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THE TRADE AND PARLIAMENT.

What is True in England is True in Canada.

"THE Trade and Parliament" formed be subject of a paper read by Mr. ries Walker, Chairman of the Central bard, at the Brewers' Exhibition, Agristural Hall, in the afternoon of the Shult., when the chair was taken by Frederick Seager Hunt, Bart., M.P., was supported on the platform by Mr. R. G. Webster, M.P., Mr. T. W. arpe, (Mann, Crossman, and Paulin), h. H. A. Newton (Manager National inde Defence Fund), and Mr. Albert B. ne (Secretary to the Central Board). my available seat in the room was pied, many being compelled to stand ng the proceedings. Mr. Walker

will begin my address with a quotafrom Shakespeare:

He is but a bastard to the time, That doth not smack of observation.

dess the great dramatist, in writing me lines, meant to convey his opinion nent and by virtue of that office to make public speech, should smack sing events, expressed opinion , or current rumor. Accepting view, and the subject chosen for my what better text (if a text be ry) can I take than the words Roseberry is reported to make min a speech delivered by him at ate does not soon control the liquor the liquor traffic will control the Now let it be clearly understood regard that statement of the prime with grave anxiety, if not alarm. This lordship could prove that there some ground for his assertion, the specially the retail Trade, would judgment) be placed in a position mderable trouble and danger. But the other hand, the noble lord Birmingham with a mis ion to arm; to utter threats aga ... t our and while doing so to assume the he role of a political "siren," aided sersonality and exalted position; the temperance vote;" or

evidence of a mind certainly perplexed if not actually burdened with fear and These are his subsequent words: Well, that traffic, that trade, has exto have been more proper for him to have said Her Majesty's present advis-ers (Laughter). Well, that charge is true in a sense, but not as Lord Rosehery's in a sense, but not as Lord Rosenery a statement would imply. The Trade are not hostile to any Government, as a Gov-ernment. (Hear, hear.) I here claim for the members of the Licensed Victualling the members of the Licensed Victualling Trade that if they are permitted to be accredited with the display of any one virtue more than another, it is that of being loyal and law-abiding citizens. of being loyal and law-anding criticular.

I do not attach to the fact any particular merit, loyality to the Crown and obedience to the law being the primary duty of every citizen, no matter whether he b peer, or peasant, or licensed victualler. I merely refer to it in order to rebut, in some measure, the implied covert meaning of his Lordship's speech, that those citizens that are associated or engaged in the prosecution of this trade have no right to free citizenship, and no claim to independence of thought or political action, even when its powers are called into existence in order to defend or pre-serve their commercial interests. His lordship seems from this to imply that the Trade, even when their rights as citizens are trampled upon, and a wanton attempt is made to despoil them of their justly-acquired property, should offer no opposition, but sit calmly by and present one cheek after the other to the blow of the smiter. I think I may justly prophecy it will be bad for this country if the time should ever arrive when the spirit of any section of its people has unk so low as to submit to such a degree of degradation to be refused the inheritance of their birthright-freedom of speech and political independence—and the exercise of that generally admitted natural law, self-preservation. (Hear, hear). If his lordship's words, as generally interpreted, are to be literally cepted, I submit that he himself strikes at the root of these political principles which to uphold has always been the boast and pride of the great and powerful political party of which he is the acknow-ledged head. Then, I ask, how can the noble lord reconcile his disapproval the action of an important section of Her Majesty's subjects who have only sought to exercise their political privilege in or-der to defend their rights as citizens, without in some considerable degree sacrificing those great principles which not only form the basis of his party's political

clined to credit the first minister of the ment to the development of that high House who are known to be associated Crown with some degree of sincerity (if vitree which should always prove to be only for the passing moment), for if you a statesman's care, viz., mental and phyrocal more of his speech, you will discover sical morality. Now, should not the evidence of a mind certainly perplexed Trade seek to learn the true cause of this sudden hostility of his lordship? Does it really and truly arise from a "Weil, that traine, that trace, inse ex-ident the traine is unique to the very energied a very energied in the control of the very energied in the control of the very energied in the very energied elections where it can do so in opposition to the Majoration and the very energied elections where it can do so in opposition to the Vision of the very energied elections where it can be very energied election where the very election of the very electi Trade's organizations—non-political organizations-for the protection of its interests are dangerous to the continuity interests are dangerous to the continuity in power of Lord Rossbery and his party? I am afraid the latter is the true course. If his lordship really feet the sting of the Trade's organized political activity and power, it may induce him to inquire who it was that first threw down the sme of battle—who it was that sought. the gage of battle-who it was that sought to acquire political strength and political capital out of the discomfiture and contemplated ruin of the Trade. Is not his chief henchman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, taking advantage of every occasion to remind certain hypocritical politicians of his intention to force through the House of Commons a bill for the de-struction of the Trade at the earliest opportunity? It was only the other da that Sir William Harcourt said to Sir W Lawson, in reference to the measu forming part of the Newcastle programme forming part of the Newcastle programme not yet placed upon the Statute Book, "Yes, Sir Wilfred, you know one of them and you may depend upon it that it is not forgotten," meaning, of course, that bill which has since been characterized by Mr. Gladstone as an Mr. Gladstone as an 'imposture. (Ap-plause). Gentlemen, the Trade may justly exclaim, "Suffering is the badge of all their tribe." (Hear, hear). The first Minister of the Crown takes a journey into the heart of the midlands in order to denounce it as a danger and a menance to to the State. The Chancellor of the Exchequer presents to the House of Com-mons a bill for its destruction, and subsequently gets passed into law a Budget Bill that remits taxation in favor of one class, but imposes unfair, unjust, and unnecessarily increased financial burdens on the Licensed Trade. Mark this—it is this great Trade, this vast commercial interest, to protect and to regulate which fifty-eight Acts of Parliament have been placed on the Statute Book during the present reign—a Trade, furthermore that during the same period, by the aid of incessant toil, and the exercise of prudence and economy, has yielded to the Treasury of the State and for the benefit of the nation the fabulous amount have said is a danger to the State. Pur-sing this part of my subject I would ask, is it not known to you all, is it not a fact, that the leader of the political party now

with the wholesale branch of this important trade? (Hear, hear). Aye, and in looking through the Division Lists of the Budget Bill one his led to this conclusion
-that if those members had been less unselfish, less true to their political faith, and less loyal to their party—if they had exhibited in defence of their worldly interests a stubborn determination to oppose, and had given their vote to the epposition, this increased taxation on your critical would not have been imposed; and the said rade is said to be a danger to the Sain Trade, by its organized to the said of the said of the said of the action, a cuture to submit, acting solely for its protection, can no more be danger-for its protection, can no more be danger-ton to the said of the s position, this increased taxation on your sections of Her Majesty's subjects organ sections of Her Majesty's subjects organ-ized for the same purpose. (Hear.) What, let us inquire, is the constitution and composition of the House of Commons? Is it not an assembly of the representa-tives of all classes? Is it not in a wider sense more democratic to-day than it has ever heen? Are not all sections of the ever been? Are not all sections of the people striving to be represented there? Is it not probable that the composition of the next House will prove to be even more advanced and democratic than the present? Note for one moment the great interests specially represented there: the legal profession, landed proprietors, railways, finance, agriculture, religion and arning, mining and labor generally, and the brewing interest. I regret that It cannot enroll amongst this list your vast commercial interest. It is this circumcommercial interest. It is the state of the stance that puzzles my mind as to the nolitical honesty of Lord Rosebery's political honesty of Lord Roseber, statement. Here is this vast commerce interest, this great, vigorous and stirring Trade, incorporated with the very life of the people—a Trade representing the employment and circulation of hundreds of millions of bounds, creating employment for some two millions of Her Majesty's subjects, and directly or indirectly giving birth and encouragement to the de ment of many phases of industry all over the kingdom. No class is exempt from its influence, either direct or indirect, and if any proof or corroboration of this be if any proof or corroboration of this we required, you have but to look through the interior of this building. Any yet this wealthy, this important Trade, is without direct representation in the councils of this nation. The apathy and in ertness, the indifference, the apparent insensibility and supineness, the "never mind, cannot be helped," "best to submit," or, more vulgarly speaking, "grin and bear it," manner of the Trade has a tendency to strengthen the minds and actions of our enemies. Nothing has of the nation the Laguisian of pounds—that been done until lately to endeavor to en-the chief Minister of the day is stated to lighten or educate the Legislature or the general public by placing before them clear and comprehensive statements as to set the temperance vote; or only form the basis of his party's political that the leader of the pointeal party now at this moment prevails. (Hear, hear, party and the party is a party in the party is a pointed by the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the party in the party is a party in the true state of affairs. Gross ignorance