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The First Issue of Our Thirty-eighth Year

IN QUEEN ANNE'S TIMES

Protection is no new idea. In Queen Anne's time judges were compelled to sit on seats stuffed with wool and the wool were buried in woollen shrouds under that the wool trade might prosper. Now, however, the question is not whether the farmer should get much or little for his wool. The question is whether manufacturers and stock holders may grow prosperous in the manufacturing of woollen and cotton goods. Let us buy our woollen or cotton goods from England or the Southern States if necessary. Canada is a young country and can afford not to be so selfish as to commercialize systematically the labor of the weak. Canada, with her three million square miles and seven million people does not need as yet to make a practice of working her whole population for all they can endure. As much as possible factory labor should be confined to men.

BEAUTIFUL PROTECTION

Protection is a beautiful theory. Everybody is to be made rich by paying more for everything they buy. The farmer is to get more for protected wheat and butter, the makers of steel and iron are to get more for their goods. The makers of textile machinery are to get more for their machines. The makers of brick are to get more for brick and all are to be rich and everybody is to be wealthy, happy and contented.

But when it comes to building a woolen factory it is found that it costs about half as much again to build the factory as it would ordinary require under free competition. An extortionate protection is then necessary in order to allow woollen goods to be manufactured at all. Should this extortionate duty be granted the workingmen will find that the woollen goods are a luxury that they cannot afford. Look at the questions how we will, protection means unhealthy profits for the manufacturers for which the workingmen eventually pay through decreased purchasing power of their wages.

THE CANADIAN WOOLEN TRADE

The poor woolen manufacturers are in a bad way. The cry has gone forth that they must have more protection or the manufacturers will die. There are certain businesses however, that it is just as well to let foreign countries carry on instead of Canada. Two of these industries are those appertaining to wool and to cotton.

In these two industries child labor and the labor of women are largely employed. The Star's campaign against child labor has its chief necessity because of the two industries. There might be some slight reason for protection in other industries where men are employed were it conclusively proved that protection was necessary to carry on the industries but with regard to wool and cotton the quicker they go elsewhere the better.

Childhood was made more or less for play and the sunshine. Women were made for the homes. The cotton-factories and woolen factories take the children and the women from the sunshine at the homes and place them crowded together for long hours in factories. The child labor in the Southern cotton factories is one of the disgraces of the industrial system of the South. The best Canada can do is to protect textile trades the better.

CANADIAN RAILROADS

The Canadian Manufacturer's Association holding its annual session in Montreal this week. Mr. Rolland,

retiring president, read a long message to the association. The message was a long whine for more protection for everything. It was a shame for the horrid American Railways to come into Canada and compete with our hot house railroad companies. Our railroads, according to Mr. Rolland, have received in cash and land \$233,000,000 in subsidies or almost one-fifth of the combined share capital and funded debt of all the railways in Canada put together. Rolland wants us Canadians to half build the railroads and then let in no competition. He has got the wrong remedy. Let the Canadian railroads squeeze of the water out of their stocks and lower their rates. If our Canuck railroad managements cannot compete with American brains let the managements be changed and get brains in that are worth while.

CATHOLICISM IN THE U. S.

In 1776 at the time of the Philadelphia Congress the thirteen colonies were staunchly Protestant. At that congress strong resolutions were passed against the evils of Papal domination. Almost in one breath the American patriots denounced Catholicism and invited the Catholic population of Quebec to join them in revolt against British tyranny. Quebec naturally refused and it was not until recently that Catholicism obtained any great hold in the United States. Now, however, there is practically an alliance between the Pope on one side and Roosevelt and Taft on the other. Mrs. Taft is a Roman Catholic. Sherman, candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the Republican ticket, is a Roman Catholic, Napoleon Bonaparte, one of the prominent Secretaries of State of the Roosevelt Cabinet, is also a Roman Catholic. There are more Catholic Chaplains in the American Navy than there are Protestants, and many Protestant soldiers, it is said, are now compelled to attend Catholic mass on American men-of-war. Recently Congress granted a subvention of from fifty to one hundred dollars each for the training of numerous cadets in Catholic Parochial schools with a view of their family entering the army. The Post-office department is practically under the direction of the United States Catholic Hierarchy and many Protestant papers which denounce Catholicism are being forbidden the use of the United States mails on trivial grounds.

P. J. Muldoon, Catholic Bishop of Chicago, opened with prayer the Republican Convention for the nomination of the Republican candidate. Archbishop Ireland has sent the message "prosper procedo et regno" to Taft and the Pope has sent a special messenger from Rome to Washington with a secret message for Roosevelt. Catholics permeate the Republican machine that will elect Taft. Altogether the Catholics have a strong hold in Protestant America, a grip far more powerful than the average American realizes.

THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

The Catholics have marked a great epoch in history by holding their Eucharistic Congress in London. At the beginning of last century it was impossible for a Catholic to hold a public office in England. From the time of Queen Elizabeth and the Spanish Armada, which marked the ascendancy of Protestantism in England, until the middle of the last century, the lot of the Catholics within the British Isles was a hard one. Now, however, Roman Catholicism as a religion is treated with respect. The King of England thinks it no wrong to call unofficially on the Pope and the Catholics are so sure of a welcome in England that they hold a great Congress in the midst of Protestant London. There was, of course, some rioting on the part of the London population that had been nourished on the tales of the Spanish Inquisition and the heroic deeds of the English Protestant armies in days past against the Catholic Powers of Europe. But the mere fact of the Congress being held in England amid the great reverence of thousands of worshipping Catholics shows how far England has advanced from the stern Protestantism of former centuries.

CANNON AND BRYAN

It is a political habit with our American cousins to ask men in public life where they got their supposedly immense fortunes. Uncle Joe Cannon has been telling the people how immensely wealthy Brother Bryan is, and has declared that it was an ethical crime for a Democratic Candidate to be the possessor of an ill-gotten fortune. Bryan replies that he is not wealthy, being the possessor of a beggarly one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Bryan takes great pains to inform the public where he gets every cent of his money.

Bryan, having cleared his own skirts, works the tu quoque argument on Uncle Joe. He declares that Cannon is immensely wealthy and asks the people to ask Cannon where he got his wealth. Bryan asserts that Cannon is worth a million or two and that he got it by abusing his position as Speaker of Congress. Cannon denies the imputation of great wealth and gives his worldly possessions as follows:—

His personal property, he says, consists of \$55,000 worth of stock in the Second National Bank. His residence in Vermillion Street is assessed at \$22,000 and his personal effects are listed at \$15,115, as follows: Cow, \$40; watch, \$25, piano, \$300; jewelry and plate, \$350; cash on hand, \$2,600; credits of other than banks or brokers, \$10,300, and household furniture, \$1,500. He admits also owning land and city lots.

UNCLE JOE WORRIED

Uncle Joe shows signs of being worried over the coming elections. He is elected to Congress from the Illinois manufacturing town of Danville. In Congress Cannon has consistently opposed all labor legislation. He has stood in with the trusts, is profane and smokes cigars. The Bryanites, therefore are down on him, and the Methodists have joined with the Democrats in a bitter personal campaign against him. The laboring men have also joined the fight against him. Moreover, Samuel Gompers has brought the charge that the Speaker controls most of the booze sold in Danville. This charge is liable to raise the temperance forces against his candidature. The mere fact that a brand of whiskey called "Uncle Joe" is extensively consumed in Danville is liable to militate against Cannon's success at the polls. Altogether Uncle Joe is liable to find great trouble in being elected from the Congressional district which he has so consistently misrepresented in the House of Representatives.

Clipped from Contemporaries

So long as you want work and cannot get it, you are not free, even though you live in Canada.

The Guelph Mercury says that: Some men are so fond of argument that they refuse to eat things that agree with them.

Religion is a great thing, but it cannot have a decent expression as long as there are child slaves, women worried and men distressed over making a living.

Talk of a full dinner pail is an insult to a decent man. Every worker ought to be able to eat at his own home, with his family, every meal warm from the fire. The dinner pail is a wedge that is splitting the family life asunder all over our fair land.

Poverty makes more drunkards than are made poor by the drink habit. Frances Willard realized the truth of this statement, and in the later years of her noble life devoted much time and energy to plans for the uplifting of the workers to a higher plane of living.

Why should the farmer be compelled to feed his family on that which he cannot sell, while the gambler in the necessities of life grows fat in the products of the soil? Why should any be in want when surrounded by plenty produced by their own labor?

Says The Independent of Bobcaygeon, Ont.—An American paper says from the looks of the apple orchard, we are going to have plenty of jelly of all kinds next winter. The reports of the turnip crop around Brantford indicate that we are going to have plenty of jam of all kinds, so the price of butter will not be so great a worry.

The competitive system arrays every man against his fellows in the scheme of life. There seems to be no place in it for the application of the golden rule of our fathers, "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you." On the contrary, competition establishes another rule of "Do others before they do you." It is all wrong and should be abolished.

The cry against the trusts is all folly. They are the only people who have had the good sense to eliminate wasted industrial energy from the scheme of production and distribution. The evil in the trust is found in its private ownership and ability to plunder the people. The same principles of business, applied for the benefit of the whole people would prove an inestimable blessing.

THE MOROCCO IMBROGLIO

Mulai Hafid, Pretender to the throne of Morocco has beaten in pitched battle Abdul Aziz, the true Sultan. By this victory Mulai Hafid is in process of becoming the true sovereign and Abdul Aziz the Pretender. Time was when the divine right of kings was held as a basic principle of European diplomacy. A group of royal families held the power in Europe and they invented the doctrine of the divine origin of their rule in order to bring superstition to the aid of their power. Since the French Revolution swept over Europe, and since the practical abolition of the temporal power of the Popes, the theory that the kings are the rulers by the power of God has dwindled to small proportions and the doctrine now is that he possesses power who can hold it.

Among subjects obedience to law is necessary. Among absolute rulers obedience to law is necessary when it is to the interest of the ruler to be obedient. The German Kaiser holds it as a doctrine that he rules by the direct interposition of God but that the Sultan of Morocco only rules as he is able. The German foreign office recently created quite a furore in diplomatic circles by desiring to recognize Mulai Hafid at once. Mulai will probably be recognized soon as the true Sultan but only after the European powers have examined his titles, said titles consist of the number of soldiers he can get to obey his commands. Mulai is a bigot and believes thoroughly in the Koran. It is extremely doubtful, however, whether he will fulfil all the commands of the Koran. He will doubt make bargains with the unbelieving Giaour, the French, in order that his rule may be confirmed and saved from attack by Abdul Aziz. In Morocco as elsewhere they, who can, get power and the strong rule. The weak go to the wall.

Last Year's Wheat Crop

Final returns from last year's wheat crop are now available, says a despatch from Winnipeg, and illustrate the immense wealth of the prairies. The yield totalled up to 70,922,584 bushels for which the farmers received approximately \$44,423,044. The total cash value of the crop being \$55,953,444. The value of the grain was materially reduced owing to the fact that much of it was damaged. It was distinctly an off year for grades; nevertheless, 50.82 per cent, of the whole went contract grade. The price for this has been averaged up at 88c, and for other grades at 65c. The crop was a decidedly unsatisfactory one to handle, but was by no means an unprofitable one to the producers.

That chattel slavery was a curse, no one of intelligence will ever deny. But chattel slavery never produced a millionaire or a pauper. Wage slavery in the neighboring republic has, since chattel slavery was abolished, produced millionaires by the hundred and paupers by the million.

KING ARTHUR LAURIER

Laurier in many respects reminds the student of the tale of Arthur and his Table Round. According to the Celtic legend, King Arthur formed an Association of Peerless knights pledged to save the kingdom from all lawlessness, oppression and corruption. The Knights were brave and bold and fought valiantly for the good of the people. But, as all moral organizations decay in time, the Knights of the Table Round became more or less corrupt. The more valiant of the older Knights died or got killed off. The younger men followed their own pleasure and were a weakling crowd upon whom King Arthur could not depend. The result was that the organization went to pieces and was overthrown. This old legend applies today. Laurier the peerless Knight, formed a table round of the best men in Canada available for the purposes of government. They fought valiantly for the right and the Dominion prospered. But the organization became degenerate. The newer members did not remember the noble traditions of the body and the older members who remained forgot them. The organization became corrupt around the peerless leader and the leader now has not the power to impress his own views upon the body of men surrounding him. The result will probably be the result that attended Arthur when the organization of Knights he commanded became degenerate. King Arthur Laurier remains a noble and pathetic figure among a group of unworthy Knights.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Another pathetic figure in the Cabinet is that of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Entering the Cabinet with great promise he has not risen to the measure of his opportunities.

What a constituency desires in its candidate is strength of character sufficient to at least make an impression upon the members or cabinet or Parliament. This the minister of Agriculture has not succeeded in doing.

The Minister of Agriculture entered Parliament pledged to economy and the retrenchment of expenses. The Laurier government has been the most expensive government that has ever afflicted Canada. The Minister of Agriculture does not seem to have been able to stop the enormous expenditures. The steel bonus has run away with millions. Railroads have run away with millions more. The fishermen have received large bounties in order that the fishermen might be bound to the Liberal party. Oil has been bonused and the Standard Oil octopus of the States is being paid money by the Canadian government through its Canadian agencies. All the special interests but the farmers have been subsidized or granted benefits in one way or another.

Only the farmer gets little. The Ottawa plunderbund has pillaged the National treasury for special interests. And while all this has been going on the farmers have suffered. The minister of Agriculture has possessed neither the audacity to join in the plunder in order that the farmers might get back a share of what they pay in taxes nor the courage to resist the plundering operations of his colleagues. At Ottawa, in all distribution of government monies his influence has been negligible and himself a nonentity.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The elections are to take place on Monday, October 26th.

What Canada would like would be less money and more honesty.

Why do men waste their money on cigars, when the air is full of smoke?

What Canada would like would be fewer promises and better performances.

Canada is not tired of Laurier. But the country is sick unto death of the gang around him.

Elections are coming right off. Therefore the government is going to establish free mail delivery right away.

Elections are coming off right away. therefore the government is going to do everything that everyone wants done.

This is THE OBSERVER's thirty-eight birthday. An epitome of its history is as follows:—born 1871, died 1891, resurrected 1908.

Elections are coming off right away. Therefore the government is going to build the Hudson Bay Railway immediately.

Laurier is a more brilliant man than Borden yet the government of the country would be cleaner under Borden than under Laurier.

Sir John MacDonald was a brighter man than McKenzie. Yet Canada had a more honest government under McKenzie than under MacDonald.

The Liberal party of Canada, headed by Laurier, Fielding and Fisher has gone back on all its pledges. Why therefore should it be considered Liberal?

The plebiscite of 1896 arises like a spectre from its grave to confront the Honourable Minister of Agriculture in 1908 elections.

Three thousand London out-of-works applied for a four and a half dollar job. Over crowded England is suffering from unjust land laws.

Governor Fort of New Jersey, since he started to enforce Sunday Closing laws is being threatened with death. The argument of the Atlanta law makers is the infernal machine.

Treasurer Weir, according to G. H. Perley, M. P., has been talking dirt and slanders. Is it possible that the gentle and beatific Weir can be guilty of impolite language?

We are passing through hard times. According to the Liberal arguments when Canada is prosperous it is the act of Laurier; when Canada endures hard times, it is the act of God.

The elections are coming on soon. Therefore the government is going to establish an experimental farm at Woodstock, N. B. These election promises are not worth wasting a thought on.

Big deficits in the Dominion Finance are occurring under Prosperity Laurier. A new idea of prosperity now current in Liberal politics is to run the nation into debt in order that party heelers may be paid big salaries so that they can buy lots of goods, thus promoting trade.

Bryan's Machine Politics

Another feature, besides the talking machines, with records of the speeches of candidates, has been added to the novelties of the Presidential campaign by the Democratic National Committee which has announced that moving pictures of William J. Bryan in Chicago on Labor Day would be thrown upon canvasses at political meetings all over the country. When the pictures show Bryan speaking, the candidate's voice will be heard from the phonographic record of the Labor Day address.

A simple and pleasant cure for a sore throat is made by grating the rind of one lemon and squeeze the juice from two over about two heaping tea-spoonfuls of sugar. Be very careful to grate only the yellow, the white of the rind is bitter. Add the juice and grated rind of an orange; let this stand fifteen minutes and strain through a cloth. It is a delicious syrup which will quickly assuage the irritation in the throat.