

The Daily Mail

VOL. XVI NO. 251

FREDERICTON, N. B. THURSDAY OCTOBER 24 1912

TWO CENTS PER COPY

PRO. W. C. KIERSTEAD ON THE PROBLEM OF TAXATION

Able and Well Considered Paper Read at the Municipalities Convention at St. Stephen---The Tax on Land and What it Means---Should Improvements be Exempted---Reasons Why Vancouver's Method Could not be Put Into Practice in Fredericton

St. Stephen, Oct. 24—An address by Dr. W. C. Kierstead, professor of philosophy and political economy at U.N.B., was a feature of today's session of the Convention of Municipalities. The professor handled his subject in a masterly manner and was followed with the keenest interest. His address was in part as follows:

The history of municipal government for the last fifty years shows a constant increase in public expenditure, while the rapid growth of the humanitarian and democratic spirit, the advance of scientific knowledge and technique, and the accumulating experience and increasing ability of local governments to carry on industrial and social enterprises lead us to expect that the increase will continue in the future in an even more marked degree.

This fact gives importance to the problem of local taxation, which is a part of that larger problem of raising public revenue and making public expenditure for social welfare. The problem of taxation is twofold; a question of method and a task of practical administration. This paper deals with the former but the latter is of great importance since without it the best methods must fail.

PROBLEM OF METHOD.

The problem of method deals with the equity and justice of taxation. It aims to secure the revenue of society with the least detriment to individuals and classes with the least disturbance to industrial processes and in harmony with social and economic ideals. But there is no magic in taxation to secure public revenue except at the expense of individual revenues. All taxation means a burden somewhere, whether upon income or industry, labor or capital, production or consumption. Moreover, the exemption of any individual or class means increased burden and may mean injustice to others. According to the classic theory of taxation, the only matter of importance is to get the revenue in the easiest way since certain natural economic laws will secure the shifting of the tax over the entire community in an equitable manner. This view of taxation is not shared today and since the incidences of many taxes can be determined with some degree of confidence justice requires a careful selection of the objects or individuals upon which a tax is levied.

DEMAND FOR LAND TAX.

At the present time there is a strong demand that local taxation be placed upon land. It is claimed for this tax that it cannot be shifted, that it will provide adequate revenue without any burden to industry or labor, and its justice is defended on the ground that the value of land is a social product due to the growth of the whole community. One may not agree with the individualism, or the labor theory of value of Henry George, but he must recognize that this social thinker did call attention in a remarkable manner to an important feature in modern society, namely, the rapid increase in the site value of land due to the growth of society. One single generation may see a farm land transferred into the heart of a city with its value increased a hundredfold.

UNEARNED INCREMENT.

This unearned increment, as it is called, is not confined to land alone, and it is doubtful if in every case it can be traced back to land values as our single taxers affirm. If we broaden our conception of rent to include "any income received because of the existence of some economic privilege or desirable market opportunity which is not susceptible of depreciation in the sense of physical wear and tear," then land is only one form of rent along with franchises, monopoly privileges, rights of way, patents and marked business advantages. And in each case rent is a monopoly privilege that has come into existence through the complex-

ity and organization of modern society. The increase in values created by the growth of society and appropriated by individuals in the form of land rents or by means of the joint stock corporations is the great industrial phenomenon and the most serious economic problem of our times. This exploitation must cease and more of this stream of privilege must flow into public channels to be used for social ends.

Taxation, alone, however, is a poor solution of this problem of rent. It is certain that in the future the state and municipalities will either own the public utilities or will control their capitalization, rates of charge, and quality of service so that these phenomenal gains will no longer be allowed to accrue. But land remains and a taxation of land rents secures to the community a portion of the unearned increment and at the same time discourages land speculation and the rapid increase in land values. The City of Vancouver exempts improvements entirely as does also the City of Edmonton and the land tax is a popular form of taxation throughout our western provinces. The exemption of improvements and a graduated land tax especially heavy upon large and absentee landlords are used by the federal government of New Zealand and most of the local units of that colony exempt improvements and tax land values. The English and the German governments have forms of taxation which appropriate for state purposes a large per cent. of the increase in the site values of land.

(Continued on page five)

"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY" REPEATED WITH SUCCESS

Local Amateurs Showed Marked Hit: Comic Ability---Comedy Prov'd Most Enjoyable and Enjoyable

The performance of "All-of-a-Sudden Peggy" was repeated at the Opera House last night with success equal to that of the first night. A good sized audience saw the play, which is a most enjoyable English comedy and the local amateurs who took part showed that they possess marked ability.

In the title role Miss Mary L. Fenety, who is well known to theatre-goers of this city, scored a decided success and well deserved the frequent applause she received. The supporting members of the cast took their roles in excellent fashion. Miss Anna B. Taylor and Messrs. Segee and Maimann deserve particular mention.

The play was put on under the able direction of Miss J. Marguerite Atkinson and was under the auspices of the King's Daughters.

The cast was as follows: Anthony, Lord Crackenthorpe, Fellow of the Entomological Society, Mr. F. W. Segee.

The Hon. Jimmy Keppel, his brother, Mr. C. E. Maimann. Major Archie Phipps, retired, Lady Crackenthorpe's brother, Mr. F. J. Bowes.

Jack Cronin, Mr. A. C. Morris. Parker, footman at Hawkhurst, Mr. K. Scott.

Lucas, manservant in Simmy's flat, Mr. S. H. Laughlin.

Lady Crackenthorpe, Lord Crackenthorpe's mother, Miss Helen Sterling. The Hon. Millicent Keppel, Miss Anna B. Taylor.

The Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun, Miss Katherine G. Lynch. Mrs. O'Mara, widow of Professor O'Mara, F.R.S., Miss Louise M. Sterling.

Peggy, her daughter, Miss Mary L. Fenety.

BERLIN'S DEAR FOOD RIOT

Two Thousand Women Raid a Butcher Shop and Steal Meat

Severe Earthquake Felt in Quebec---Verdict of Guilty in an Ontario Murder Case

Berlin, Oct. 24—The "Dear Food" riots increased in violence today when some two thousand women raided a butchershop in the Wedding district, demolished the premises and stole the meat. The manager was seriously injured. All the other butcher shops in the district have been closed and barricaded. The police have been ordered there in strong force and the district which is in the north of Berlin has on previous occasions been the scene of violent disturbances and it is feared these may be repeated.

Quebec, Q., Oct. 24—News has been received here that a severe earthquake shock was felt between Bermsim and Pentecost, on the north shore of the River St. Lawrence last night. No fatalities are reported but several houses were badly shaken and all the residents between the two places received a scare.

Lindsay, Ont., Oct. 23—The jury in the Ellis case, after three hours deliberation, returned last evening with a verdict that Arthur A. Ellis had murdered his brother-in-law, Lew Porter, near Minden.

Justice Chute, after being told by the prisoner that he had nothing to say, sentenced him to hang on January 7th next.

PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Manzer of Woodstock, are registered at the Queen.

Mr. J. K. Storer of Montreal, is in the city.

Mr. J. F. Tilton of St. John, is registered at the Queen.

Mr. George W. Grant of Toronto, is in the city.

Messrs. W. H. Powell and I. A. D. Eastman of Old Town, Me., arrived in the city this morning, registering at the Queen.

Mr. Donald Shea of Woodstock, is registering at the Barker House.

Mr. S. E. Calhoun of Moncton, is at the Barker House.

Mr. A. R. Currier and wife of Boston, are in the city.

Mr. G. E. Osgood of Sussex, is among the commercial men in the city.

Mr. John F. Allen, merchant of Hawkeston, is among the visitors to the city today.

STEEL MANUFACTURERS TO MEET GOVERNMENT

Ottawa Oct. 23—The steel manufacturers of Canada have arranged to meet the government on Friday. An increase in the protection of steel will be asked. The steel men claim that they require more protection for the successful operation of their plants in the face of American, British and German competition. They propose to point out to the government that formerly the Canadian steel industry was aided by bounties. These expired a year ago.

MINNESOTA CHARITIES CONFERENCE

Austin, Minn., Oct. 23—Several hundred delegates assembled here today preliminary to the formal opening of the twenty-first annual meeting of the Minnesota Conference of Charities and Correction. The Child Labor Committee met this afternoon and listened to an address by F. E. Hoffman of the Minnesota Bureau of Labor.

QUEEN OF SPAIN 25 YEARS OLD

Madrid, Oct. 24—Queen Victoria Eugenie celebrated her twenty-fifth birthday anniversary today, surrounded by the members of her family. Many congratulatory messages reached her Majesty during the day, and many valuable presents were received from the sovereigns of Europe and other personal friends.

CASE GOES TO THE JURY

A Verdict in the Becker Murder Trial Expected This Evening

Features of the Case Ably Reviewed by Justice Goff in His Charge to the Jury

New York, Oct. 24—By tonight Police Lieut. Chas. Becker will know his fate. His trial for the murder of the "squealer" gambler, Herman Rosenthal, was concluded last night. With the closing address of District Attorney Moss, there remained this morning only Justice Goff's charge to the jury. Becker is hopeful of acquittal, but throughout the eight hour ordeal of summing up yesterday he said nothing and gave no hint of his emotions. The accused lieutenant's lawyers have insisted that the issue will either be liberty or the electric chair but it is thought that Justice Goff might instruct the jury that it was within the law to bring in a verdict of murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, or even manslaughter.

It was expected that the charge would occupy about an hour.

It is a dismal day for the close of the trial. Rain fell nearly all night and a gray day with prospect of rain greeted those who assembled at the criminal court this morning. Mrs. Becker, wife of the defendant, was one of the first to enter the court room.

New York, Oct. 24—A quarter of an hour before court convened the jurors filed into the box, bringing their hats and overcoats with them. District Attorney Whitman entered the courtroom a few moments later and took his seat within the railing. The prisoner's wife was in the first row of spectators. At ten o'clock Becker entered the room. He was smiling, John F. McIntyre and John H. Hart, Becker's lawyers, chatted and laughed with him. Justice Goff began his charge at ten forty.

New York, Oct. 24—The Justice spoke almost in a whisper and the jurors leaned forward in their seats to hear him. Becker turned the side of his head to the court and strained forward as if to catch every word.

After instructing the jury that the defendant must be presumed innocent until it was proven beyond a doubt that he was guilty. Justice Goff defined the different degrees of murder. "The killing of a human being," he said, "can be considered as murder, manslaughter and excusable homicide. There can be no verdict of excusable homicide and I will not consider that phase."

"This man's case rest solely with you. But in making your decision you must be guided entirely by the evidence and not by remarks of counsel." Justice Goff warned the jury not to consider questions of counsel to which witness were not permitted to reply. "The testimony of each witness," he continued, "must be tested by your judgment, you may reject or accept any part of the testimony of any witness whose sincerity you doubt, and you may also consider his manner of replying to questions, his hesitancy or readiness and his capacity for observation. Murder in the first degree the Justice explained, is done with intent and deliberate design to kill, and in the second degree without premeditation.

"It is not necessary," he said, "that I should dwell at length on the definition of murder in the second degree, first in the latter part of June, Becker told Webber he wanted Rosenthal killed, secondly he followed this instructions to Rose to have Rosenthal killed, thirdly, Rose following out these instructions carried out the designs of the defendant. Thus sums up the case. If you find that it has been proven you must return a verdict in the first degree."

"The prosecution must have proved this clearly and beyond reasonable doubt before you can find such a verdict."

Justice Goff cited cases in which superior courts held that it was not necessary the defendant to have seen the act of murder committed to establish his guilt.

"It remains," Justice Goff continued, "for you to determine whether Becker designed and premeditated the murder of Rosenthal. If you find he

(Continued on page 4)

SERVIAN ARMY SUFFERED A DISASTROUS DEFEAT

Force Operating Near Kumanova Reported to Have Been Utterly Routed by the Turks---Another Despatch Says the Servians Captured the Town---Montenegrin Troops on a Most Aggressive Campaign---Reports of Losses Have Been Exaggerated

Constantinople, Oct. 24—The Servian army operating near Kumanova has been completely defeated by the Turkish troops defending that town which is on the way to Uskup. The Servians suffered enormous losses according to an official despatch from the commander in chief of the Turkish western army. The Turkish troops are pursuing them energetically.

The Servian army is believed to have comprised four strong divisions.

ANOTHER REPORT

Belgrade, Oct. 24—The Servian troops have captured some part of the Turkish town of Kumanova, according to a telephone message received here from Vranja this morning. The Turkish artillery used against the advancing Servians had very little effect and after a short time was silenced by the Servian guns.

Desperate fighting is still going on in the vicinity of Kumanova. The Turkish town of Novipazar was achieved only after three days severe fighting during which there was much slaughter both among the Servians and the Turks.

The small town of Strazin between Egri Palanka and Kumanova was captured yesterday by the Servians.

London, Oct. 24—The bombardment of the Turkish town of Tartakosch on Lake Scutari which began on Tuesday was continued throughout yesterday by the Montenegrin troops according to an official statement issued today by the Montenegrin Consul General here. He says the Montenegrin artillery is firing with great precision but rain is hindering the operations. He continues: "The statements concerning Montenegrin reverses are untrue. The losses of cannon by the Montenegrins and the number of their killed and wounded has been greatly exaggerated."

London, Oct. 23—The news from the seat of war tonight tells of the continued successes of the allies. The Servians have captured Novipazar and are the virtual masters of Kumanova. The victories, however, have been purchased at heavy sacrifice.

The situation in Thrace is becoming

clear. A great battle is being fought over a wide semi-circular front before Adrianople, upon which town the Bulgarians are gradually closing in. On the east they have occupied Vasilika and Tirnova and are continuing their advance southward.

On the west the Bulgarians, according to official Sifia accounts, have reached the Arda River, close to Adrianople, which is being vigorously bombarded. Already the two outer forts have fallen. Some positions to the north of Adrianople are also said to have been taken after fighting of the severest character.

Of the army in the centre operating in the direction of Kirk-Kilisseh, there was no news today and evidently that fortress is still holding out.

TURKISH TROOPS NOT SO CONFIDENT

It is significant that tonight's Constantinople despatches which say that a decisive result is expected tomorrow gave a less confident tone than previous despatches from that capital, while they admit a heavy struggle in which both sides are showing the utmost bravery.

Information concerning the Montenegrin progress is meagre, but the Turkish authorities claim that Scutari has been reinforced and is safe. A Saloniki despatch asserts that the Mqlissori tribes are offended because the Montenegrin commanders are proclaiming the sovereignty of King Nicholas in the captured Albanian towns. They demand that King Nicholas give a guarantee that he evacuate Albanian territory and secure autonomy for Albania. So far they have received no satisfactory reply and it is reported that they are refusing to fight further for the Montenegrins, whose advance has been thereby checked.

The next news of the Greek campaign should be an important battle around the town of Servia to which place the Turks have retreated from Ellassona and have been reinforced from the North.

PREMIER SIFTON GOING TO ENGLAND

Edinburgh, Alta., Oct. 24—Premier Sifton left Wednesday afternoon after addressing the Dry Farming Congress for Great Britain. He is accompanied by Hon. Malcolm MacKenzie and the two ministers are on their way to the hearing before the privy council of the Alberta and Great Waterways Railway Case.

SIFTON'S CONDITION MUCH IMPROVED

Ottawa, Oct. 23—The condition of Hon. Clifford Sifton, who has been confined to his suite in the Chateau Laurier for the past week with an attack of pneumonia, is much improved this morning and his physicians declare that the crisis is now past and that any danger which there might have been is over.

Mr. Sifton passed a good night and felt much better this morning.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AT RICHMOND

Richmond, Va., Oct. 23—24—Knights Templars from all parts of Virginia took possession of the capital today, the occasion being the annual conclave of the grand commandery. The headquarters of the gathering are at the Jefferson Hotel, with the business sessions at the Masonic Temple. A parade of the Bir knights in uniform took place today.

WESTERN-TORIES WILL ORGANIZE

Prince Albert, Sask., Oct. 24—The Conservative party of this province have held the largest political convention in its history and decided to organize for victory. Hon. Mr. Haultain bade farewell as the leader of the party and retired from active politics. The convention decided to choose a successor at a later date and in the meantime one of the Conservative members of the house will guide the party during the coming session.

ILLINOIS EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

Charleston, Ill., Oct. 24—Stirring experiences at Libby, Andersonville and other famous prisons of the Confederacy were vividly recalled by members of the Illinois Ex-Prisoners of War Association, who gathered here today for their annual reunion. An elaborate programme of entertainment was prepared for the aged veterans who will remain the guests of the city over tomorrow.

INDIANA CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORS

Indianapolis, Oct. 24—William Shaw of Boston, Dr. Ira Landroth of Nashville and other well known educators and religious workers are here to address the biennial convention of the Indiana Christian Endeavor Union. The sessions began today and will continue over Sunday.

REMNANT

A Big Remnant Sale at Williams Saturday Oct. 26th. Remnants just Half Price. Big Snaps.