


**THE DAILY NEWS**  
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**EDITORIALS**

John Bull has certainly "put one over" on the anti-British element in the United States. This faction was planning big disturbances over the seizure of the Dacia by the British and international relations were tense while the scene was being enacted. Suddenly we wake up one morning and the Dacia is snugly tucked up in the folds of a French warship and the bloodhounds have lost the scent. Their test case has miscarried. Britain hasn't done anything and yet the Dacia has been sent to her fate. It is no use to protest to France for the anti-Britishers have already lost most of their argument and all of their rage. What stunt will they try next. No matter. Leave it to John Bull.

Vance Palmer has an article in the British Review on "The Empire After the War." He says that in a crisis like the present the apparent looseness of the structure of the British Empire tempts politicians into schemes for ensuring a mechanical neatness and uniformity. Hitherto, he says, all these plans have been killed by indifference in Great Britain and other parts of the Empire. "For good or evil the Empire has taken on the nature of a confederacy rather than an individual unit, and must be left to develop along the lines of autonomy and free co-operation."

While this opinion finds support in history and experience, it does not hold the field without opposition. There is another opinion. Canada, it is said, and Australia, are now taking part in a war the causes of which lay entirely outside of their powers. Sentiment may sustain this position for a time, but what will happen when Canada has as large a population as the United Kingdom? By that time Canada will either have become an independent nation, or have obtained a voice in the management of the Empire, commensurate with her area, her wealth, her population, and her responsibilities. We are at the parting of the ways, it is said. We must move either toward independence, or toward a voice in the foreign policy of the Empire.

It is a question fairly open to discussion. Logic seems to be on one side, experience on the other; but, of course, this is only seeming, for perfect logic and full experience would ne-

cessarily lead to the same conclusion. Experience says that evolution, or development, or growth, has hitherto been satisfactory. We in the British Empire builded wiser than we knew, or we planned wiser than we knew. Logic says that the system cannot endure; that the United Kingdom and the colonies must come to an understanding—that Canada and Australia and South Africa must have a voice in Imperial affairs, and that under British ideas of responsible government a voice means a Parliament.

A true Imperial Parliament would mean a radical recasting of our institutions, including the Parliament of the United Kingdom and the Parliament of Canada. The Parliament of Canada would have to surrender at least a part of its power over taxation. The Parliament now sitting at Westminster would have to make a still greater surrender, giving up its control over foreign relations and over Indian affairs, and restricting its powers to the domestic affairs of the British Islands. Or there might be separate Parliaments or Legislatures for England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. The granting of Home Rule to Ireland would point to the latter solution. Is the United Kingdom to be a federation like Canada, with an Imperial Parliament over-ruling all the Federations? Would England consent to be a province in a United Kingdom federation, as Ontario is a province of federated Canada?

These questions may sound academic, but they must also be considered by those who propose a recast of the British Empire on logical or symmetrical lines. What, again, is meant by giving Canada a voice in Imperial or foreign policy? Foreign policy rests upon a large and complicated fabric of actions, in which Canada could play a very small part. A European statesman must be continually striving to mould European relations so as to bring about justice and order in Europe. His work may extend over many years. At the same time, with all this accumulated experience, he may have to make in a day or an hour some decision involving the gravest consequences. Suppose Canada had been endowed with a "voice" what would Canada have done? A Canadian, it is true, by long

residence in Europe and careful study of European politics might become a Sir Edward Grey. But he could do that only by transferring his interest from Canada to Europe. He would be in no real sense a representative of Canada.

The same is true of Indian affairs. The government of India is a business for experts. A Canadian might by study and experience become such an expert, but only by transferring his interest from Canada to India. This is an aspect of the question which must be considered by all who seek to frame a new Imperial Parliament. Parliament is essentially a body of representatives and not of experts, though it may use expert knowledge. If Parliament simply defers to the expert, it is of no real value as a representative and deliberative assembly. These difficulties are pointed out, not in order to dogmatize, but simply to indicate the magnitude and difficulty of the problems we are asked to solve. As a free, self-governing people, we should consider them and decide them for ourselves, not wait until the decision is made for us.—Toronto Star.

**BAD MIXUP FOR REAL ESTATE BUYERS**

**National Finance Company Liquidator Lets Property Go on Which \$246,000 Was Paid.**

Vancouver, Feb. 27.—The hardships brought on purchasers of lands whose vendors have been made the subject of foreclosure proceedings was mentioned by Mr. Reginald Symes in Supreme Court chambers in the hearing of foreclosure proceedings brought by the Emerson Lumber Company against the National Finance Company.

The land in question is at Port Moody and was sold some time ago by the Emerson Lumber Company to the National Finance Company for a price of \$574,000. Of this sum \$246,000 has been paid in cash.

"It is useless for us to hope to redeem the property by paying the remaining \$300,000," said Mr. R. W. Hannington for the liquidator of the National Finance. "We sold part of the land and the two concerns we sold to are each in liquidation, and owe us \$260,000."

Mr. Symmes appeared for a client who had bought one-eighth of the land for \$70,000, paying \$40,000 cash to the Von Alvensleben Company, who were purchasers from the National Finance Company. He urged that while the date of the foreclosure was of no concern to the National Finance Company, his client wanted as long a time as possible to see if he could not save his portion of the property. Mr. Justice Macdonald adjourned the case one week to look further into it. Mr. J. W. deB. Farris appeared for the Emerson Lumber Company.

When a woman has no faith in her husband she can generally find consolation with the fortune teller.

**TIME FOR DECISIVE CONFLICT AT HAND**

**British Hospital Authorities Are Notified to Extend Facilities.**

New York, Feb. 27.—Hospital authorities throughout Great Britain have been notified by the War Department to extend their facilities to the utmost by next April, according to a letter received here from the head of a large hospital in one of the coast towns in England. A structure which will contain 4,000 beds, it is said, is being hurried to completion in Kent, and everywhere in the country, where possible, extra beds are being put in. These grim preparations recall the prediction of Lord Kitchener, when he said in response to a query regarding when the war would end:

"I can tell you when it will begin—in the spring."

There are fewer wounded in the British hospitals at the present time than at any other period since the war started, according to the writer.

"We have been asked to have as many beds as possible by April," he says, "and we are preparing. Everywhere in the country men are drilling and recruiting and everybody feels that the moment for the final and decisive conflict is at hand. My soldier boys are wild to go back to the front, and many of them go back the moment the surgeons permit them to leave the hospitals."

**Salvation Army.**

Public meetings, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8 p. m. Sundays at 7:30 p. m.

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**"JITNEY BUS" WAR ON IN CLEVELAND**

**Traction Company Will Fight the Private Enterprise With Low Fares and Transfers.**

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 27.—John J. Stanley, president of the Cleveland Railway Company, has issued a deft to individuals who have declared their intention to operate jitney busses and announced arrangements for the railway company to operate three cent bus lines in case privately-owned jitney busses enter the Cleveland transportation field. Mr. Stanley's deft was directed at Harry E. Johnson, who declares he will have jitney busses operating within the next six months.

"We're not going to be put out of business by the busses," Mr. Stanley said. "If they are coming to Cleveland we'll run some of them ourselves. We'll run cars over the same routes as the private companies, charge a three-cent fare, with a penny charge for a transfer, and, more than that, the transfer will be good from a railway company bus to a street car. If the jitneys intend to break our necks we're going to die hard." Mr. Stanley declared that designs for the railway jitney busses already have been prepared and schedules laid out.

"We'll follow every jitney bus operated in the city and where they charge a nickel or a dime we'll be charging three cents," Mr. Stanley declared. "We'll have a little war of our own."

Mr. Stanley's scheme calls for the purchase of sufficient jitney busses to cover every route operated by any private concern. The railway company busses will be painted yellow, will interlock on some streets with regular street car schedules and will use the railway company's terminals and loops.

**ITALY IN WAR MARCH 15.**

**Brooklyn Man, Returned From Genoa, Quotes Italian Officials.**

Boston, March 1.—"Officials of the Italian government told me at Genoa that Italy intends to get into the war on the side of the Allies on March 15," declared Martin Halpin, of Brooklyn, a passenger on the Italian steamship Verona, which has just reached Boston from Genoa and Naples.

"Italy is trying her level best to get 35,000 cavalry horses from the United States," said Halpin. "This, they say, will be accomplished by the middle of March, and then Italian neutrality will be a thing of the past."

Halpin went to Italy with a large consignment of horses.

**LLOYDS RAISE RATE ON GERMAN-U. S. WAR**

**Advance From Five Guineas Per Cent to Twenty Guineas.**

London, Feb. 25.—Insurance at Lloyds is placed at 20 guineas per cent on policies covering the holder against war between the United States and Germany within six months. One month ago the premium for this same risk and period of time was five guineas per cent.

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