

# THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Friday, January 8, 1915.

## EDITORIALS

The report is again gaining ground that Premier McBride will shortly enter the Federal Cabinet as Minister of Marine, and that a provincial election will first be held so that the party may have whatever assistance the Premier can render. While most of the coarse work done in this province can be largely charged to the Attorney General, the Premier cannot wholly escape in that it was through his weakness, if not his connivance, that the wrongs were done. The people cannot forget that it was the Premier who has strangled this province with advances to the C. N. R. and that it was he, too, who is responsible for the land policy that has prevented the development of the rural districts while the speculators built up abnormal cities that are now toppling down.

The Conservatives will have to play with variations the old tune that McBride found the country embarrassed financially and that he not only restored this but had \$13,000,000 in the banks—unless they mean banks of muskeg. When the McBride government took hold of this province all her resources were intact. Who cares if for the meantime she was short in cash so long as her lands and timber were

worth millions. The McBride government will go out of office with not only a depleted treasury, but the province sunk to her ears in debt and most of her resources cast to the winds. McBride lost the opportunity of centuries. He came on the stage when prosperity was passing through Canada like a whirlwind and had he the least spark of statesmanship he would have placed this province on a pinnacle that that would resound his greatness throughout the ages. Instead of that, he will have the ill-repute of all succeeding generations piled on his white head.

Will Attorney General Bowser attempt to assume the reins of government in case of McBride's translation? Such presumption can hardly be put beyond him. Yet if the people have anything to say about it his chances are very slim. An Attorney General who admitted that he knew the Dominion Trust was insolvent for two years and yet did all in his power to enable them to take deposits from the people against the law is hardly the man that any country wants at the head of its affairs. The people who lost their hard-earned money through the Dominion Trust Company are

hardly likely to have very much use for W. J. Bowser, either as a man or as an official.

### WAR IS A BLESSING, STARTLING REMARK OF MR. H. H. STEVENS

Declares That Peace Has Not All the Good Attributes That Have Been Claimed for It.

"Peace is the breeder of vice and morality; war is the harbinger of virtue and a high standard of thought," was the startling statement made by Mr. H. H. Stevens, M. P., addressing the congregation of the Trinity Methodist Church at 1838 Seventh Avenue East, Vancouver. The speaker quoted several trite phrases which are frequently heard, such as "Peace and Plenty," "Peace and Learning" and so on but stated that history had borne out the contradictory phrases "Peace and Oppression," "Peace and Sensuality." During the past quarter century the world has experienced such peace as was never before known. Has the result been an increase in the world's standard of living, an upward tendency in morals? The speaker declared that the youngest boy or girl present could speak with confidence to the contrary. There had been an increase in viciousness. Peace has not given the stimulus to higher things, but rather the reverse. The world had been living too luxuriously and too easily.

It had been observed in all ages that those who live in luxury are usually the oppressors of the poor. Ruskin, said the speaker, has observed that "it is worthier to live by war than by play, to ride a war horse than a race horse, to fight with one's neighbor than to cheat him." War, declared Mr. Stevens, brings out the best in mankind. There was never a time, he said, when greater sympathy was shown by the stronger nations for the stricken ones, than at present. One of the blessings of the war would be that a large number of persons "would find themselves." That is to say, they would be weaned away from the sloth of indifference into which they had been led by past luxury and ease. The basic principles of the national character will reassert themselves. The nation will be better for having performed its duty in this present world crisis with every confidence and with all honor.

### DUNDREARY WEEPERS TO ORNAMENT ARMY

Facial Foliage to Combine Kaiser's Mustache and Josef's Whiskers.

Paris, Jan. 8.—Here are two daily fashion hints from Berlin as they are published in Paris: Dundreary weepers are the proper face ornaments for soldiers, according to a recommendation made by a barbers' conference just held in Berlin. The barbers decided that the ideal toward which they would strive were whiskers resembling the Austrian Emperor's, combined with the upturned mustache of the German Kaiser.

### ROOSEVELT WOULD SOLVE INTERNATIONAL WOES

Declares, However, He Did Not Say Germany Would Win the War.

London, Jan. 7.—The Morning Post publishes a long interview, which its special correspondent, A. Belcher, had with Colonel Roosevelt recently at Oyster Bay. When asked for his views the ex-President replied: "I am just a plain American citizen and can say anything I like about any subject in the world, so fire away."

"Is it true you informed a German professor the other day that Germany was bound to win the war?" I asked him.

"That's another lie," he replied emphatically. "What happened was this: The professor came to see me and sketched his ideas of the war. He told me Germany had beat back Russia and would bring France to her knees and by next summer would hold the channel. 'Then,' he said, 'we shall pour troops into England and capture London.'"

"Yes," I said, "and then you will have to fight America."

"Why?" asked the professor. "Because, if we don't fight, you will treat us as you have treated Belgium."

"But what is the use of contradicting lies like this. It only draws public attention to what an intelligent man knows is wild invention."

"I asked him to give his views on America's foreign policy, particularly as it affects the Far East."

"Lamentable," he exclaimed.

"Take the question of Japan. I am convinced the only way to deal with Japan is by a combination of firmness and courtesy. That was my reason for concluding the agreement of 1907, for the absolute exclusion of further Japanese labor from the Pacific Coast, but otherwise we must use the most scrupulous courtesy in our dealings with a highly civilized and sensitive nation."

"Our relations with Japan were then perfectly cordial, because we were agreed upon reciprocal treatment. I knew then that cultured Japanese gentlemen might mix on perfectly equal terms with any American and Japan wanted to know if we would welcome her students, her travelers, her scientists and her business firms on an absolutely reciprocal basis, but now, whether dealing with Japan or any other nation, we have neither firmness nor courtesy."

"The Democratic party is so afraid of the labor vote they allow the unions of California to insult Japan. Then we give illusory promises of pacific intentions from Washington. Of course, we are pacific, but our present policy is criminal. When our navy is totally inadequate for defensive purposes, what can you expect when the Secretary of State lives in the clouds—no, not in the clouds, but in the world of tenth-rate fiction."

"Col. Roosevelt smiled at the idea of Japanese duplicity, as he regarded the steady, relentless hatred of Germany for the last nineteen years as the real reason for

Japanese entry into the war and he saw no reason why Japan should not keep Tsingtau.

"I asked if there were any adjustment of territory possible which could relieve the situation and added that I heard it suggested in several quarters in Washington that the sale of the Philippines might do this. Col. Roosevelt laughed.

"Ah, there you have the Democratic policy. We have stolen the Philippines; now let us sell them to the highest bidder."

"Is it true, as was recently reported, that you are in favor of leaving the Philippines?" I asked.

"I am in favor either of governing them or getting out of them. Since our occupation we have governed the Philippines a little better than Cramer did the Sudan."

"If America leaves the Philippines how long will they keep their independence? Just until Japan steps in and annexes the country. For the rest of them, I think they would prefer to be under the American flag."

### NEW BUILDERS' SCALE.

Employers' Exchange Announces Rates Its Members Propose to pay.

Vancouver, Jan. 4.—The members of the Vancouver Builders' Exchange have revised their scale of wages for the various building trades. A meeting was held on Tuesday at which the change was made, and it was unanimously decided to take action in this regard "with the object of placing the scale on a more reasonable and fair basis."

The scale, which was to take effect on January 1, is given below. It was stated at the meeting that Vancouver and San Francisco were the only two cities on the continent with such a high rate of wages. Montreal builders have made a cut of from 5 to 15 cents per hour, it was said, the prices of building materials, it was pointed out, have been reduced in proportion. The rates are based on an eight-hour day: Bricklayers, \$5; bricklayers, laborers, \$2.40; mortar mixers, \$3; stone cutters, \$5; stone masons, \$5; plasterers, \$5; plasterers' helpers, \$3.50; tile and marble setters, \$5; tile and marble helpers, \$2.80; building laborers, \$2.40; excavating laborers, \$2; metal lathers, \$4.80; carpenters, \$3.60; painters, \$3.60; glaziers, \$2.50; plumbers, \$4; plumbers' helpers, \$2.40; steam fitters, \$4; steam fitters' helpers, \$2.40; gas fitters, \$4; sheet metal workers, \$4; electrical workers, \$4; structural iron workers, \$4.50; hoisting engineers (steam), \$4; hoisting engineers (electrical), \$3; (all 8-hour day) 1 man, horse and cart, \$4.50; (9-hour day, 1 man, team and wagon, \$6.

### QUEBEC'S GIFT TO FRANCE.

Montreal, Jan. 7.—The announcement is made that the Quebec Provincial government has granted the sum of 200,000 francs (\$40,000) as a contribution from the Province of Quebec towards the fund of the national committee for the aid of dependents of French soldiers.

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