

THE DAILY MAIL

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MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1917

MANITOBA'S NEW GOVERNOR.

The people of Manitoba, having risen in their might and hurled the Rogers-Roblin plunderbund from power, are now enjoying the blessing of honest, progressive administration. The Legislature of that province has just prorogued after a session of two months during which much useful legislation was placed on the statute books. In reviewing the work of the session, the Manitoba Free Press says:

"There was a time, not so long ago, when the adjournment of the Legislature was greeted by the public with a sigh of relief, as it meant that for another twelve months the province and the city of Winnipeg in particular, were safe from the pernicious activities of our law-makers.

"No such feeling arises in relation to the prorogation of the present Manitoba Legislature, after a fruitful and profitable session of two months. The Legislature has taken the position it ought to occupy as a body of representatives of the people who are bound to give sincere and devoted service to those who have honored them with their confidence.

"The relation between the Norris government and its legislative following is the relation which should exist. The House is not a mere registering body giving effect to the cabinet's decrees but a real deliberative body, in which there is plenty of original and independent thinking.

"The galleries of the legislative chamber have been places which honest men, interested in the public welfare, could visit with satisfaction; from there they could witness other honest men on the floor of the House, co-operating with one another in intelligent endeavor to serve the public, with everything open and above board. It is difficult to realize, so changed is the atmosphere, that this was the arena in which the Roblin cohorts used to carry out their performances under their master's eye. Those days of shame and public disgrace seem far removed; though it was actually only two years ago this month that a Roblin majority, in the public accounts committee, tried desperately to keep the lid on in the matter of Parliament Building thefts.

"The contrast between the two regimes was illustrated very strikingly by the character of the investigation in the Public Accounts Committee at the recent session into what are known nominally as the Guilbault charges, taking their name from the phonograph through which the secret voice that goes with the "unseen hand" made known its complaints. The searchlight in its fullest power was turned on; and everything was found to be all right, an honest contractor, a careful government, intelligent supervision, and a businesslike checking system making frauds impossible. The malice behind the Guilbault charges is evident enough, but it is difficult to account for their stupidity.

"An incident of the session which was very acceptable to the public was the forced resignation of F. Y. Newton, M.P.P. for Roblin. Mr. Newton was a survival of the old regime, but he survives no longer. The story of his sordid employment of public money for the corruption of his constituency, as set forth with particularity in Judge Patterson's report, was followed by his retirement from the House; and with him went the last of the old Roblin members.

"The government's record during the session was worthy of the reputation it made during the first session. From much sound, progressive legislation, two measures loom up with special prominence. These were the Rural Credits Bill, which opens a new day in the agricultural development of the province, and the University Bill, which puts an end to the chaotic conditions which have prevailed in the field of higher education for many years."

There is every reason to believe that the government which is about to take office in New Brunswick under the leadership of Mr. W. E. Foster will give this province an honest and businesslike administration of affairs. The government which had passed upon is the condemnation of the people on February 24th, was undoubtedly the worst this province ever had. The Legislature was juggled and those comprising the dominant party were more concerned about feathering their own nests than in promoting legislation for the public good. The very fact that only thirteen of the forty-four members who gave a subservient support to the government in the last House, survived the political storm of February 24th is in itself a very healthy sign and ensures a better administration of affairs in this province during the next five years.

ENCOURAGE LOCAL ENTERPRISE.

Why should it be necessary for the Board of School Trustees to go to St. John for contractors every time a new school house is to be built, or an old one repaired. Fredericton has some experienced and capable builders, who are surely deserving of some consideration at the hands of the school trustees. They have little or no chance to get work in St. John, or other provincial towns, because the authorities of those places give their own citizens the preference. Surely the men who live here and pay taxes are deserving of half a show when contracts are to be given out. A private citizen who would go outside the city and engage a man to build a house for him in order to effect a saving of \$34, would be looked upon as narrow minded and selfish, yet the Board of School Trustees can do this very thing and get by with it. If it is wrong in one case it is wrong in the other.

Lieutenant Governor Wood should see to it that the government which was defeated at the polls on February 24th, steps down and out during the present week. Twenty-two days have now elapsed since the people voted no confidence in His Honor's advisers, and to permit them to hold office any longer under such circumstances would be little short of a scandal.

The Allied troops have won a glorious victory on the western front, having penetrated German positions to a depth of ten miles on a front of forty-five miles. Sixty towns and villages have been captured from the enemy, including Nesle, Chaulnes and Peronne. Bapaume has also fallen into the hands of the British.

The French cabinet, led by Premier Briand, has resigned office. President Poincare has invited M. Ribot, Minister of Finance, to form an administration.

The Canadian government has cancelled a contract for 100,000 rifles with the Ross Rifle Company. The reason given is that the company is behind with its delivery.

Through Our Sieve

Jack Frost is still not too proud to bite.

At last the Big Drive moves in the right direction.

Even the official reports have peg in them these days.

Duma ought to be spelled "doom," uh!

No, we wouldn't like to be a king or a queen, a czar or a sardine.

Even the honest physician has ill-gotten gains.

Some men have no friends—only people they sell things to.

Most people don't care where Thaw goes so long as it's off the first page.

If words can be eaten there will yet be plenty of food in Germany.

Perhaps the Germans want to get home to say something to the Kaiser like the Russians said to the Czar.

Money talks, and it is also the only thing that understands the language of the flowers on an Easter bonnet.

We would get more enjoyment out of a dollar if it took as long to spend it as it does to earn it.

If a man shows his teeth and smiles he will attain his object much quicker than if he shows his teeth and growls.

Some people are born poor, some achieve poverty, and others have mining stock thrust upon them.

If a person gives you business advice and you really take it, you can't help feeling a little sore if it turns out right.

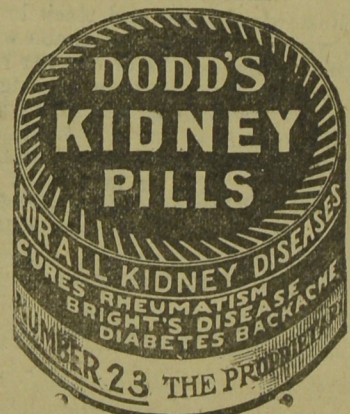
PERSONAL.

Mr. G. H. Smith, traveller for the Dunlop Rubber Co., returned Saturday from a successful business trip through Nova Scotia.

Mr. George M. Parker, of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. Francis Kerr, of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. J. L. McGregor, of Montreal, is at the Queen.



PROPOSED

STRIKE IS CALLED OFF

New York, March 19.—The railroad strike has been averted. Yielding to the appeal of President Wilson and facing the probability of the United States entering the war, the railroads early today granted the demands of their employees' brotherhoods for a basic eight hour day.

The telegraphic wires this morning are carrying throughout the country messages from the brotherhood chiefs rescinding the orders for the inauguration of the great progressive strike at 7 o'clock tonight.

The decision is regarded as a complete surrender to the brotherhoods, brought about, however, after the patriotism of the railroad managers had been put to the test. The President's mediators, playing what they considered their last trump card, were not successful in their mission until after more than fifty hours of an anxious conference, all of which pointed within a short time before the decision was announced to an inevitable deadlock.

By the terms of the settlement, the combined salary list of the railroads will be increased approximately \$60,000,000 a year, according to conservative estimates. The number of the workmen profiting by this increase will be more than 300,000. That the crisis from the sinking of three American ships by German submarines was the prime factor in clearing the situation and restoring the country to the normal conditions in so far as its transportation facilities were concerned, was conceded by all.

STOCK MARKET

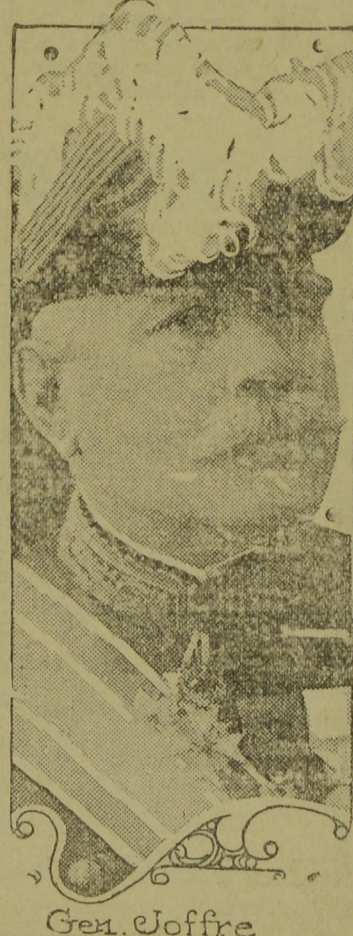
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Wool.....	51½

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Toronto.....	90½
Braz.....	44
Cement.....	63
Iron.....	67½
Steel Co.....	67½
Spanish.....	17
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