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Thursday, October 27, 1921.

In the Wrong Pew

If C. R. Somerville believes in political consistency he should resign as the candidate of Hon. Mackenzie King in London. Mr. Somerville enunciated his views on the fiscal question before the ladies on Monday night. He told them that he was a protectionist, and said he stood for the present tariff, which was the old Laurier tariff, and expressed surprise that Mr. Meighen was raising the issue. He endeavored to give the impression that this was the present-day policy of the Liberal party. Evidently Mr. Somerville is about as well informed on the tariff issue as he is on the question of woman's suffrage.

Is Mr. Somerville ignorant of the Liberal platform? The fiscal policy of the Liberal party is not the tariff as it stands to-day. The Liberal party in 1919 held a convention in Ottawa. It was, as Mr. King dearly loves to call it, "a great democratic gathering." There were representatives present from every province of Canada. After three days' deliberation the following platform was adopted:

"That the best interests of Canada demand that substantial reduction of the burdens of customs taxation be made with a view to the accomplishment of two purposes of the highest importance: (1) Diminishing the very high cost of living which presses so severely on the masses of the people; (2) reducing the cost of the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion, the vigorous development of which is essential to the progress and prosperity of our country.

"That to these ends wheat, wheat flour and all products of wheat, the principal articles of food, farm implements and machinery, farm tractors, mining, flour and sawmill machinery and repair parts thereof, rough and dressed lumber, gasoline, illuminating, lubricating and fuel oils, etc., nets, net twines and fishermen's equipment and fertilizers should be free from customs duty, as well as the raw material entering into the same; that a revision downward should be made and substantial reductions shou'd be effected in the duties on wearing apparel and footwear, and on other articles of general consumption (other than luxuries), as well as on the raw material entering into the manufacture of the same; that the British preference should be increased 50 per cent. of the general tariff."

The convention wanted to impress upon the people of Canada that this platform would be put in force, and the following rider was added:

"That the Liberal party hereby pledges itself to implement by legislation the provisions of this resolution when returned to power."

In addition, only a year ago in Parliament, Mr. King declared with all the emphasis that he could command that "I will stand or fall by this platform."

This platform is a direct challenge to the fiscal policy of to-day. Mr. King has never stated that this platform will not be put into effect. It is said that Mr. Somerville is in the field as the result of a direct personal appeal by Mr. King. Perhaps the Liberal leader has given Mr. Somerville an assurance that this platform will not be carried out if Mr. King is called on to form a government. If Mr. Somerville has such a promise let him produce it.

Mr. Somerville knows, or should know, that in Western Canada Hon. Duncan Marshall and Hon. W. R. Motherwell, who are Mr. King's two chief lieutenants and are federal candidates, are running on the Liberal platform of 1919 and are promising it will be put into legislative effect. In rural ridings to-day in Ontario much is being made of the policy of free agricultural implements. Where geographically it is good policy protection is being savagely denounced.

Unless Mr. Somerville can assure the people of London that the Liberal fiscal policy has been discarded then he will have to take responsibility for it. If he can give this assurance, we ask him, then, as a business man what he thinks of a political leader who so lightly regards his promises and pledges? Is he worthy of being prime minister?

The trouble with Mr. Somerville is that he is in the wrong pew.

Lenine Admits Defeat of Communism.

A little less than five years ago the great Russian revolution began. At the time of its inception a native Russian, a professor in residence at Harvard University, warned a large audience, gathered to hear him speak on the reform movement in the oppressed empire, that Russia's revolution was likely to run the course of revolutions which take place in countries where the mass of the population is still in the darkness of ignorance and superstition—owing to lack of education and opportunity for a modicum of self-development.

The same professor announced that, in his opinion, such a revolution as would probably be staged in Russia could scarcely run its full course under a period of six years, at least. Both his foresayings have proved true so far. The one variation is that the direness and gruesomeness of the events likely to fall outtops anything pictured by the man, who, although a friend of Kerensky, and through him constantly in touch with the big movement which was about to sweep Russia, lacked year-long personal knowledge of the thickness, the dunness of the atmosphere that hung pall-like over the Russian people as a whole. Therefore he scarcely could foretell the kind of reaction such smothered suffering and oppression is likely to generate. Such intuition demanded residence and constant travel across Russia and up and down the vast distances that made up the one-time empire.

Substantiation of the fact that Russia would suffer a period and then settle down to the beginning of normal life of a "civilized" kind may be deduced from the cabled news that even Lenine, the blood-reddened Soviet autocrat, at length is realizing his kind of revolution does not pay.

Acknowledgment of the non-productive element of communism, as Lenine and his fellow Sovietists have seen it, is contained in a speech made by him before the congress of political workers recently gathered at Moscow. He said:

"Our new economic policy, in substance, follows from the fact that we have suffered a strong defeat and have begun to carry out a strategic retreat. Before we are defeated finally let us step back and reform anew, but on a stronger base. Everybody sees what a sharp turn the Soviet powers and the Communist party have taken by adopting a new economic policy, which, in substance, contains more of the old regime than of our previous policy. The attitude of the Soviets toward economic questions during the first half of 1918, when the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty gave hope of peaceful construction, was extraordinarily cautious. Then the necessity of considering the peasants was always pointed out and the role of state capitalism in socialistic construction was considered.

"The civil war which broke out and the desperate position in which the republic found itself, compelled us to change directly to communistic production and distribution. However, not a very lengthy experience convinced us that without having gone through a period of socialistic adjustment and investigation, it was not possible to reach even the lowest steps of communism.

"There can be no doubt that on the economic front, in the attempt to come over to communism toward the spring of 1921, we suffered a defeat more serious than any we have experienced before. This showed our economic policies failed to have their feet on the ground, and did not create that raising of productive powers which was recognized in the party program as fundamental and urgent.

"Requisitions in villages and a direct communistic approach to construction problems in the cities retarded the elevation of our productive powers and were the cause of a deep economic and political crisis. We recognized defeat and retreated, and the retreat is continuing in many places even at present, amid very unnecessary disorders."

Was there ever such complete confession of defeat made. And this by a man who pretended, through the virtue of his cause, to be leading his fellow countrymen to a veritable Utopia.

Proof against the impossibility of communism stands writ large over everything that has happened in Russia since Lenine and the Trotzky ilk have begun to ride roughshod over a misfortuned country.

Surely the "turn" in the dark pitfall-strewn lane has been reached? Russia may soon see the dawn of "better things."

The Prince's Indian Tour

The Prince of Wales sailed yesterday on the Renown for India, completing his tour of the British Empire. There have been many official doubters as to the wisdom of a visit to the Eastern Empire, as India has been in a serious state of unrest during the past year. Serious riots in a number of cases have been suppressed by the military. National aspirations of idealists like Ghandi, Russian Bolshevik propagandists and religious differences have combined to make disturbances almost amounting to mutinies in several states. However, there is not much doubt that the heart of India beats loyal and true to the empire. The visit of the Prince with his democratic ways, his tact and his charming and winning manners will doubtless do much to smooth down difficulties and to bring about a better feeling.

His royal highness is not saving himself on this trip. He is planning as hard a program as he went through in Canada and Australia. As an example there is his Bombay trip. The Renown will arrive in Bombay harbor at 7 a.m. on November 17. The naval comander-in-chief will proceed on board to greet the prince half an hour later, and at 8 o'clock Lord Reading, the viceroy, will go on board, accompanied by the ruling princes on the staff of his royal highness. At 9.30 the governor of Bombay, Sir George Lloyd, goes on board to greet the prince, and returns in a quarter of an hour.

At 10.15 the prince will land at the Gateway of India, on the Bunder, built to commemorate the Durbar visit of the King and Queen. He will receive an address from the Bombay municipality. A state drive through the city to Government House at Malabar Point will follow. In the evening there will be a quiet dinner, followed by a reception.

On the following morning the prince will hold a durbar of the ruling princes. In the afternoon he will watch the semi-finals of the commemoration polo tournament, and afterwards have tea with the president of the municipality in the hanging gardens on Malabar Hill. A dinner and ball at Government House will follow, and half an hour after midnight the prince will take train at the Victoria terminus for Poona.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The bookworm is the chief fauna of the family tree.

The Glace Bay Gazette is the latest Liberal newspaper to give Mr. King the "icy mitt."

Sarah Bernhardt proclaimed her 77th year by appearing in a drama entitled "La Gloire."

Ontario has 176,000 motor cars and trucks with which to take people to the polls in this industrial province.

Extra territorial rights granted foreign delegates to Washington, are to include special passports for one called John Barleycorn.

Canada bought $129,000,000 less from the United States in June, July and August of this year than in the same months last year. Keep it down.

Strike the "Mc" out of McPhail, and the U. F. O. candidate in Southeast Grey has a name with an ominous sound. In the bright lexicon of Grey there should be "no such word as Phail."

Mr. Mackenzie King's stumping tour reminds one of the old lines:

I love to watch the rooster crow,
He's like so many men I know,
Who brag and bluster, rant and shout,
And beat their manly chests, without
The least damn thing to brag about.

The Third Column

IMITATION

It's good to hear a glad "hello"
And get a smile from men you know.
I like to feel, in times of doubt,
That there are friendly men about,
And some who care, and some who'll stay
To help me on my troubled way.
I know that oft my blood is stirred
To hear a kind and cheerful word.

It's good to feel within your hand
A grip which makes you understand,
Far more than words which leave the lip,
The depth and warmth of fellowship.
I know my heart has oft rejoiced
To hear a friendly greeting voiced,
And I have hummed a cheerful song
Because a friend has come along.

If others mean so much to me,
What must I mean to those I see?
If what they say and what they do
Has power to thrill me through and through,
Then why should I not, as I go,
Give every man a glad "hello"
And try to cheer his life the way
That mine is cheered from day to day?

Since friendliness makes me rejoice,
To friendly words I'll lend my voice;
Since kindness warms the heart of me,
A kindly man I'll try to be;
Since I prefer the man who gives
A portion of the life he lives
To others, I shall also try
To be like him as time goes by.
—Edgar A. Guest.

DIVIDING

A young man wrote the writer of these Talks the other day and told of entertaining so much pity for himself that he well-nigh became a useless proposition.

Then he got to thinking the matter over and decided that he would try out something else. And this is what he decided to try out — to use every opportunity that he could to make others happy!

I have this remark to make: This young man will be more successful in everything he undertakes, no matter what it may be.

We really do not accumulate until we begin to divide.

And in dividing we get new viewpoints. Not until we come to feel the personality of another person do we know him.

The soldier who walked and fought and went through the most terrific experiences of deprivation learned what dividing meant.

And it often happens that not until we are forced to divide with others what we have do we realize the pleasure that division brings.

Divide — and be glad to give as much as you take!

The great law of all nature is to divide. The spring gives refreshment to the bird as well as to the traveler. And from the flowers we get beauty and fragrance — while the busy bee takes away from the heart of these same flowers honey that is sweeter than sugar.

We often get happiness — but we cannot keep it unless we start right off to divide it.

And the earlier we learn to divide, the longer will we have to thrill over its many benefits.
—George Matthew Adams.

EASY RIDING

My car's so easy riding it gives no jar or shock, and in it I am gliding at all hours, by the clock; and, as might be expected, my chores are oft neglected, and creditors, dejected, are wishing I would walk. And every mile I travel provides new, pleasant thrills; but, as I throw the gravel, and climb the sunlit hills, the morbid undertaker, the butcher and the baker, protest that I'm a faker who doesn't pay his bills. All day you see me striving to make speed laws a jest, if I cease my driving to give the car a rest, I'm boned by merchant princes for pay for prunes and quinces, and every one evinces a spirit I detest. Oh, why do men like tailors insist on being paid? And why so many wailers amid the marts of trade? Why do they always chatter of things that do not matter? Why do they splash and splatter in language that's decayed? "You ride in your four-wheeler," the village banker cries, "but you should pay the dealer from whom you bought your pies; if one has paid the tinner, the webster and the spinner, the fletcher and the skinner, joy-riding then is wise. But if a man be owing for milk and garden sass, he then is wicked, blowing his coin for sparkling gas; and this the hosts are doing, all heedless they are chooing, while owing for the bluing, alack, and eke alas." —Walt Mason.

LITTLE BENNY'S NOTEBOOK.



Us fellows was setting on my frunt steps and Reddy Merfy started to come down the street with sutch a red tie on it couldent of bin eny redder, me saying, Hello Reddy, youre certeny reddy with that tie on.

Hay Reddy youre nose is bleeding, O no, ixcuse me, its ony youre neck tie, sed Sid Hunt.

Hay Reddy is that tie sipposed to be black or wat? sed Skinny Martin.

All being good joaks ony Reddy dident appriciate them, saying, Hay, never mind all that fresh stuff, the next one says enything about this tie Ill give him sutch a krack in the jaw hell think hes at his own funeral.

And he kepp on wawking past as if he was going somewares, Puds Simkins saying, I guess he thinks we're afraid of him, Id of sed something elts about his old tie if I could of thawt of enything.

Wich us other fellows all sed we would of too, and Pudses sissey cuzzin Persey came and sat down and pritty soon Reddy Merfey terned erround the corner on his way back with about 4 packidges proving he had bin on a errand, me quick winkling to everybody but Persey and saying, Hay fellows, look at Reddys red tie, lets ask him if that ties named after him, G thats a peetch of a joak, who wunts to ask him and make him la like enything?.

Wich all the fellows sed, Ill ask him, Ill ask him, and I sed, No Ill ask him, I made it up, dident I, O well to settle the argewment lets leeve Persey ask him.

G all rite, Ill ask him, sed Persey. Wich jest then Reddy started to go past looking at us fearse as if he was dubble daring us to say enything elts about his neck tie, and Persey sed, Hay Reddy, is that tie named after you?

Ill soon show you who its named after, sed Reddy mad as enything. And he put his packidges down and Persey jumped up and started to wawk away as if he jest thawt of something somewares elts, and Reddy started to chase him and Persey stopped wawking to run, and Reddy chased him erround the corner and then came back for the packidges and if enybody elts sed enything about the tie they must of sed it to theirselves.
—By Lee Pape.

COSTUME.

Of yore the statesman we would note
In high hat and Prince Albert coat,
At present, to avoid delay,
He wears his golfing clothes all day.
—Washington Star.

Leave Canadian Dead In Flanders

Editor Free Press: I was very much grieved to notice in the newspapers of last week that a movement is on foot to have brought home the bodies of Canadian soldiers who gave their lives for the cause of the allies during the Great War. One reason given for this was that "Canadians should be given the same privileges as Americans." Should Canadians be given the opportunity to make the same MISTAKES as Americans? It would be difficult to find an American who has visited any American cemetery in France who is not of the opinion that the United States made a grave mistake in ever starting this movement.

As one who has returned from overseas within the last month, where I have worked in direct connection with the cemeteries of the allies, I feel that it is only fair to my fellow countrymen, especially to those whose loved ones lie in France or Belgium, to express myself very strongly in opposition to that the agitation in the United States for the return of the soldiers' bodies was started by the Undertakers' Association. Is it possible that the same association in our own country is responsible for the movement here? Does it not seem scandalous that the moving of our gallant men should be put in the hands of those who desire ONLY to make money by the transaction?

The desire of a family to have its dear one lying near by, where his grave can be cared for by those who loved him during his life, can readily be understood, but what would the wish of the man himself have been? Would he not have preferred to remain amongst his comrades, who also gave up their lives, and to rest peacefully where he fell in the land made forever sacred by their supreme sacrifice? If the mothers and wives of these heroes could visit the peaceful resting places of their men, and could see the care that is taken of the beautiful British military cemeteries, I firmly believe that there would be no question in anyone's mind as to where these soldiers should lie?

And what of the feeling of the French and Belgians? Let no one think that her soldier's grave is not lovingly cared for, for many of them have been "adopted" by the women and families overseas, who are thus bound in sympathy to the women and families of our own country. Just so long as this tie of sympathy exists so long will the friendship of the allied countries be cemented and the danger of another great war averted.

I have seen the actual work of exhumation in the American cemeteries and I know that all care and respect possible are shown by those handling the bodies, but, even so, anyone who thinks the matter over, MUST realize that, among the thousands killed, mistakes of identification must inevitably have occurred.

Is it not infinitely wiser to leave these men peacefully resting in their OWN cemeteries, among their OWN comrades, and lovingly cared for by other comrades, who were called upon to give up their lives?

JOHN SUTHERLAND.
Oakville, Ont., October 26, 1921.

THE FREE PRESS LETTER BOX

BIG MAPLE LEAVES.

Editor Free Press: I noticed in one of last week's papers that Mitchell was growing some big maple leaves, the size given being 10½x8 inches. Now, they will have to go some better than that if they want to keep up with Seaforth. I am sending you one that I picked up to-day as I was coming home which measured 12x8 inches before I broke one point off. I don't know how it will reach you, but I have some that are too dry to send that go still better, one that measures 15x11 inches, others 14½x11, and some more 14x11, which can all be seen by anyone who wishes to call my way. One of my shop mates got one 16x11½ inches a year ago, but I expect it is gone by now. However, I still have the above for anyone to examine who cares to bother.
W. J. WILLIAMS.
Seaforth, October 26, 1921.

Press Comment

NO CRINOLINES!

M. Paul Poire has said definitely that women are not going to wear crinolines—which has enabled us to breathe freely again. "Long, graceful lines in beautiful fabrics, crepe de chine and satin beaute, but no crinolines," was the exact sentence; "they are too important for ordinary occasions and are in everybody's way. Why should women return to them?" M. Poiret has organized supper dances at the Trocadero, and passed quiet judgment on the dress of the dancers. The woman whose dress pleased him most received a check for 25 guineas, given to her unostentatiously so as not to excite the jealousy of the others.—London Chronicle.

WHY HE WAS DISQUALIFIED

In the colleges where freshmen are early initiated into the Greek letter fraternities, alumni not infrequently are called upon for aid and advice, and one from a New England college recently queried an undergraduate brother concerning a lad he had recommended. There seemed a little embarrassment, and pressed for a reason as to why there was any question about "taking" the young man in question, he received the somewhat naive reply that the fellow seemed to be all right and a nice chap, but that some of the brothers thought he was too much of a student. As the poet said, the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts.—Hartford Courant.

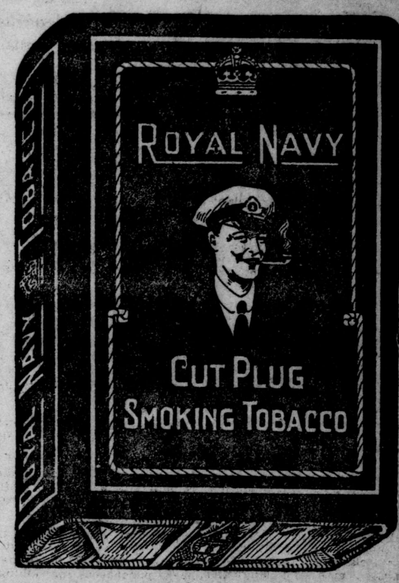
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

The Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842, settling the Canada-United States boundary line, furnishes the text and inspiration for the celebrations. The treaty settled an international dispute through friendly negotiations, and has been so respected for nearly 80 years that an armed patrol has never appeared on the boundary line and a shot has never been fired across it. No arguments or misunderstandings have ever threatened it. We have learned the Canadians are good neighbors and they have learned the same about us. But differances of opinion on tariff issues, social standards and political policies have arisen. They may continue to arise, but a better understanding of national aspirations and characteristics on both sides of the boundary will reduce even these differences to our common advantages.—Chicago Tribune.

GERMANS GAMBLING MAD.

The vivid picture drawn by Lord Beaverbrook in recent issue of Sunday Express of the conditions which prevail in Germany should be closely studied by the British public. This for the simple reason that we cannot afford to be indifferent to anything that affects the future of our late enemies. Germany owes us an immense sum for war reparations, and it is important that she should be in a position to pay it. But more important still is the maintenance by Germany of her position in the sphere of international trade. War indemnities apart, the world would be infinitely poorer by the economic collapse of Germany. And Lord Beaverbrook tells us that she is heading straight for that disaster. A gambling madness has seized upon the nation. Wild speculation is general, not only in securities, but in the ordinary commodities of life. A grossly inflated currency has turned money into dross. A financial crash on a tremendous scale is impending, which will have political as well as economic consequences of the most serious kind. The creditor nations of Germany ought not to sit with folded hands to watch the approach of this catastrophe. They should seek for means to avert it.—London Express.

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