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A SCAMPER ROUND THE WORLD

London Labor
Leader

(By Keir Hardie, M.P.)

Accompanied by Professor Mavor, formerly of Glasgow, I paid an all too brief visit to Professor Goldwin Smith. The Grange, where he resides is a little oasis of quiet beauty in the sea of quiet commercialism which comprises the city of Toronto. Toronto by the way, is the finest city in Canada.

Strangely enough it was in this same house that the Junta, known as the family Compact, about whom and their doings Goldwin Smith has written with such scathing eloquence, met and schemed and planned in order that Canada should be a close preserve for autocratic English rule. Their methods led to the rebellion of 1837, in which William Lyon Mackenzie, grandfather, I believe, to the assistant minister of labor at Ottawa, and Louis Papineau, a forebear of Henri Bourassa, M.P. who, though nominally a Liberal, is a sore thorn in the side of the Laurier government were the principal leaders.

Prof. Goldwin Smith is a tall dignified gentleman with refinement stamped on every lineament. His opinions are not popular with the Canucks, who resented his pro-Boer stand during the war, and think him a crank about unity between Canada and the United States. But apart from his opinions, the man himself is held in great respect, and even affection, by his fellow townsmen.

But it was not always so, when the University of Toronto proposed to confer a degree upon him, a minority hotly resented the proposal, and one of the senators, a judge, I believe, actually resigned when the proposal was carried. The professor refused to accept an honor which was not being unanimously offered, but since then the honor has been enthusiastically pressed upon him, and accepted. Men of principle and courage have only to live long enough to reap the reward of their consistency.

The Professor's Home
The Grange is furnished with exquisite taste. The eye is charmed with the works of art which adorn the walls, whilst rare furniture and articles of vertu are everywhere in evidence. Pausing before a drawing of Sir Robert Lowe, as he then was, the Professor, who is himself slightly deaf, laughingly told us an anecdote of that eccentric statesman. On one occasion a deaf member of parliament was using an ear trumpet to listen to the speeches which were being made, when Lowe, pointing at him, whispered to a colleague on the treasury benches "See how that fool is throwing away his natural advantage."

Wars of the World

Prof. Goldwin Smith, as an enlightened student of history, holds that wars are usually due to the "low ambition and pride of kings" or statesmen. The Crimean war owed its origin to three men—Napoleon Buonaparte, who wanted to guide

afreah his blood-stained throne; and Lord Palmerston, who for political reasons wanted it; and a third, whose name I failed to catch, who saw in it a means of gratifying his desire for revenge for some insult, real or imaginary, suffered at the hands of the Emperor of Russia. These three each working in his own sphere, succeeded in landing England in a terrible conflict which nobody wanted, and which nobody believed to be possible, until it actually broke out, and which no one now justifies. The history of the Boer war was too recent to need comment. Both these wars, unjustifiable and unnecessary as they were, had the enthusiastic support of the working class, which led him to infer that the democracy rather liked the excitement of fighting, and were not, therefore, to be reckoned as a force on the side of peace.

Labor Party and Peace
My reply was that when press, pulpit and political platform were all on one side, as was the case during the recent Boer war, the work people with no party or press of their own, were not to be blamed for falling in line with the agencies with whom they were accustomed to look for guidance, and that with the growth of the Labor party all this would be changed, and the manufacture of the war spirit would not be so easy in future.

The union of Canada with the rest of America seemed to him to be inevitable. For the moment it was not in favor, but it would come sooner or later. There were times when the great primary forces seemed to be suspended and secondary forces came into play, but in the end the omnipotent primary forces resumed their sway and worked with irresistible power. In 1848 the unity of the German empire was pooh-poohed by so shrewd a man as Lord Palmerston. But in course of time the Man (Bismarck) appeared, and the United German empire became an accomplished fact. So, too, in like manner, the unity of Italy appeared a chimera hopeless of realisation, until the Man (Garibaldi) arose and beat down all difficulties.

At present the American was indifferent to Canada, and the Canadian believed himself too loyal to Britain to even think about union as a possibility, but meanwhile all the forces were working for it. The great continent of North America with its community of interests, commercial, political and personal, would not be content to remain forever divided by an imaginary boundary line. He would not live to see it—in a few days he would be 84—but the unity of the American continent was one of the certainties of the future.

Time, unfortunately was pressing, and so we had to take our leave, the old man escorting us across the lawn to the gate. I may never see him again, but I shall treasure the memory of that visit as one of my precious possessions.

TEMPERANCE AND THE WORKERS

Collective Ownership the Desideratum, But No Total Prohibition

(By Tam Mullins)

At the last meeting of the Trades and Labor Council the Rev. Dr. Shearer addressed the delegates on the subject of temperance and in a very able and eloquent discourse urged the workingmen to co-operate with the church in its effort to stamp out this evil. The reverend doctor put forth his argument as follows: The abolition of the bar and treating system, liquor to be sold only in sealed packages and its sale to be controlled by an independent commission, subject always to municipal veto or local option. This finally leading to prohibition.

Several members of the council spoke on the question, and finally the delegates by an almost unanimous vote endorsed the principle.

As far as the abolition of the bar and the treating system is concerned

it would be a boon to the wage-earner, for on him does the greater burden of the practice fall. The moneyed men have sufficient of this world's goods to support their clubs and to them the treating system is no burden, but the man of limited means must of necessity patronise the bar for various reasons. Chiefly because there is no place in this western country where a man without a home of his own, can take a friend whom he should chance to meet on the street to have a convivial chat, but to the hotel. And further, the man who does drink intoxicants as a beverage generally receives over the bar some fierce mixture of "doped" liquor. This is often so rank and poisonous that it has hastened more than one good fellow to an early grave. If the liquor was sold in sealed packages, and under government inspection the consumer could at least form some idea of what he was drinking.

The new movement is an excellent one in so far as it seeks to abolish the bar and the treating system and place the sale of liquor in the hands of a strong commission, but total prohibition, there's the rub. No man who has lived in local option towns and mixed with the working classes

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can conscientiously endorse this principle. People leading ministerial or somewhat exclusive lives see but little of the vice and crime going on in these places. The "blind-pig" is ever present with its attendant vices, greater even than those of the open bar-room. One of the worst of these evils is the gambling vice. To operate a "blind-pig" it is necessary that all must be carried on with the utmost secrecy, hence when the room is secluded enough to permit of drinking, gambling also can be carried on, and in such places as these, men who merely went in for a glass of beer, have for the first time in their lives chanced a dollar against fortune by a roll of the dice or a hand at cards, the game becomes fascinating and they develop the gambling habit as well as the drinking. Whereas the open bar, being always subject to government inspection, gaming cannot be permitted on the premises.

Men addicted to the drink habit, yes, even very moderate drinkers will in some way, good or bad, secure their liquor. Failing this, cases are not rare where men have been poisoned by drinking wood alcohol in the form of perfumes and Florida water. The local option towns of Manitoba, for instance Alexander, Neepawa, Hartney and others can testify to the success or rather the non-success of local option. In Alexander there is one second-class hotel and two flourishing drug stores; eight miles west in the town of Griswold where they have the license system, there are two first class hotels and one drug store. At least this was the state of affairs existing in these towns when the writer visited them a few years ago. Numerous cases can be cited where similar conditions exist, and, therefore, although favoring the adoption of the principle of the new movement, as also, all working men will probably do, it behooves us to weigh the matter very carefully before declaring solid for the enactment of a bill containing a total prohibition clause.

MANUFACTURER UNDER ARREST

Montreal, Nov. 12.—Chas. Davidson of the tin plate manufacturing firm of Thos. Davidson & Sons, now one of the largest tin plate manufacturing concerns in the Dominion, was arrested yesterday charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of Henri Rousseau, who was killed in being caught in a fly-wheel on the premises of the company. Davidson was held criminally responsible for Rousseau's death by the coroners jury on the ground that the wheel was not protected as required by law. He was released on personal bail of \$1,000 and two sureties of \$500 each.

ASIATIC ENQUIRY

Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 12.—Yip Sang, Vancouver's wealthiest Chinaman, told Immigration Commissioner King this afternoon that he believed half of China would come over here if it was not for the practically prohibitive poll tax. Yip continued: "If that head tax were removed I would import Chinese laborers just as did Onderdonk twenty-five years ago when the fare was only \$35. The companies here cannot afford importations at \$500 each."

Commissioner King—"There's no tax on the Japs. Are the companies bringing them over?"

"I don't tell too fast what I think," the witness replied suavely, and the examination ended.

Earlier in the inquiry Yip said, "Wages are too high here. That's what brings them. Chinese laborer now wants \$2.50 per day, when we got them few years ago for half that. All over China they know of good wages here and would come if they could afford it."

The result of the examination today went to show that if the Chinese tax was removed there would be a tremendous influx of Chinese, putting in the shade that of the Japs and Hindus combined.

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