

POOR DOCUMENT

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(THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1921)

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 28, 1921.

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MATTERS POLITICAL

Having failed to get a Liberal Unionist to consent to become a candidate along with Hon. Mr. Baxter, the Conservatives in convention last night selected Dr. Murray MacLaren, and at the same time gave a severe jolt to the ambitions of Mr. P. L. Potts. The latter revealed the fact that he had got wind of the proposal to link up with a Liberal if one could be found willing to face defeat in that company, and his disapproval had brought him into the field. However, he announced that he would support Dr. MacLaren. The convention was not without its element of humor. Hon. Mr. Wignome was there and nominated Mr. Baxter. So far as we may gather from the Standard report, Mr. Wignome was not received with thunders of applause, but he is believed to have the assurance of a more substantial reward. On the whole the convention was more harmonious than was expected, in view of the Standard's references yesterday to "differences between sections of the government party." No doubt the fact that Hon. Dr. Pugsley had declined the Liberal nomination brought some degree of hope in the dark hour of the Baxter-Smith-Jones party. At all events, the party has been able to get candidates in the field with some outward show of unity.

The Conservative convention in Northumberland county seems to have been less happy. While Mr. E. A. McCurdy, brother of the minister of public works, was nominated, the Standard report says:

"It is understood that protests were made as to the regularity of the convention, and it may prove necessary to call another one."

The nomination of Col. S. Boyd Anderson by the Conservatives of Westmorland, and the endorsement of Mr. A. E. Triton, the farmer candidate, by the independent labor party of Montserrat, ensures a lively campaign in that county, with Mr. A. B. Copp easily the favorite.

The selection of Dr. MacLaren, ex-M. P., as the Liberal candidate in Royal is a guarantee that there will be a vigorous fight in the constituency. As it is a three-cornered fight the people will all be in it, and Dr. MacLaren may be counted on to make a thorough canvass of the two counties. Sir George Foster is now addressing audiences in Prince Edward Island, and the Toronto Telegram says he will also speak in New Brunswick. Perhaps, with his senatorial honors still fresh upon him, he may feel like saying a word for Mr. Jones in Royal, and incidentally showing his appreciation of the Baxter-Smith-Jones brand of politics.

The political pot in New Brunswick is beginning to boil. There are to be three-cornered fights in several constituencies, and everywhere there is a growing interest in the issues of the campaign.

WHAT—MORE FARMERS?

Without any desire to embarrass Premier Melghe, it seems necessary in the public interest to call attention to a danger that threatens. We already know from the authority of Conservative leaders how great a menace to this country the farmers are, and especially those farmers who come as immigrants and are successful in agriculture. If they are a menace now, what will the conditions be if more of them are encouraged to come? Yet here is a contributor to the Montreal Gazette, a pronounced Conservative Journal, who actually wants more of them. He says:

"The immediate business of the nation, therefore, is to make timely arrangements in advance for pumping in the right kind of settlers for the land. Not only this! Care must be taken to see that the newcomers are placed on the land under favorable conditions and that they stay on the land and make good there. Thirty million acres of fertile prairie soil lying close to existing railway lines cry out for the plough. The older provinces of confederation have the land and the resources to support many times their present populations. So has British Columbia. The thing to do is to get busy. Let everybody help—the federal and provincial governments, the railways, the press, the Western Canada colonization association, and every other immigration organization capable of effective mobilization."

This misguided individual declares that but for the war there would now be from two to three millions more people in Canada than the census returns indicate, and that "the time has arrived to begin preparations for diverting our share of immigrants this way and for carrying out effective immigration work in the United States and other approved countries." He argues at length on the desirability—even the necessity—of getting as many people as possible into the country and on the land. Thus—

"The larger the rural population, the larger the home market for the products of domestic industries. The greater the purchasing power of the farming population and the villages, the greater will be the activity in mill, in factory and in city building trades. More people will mean an increased volume of freight and passenger traffic for the railways, more business for the merchants, more money for everyone, and a progressive decline in the individual burden of taxation."

All this might have passed as sound argument a few years ago, but the country has learned what nation-wreckers and desperate persons men who take up farming in Canada become; and it is extraordinary that a patriotic Conservative paper would give space to such an appeal. Even more disturbing is the news which comes from Ottawa to the effect that Mr. W. J. Black, deputy minister of immigration and colonization is going to Europe to prevail upon farmers to come this way. The Ottawa Journal, another Conservative paper, says:

"Mr. Black will spend some time in the United Kingdom, and will also probably visit northern Europe for the purpose of studying conditions at first hand. It is unlikely that the restrictive measures now in force will be removed, but greater efforts to secure agricultural settlers will be made. It is foreseen that these efforts may not be confined to publicity and agency activities overseas, but may involve colonization schemes in Canada of a nature not previously attempted in immigration work."

Is Mr. Melghe aware of this threatened assault upon the life of Canada? Does he know that it is planned to plant colonies of immigrant farmers all over the country to disseminate fiscal heresy and Bolshevism among their neighbors? If he does know about it there can be only one explanation, and it is that none of them can get here before Dec. 6, and after that date they will be as harmless as they were before some of them dared to assert citizen rights and think for themselves without consulting the toy oracle.

Why is Premier Melghe featured in gigantic posters on bill-boards all over this province as the savior of the country? Why import this product of upper province printing houses? Why not get out a local poster showing Messrs. Baxter, Smith and Jones in the heroic act of saving Miss Canada from a latter-day version of the griffin, farmers, railroad promoters, Yankees and traitors rushing down upon her with horrific grins on their fiendish faces? That would be a poster worth while. Mr. Baxter's service to the larger bulk would be far more impressive and he is much better looking than the premier. This mild suggestion is given for what it is worth. We should really encourage home industry—should we not? Is not that good toy doctrine? Mr. Cregar wants to know where the money is coming from, but that is a most impertinent query. Art—Canadian art—must be encouraged, and our own heroes must be exalted.

The railroad strike in the United States has been called off. The strike leaders pursued a wise course, since the people at large were entirely out of sympathy with an order that would have brought disaster to the industry, and commerce, without any possibility of improving the position of the men involved. The great need of the country now is that everybody accept a reasonable adjustment to conditions and carry on.

Delegates from the different nations for the disarmament conference at Washington are on the way or preparing to start for the United States capital. It will be a source of universal regret if at the last moment Mr. Lloyd George should be detained by urgent affairs in England and prevented from taking a personal part in this momentous meeting, which may mean so much for the future peace of the world.

Premier Lloyd George, because of divided councils in relation thereto, will on Monday ask parliament whether it approves of a continuance of the negotiations with the Irish delegates. It is believed he will secure a very large majority in favor of continuance.

Mr. de Valera requested the reporters to leave the Sinn Féin convention in Dublin yesterday. Now if Mr. de Valera will cease reporting himself the situation will offer much more encouragement to those who wish for harmony.

Dr. Michael Clark may be in the light as a Liberal candidate, after all that has been said by the toy press about his detachment from the party. He agreed to accept an unanimous nomination and it has been tendered him.

Have you done your share in helping the orphan? The fair has still two nights to run.

OCTOBER.

(Blanche Mary Kelly in America) Amid what bump the year awaits his death, In regal state, majestic and serene, Baring his breast to winter's polar wind, His scripting gasping till his latest breath.

He has put on bright robes of festivity, Scarlet and purple and resplendent gold, Wrapping him close against the mounting cold, And on his brow his crown imperial.

Now in full court the festival board is spread, Piled with the spoil of orchard, field and vine, With steady hand he drains of ruddy wine, One brimming beaker—and the King is dead.

A robin from the maple's topmost spray, Related minstrel, trills his roundelay.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Eloquence Plus. "I don't believe the negro race is naturally eloquent," remarked the northern gentleman, "you have probably never heard a colored bootblack addressing a few appropriate remarks to a pair of dice."

Careless Grandma.

Sympathetic Person—Hello! what's the matter, little boy. Are you lost? Little Boy—Yes, I am. I might know better to come out with Grandma. She'd always lost something! Ambassador John Jean Jusserand, for the last 20 years the representative of France in the United States, has a sense of humor that is a constant delight to Washington. What is probably his proudest boast is that he has never been arrested. The statue was of George Washington. It represented the father of his country sitting, entirely nude, and the snows and wintry blasts of Capitol Hill, one finger raised solemnly above his head. "I know just what he is saying," M. Jusserand opined. "He is saying: 'My soul is in Heaven and my clothes are in the National Museum.'"

The president of the Woman's Advancement Society was agitated. So was the secretary. "Mrs. Nimblewing, who was to deliver the address at today's meeting, cannot be present," said the former.

"Why not?" "Her husband has been seriously ill three or four days."

"But a woman of her strength of principle won't neglect her work in the great cause to attend to the paltry needs of an individual—and a male individual at that!"

"Certainly not; but he writes her speeches."

Laughing.

The subject of laughing is discussed for us by Josh Billings (Henry W. Shaw):

"Theoretically considered, it can out-argue all the logic in existence. 'Analytically considered, cunny part of it is the whole of the whole.' 'Multifactorially considered, it is just as different from anything else as it is from itself.'"

"Spontaneously considered, it is a natural and refreshing as a spring in the face."

"Philosophically considered it lights up like a globe lantern."

"But this is too big talk for me; these flatulent words was put into the dictionary for those giants in knowledge who use who have few low words. I am clean up to the muzzle with powder and ball when they go out two hundred yards."

"If a man can't laugh there is sum bust made in puffin him together, and he won't let he want to match keeping away from as a bear-trap when it is set."

SHIPPING

ALMANAC FOR ST. JOHN, OCT. 28. High Tide... 10:15 A.M. Low Tide... 4:30 P.M. Sun Sets... 5:10 P.M. Sun Rises... 5:10 P.M.

BRITISH PORTS.

Glasgow, Oct. 26—Six str Canadian Commander, Montreal. London, Oct. 26—Six str Bosworth, Montreal. Shields, Oct. 26—Six str Wearbridge, Montreal.

FOREIGN PORTS.

City Islands, N. Y., Oct. 27—Six str Whiteway, Apple River, N. S. Philadelphia, Oct. 27—And str Mable E. F. Cham, N. B. New York, Oct. 27—And str Adria, Southampton; Madonna, St. Andrews, N. B. Antwerp, Oct. 27—And str Patra, New York.

WINTER PLANS

South End Improvement League Rally Last Evening. A membership rally of the South End Improvement League was held Thursday night in the Y. M. C. Club on Broadview avenue. Frank White was the chairman. William Lewis and James H. Hamilton, who had arranged a fine programme for the formal opening next Tuesday evening. A recommendation that Stewart Allen and Donald Robertson be appointed directors was adopted.

The house committee was appointed as follows: J. H. Hamilton, chairman, W. Lewis, C. H. Smith, Major R. Pugh, Kenneth Price, Leslie Thomson, Alexander Wilson, A. M. Belling, Gordon Ward, Charles Knodell and Isaac Mercer. An offer of help during the winter was received from a committee was appointed as follows: Roy Cameron, chairman, O. W. Chesley, George Dickson, Oliver D. Thomson, William Lewis, Frank White, and Charles Warren. Wilson reported that there was a substantial amount in the treasury. A. M. Belling told of the aims of the club, and made a strong appeal for the personal interest of the members. Dr. H. L. Spangler offered continued sympathy from the Rotary Club. Mr. Hamilton told of the good work done by the club last year in keeping boys off the streets.

HOW BENNETT SAW MEIGHEN

Scathing Criticism of Premier by His Colleague Recalled at Stayner—"His Master's Voice" Similar.

(Staff Correspondence of Toronto Globe)

Stayner, Oct. 26—Some candid criticism of Premier Meighen by the present Minister of Justice was brought to light in an address which George Wilkie, M. P., of Toronto, delivered at the North Simcoe Liberal convention here today. This criticism was contained in a speech delivered by Hon. Mr. Bennett in the House of Commons in 1914 and which is reported in the Hansard debates of that year. The debate in question had arisen in connection with an application by the Canadian Northern Railway for assistance to the extent of \$45,000,000, and Mr. Bennett called attention to the fact that Mr. Meighen, who was then Solicitor-General, had been privately advised that a report issued by the company was wholly false. Mr. Bennett also referred to Mr. Meighen as the grammophone of Mackenzie & Mann. Mr. Wilkie stressed the fact that this was the criticism, not of an opponent, but of one who was at the time a colleague of the present premier, and now his Minister of Justice.

Mr. Wilkie, in explaining how the debate arose, said very liberal assistance had been given to the C. N. R. by the Dominion and Provincial Governments. In 1913 and 1914 there was some difficulty in regard to the financing. "It issued bonds," said Mr. Wilkie. "It made a bond mortgage of which the National Trust Company was trustee. It issued the bonds; the National Trust Company put its name on the back, and the railway company went to one of our banks to borrow the money until it could sell the bonds. In 1914 there was a large bond issued, and it came to the government for assistance to the extent of \$45,000,000, and the man who was pressing the claims of Mackenzie & Mann on the Treasury of the Dominion was Mr. Meighen himself. That time Solicitor-General for the Dominion of Canada."

Bogus Surplus. In the course of his speech Mr. Bennett said that in 1913 members were told that the \$15,000,000 which they were giving to the Canadian Northern would finish the debt. "It has not done so," he added. "We have been told that continuously year after year, and this is the question I ask the Solicitor-General. Since when did a fraudulent representation constitute a basis or foundation for an application for further aid? Since when did bogus surpluses and false accounts constitute a groundwork and foundation upon which to lay a claim for the use of the collective credit of the people of this country?"

"The speaker then," Mr. Wilkie explained, "is to the annual statement of the Canadian Northern Railway, which has been put on a table at the National Club. Mr. Meighen admitted to be wholly false."

Another extract from Mr. Bennett's speech read: "What happened last year? We passed a statute by which we were to get \$7,000,000 of stock. And what did we get? Why they set the printing presses to work and ground out \$7,000,000 of paper."

Why Falsehood? "I am no prophet," Mr. Bennett remarked later in the debate, "but there will arise a race of men in this country who will demand that the parliament investigate under oath everything connected with this enterprise. Why were these facts not given to us last year? Why were they kept back if they were true? Why were they not given in years gone by if they were true? Why are the alleged facts would not stand the criticism of public opinion?"

In another part of his speech Mr. Bennett said: "The solicitor-general has directed attention to the fact that he was privately advised that the report issued by this company was false. I am quite content to leave it at that and let it be known to the country and the world that in England who have invested largely in this country that the reports issued from time to time or the signatures of the president and the third vice-president were absolutely and incontrovertibly false and that a surplus which was said to be on hand is not on hand. It had been disbursed and not shown. The statements of that company should show what the disbursements are, and of the money has been disbursed and the shareholders should be told the truth, and not, as is misleading. I am content it should be said the reports are false and misleading, and that private information given to the members of this government or a law officer of the crown establishes that fact."

Mr. Wilkie said the law officer of the crown referred to was Mr. Meighen, and the private information was supplied him by Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann.

Mr. Wilkie quoted another portion of Mr. Bennett's speech, in which he (Mr. Bennett) referred to Mr. Meighen as "the grammophone of Mackenzie and Mann," and another in which he referred to the "impertinent interruptions of this young man."

"There, ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Wilkie, "is the view expressed of Mr. Meighen, not by his political opponents, not by strangers to him such as you and I, but by a man who was his colleague then, and who is now a fellow-member of his cabinet. Not once, nor twice, he calls him not merely the agent, but the grammophone of Mackenzie and Mann and the Canadian Northern Railway."

Double Disc Record. "The grammophone record, no doubt," Mr. Wilkie added, "is an excellent record: a double disc record. One one side was a record by Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann; on the other side a duet by Messrs. Nicke and Bennett, with interruptions by Mr. Meighen rendered on the cabinet grammophone of our premier of today."

"I do not know how one would express more sternly than Mr. Bennett the fact that in this matter Mr. Meighen, his present leader, was not merely the mouthpiece but the total vocal apparatus of, perhaps, the most striking representatives of the big interests that we have ever seen in the Dominion of Canada."

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LOCAL NEWS

Stackhouse, Miss Margaret Barrett, Miss Brunstrom and J. L. Robertson.

If you would share a part in assisting the orphans come to St. Andrew's Rink tonight.

78-POUND WOLF SLAIN. Lobo, the wolf king of Arizona cow killers, is dead. After a long and successful career as a cattle bandit on the Arizona plains he was killed by a Government hunter who brought him down with one shot. He weighed seventy-eight pounds after the skin from the shoulders and head had been removed, and was the largest wolf ever seen on the plains.

For three years, according to reports received by the Department of Agriculture, Lobo took toll of pure bred Hereford stock near the town of Kingman, eluding all hunters and leading and apparently charmed life. Once every two weeks the bandit wolf went over his trail. On one ranch alone fifty-five white-faced yearlings had fallen victim within a year. Other ranchers told similar tales of Lobo's depredations. Wary of men, the big fellow did not mind the near approach of an automobile containing the hunter and fell dead at the first crack of the rifle. The cattle men of Arizona are now sleeping easier, and several thousand dollars in stock will be saved annually.

Toronto Physician Honored. Philadelphia, Oct. 28—Dr. Alexander Primrose of Toronto, was yesterday elected to the board of regents of the American College of Surgeons, to serve until 1924. Dr. H. Cushing of Boston, is the new president of the organization, which will meet next year in Boston.

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