

# POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1926

### The Evening Times-Star

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#### A QUESTION AND A REPLY.

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen in the House of Commons last night asked the Prime Minister as to "whether there will be any budget modifications or amendments tomorrow." To this the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King replied: "I think, my Rt. Hon. friend may rely upon there not being any." This passage at arms is not only interesting at the moment, in view of certain loud repercussions in motor-manufacturing circles, but it perhaps may be regarded as decisive. At all events, the Prime Minister's answer wears the complexion of finality; or, at least, a natural inference from it is that the Government will say to the automobile manufacturers, and to the certain allied interests practically without Premier Baxter said to the insurance men and others when they went to Frederickton to seek, if not to demand, a modification of the increased taxation placed upon their enterprises in the search for extra income to balance the budget.

Whether we view the Ottawa situation from the protectionist or the low tariff angle, the automobile people have got displayed particularly impressive battle tactics. Inasmuch as all Canadian manufacturers in the export market in free competition with the mass production of the United States, and that the protection afforded them in the home market has yielded rich dividends, the "little fellows" all over Canada today, some millions of them, who appreciate a cut in their income tax, or who may be discussing the possibility of buying a cheap or moderately priced car, cannot be said to be worked up to any pitch of excitement by the cut in the duties on automobiles. One need not enter upon a deep analysis of any partisan angle in order to recognize the commonplace conclusion that the public sentiment which favored a cut in the duties is far more powerful politically than the "little fellows" have chosen to threaten the Government with dire consequences unless it swallows itself at their dictation.

Not is that all, Mr. Mackenzie King chooses to take advantage of the situation created by certain quarters by his budget speech, he has been preoccupied with a most interesting opportunity for counter-attack. "Already in general circles one hears men asking what Lloyd George would do if given such an issue in Great Britain. Obviously, he would do much. Should the Prime Minister, adopting the normal tactics of defence or counter-attack, choose to say that no combination of manufacturers, Canadian, American, or both combined, will be allowed to dictate the tariff-making policy of this country, one conceives it possible that his doctrine would be widely, and even very loudly endorsed from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and that the issue of such warfare might not be altogether profitable to the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen and those who profess to believe that this country can be saved only by making the customs tariff higher instead of revising it downward.

Note this significant sentence in one of this morning's Toronto despatches dealing with the automobile situation: "Determination to carry on production in Canada at least until it proves impossible under the new tariff, is expressed by several Canadian branches of United States motor-manufacturing concerns."

That indicates in what quarter sits the wind. It never pays to draw an empty gun or one there is no intention of using. The man who is caught bluffing loses the pot.

#### AN IMPORTANT DISCUSSION

For five hours last night the House of Commons discussed the reduction of rates on the National Transcontinental as one means of increasing the flow of export and import freight through Canadian ports, and checking the enormous volume of traffic of Canadian origin now going through American channels. The debate on this question was precipitated by a resolution moved by Mr. M. B. Campbell, the Progressive member for Mackenzie, and among those who participated were former Premier Fleming of Carleton Place, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Heenan, the Liberal member for Kenora, and Mr. H. N. Smith, the Conservative member for Cumberland, strongly supported the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Dunning, Minister of Railways, while he was willing to have the question referred to the Board of Railway Commissioners, nevertheless said that little was likely to be gained by consideration of the problem in committee, because this whole question of freight rates and ports is at present under review by the Board of Railway Commissioners. Mr. Dunning might have added that not only is the board engaged in investigating the entire issue, but that it was directed by an Order-in-Council to go into every angle of the matter and to seek and apply such remedies as may be found appropriate and necessary.

Mr. Campbell's resolution, however, served an excellent purpose, for while

the Railway Commission is at work it is desirable that Parliament should go strongly on record as declaring that Canada, because of both the economic and the political effects of the disastrous diversion of traffic, cannot afford to permit the existing situation to continue.

The member for Mackenzie should be given due credit for his resolute efforts on more than one occasion to have Parliament take the right steps in connection with this vital national issue. A proper solution of the questions involved will have a very direct bearing upon the prosperity and contentment of this Confederation, and the whole country—perhaps the Maritimes particularly—is looking forward to the judgment of the Railway Commission, which, it may be hoped, will not be unduly delayed.

In Halifax this morning there was a forty-four-mile-an-hour blizzard driving out of the northeast, and a mid-winter snowfall. Even here in Saint John the mosquitoes were not troublesome. The weather is largely a matter of comparisons. One of the humorists has revived an old one to the effect that winter is not only lingering in the lap of spring but that it has lingered there so long that the matter is becoming scandalous. All the delay in nature's time-table merely means that summer will come with a rush.

The bachelor members of the British House of Commons are to give a dinner on Thursday, and they had thought about inviting Miss Ellen C. Wilkinson, Labor M. P. in England; they take these things very seriously; so instead of merely notifying the lady that they would be pleased if she would stick her feet under the mahogany and all that sort of thing, they put the whole question up to the Right Hon. Sir James Tynte Gardner, chairman of the kitchen committee of the House of Commons. This by no means should lead the reader to infer that they intend to dine in the kitchen; it merely serves to emphasize the momentous gravity of the problem, and the need for proceeding with extreme caution in order not to violate the well known proprieties. Sir James' decision is a bit helpful, rather than resembling Solomon's famous verdict about the baby.

The cablegrams report Sir James as having "decided against extending an invitation to Miss Wilkinson, but at the same time wishing it to be made clear that this decision is not intended as a reflection upon her, or her sex." Just what that means, it is not for a mere Colonial to say, but one may surmise that the opinion that if the women of England think it means what it might very well mean through a careless interpretation, then the Right Hon. James Tynte Gardner is going to be exceedingly hard to find.

THE traveler in the Blue Ridge mountains made his toilet as best he could with the aid of the hand basin on his bench. The engineer put the roller towel. He made use of his own comb and brush, toothbrush, nail-file and wash-broom. The small son of the cabin regarded his operations with rounded eyes, and at last broke forth: "By cricky, mister, I wanta know! Be ye allus that much trouble to yerself?"

AN elderly married couple in Scotland who were childless, much to the surprise of their friends adopted a young boy.

"Dear me, Mrs. Mac Pherson," said one of her neighbors, "I hear you've adopted a laddie. Why did ye no have a girl. She would have been more useful about the house than a boy, surely?"

"Aye, maybe ye're richt," answered the other, thoughtfully, "but ye see, we had a wee laddie's bonnet in the house."

THE train came to a sudden stop between stations with a tremendous grinding of brakes. Immediately a workman and porter rushed down the track and demanded the reason of the brakeman.

"What is it?" he asked. "An accident?"

"Somebody pulled the communication line was the reply. 'The engineer put on the brakes too quick, and one of the cars went off the rails. We'll be held up about four hours.'"

"Four hours?" exclaimed the passenger. "But I'm to be married today!"

"By cricky, mister, I wanta know! Be ye allus that much trouble to yerself?"

"Say," he demanded, "you ain't the fellow who pulled the cord, are you?"

HEART THROBS.

Nashville Banner.

These more or less ancient tunes do bring a thrill to the heart and an irresistible desire to pat the foot, which is perhaps the surest test as to whether or not a melody possesses rhythm. Turkey in the Straw, Leather Breeches,

### Just Fun

THE family budget did not begin to grow really serious until the wife began having her hair cut every week.

HE: My darling Rose.  
SHE: (feeling his unshaven face). My darling Prickly Pear.

PEOPLE should go slow with their marrying. It may be their last wedding for several years.

HO, HUM!  
I am Happy.  
I fall in Love,  
I marry,  
I am Divorced,  
I am Happy.

IT is easy to pick the poorest bitter. He comes up when there are three on and two down.

CORRECT this sentence: "I never think of business after I leave the office in the evening."

WE elected Dudley, the office peck, to the biggest job in the land—that of keeping his nose in his own business.

LITTLE JESSIE was making a terrible noise while playing with brother Jimmie's Mamma doll.

"Gracious, Jessie, why are you shouting in that terrible manner? Why can't you be quiet like Jimmie?"

"He's got to be quiet, the way we're playing," replied Jessie. "He's Papa coming home from the Elks, and I'm you."

IT seems strange that those who profess so much knowledge of the next world know so little about this one.

An auctioneer had passed away One morning, just at dawn. So on his tombstone was engraved, "Going, going, GONE."

TEACHER: "I have went. That's wrong, isn't it?"  
PUPIL: "Yes, ma'am."  
Teacher: "Why is it wrong?"  
PUPIL: "Because you ain't went yet!"

ONE of the ways for a poet to double his reading public is to marry.

THE disadvantage of eating raisins in the dark is that you have to spit out all the raisins.

FOLLY—The doctor says he has saved her life nine times.  
DOLLY—I always did think she was a cat.

THE yield of a whale is about 16 tons of oil, but this is very much against his wishes.

A CLOSED mouth is the usual accompaniment of an open mind.

LITTLE drops of water. Added to the milk. Keep the hash-house lady. Glad in lace and silk!

A WISE crack that is going about as soundly as a new one, is as follows: "Yes, I'm eating an apple a day now. You see I'm in love with the doctor's wife."

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### The Optimists



HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL—ESPECIALLY DURING MARCH AND APRIL.  
—From the Journal, Kansas City, Mo.

### POEMS I LOVE

"O Captain! My Captain!" by Walt Whitman.

NO POET is more essentially American than the great Whitman; yet America was slow to recognize the worth of this man, who sings always with a voice of thunder. Iron is in his lines, the stern stuff of working humanity, the dreams and desires of an exultant people.

In art, he was a pioneer, and, like all pioneers, in order to get his gospel over, sometimes he exaggerated, was too flamboyant, and seemed, at the moment, over-sensational. But time has caused Whitman to take his place beside the eternal singers. His sweeping stanzas are a tonic, but difficult to memorize; yet this lyrical outburst, on the death of Lincoln, haunts the heart and mind of everyone who reads it.

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;  
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,  
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;  
Here, Captain! dear father!  
This arm beneath your head!  
It is some dream that on the deck  
You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,  
My father does not feel my arm, he has a pulse nor wall,  
The ship is anchored safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,  
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won,  
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surface of the road. Current for the magnet was supplied by storage batteries on the truck.

From the five miles of road covered more than 150 pounds of nails, bolts, wire and scrap metal was gathered by the magnet. All of this was a menace to tires and most of it, according to report, was so covered with dust and dirt as to be invisible.

Warning (Collier's).

Grandma (looking up from paper): It says here that young women are abandoned by all restrictions. Now, mind, don't let me catch you goin' out

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### The Very Idea!

By Earl Cockburn.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

WHY IS IT folk are fussed to death, when having pictures taken? What makes ya kinda catch yer breath? Has self-control forsaken? Ya stand before the camera and there's no real thought of fear. And yet you n'er can understand just why ya feel so queer.

You're toggled out in the best you've got, and oughta feel real fit, but when you're posin' like a not, it's that way—not a bit! The camera man suggests a style of view to make ya proud, and when ya try to slightly smile—ya want to laugh out loud.

The photographs are taken and they're ready in a week. And all that time you're achin' for the proofs—to get a peek. At last, when they're submitted—it's a strange thing, still it's true! The best one is a dandy—but it doesn't look like you.

Mrs. Lulu M. Jones, psychologist, says money makes people honest. Now, if someone will just tell us how to get the money.

It's odd what a lot of work, seeds and patience it takes to grow a garden full of weeds.

The inexpensive spring bonnet always looks best to father.

When women buy things C. O. D. MA READING COMMA MARK SO COMMA YOU NEVER PAY ANY PERIOD WHY DON'T YOU TURN OVER A NEW LEAF QUESTION MARK QUESTION MARK COMMA SHE DID DASH DASH AND WENT ON READING FROM THE NEXT PAGE PERIOD

ONCE THERE WAS A WIFE WHO SPENT MOST OF HER EVENINGS READING PERIOD FINALLY HER HUSBAND COMPLAINED ABOUT IT COMMA AND SAID COMMA QUOTATION MARK GEE COMMA YOU NEVER PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME AT ALL PERIOD ALWAYS READING COMMA READING COMMA READING PERIOD WHY DON'T YOU TURN OVER A NEW LEAF QUESTION MARK QUESTION MARK COMMA SHE DID DASH DASH AND WENT ON READING FROM THE NEXT PAGE PERIOD

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WOOL FAILLE,  
SUEDEENES,  
BENEGALINE

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CAMEL'S HAIR FINISH TWEEDS  
NOVELTY BROKEN CHECK TWEEDS

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SOME ARE BORN GREAT, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them, as Shakespeare observed. It is not true that all great men and women are so because of the very lack of those qualities at birth.