wheat is now in the shot blade, and all other grains are making rapid growth under improved weather conditions prevailing generally during the past week. Damage from hail is reported from Humboldt, Cadillac, Battrum, and along the Saskatchewan river for several miles, south of Swift Current, and west to Gull Lake, but in no place has the damage been serious. Heavy rainfalls and high winds have been general, and have delayed plowing of summer fallows and breaking. Weeds are showing up badly on unplowed lands. Continued hot weather with little or no rain is now required for all crops to accelerate maturity and bring the crops through early. All hay crops have every appearance of a heavy yield. Alfalfa is especially good.

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