

Wilson Lone Hand Blamed For Stir Against League

The "Morning Post," of London, has received from an independent journalist in America what it describes as a "frank statement of public feeling in the United States concerning President Wilson and his ways."

"The trouble with the President is not that he is an idealist, but that he is a dogmatist. With all his talk about moral forces, he remains a very practical politician. He is the most partisan President we have had since Andrew Jackson. He has constantly discriminated against New England, New York and Pennsylvania in favor of the South and the Democratic sections of the West.

"Nor has he been willing to take the advice even of the leaders of his own party, but has depended upon a few subservient adherents in both houses of Congress to carry his measures through, such as George III depended upon those who were called 'the King's friends.' He has treated the members of his cabinet like clerks, giving them complete charge of the routine of the departments, but seldom taking their advice. His attitude in short, has been that of the school-master.

"During his first administration he was able, by this use of his personal influence, to secure some desirable legislation. His popularity in Washington was not great, but his skill in public speech won for him a large following among the people. Americans, despite their democratic ideas, have always admired the 'strong man,' and been willing to trust him. But in time of war the personal and partisan element may be a danger."

Warning of War Unheeded.

"In spite of the apparent potency of the phrase 'He has kept us out of war,' so constantly reiterated during the election, it is fair to say that the country as a whole was far more ready than the President, though its military unreadiness was undeniable, to join the Allies. He prevented due preparation for an event clearly foreseen, on the ground that Germany would have a legitimate cause of complaint if we appeared to threaten her. Voices were raised in warning, Roosevelt, Lodge, Leonard Wood, all spoke out bravely, and thereby earned the President's undying enmity.

"The pettiness which kept our most distinguished army officer at home all through the war because he had advocated preparedness at a time when the President opposed it reveals the weak side of Mr. Wilson's character. His refusal to allow Mr. Roosevelt to go to France was another example of the same unamiable quality.

"The truth is that the President has an exaggerated belief in the power of mere words. As a friend of mine once said, his attitude is that of the man of letters who writes something and thinks, 'Now that is over with.' He protested against Germany's illegal and inhumane acts, he warned her not to repeat them, but he took no steps to make the repetition impossible."

"If he had called the nation to arms when the Lusitania was sunk the response would have been immediate and enthusiastic. At such a time the people need a leader. Who doubts how they would have answered Theodore Roosevelt? Even without a leader the rising tide of anger grew slowly but relentlessly."

Wilson "Pushed Into War."

"The President was pushed into war; he did not set the pace. Up to the last minute he employed every possible expedient to stave it off. Nor was this all. After war was actually declared, time was wasted in futile delays. It was not until England and France had urged the sending of troops that troops began to be sent. Fortunately, our navy was ready—no

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WHERE WILL THE REVENUE COME FROM?

To meet the regular expenses of administration, to pay war service gratuities to demobilized soldiers, to provide pensions for disabled soldiers and for the dependents of those who have lost their lives, as well as to carry out the program of public works which is being undertaken to relieve unemployment, it is estimated that the Dominion Government will require to raise this year a revenue of about

400 MILLION DOLLARS

Last year the Dominion Government revenue was 260 million dollars and was derived from the following sources:

Canadian Customs Tariff	116 millions
Special War Tariff	45 millions
Excise Tax	26 millions
Business Profits Tax	21 millions
Income Tax and other Sources	52 millions
Total	260 millions

How is the shortage of 140 millions to be made up?

At the very moment when Canada is struggling with this problem the Western Grain Growers come forward with insistent demands for:

- (1) "An immediate and substantial all-round reduction of the customs tariff."
- (2) Free trade with Great Britain inside of five years.
- (3) Reciprocity now, and free trade later, with the United States.

These demands are apparently made in the hope and belief that, if they are granted, those making them will be relieved of a large part of what they call the "Burden of Taxation" which the tariff imposes upon them. That expectation can only be realized if the revenue raised by means of the tariff is substantially reduced. They may argue that under a lower tariff the volume of goods imported will increase, and consequently there will be no decrease in the revenue. But mark this—they want the duty removed entirely from implements, lumber, cement, oil and other articles of which they are large consumers. If the revenue is to be maintained under such a rearrangement of the tariff schedules, other classes of the people must pay what the Grain Growers will escape.

Passing to the next point, how would the Grain Growers provide for the probable shortage of 140 million dollars this year? They ask the Dominion Government to impose the following taxes:—A direct tax on unimproved lands, increased taxation on personal incomes, increased inheritance taxes and increased taxation on corporations.

Vacant land now pays taxes to the Municipalities and, in some Provinces, additional taxes to the Provincial Government. Income taxes are now paid by individuals to the Municipalities and also to the Dominion Government. Inheritance taxes are now imposed by all the Provinces, ranging in Ontario, for example, from one to twenty per cent. Corporations are now taxed as persons by Municipal Governments, Provincial Governments and the Dominion Government, and also pay special taxes to every Province for the privilege of being corporations.

Last year the tariff collected sixty-one per cent. of the total Dominion Government Revenue. Does anyone believe that the forms of taxation advocated by the Grain Growers can be increased sufficiently this year to obtain the revenue which would be lost by tariff reduction, and also the additional 140 million dollars required, without crippling industry, stifling business and throwing thousands of workers out of employment?

The United States has all the forms of taxation advocated by the Grain Growers, but still finds it necessary to maintain its customs tariff.

If the Grain Growers are to escape almost all taxation, including the great increase caused by the war, what will happen to the people who will be driven out of business through having to pay not only their own taxes but also those of the Grain Growers? Will they try to grow grain? It is more likely that they will go to the United States to get work, as other Canadians went fifty years ago, and leave a population, chiefly farmers, ever growing smaller, to bear all the taxes, ever growing greater.

Again we ask where is the extra revenue coming from?

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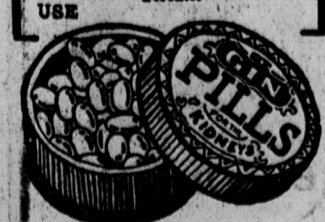
The Canadian Manufacturers Association

No. 2

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BRINGING UP FATHER

