

# The Pioneer Express.

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NUMBER 11

## THE BANK OF OTTAWA

ESTABLISHED 1854

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 Total Assets over - \$5,000,000

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TERMS, \$2.00 PER ANNUM

### WARDWELL & THOMPSON.

F. A. Wardwell. G.G. Thompson

### THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

Except for the usual "assaults and counter assaults" along the long lines of combat there is little on which to comment this week in actual fighting or progress made by the opposing forces.

The news of the week however is significant; Roumania has at last entered into the war on the side of the entente allies.

Ever since the war began the attitude of Roumania has been a question. Conflicting statements placed her sometimes as favoring one side and the other. The king of Roumania is a German and would naturally favor the Teutons. His people were somewhat divided but the majority favored the allies. Hatred of the Bulgarians was also a factor, but practically all critics agree that Roumania has simply been waiting to see which side would be successful before joining in the strife, and that she now joins the war simply to be able to add to her territorial possessions in the final settlement when peace comes.

If Roumania has guessed right then Bulgaria which went in some months ago on the side of Germany, has guessed wrong and the results will be disastrous to her.

In a military sense the action of Roumania at this time means considerable. Up to this time Germany and Austria have been receiving large amounts of food stuffs from Roumania. Roumania also has oil wells and has supplied Germany with large quantities of petrol. Now Germany will have only the oil wells of Galicia to depend upon and the Russians have already captured some of these and are close to the others. The fact that Roumania has practically decided that the allies will finally win will have a large moral aspect that will have considerable military influence.

As a military force Roumania will add a half million of fresh troops to the allies at a somewhat critical period and will be a very welcome addition to the already long lines of offense.

Besides this, it opens up a large part of the Austrian boundary that heretofore was secure because of the neutrality of Roumania. It will add many more miles of offense to the already long lines

that reach from Riga through Poland and Galicia. The Russian and Roumanian armies are reported as having already made junction.

Austria is now defending her borders from direct or threatened invasion from the Italians on the south, from the Russians on the northwest, from Roumania on the west, and incidentally from the French-English-Serbian armies who are rallying out from Salonika.

It appears as if we shall look toward Austria for the mere stirring events during the next few weeks, though possibly this may be the signal for a heavier pressure on the other fronts to prevent any large number of Teuton troops going to the rescue of Austria against the Roumanians.

When Serbia declared war the kaiser rushed his armies there and crushed that small kingdom before the allies had time to stop him. In the present instance the question becomes can he do the same thing with Roumania?

### THE STRIKE AND POLITICS

As we write this editorial the question of the railway strike hangs in the balance. Next Monday morning may see all the railways of the country stopped and with this thousands of other industries which depend upon railroad facilities.

Whether the railway difficulties are settled or whether a calamitous strike ensues is a question of hours, but even at this time the controversy has gone far enough that its political effects will certainly be far reaching in the two remaining months of the campaign.

Whether Mr. Wilson has acted rightly or wrongly in his attempt to settle the difference; whether he has acted in good faith without reference to his own political prospects need not be discussed here; the present point is that his acts will have great political influence.

Whether the brotherhoods purposely chose this time or whether the proposed strike is merely coincident also cuts but little figure in the actual result. The railway strike will necessarily be a campaign issue.

At this time we are willing to go on record as prophesying that if the strike does occur that it will become the principal issue on election day in November, and that even if it is settled or partially settled that it will still be one of the principal issues in determining the selection of the next president.

As we write, it is proposed by the president to bring the controversy before congress. In brief the president has told the employers that they must give the employees an eight hour day. The managers say that it will cost the roads \$50,000,000 and that the roads will go bankrupt. The president says raise your freight rates. But the managers say it will take congressional action to do that and we want a guarantee from congress that we shall be allowed to raise rates. Now the president is attempting to force the democratic majority to give such a guarantee.

That congress will not enjoy the medicine that Dr. Wilson has prepared for them goes without saying. All the representatives and half the senators are up for re election this fall. That they will have to declare themselves and take sides does not appeal to them as a pleasant prospect. If this question does come into the congressional halls for solution we prophesy about the hottest debates that have been heard in those halls for many a year. It may be that the congressmen can fix up some temporary compromise that will let them adjourn without putting each member on record but it will be rather difficult.

As to the president himself we think on the whole that he will lose votes through the strike question. He will undoubtedly gain some votes from the brotherhoods. There are about 400,000 of these. These, however, form but eighteen per cent of the total of railway employees, and but two per cent of the voting population of the United States.

The fact is well known to the general public and certainly to the employees themselves, that while it may be a question whether the brotherhoods are well paid, there is no questioning the fact that the other eighty-two per cent are mostly paid small wages. And these low paid employes are today wondering what show they will have to get an increase in pay if the trainmen get so large an increase. The answer to a demand from these to the railway managers would be obviously "We pay the trainmen so much that we cannot pay you more." What proportion of these railway laborers will vote for Mr. Wilson?

The further ventilation of these matters will bring home to the general public the fact that President Wilson has arbitrarily forced the managers to grant ten hours wages in return for eight hours work and that he has, at least attempted, to force congress as the representatives of the people to say, take the increased wages from the pockets of the people—and this without asking the people, and without showing the people.

The question at the polls in November will not be, shall the trainmen receive \$50,000,000 increase in wages, but rather shall any man have the power, to order the people to pay such a sum or any other amount without their knowledge and consent?

It is the old question of the American revolution. With arbitration the people would have representation. Now it is taxation without representation. So far the people have had no representation in this railway controversy. All they know is that President Wilson says they must pay over the \$50,000,000.

At the November election the people will then have something to say in this matter. It will be a political question then, whether the brotherhoods or the president intend it or desire it.

### CANADIAN STOCK SHIPMENT.

In sauntering around the station at Noyes the other day, a train of cattle, consisting of fifty three cars, in number over twenty-five hundred head, came in on the Great Northern. They were consigned to the stock yards at St. Paul. Some were ready for the butcher while others would have to be fed before they would be fit for the block. On enquiring we learned that there are also from two to three special trains a week carrying fish from Prince Rupert and other points for the American markets, over the same road.

These shipments are regular occurrences. It struck us forcibly, for we knew the government don't get a cent in revenue from this kind of traffic. Here was at least \$150,000 worth of Canadian cattle coming in free which under the Republican tariff would have netted the government \$25,000 to \$30,000 in duty. The duty on fish used to be a half cent a pound, which amounted to several hundred dollars per car. These are also free under the present Democratic regulations. Is it any wonder that you have to lick a revenue stamp every time you send a phone message, or a twenty-five cent parcel by express.

We would not say anything about it if we were allowed the same privilege in shipping into Canada. But the Canadians believe in Republican doctrine, and having the Canadian markets for Canadians. It is a rule that has built up United States industries and it will build up the Canadian industries the same.

These local ports that used to turn in over \$30,000 monthly, into the government treasury under Republican ruling are not taking in enough cash now to pay the expenses of the office.

We imagine that after the 4th of March next you will quit licking revenue stamps, and our neighbors to the north will have to pay the same amount of duty on exports that we have to pay to ship stuff into Canada.

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATING.

We received a visit from Mr. Henry R. Cates of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Friday. Mr. Cates was sent out by the federal government to look into the weed situation in this state and to ascertain the actual condition in different localities and what weed were the most destructive to crops, and also what remedies were applied to eradicate them. The Pioneer Express learned the following:

He has travelled over every section of the state, and has drawn a map showing where the different noxious weeds thrive the most. This map is interesting. It shows this northeast corner of the state to be infested with the sow thistle more than any other part. But it is extending to other localities fast. His map showed that the French weed that was

the bane of contention to the farmers here twenty years ago is the most obnoxious weed in the Moose River country now. This weed is diminished here and is given but little attention.

Around Marion and Litchville, southwest of Fargo, they have what is called "Toad Flax" that is giving the farmers lots of trouble and promises to equal the sow thistle in destructiveness to small grain. It derives its name from its similarity to flax.

His map showed that in the western part of the state the "Tumbling Mustard" is spreading over the country at a rapid rate. This plant is confined to the dryer areas of the state and when the season is wet it does not do well.

It is through the appeal of Senator McCumber and other members from North Dakota that the government is taking this step.

On being asked what he would recommend to the department Mr. Cates said his report would only show conditions out here. But one thing he thought essential would be to recommend that the federal government take supervision of public highways to see that all kinds of weeds be destroyed at the proper time.

### LOOKING BACKWARD.

The Democrats promised in their 1912 campaign to reduce the cost of living by reducing tariff. Today, notwithstanding the fact that imports are the greatest in our history, the cost of living is soaring.

They steer clear of that subject in the platform of 1916. They promised economy, and their appropriations, even in times of peace, exceeded all records in our history by millions upon millions of dollars. This is a matter of record. In the early part of 1915, with the European war raging and Mexico on the rampage, they were against preparedness. They have changed their minds on the degree of preparedness which should be provided. They are now making appropriations for preparedness with a reckless and criminal disregard of the wherewithal to foot the bills. With the price of everything going up they have evidently decided that the quicker they drain the public purse by way of taxation, the more they can buy with the money, and these appropriations will provide contract for liberal subscribers to the Democratic campaign fund. Isn't it about time to stop this sort of thing and get on a sane business basis? The Republican party can put us there.

### ROUMANIA.

Roumania has an area about as large as the British Isles. It has about two and a half millions of people. Scattered about that country in adjoining localities belonging to Russia and Austria are about as many more Roumanians. It is to join these outside Roumanians with the kingdom that such adjoining territory is so greatly desired by Roumania and is probably the leading motive in joining the war at this time.

The Roumanians are not Slavs though there is a mixture of Slav blood. They claim to be descendants of the ancient Romans and by blood and language related to the Italians. They are followers of the Greek church and acknowledge the patriarch at Athens as their spiritual head.

If the allies are successful, Roumania will doubtless become the most powerful of the Balkan states and allied with Greece, Serbia and Montenegro, leaving Bulgaria as the odd and weakest one.

The President is still shouting for "forward looking men" to stand by his side. Men who look backward, especially those who look backward over the administration's record, are most distasteful to him.

We understand that Wilson's latest "great diplomatic victory", which is over Carranza, is just like all that have preceded it the other follow is left perfectly satisfied.

I have a call for a second-hand, twin cylinder motorcycle, Indian or Harley Davidson preferred. If you have one let me know condition of machine and price asked. G. G. THOMPSON

Notice to Creditors  
 In The Matter of The Estate of David Collins, Deceased  
 Notice is hereby given by the undersigned J. L. Fariseau, Administrator of the Estate of David Collins, late of the Village of Jollette, in the County of Pembina and State of North Dakota, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against, said deceased, to exhibit such claims with the necessary vouchers within four months after the first publication of this notice to said Administrator at his office, in the Village of Jollette in said Pembina County.  
 Dated August 25th, A. D. 1916.  
 J. L. FARISEAU,  
 Administrator.  
 First publication on the 25th day of August A. D. 1916.

## HENEMAN SAY'S:

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