

A CHATHAM PAPER THROWS SOME LIGHT ON THE DILEMMA OF NORTUMBERLAND COUNTY

(Chatham Commercial)

The percentage of taxes collected is unfortunately low. This is to be expected as the same situation which causes a very large percentage of people to be destitute also reacts on those who were and still are only in a degree more fortunate, but their tax-paying capacity impaired if not crippled. The farmers used to sell their products to the employees of the lumbering industry. Now the unemployed who were formerly the employees in the lumbering industry cannot pay for these, farm products. The merchant cannot sell—and he paid for his merchandise. The school teachers are working for less than half normal salary—scores of them for nothing from the local residents—and so it goes through the whole social order, including all activities, but with special mention to the medical doctor who continues to have lots of employment and heavy cash disbursements with a very small percentage of remuneration.

It is encouraging to note that the situation in many of the counties, particularly in the southern counties of the province, (where there is a small percentage of Crown Land area) is satisfactory. In Northumberland county, there are approximately two million acres of Crown Lands and this vast area of natural resources was formerly the background for our en-

tire economic and social structure. During the years 1931 and 1932 particularly, we were the victims of depression in that there was no market and a very low price, with adverse exchange, which made lumbering operations impracticable. Now that the lumber market has opened up, demand satisfactory, exchange to our advantage, our situation is not that caused by world depression, but we are the victims of a special situation, which situation was not brought about by the people of Northumberland county.

Mills Have Gone

Formerly the Miramichi River was dotted with mills, men receiving employment in cutting driving, milling, shipping and other endeavors incidental to the lumbering industry. Now we find that the vast areas of Crown Land which were formerly held principally by 16 large operating licensees and not by corporations holding as a reserve, are now held by a much smaller number. The mills which were formerly conducted by these operating licensees are now dismantled. What were formerly hives of industry in milling and shipping, are now, with a few exceptions, cleared up and have reverted to cattle pastures or, even worse, to an unsightly pile of debris where mills have been dismantled and industry has ceased. These mills which were assessable property, are now practically eliminated from the

tax-collector's list. The large number of men who worked and made a living and paid taxes are now a public charge rather than an asset financially.

Other parts of the Dominion are in a similar dilemma, and we find that the Federal Government has advanced loans to the Western Provinces of upwards of forty-three millions for such purposes as paying the Provincial and municipal portions of Direct Relief. An item of nearly half a million went to British Columbia to enable her to pay an interest obligation, etc., etc.

It is the duty of our Provincial representatives to bring fully to light the positive industrial and consequent Financial dilemma in Northumberland county with the explanation of cause and solicit on behalf of this county for special consideration, we being the victims of a special situation and circumstances. It is no doubt in the minds of our Provincial representatives at the Conference that their authority carries with it their responsibility to properly represent the situation and while the Maritime Provinces, speaking generally, are not in such a critical situation as some other parts of Canada, they cannot overlook the fact that there is one spot—Northumberland county—in the Maritime Provinces, that is due for special assistance.

The Industrial development of Northern New Brunswick has to too large an extent, reverted our vast Crown Land areas to be a background and reserve for mills in Restigouche county, other parts of Canada and even U.S.A., and by reason of the processing mills being located elsewhere, the elementary operation of cutting the lumber in the rough is conducted in

BRITON AMAZED BY U. S. SPEED

London, Jan. 12—Sir Percival Phillips, one of England's most noted journalist-observers on the world front has returned from a survey of America's new deal that left his breathless with amazement at the development of "speed—speed—speed" in the "new" United States.

Under the heading "Where the Clock Hands Behave Like Propellers," his latest article published in the Daily Mail is a picture of pleased astonishment and vague uneasiness over the effect of the mechanical and physical speeding-up of today's generation of Americans.

"Life within these frontiers," he said, appears to an Englishman accustomed to the easy pace of Europe, "to be a mad race around an alarm clock, with no fixed goal in sight but the one-day laundry service, the rapidity of luggage transfer from one city to another, the servicing of telegraph and telephone messages, the lack of delay in cashing checks. But he views with shudders and alarm the state of the American stomach.

"Meals are bolted," he wrote, "in a way that shows no mercy for the delicate machinery dedicated to food. The intent occupants of publish restaurants rush in to re-fuel; they never really lunch or dine. They can be seen bowed over the latest time-saving invention. A form of circular China through divided into compartments which bring the main ingredients of the midday ration simultaneously within range. . . . This is called the 'club plate' luncheon, with which to flog the laggard through his hasty meal."

The matter of meals worries him. "Breakfast is a marathon and dinner, with its inevitable foundation of iced water, drunk copiously, very often a dance still nearer death."

Now that America has become air-minded," he continued, "the slaves to speed can give the obsession full play. This country possesses the finest network of day and night airplane services in the world. You can travel from New York to San Francisco in 30 hours with only brief stops for petrol. . . . Yet they are not fast enough. Soon the time from coast to coast will be cut by three hours."

WOMEN LABOR ON SUBWAY IN MOSCOW

Moscow, Jan. 11—Wives of 250 Red army officers attached to the Moscow garrison recently contributed a day's labor each on the Moscow subway, shoveling out dirt along with regular workers.

They labored the customary seven hours, and the construction managers said they over-filled their "program."

Marysville Now In Second Place In York Intermediate

The Marysville Maple Leafs broke a second place tie in the York County League here last night when they defeated the Fredericton Falcons 2-1 in a close game in which all the scores were made in the latter part of the game. The Fredericton Cubs are leading the league with three wins and the Devon Tigers are in fourth place.

Women's endurance flying record made in Florida will stand until somebody thinks of turning a lot of mice loose at an airport after a woman flier has taken off.

Northumberland county only at a minimum degree, sufficient to hold the lands under existing regulations.

We are in the position where we are obliged to ask for special consideration, which may be unkindly construed as asking for charity. But this is temporary relief only. The only assistance that the people of Northumberland county wish and need is the opportunity to earn a livelihood by their own endeavor by having the right to process their God-given heritage in the scheme of Nature, namely the lumber products in the delta of the Miramichi.

The favourite since 1892 "SALADA" TEA 'Fresh from the gardens'

We do not know exactly what new race is growing up from the amalgamation of Manhattan Isle, but it pronounces "Bernard Shaw" "Boint Shawr."

The only reason I haven't talked to reporters time and time again when they looked me up was because I didn't have anything to say—J. P. Morgan.

Everyone likes to talk of a pain—his or anybody else's.

We'd call that the too-modest complex. Mr. Morgan. Anything J. P. Morgan has to say, no matter what, calls for headlines.

Somehow, what Mayor La Guardia said on the day of his inauguration makes us laugh. He said: "In my twenty-nine years in public office I have never had a public leader come and tell me to do something that I thought was right." So ho, party leaders, what do you think of that?

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