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WHAT PARLIAMENT CAN DO WITH CANADIAN NORTHERN

(Toronto Globe.)

Men in public life are bewildered by the situation that has arisen in regard to Canadian Northern finance. They are told that a refusal to grant further public aid will result in a financial crisis from which many estimable people who have no connection with the C.N.R. would emerge with greater hurt than the owners of the railway. "What can we do?" is the cry of the politician. "The public surely do not wish us to pull down the whole structure of national finance and destroy Canadian credit abroad?"

If Canada's credit abroad and prosperity at home are raised upon such an insecure foundation as this would indicate, there is no assurance that further subsidies, loans or bond guarantees to Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann would serve to bolster it up. The truth is that all this talk of national calamity following upon a refusal of further public aid to the C.N.R. is skillfully set afloat to alarm the people and make it easier to get another huge subvention at Ottawa. If aid is not forthcoming from the public treasury we may be sure that the British investors who have put a vast sum in unguaranteed bonds into the road will put enough more in to

complete it to the Pacific Ocean.

The first thing they would do were there to be default on this bond interest would be to eliminate the common stockholders. Practically all the common stock is held by Mackenzie & Mann and a few associates. Nothing has been paid for the great bulk of it. According to Mr. R. B. Bennett, it represents the profits derived by the railway contracting firm of Mackenzie & Mann from contracts given by Mackenzie & Mann, owners of the controlling interest in C.N.R. stock. It is the operation of this endless chain of finance that has aroused the hostility of the people. There is a very general belief that the methods of letting construction contracts on the C.N.R. have put into the private pockets of its two chief promoters many millions of dollars that should have been used upon the road itself. Specific cases are put forward where C.N.R. sub-contractors have taken work for half or less than half the amount paid by the C.N.R. to Mackenzie and Mann for the work.

Parliament has a plain duty to perform before another dollar goes from the public till to the company of another public obligation by way of guarantee it entered into. The truth or falsity of these statements must be established. If twenty or thirty millions of the private fortunes of Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann represent profits made out of C.N.R. construction and invested elsewhere, it is surely not too much to ask that the owners of the C.N.R. put this money back into the road before asking the people of Canada, who have no monetary interest in it other than the possession of seven million dollars' worth of common stock, to come to their rescue. When the parliamentarian throws up his hands in helplessness he should be told that it is his plain duty to discover if the money raised for C.N.R. construction has been entirely devoted to that end before discussing the granting of further aid.

A GREAT OFFER

The Daily Mail will be mailed to any address in New Brunswick until May 1st for only Twenty Five Cents. This period will include the session of the Legislature, which judging by recent events is likely to be far more interesting this year than it was last. If you are not a reader of The Mail you do not know what is going on in political circles. Subscribe now.

ALL IS OVER BUT THE SHOUTING

New York, March 16—A special cable to the New York American from London says:

Irish party leaders are determined that the Home Rule Bill shall go through without further concessions to Ulster, whatever happens.

T. P. O'Connor sends the following message to the New York American:

"All is over, but the shouting. There will still be a good deal of shouting, but it will not matter. The government has said their last word; the Tories may take it or leave it. I think they will take it."

Joseph Devlin, in a spirited article in a local newspaper writes:

"The Carsonites are not to be conciliated at any cost. The Home Rule Bill should be carried as it stands, and the government must take the responsibility of enforcing the law against the aristocrats plotting rebellion."

Devlin is now regarded as a most powerful influence in the Irish party, and great weight is attached to his manifesto.

New York, March 16—Seventeen thousand pots of shamrocks were brought to port yesterday by the Cunard liner Mauretania for the annual celebration of March 17. The little green plants were looked after by loyal Irishmen in the Mauretania's crew. Every sailor wore a small bunch in his lap when he came ashore last night.

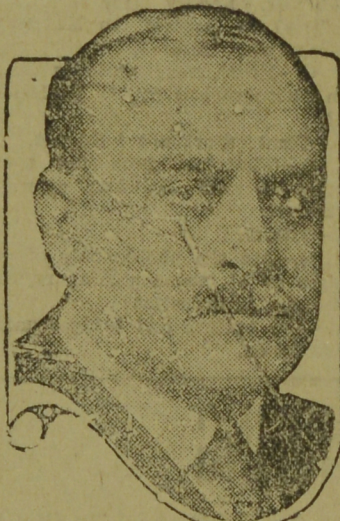
WORDS THAT SPEAK

Bang—"a sudden noise like that from a gun" is the definition given by the dictionary. But the explanation is befogging and futile, for a "bang" is—well, what better describe it than that simple word itself?

So many of our most expressive words seem similarly to have sprung from a desire to form with the lips a sound mimicking the thing described. Why waste words on a definition of the word "splash" for example? You hear all the abrupt, restless heaving of the waters in that one word.

And does even a baby need to be told what "buzz" means when a bumble bee is leading a forlorn hope against the pantry window? "Tinkle," "whistle," "whine," "gurgle," "cackle," "leer"—these are only a few of our other eloquently descriptive words.

It is also extremely interesting to note the sharp distinction drawn between the words of opposite meaning, so as to emphasize their difference in sound—thus, "brisk, lazy" (or "sluggish"); "hot, lay"; "down, up"; "jolly miserable"; and so on.



THOMAS M. SCHUMACHER

who was elected chairman of the board of directors of the big Rock Island system after 34 years of railroad experience. He began as a telegraph operator.

Joseph Gilman of Dover, N.H., has bought the trotter Bloufett, 2:21, and will race him over the half-mile tracks.

DID CHILD WAKE UP CROSS OR FEVERISH

Look, Mother! If Tongue is Coated Give California Syrup of Figs"

Mothers can rest easy after giving "California Syrup of Figs," because in a few hours all the clogged-up waste, sour bile and fermenting food gently moves out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. Children simply will not take the time from play to empty their bowels, and they become tightly packed, liver gets sluggish and stomach disordered.

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Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," then look carefully and see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company." We make no smaller size. Hand back with contempt any other fig syrup.

A DECK OF CARDS

The Four Suits Originally Represented Classes of People

Quite apart from their use in various games, playing cards are an interesting study from historical and pictorial points of view. Take first their numerical arrangement. Fifty-two cards, 365 pips or dots, and 13 tricks, representing the weeks and days in the year and the lunar months. There are four suits, representing four classes of people as they were divided at the time the pack of cards we now use was devised by the French. The "spades" stood for pikemen or soldiers, the "clubs" for clover, typifying farmers, the "diamonds" for building tiles, representing artisans, and the "hearts" for choirmen or ecclesiastics. The "kings" and "queens" at that time were more or less correct likenesses of certain royal and noble personages. Even in our modern packs it is said that one of the "queens" is a conventionalized portrait of Elizabeth of York, was engaged to the Dauphin of France. The "knave" was then the King's jester, and even these cards may be portraits. All the court cards, in fact, retain their 16th-century characteristics. Cards are amongst the few things that have not changed with the centuries.



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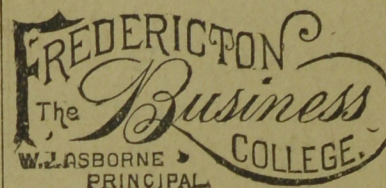
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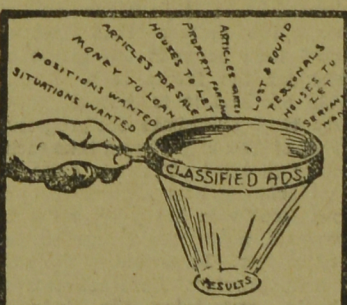
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