

THE DAILY MAIL

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A RAILWAY SCHEME

That a strong financial and railroad group, with headquarters in Toronto, is planning confidently to lease the entire system of Canadian Government Railways, after three or four years of government operation and government paid deficits on the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific, is the firm belief of the great majority of Montreal business men who are opposing the Grand Trunk deal, and has been virtually admitted by ministers of the Dominion government, says the Canadian section of the New York Sun.

The idea is to let the country run the roads until the electors are convinced first of the impossibility of making ends meet with the present inadequate rate schedules, and second, of the ineradicable inefficiency of government operation. The Railway Commission, it is presumed, will find itself compelled to advance rates in order to save the government from overwhelming losses unless there is a very heavy drop in operating costs, in which case the raise may not be necessary.

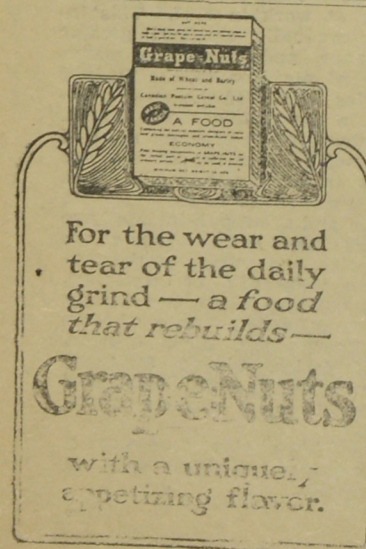
When the roads are leased, it would be on some sort of agreement guaranteeing a fixed return on the capital investment and a sliding scale of profits for efficient operation, and the leasing company would be given the right to demand an increase of rates if it could show that operating costs were too high for a profit, much after the plan now in operation in connection with the Montreal Tramway, says the Sun story.

The scheme means that the country will carry the burden through the four or five worst years, for by the end of that time it is confidently expected that population and traffic in the territory covered by the G. and P. and C. N. R. will be greatly increased.

This, more than any real enthusiasm for government ownership, is believed to be the substantial reason for the placidity of Toronto about the Grand Trunk proposals. No price is too great if Toronto is to get the operation and financing of the vast system of transportation which is gradually being accumulated by the Dominion government. And this more even than any horror of government ownership, is the reason why Montreal hates the whole transaction.

THE LATE F. W. SUMNER.

In the sudden death of Mr. F. W. Sumner, of Moncton, at St. John yesterday, the province of New Brunswick has lost one of its leading business men and foremost citizens. Mr. Sumner was a native of Moncton and resided there all his life. He had done much for the development of the city and province and few men were held in greater esteem. In addition to managing a large business, Mr. Sumner found time to devote to public affairs. For three years he represented Westmorland in the Legislature, and on one occasion unsuccessfully contested the county for the Federal House. He also served several terms as Mayor of his native city. He was at one time President of the St. John and Quebec Railway Company, and for the past four years has filled in a highly efficient manner the post of Agent General for New Brunswick in London. The untimely death of Mr. Sumner deprives the province of the services of one of its big men at a time when big men are needed as never before.



Hallifax Chronicle: A revision of the Maine boundary, such as suggested by Sir Andrew McPhail, would, of course, be of advantage to Canada; but it is hardly likely that a question which has been regarded as settled for three-quarters of a century will be re-opened now. On the contrary, Sir Andrew McPhail's article has already been used in the United States as a weapon against the League of Nations by President Wilson's opponents. The great thing at the moment is to and good-will between the two nations on this continent. That that friendship and good will will ever become so strong as to impel our American friends to restore to us such a large slice of their territory is, at the moment, only a pious hope.

An order-in-council has been issued at Ottawa asking the Public Works Department to investigate and find out the cost of installing time clocks in all the departments of the civil service. In most of the government departments it has been the custom to check the attendance of employees by having them sign the attendance book, but it is understood that if the cost of installation is not too great they will, in the future, have to "punch" the clock on starting and finishing work.

A London cable says that owing to the great scarcity of corkscrews in Canada, old country exporters of wet goods have been asked to substitute glass stoppers for the old-time corks. This is one indication that the bootlegging industry is reaching extensive proportions in Canada. A seizure of some \$20,000 worth of liquor in St. John a few days ago is another indication.

Why should farmers join the labor unions when they have their own way in the legislatures, where the representatives from the rural regions are in control? New York city, for example, takes what the rest of the State outside is willing to give it or let it have.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

Cynics are the people who have to live with optimists.

Some people are naturally affected; others are merely affectedly natural.

Genius is the capacity for making somebody else take infinite pains.

What has become of the old-fashioned war-time girl who was always knitting a sock?

You may occasionally find a crumb of comfort, but trouble has a way of coming in large slices.

Part of the present uneasiness is due to the sudden access of cold weather and the consequent donning of the heavy kind.

After the guests have gone the host expresses his lofty appreciation of those who had enough sense to go home early.

It seems that there are two kinds of people who utter things in public—those who sleep over in praise, and those who go mad, froth at the mouth and bite table legs.

According to the view of some sour critics, girls who use rouge are as dangerous as any other kind of "reds."

Is the shortage of leather in this perverse world responsible for the vast number of leather coats that young persons are wearing?

There is one way to avoid paying exorbitant prices for New York hotel accommodation, and that is to stay away from New York.

The corkscrew famine reported in some parts of Canada does not seem to have struck St. John yet, judging by the quantity of corks seized along with \$20,000 worth of booze.

Death of W. P. Hanebry

William P. Hanebry of North Devon passed away this morning at his home there after an illness of several weeks at the age of seventy-eight years. The deceased was born in Chipman Queens County and was very well known in this locality. He was for many years with the Fredericton Boom Company afterwards the St. John River Log Driving Company and later with Canadian Cottons Limited at Marysville as accountant. He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. P. J. Hughes of Fredericton, Mrs. Herbert Davidson of Campbellton, Mrs. Nicholas Dionne of Gladwyn, Victoria County, Miss Dorothy at home and one son Joseph also at home. The deceased was well known in this part of the province although a resident of St. Mary's Ferry, now part of Devon, for many years he resided at times at Bathurst and St. John. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 2.30 o'clock. Solemn Service being held at St. Anthony's church, Devon.

JUDGMENTS THIS MORNING BY APPEAL COURT

(Continued from page 8.)

This case was from Woodstock, an agent being given a receipt for a bill and it afterward being claimed from principal. It was decided that this could not be done as it might prevent principal from recovering from agent.

City of St. John vs. J. Fred Belyea. Judge Barry read judgement dismissing appeal with costs. Chief Justice Haze and Judge White concurred. Appeal dismissed with costs.

This was a fisheries appeal from the judgement of Judge Grimmer granting an injunction to St. John City to prevent the appellant from fishing on the western side of St. John harbor over ground secured by lease for a fish-curing establishment and situate between high and low water marks. The judgement confirmed the decision of the judge in chancery and pointed out that the old common law rights in the growth of the city and surroundings had been considered circumscribed and authority was now vested absolutely in the Common Council of the City of St. John to control the harbor for industrial and commercial purposes.

Final Close-up

With the grand closing of the Victory Loan Campaign tomorrow afternoon at a public meeting in the City Hall a surprise is predicted for those who have carefully followed the results of the campaign in the various counties of the Province. The farewell banquet for the canvassers will take place at the Queen Hotel at two o'clock and this will be attended by all the representatives of the various districts. Following the banquet a public meeting will be held at the City Hall at which fourteen honor flags will be presented to the various districts. A telegram was received by R. W. McLellan, chairman of York County District this morning from T. H. Estabrooks, chairman of the executive, thanking him for the splendid work done by the canvassers in their part of the Victory Loan campaign.

No Change in Situation

There is no change in the situation with regard to the U. N. B. Acadia Rugby match ordered by the Intercollegiate League to be replayed. U. N. B. does not say that the game will not be played but further negotiations are necessary and have not been opened. The Moncton Transcript evidently has direct word from Wolfville as it says Acadia is "satisfied and will not replay" the game. The Transcript also states that Acadia will claim the championship of the Western Intercollegiate League in spite of the decision of the executive.

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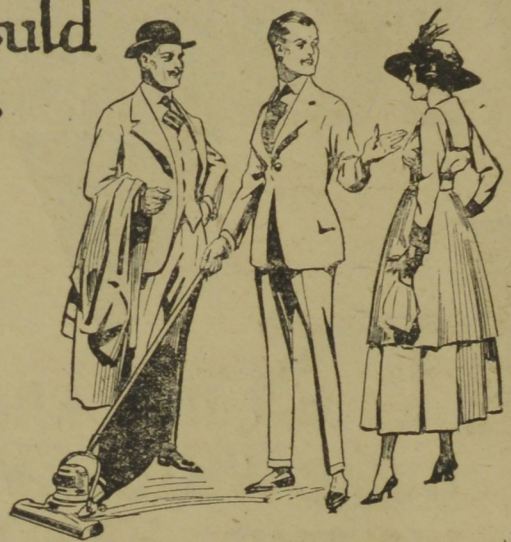
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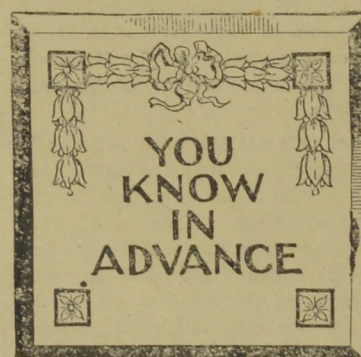
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