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SEVENTH YEAR



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BIDDING FOR OUR GRAIN.

The Port Arthur Chronicle, discussing the greatly increased transshipment of Canadian grain via the Great Lakes, regrets that so large a part of it finds its way to tide water via Buffalo and New York, or Oswego and New York.

To begin with, 57 per cent. of last year's crop went in American bottoms, and of the shipments in Canadian bottoms, a large proportion of them was diverted from Canada through the Erie Canal.

Two thoughts follow. One, is that the Welland Canal, in its enlarged condition, will be unable in the coming years to cope with the demands of trade, and that Canada may have to give early and serious attention to the Georgian Bay project. This means the retention in Canada, of the shipment, through Canada, of grain. Attention is called to the fact that the Americans are now causing a survey of the Buffalo-Oswego district with a view of having a waterway or barge canal built "along the most practicable route between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, and one large enough to admit the greater vessels now in use on the lakes."

This would mean that, notwithstanding the efforts of the Canadians to find outlet for the annually increasing, and sometimes enormous, grain crops, the Americans are figuring on buying and diverting a large share of them, and by the Oswego canal. It is not a new project. The first survey in connection with it was made in 1852.

Considerable attention is now being paid to the soldier vote, and the size and importance of it. Is this another sign of an election? The ballots were printed and shipped to England months ago, as the federal government anticipated the use of them.

FAILURE AND DELINQUENCY. On Sunday last at Papineauville, Que., there was a Nationalist meeting. The name of the village is suggestive. It perpetuates the memory of one of Quebec's greatest patriots, Papineau. He was the grandfather of Capt. Papineau who is now serving his province and country in the war. This young Papineau wrote to his "dear cousin" recently, and in the letter pointed out that Bourassa was not acting the better part, nor the patriotic part, that in the long run he would suffer because of his attitude in this war.

The point of significance in Bourassa's speech at Papineauville was that he and his fellow French-Canadians were endeavoring to "preserve their language." They were willing to fight for it. Fighting in Canada over the preservation of the language, and refusing to enlist with the Allies, across the ocean, and fight for France and the French language!

The inconsistency of this course is quite apparent. Bourassa was in France when the war broke out. He should have stayed there. He should have shouldered his musket and gone to the trenches with others of his countrymen. Instead of that he was one of the first to seek the good offices of the Canadian agent in Paris and ask for a safe transport to Canada. He has been discouraging recruiting ever since. To him and to his political friends is due the lethargy of the French-Canadian people, and their failure to enlist for military service.

On Bourassa will rest eventually the onus of any consequences which

may follow this failure. His place is at the front, fighting for his Mother Country, and in defense of her honor, her very existence, as well as her language.

A high commission is suggested for the settlement of the new Canadian-American fishery question: Is there nothing the federal government can do? Commissions are expensive things and they seldom accomplish anything.

USING STRONG SPEECH.

Congress fortunately undid, or repealed, or repudiated, some of the retaliatory legislation which it adopted in a hurry. The State Department had much to do with the re-awakening and the return of representatives and senators to common sense. Two of the proposed amendments, to the Revenue Bill, went as quickly as they had been approved—the amendment that suggested reprisals on account of England's examination of the mails, and the amendment prohibiting the importation of salmon and halibut into the United States through Canadian territory, except in bond.

Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, made the fur fly, metaphorically speaking, when he assailed these amendments and said:

"You hypocrites! You claim that you are devoted to the cause of humanity and despite the cause of commercialism! Then why don't you pass an amendment refusing our harbors to Germany's interned ships until she repudiates her Lusitania crime? Why do you pass amendments which even you admit can serve no other end than the stuffing of sordid pockets already bulging with the golden harvest of our fellowmen's misery?"

"What has Congress done? Your only protests have been aimed at the Allies, who are fighting our fight and the fight of civilization. The maniac Casement failed in his attempt to stab in the back 200,000 gallant Irishmen fighting for civilization on Flanders' blood-soaked trenches; you strove to stay the hand of justice.

"And now you pass your paltry threats, which secretly you believe and hope are empty. Pass them! Nag and hinder the Allies if you will! Bring a satisfied grin to the hideous face of hatred; feed another snarl to the nasty countenance of spite—but remember that for every grin and every snarl feature Americans must pay a million fold in blushes!"

Strong language but language that circumstances justify. It was charged wrongfully that Canadians had lobbied on the fishery question. The State Department was represented in Washington by a deputation of officials who stated the facts, and the State Department at Washington was enabled to remove some of the misunderstandings that prevailed. But there was no lobby so far as Canada was concerned. There was a lobby of Germans, a shameless lobby, and one that affected even the president, who is very obedient to public opinion these days, and is eager to hear anything that will affect his election next November.

It is proposed to substitute Russian for German in the high school curriculum. To what purpose? Canada's trade with Russia will be of a negligible quantity. Of course, Germany's will be less, if present plans work out correctly.

ROBBING THE COUNTRY

Canadian looseness, in the awarding of war contracts, is not to be justified by an experience "at home," and the fact that scandals have been multiplying in England, and that the government is open to the keenest censure because of them, only illustrates the more the presence and propensities of the grafters everywhere.

The Financial News is an independent paper, politically, and is competent to criticize passing events. It recalls the splotter, the clothing, and the refreshment contracts, which have been partially robbed, and in the face of evidentascalities demands that every branch of the public service be subjected to the lime-light. It adds:

"Where there is plunger to be had on account of incompetence in high quarters persons to take advantage of the position are certain to be found. But the government, with all the power which they can yield, allowed themselves, or the nation, to be fleeced. It is greatly to be regretted," says the Committee, "that no such system seems to have been adopted before the war, in order to break down rings which were known to exist among contractors. What the public should now insist upon is the names of those firms whose combination has been broken up, and further light should be thrown upon the scandal of hut-contracting."

Canada contemplates the re-erection (not the restoration any more) of the parliament buildings at Ottawa, and on the percentage plan. It has England's experience before it. The Imperial government gave out hut contracts to many friends upon the percentage plan. The total expenditure was £11,474,000; the establishment or plant charges were £182,500; the commission was £402,500. There was no fixed plan for proceeding. Some of the firms were given a per centage upon the establishment charges only, and these range from one and a half to two and a half per cent. The others added four and five per cent for commission. Some of the contractors

were patriotic about their services. They did not charge for their time and talents, but they looked for a refund of their out-of-pocket expenses. Still others planned to "do" the government to the utmost, and they succeeded only too well.

The demand now is that the ban be lifted by the Public Accounts Committee from everything, that the hush-up policy of the government be abandoned, and that the people be told exactly what has been going on. Ministers may plead that they have been busy and could not oversee everything, and they trusted their subordinate officers. But they are responsible all the same for the shameful manner in which the country has been robbed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is talk of reading conservative and liberal papers out of the parties which they have served because of their independent views. This is surely ridiculous. The independence of the press is the surest sign of a healthy public opinion.

If the federal government of this day were as considerate of Canadian talents and engineering as the Laurier government was when the Quebec bridge contract was awarded a firm of Americans would not be building the Lindsay arsenal to-day. No one dare assert that Canadian contractors cannot do this work.

The question of replacing German with Russian, in the high schools, is to be left to the decision of Dr. Pyne, and he is conveniently out of the country. If in it, he would have no desire, like his colleagues in the government, to put his ear to the ground. The doctor has no particular call to hear anything that is discrediting in its character.

Mr. Garretson, of the Brotherhood of Conductors, says that the government must take over, and own and operate, the roads which private corporations cannot make pay. Is there anything in the public experience that justifies the expectation that the government can operate a railway successfully when a private corporation cannot?

Five years ago a staff member of the Toronto News took off his hat to Bourassa and pronounced him "a healthy-minded, independent, Canadian, who cannot be induced to sell his principles for a financial and political consideration." Now the News despises and disowns Bourassa. What has he done meanwhile to deserve this treatment?

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

There is an agitation to have the houses in the city numbered. J. McCaul, Williamsville, found a potato in his garden weighing two pounds.

B. W. Folger says the electric light company will not make any money lighting the city all night with electricity for 30 cents a lamp.

WHY FISH GOES THROUGH CANADA

Toronto News (Con.). Seattle has failed to eliminate Prince Rupert as the headquarters of the Pacific Coast halibut trade. This is the meaning of the announcement from Washington that Congress has rejected the proposal to prohibit the entry of halibut or salmon through a foreign country except in bond from an American port. Prince Rupert lies 600 miles nearer to Seattle to the halibut fishing grounds of the Northern Pacific. When the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was completed to the coast the halibut fleet, which has always outfitted, secured bait, and landed its catches at Seattle, made the northerly Canadian seaport its rendezvous.

The Ottawa Government facilitated the Canadianization of the industry by passing an order-in-council regarding halibut privileges and the landing of fish. In two or three months the quantity of fish landed at Prince Rupert jumped from 1,000,000 pounds to 12,000,000 and 14,000,000 pounds. The fishermen are pleased because they save several days on the journeys to and from the banks and are able to land their catches in prime condition for shipment in ice to the

Rippling Rhymes

CONTENTMENT

Contentment isn't often seen where men have bundles of long green. The more a man requires, it seems, the more does worry, haunt his dreams, and every millionaire I know looks like a cheap slytype of woe. I have a friend who once was broke; then he considered life a joke; he filled the air with gladness song, and no one laughed so loud or long. It was a joy to meet him then; he was a tonic to sad men. But fortune slipped around by stealth, and loaded him with unearned wealth. He comes to see me now and then—I wish he'd never come again—and talks so much of dole and gloom, of properties that ceased to boom, of plants requiring ready cash. Investments which have gone kersplash, the grief that capital endures, the grief no legislature cures—he talks so much along this line, and puts up such a bitter whine, that when he leaves my humble door, my feet are chilled, my heart is sore. Your wealth will buy a lot of things; all kinds of luxuries it brings, but you can't take it to the mart and buy a glad, contented heart.

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AMERICAN AND OUR GRAIN TRADE

Eastern Canadian and American markets. Prince Rupert has had the feet for nearly two years. During all of this time the people of Seattle have lobbied at Washington for action which would force the American halibut industry back home. Last week it looked as if anger over the Allied blockade, the lobbyist would prevail, but at the last moment Congress decided against interference. Prince Rupert will keep the pre-eminence in the halibut fishing industry to which its natural position and its railway facilities entitle it. Incidentally the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway will retain a highly remunerative carrying trade.

AMERICAN AND OUR GRAIN TRADE

Port Arthur Chronicle. The statistics of the grain shipments from Port Arthur and Fort William published yesterday and today are matters for congratulation and reflection.

In the crop year 1913-1914 (Sept. 1st, 1913, to August 31st, 1914) the volume of grain of all kinds shipped from the two cities was 188,405,797 bushels, which was much the highest point reached up to that time. In the following crop year, owing to the poor harvest of 1914, it fell to 101,036,408 bushels. In the twelve months ended August 31st this year, the amazing total was 330,771,307 bushels. It would have been greater if all of last year's production had been shipped, but there are millions of bushels still in the west, which will swell the figures for the crop year 1916-1917.

There is a side to this not so flattering to national pride. Fifty-seven per cent. of the wheat was carried in the past crop year in United States vessels, all of it to United States ports, chiefly Buffalo, for export to Europe. In addition a large proportion of the grain shipped in Canadian bottoms went through American channels after being discharged. Despite the many millions spent on Canadian waterways, the greater part of the profits of transporting Canadian grain was not retained in the country. Many are doubtful whether the deepening of the Welland Canal will be even a partial remedy. It may merely divert cargoes from Buffalo to Oswego. From the latter it is a shorter haul to tidewater than from Buffalo. The problem is to get Canadian grain to Canadian seaports more cheaply than to American seaports, and there is no proof that it is being solved.

CANADA'S NEXT GENERAL ELECTION

Toronto Star, (Lab.).

While we may be amused at Mr. Rogers' anxiety to bring on a general election at an early date, we ought to bear in mind that the general election for Canada is not very far away. The present Parliament of Canada would have expired on October 7th, 1916, if it had not instructed the British Parliament to extend the term for a year. The extension carries us forward to October 7th, 1917. It was supposed that it would carry us over the war, and allow Canadian soldiers to vote at home, amid their natural surroundings. But now we are not quite so sure of that. The Allies are growing optimistic, and with good reason. Yet the war may drag on through the year 1917. Is there to be a general election in Canada in or before October, 1917, or must the life of Parliament be extended again?

The decision of this question cannot be postponed very long. The question must be decided in the next session of the Parliament of Canada—soon after next Christmas. Unless that Parliament decides otherwise, there must be an election in the summer or fall of 1917. If a further extension is required, fresh Canadian instructions must be sent to the Parliament at Westminster.

MR. WILSON DOES MORE HEDGING

Toronto News (Con.).

The British Empire and its Allies are fighting for the ideals of human freedom embodied in the American Constitution. While we do this the people of the United States grow rich on the war-time trade furnished by the Allies. In order to win the victory in which Americans are interested equally with us, a blockade of Germany was instituted. The Washington Government threatens retaliation against the trade of the Allies. Mr. Wilson may win hyperbatic votes by this action, but cannot hope for the approval of Americans whose sympathy continues to favor the forces of civilization and constitutional liberty.

Designate yesterday as the day of doubt—to-day the one of hope.

Bibbys Boys Clothing & Toggery. If you will take pains to investigate you will soon discover that the best dressed boys you see anywhere are the boys we clothe. We carry an immense stock of boys' good clothes, and we believe that we can do it a little better than any one else. Come see what you think. New Military Norfolks. Sizes 26 to 35. \$5.50 to \$14.00. See Bibbys \$3.75 Boys' Suits. Sizes 29 to 33. Pure wool English tweeds; double breasted coats. Straight knickers. Boys' Caps, Boys' Shirts, Boys' Stockings, Boys' Collars, Boys' Sweaters. See Bibbys High School Suits, \$7.50. Sizes 29 to 34. New Norfolk Patch Pockets; sewn on Belts. Knickers are the new Bloomer style. Newest patterns and fabrics. See our boys' Balmacaan Overcoats. Bibbys :: Limited. 78-80-82 Princess Street. :: :: :: Kingston, Ont.

Random Reels. "Of Shoes and Ships, and Sailing Wax, of Cabbages and Kings." SPECTACLES. Spectacles are an effort on the part of man to get extra mileage out of the human eye. When a man's eyes have been hammered over the road for a number of years and allowed to rest on everything from the German umbrella to the scarf dance they become worn in spots and have to be tried up by a specialist. This true-up process is very trying to the patient, but does not injure the specialist in the least, as the advance deposit will usually take care of all of the expense and allow 70 per cent for overhead. Spectacles are worn on the bridge of the nose, thence running due south over each ear lobe, where they dangle with conscious grace and cause small, feverish blisters to arise. The most important part of spectacles is the glass which comes with each set. This varies from the double window pane variety to the modest bull's eye, which magnifies all objects with which it comes in contact. If more married men would wear magnifying glasses as a rule of conduct they would be more satisfied with their wives and not be hunting around for evidences of platonic friendship. Spectacles do not add a great deal to the looks of the wearer, except that they often impart an intellectual cast which is not borne out by closer acquaintance. A great many people whose eyes are completely in plumb wear gold-bowed spectacles in order to secure a reputation for sagacity and deep thought, and find that it pays better than allowing the hair to fall on their necks in long ringlets or donning a Lord Byron collar. Spectacles attached to the severe, meditative countenance are worth more as a pledge of ripe scholarship than an Oxford degree. Specialists often impart an intellectual cast which is not borne out by closer acquaintance. Some people object to the clinging tendrils of the spectacle and take up with nose glasses. The nose glass is intended purely for decorative purposes. It is very uneasy device and cannot fall six inches from its resting place without breaking both legs. All eye specialists recommend that nose glasses be made of the thinnest glass on the market, so that when dropped on a velvet rug there will be nothing saved but the string. Many a man has had a new pair of eye glasses shattered on a cement walk and has had his eyesight considerably improved while waiting for their return. Spectacles are all right on certain occasions, but they never can take the place of the double-barreled opera glass at the comic opera.

NEW CLOVER HONEY. In the Comb: Sections each 20c Strained: Glasses, each 20c Pint Sealers, each 30c Quart Sealers, each 50c 5 lb. Tins, each 70c 10 lb. Tins, each \$1.30 JAS. REDDEN & CO. Phones 20 - 990 FOR SALE Farm of 200 acres— 180 acres of good plow land about 8 miles from Kingston. 100 acres, 4 miles from city, good buildings, bank barn. W. H. GODWIN & SON Phone 424 39 Brock St. J. M. Tellier, former leader of the Conservative Opposition in Quebec Province, will become Judge of the Superior Court of Montreal, to succeed the late Judge Charbonneau. Dominion Fish Co. Bulk Oysters. Phone 520. FRUIT JARS. We Have the Best. Spices and Vinegar. Pure and Fresh. Jar Rings, Corks and Parawax, at PICKERING'S 490 and 492 Princess St. Phone 530. SAY. Have you had your photo taken at Weese's new studio? FRAMES. Gilt, mission, mahogany, walnut, etc., frames reglided. PIANO. One at a Bargain. WEESE CO. 168 PRINCESS STREET.