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MARITIME UNION

The second of the series of articles on maritime union appears in today's Times. It has the merits of brevity and comprehensiveness and leads up to the very pertinent question: Why not have another Charlottetown conference?

The writer in a few paragraphs reviews the past relations of the three provinces and tells of the effort made in the sixties to effect a maritime union. A larger union grew out of that series of conferences, and the smaller one has ever since remained in abeyance. There is, far more reason now than there was forty years ago for a legislative union of these three provinces. The west has been peopled and parcelled into provinces, and western influence is steadily increasing. The time is opportune for a subjection of merely sectional jealousies to the larger interests of the whole area comprised in the maritime provinces. Why not summon another interprovincial conference, as the writer in the article under review suggests, and discuss the whole question on broad lines?

SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

The Laurier government should withdraw the election bill lately introduced by Hon. Mr. Aylesworth. After the speech made by Mr. Roche in Parliament yesterday the attempt to substitute a new list for the provincial voters' lists in Manitoba stands thoroughly discredited. When the affidavit of a jail bird, suspected wife-murderer and fugitive from justice is gravely read in the house as was done by Mr. Roche, to bolster up the government's case, it is time honest men ranged themselves on the other side. Moreover, Mr. Roche was able to show that the provincial Liberal leader in Manitoba and the leading Liberal newspaper in Winnipeg regard the provincial lists as fair to all parties. Sir Wilfrid is evidently sorry that he permitted himself to be persuaded by the more unscrupulous element among his western supporters to endorse the objectionable new measure. Mr. Aylesworth will suffer no qualms over it, however, since he has given many proofs that he regards any course of action in politics as a proper course if it seems likely to advance the interests of his party. No reason except a viciously partisan one can be advanced in support of the Aylesworth election bill.

ALCOHOL FRAUD

The manner in which the liquor laws are violated is illustrated by a discovery lately made in this city. The evidence is not yet in such form that the law can be set in motion to punish the wrong-doers, but it is known that from quantities of ale in bottles the labels have been removed and other labels put on, which represent the contents as a non-alcoholic Pilsener beer; and this ale has been shipped to Nova Scotia for sale as Pilsener beer in prohibition territory.

This fact illustrates once more the need of inspectors of all drinks sold in beer shops and saloons. There should be officials clothed with power to go into any place where drinks are sold, select samples at their discretion, and have them analyzed. Then the ale which is sold as a non-alcoholic beverage could be discovered and the perpetrators of the crime punished. For this form of fraud is a crime under the law.

If there were inspectors whose duty it would be to visit saloons and have samples of liquors analyzed another species of fraud practiced by unscrupulous dealers

might also be exposed. It is that of having a home-made decoction in bottles from which imported liquors have been consumed. So long as liquor is permitted to be sold there should be a rigid inspection.

TARIFF REFORM GAMES

It was observed by this paper not long since that there seemed less difficulty in healing the differences between the free trade and protectionist wings of the Unionist party than in reconciling the various factions in the Liberal party in the United Kingdom.

Evidence to corroborate the statement is found in the recent action of the free trade Unionists in East Marylebone. Their candidate, Lord Robert Cecil, gave the following pledge, which they endorsed:

"If a Unionist Government, presided over by Mr. Balfour, should be in power after the next general election, and I, being returned for East Marylebone, with the support of the Marylebone Constitutional Union, should be unable to support the Government on the fiscal question, I will resign my seat and give my constituents an opportunity of expressing their opinion on the question, provided that I shall not consider myself bound by this pledge if a tariff reform candidate is run against me at the general election. This pledge is given on the understanding that the differences in the Union on the fiscal question are to be treated as thereby settled."

Commenting on the fact that this proposition was accepted with favor by Sir Robert Cecil's supporters, the Toronto News remarks that other free-trade Unionist associations may favor the same plan of action, and adds:

"Should they do so, a decided step would then be taken in the direction of general conciliation within the party ranks. Other issues, such as the licensing bill, the educational problem, old age pensions, and the Irish question will share with tariff reform the attention of the electors. The adoption of the Marylebone pledge in a number of ridings would enable the free trade Unionists to stand by the party, and the party to present a united front in the general elections. Then if Mr. Balfour's protectionist support is strong enough to enable him to adopt a tariff measure, the free trade members of his party can give their constituencies an opportunity to secure other representatives. For weak or woe the protectionist propaganda is rapidly gaining headway in Great Britain."

TRADE WITH WEST INDIES

Of the growth of Canadian trade with the West Indies the Maritime Merchant in its last issue made this gratifying and encouraging statement:

"We are very glad to see by the manifests of the P. & B. steamers of the past three months that our export trade to the Windward Islands and Demerara is making a most gratifying progress. The 'Sobo,' the largest ship of the fleet, sailed recently with her cargo room entirely taken up. On enquiry we found that while the cargo contained a fair proportion of fish, which is one of the natural exports of the port, there were also large quantities of farm produce. On further enquiry we found that our four exports were increasing and were even better than last year, which was the best in the history of the trade. There are very encouraging signs and a fair indication of what might be done under reciprocity if Canada obtained a special preference on farm products in the different islands and in British Guiana. In our last issue we referred to the fact that increased trade with Bermuda made it necessary to send a special steamer with a full load of Canadian products a few weeks ago. These are signs that show which way the wind blows."

The addresses at the Union Club last evening were of a nature which should give encouragement to the new city council and enlarged board of trade to put forth vigorous efforts for the promotion of the industrial and commercial interests of St. John. Doubtless at this afternoon's meeting of the board of trade addresses of like tenor will be delivered. The time is opportune. The commercial depression of the past year may have had a tendency to dampen the ardor of some business men, and there is nothing like an optimistic spirit to produce the results that are universally desired.

The discussion in the Canadian senate on the pulp-wood question was of an illuminating character. It showed that Canada is suffering loss by permitting its pulp-wood forests to be depleted to build up industries in the United States. The senate does well to discuss this question and point out the loss to the country involved in the present policy of free export.

The federal government, before submitting the proposed amendments to the shipping act, sent for representative shipping men from various parts of the country. They were unanimous in recommending one course. The government has pursued another. Why the expense of these delegations whose advice was rejected?

The operatives of the Magog Cotton Mills have declined to respond to the call to go out on strike. The industrial outlook is not so bright that they care to risk the loss of work and wages.

The Exhibition Association has made a good beginning in its effort to secure larger and better exhibits of farm produce and livestock. This should be a great feature of the fair.

At last there seems a prospect of getting a patrol wagon for police service. It has long been needed.

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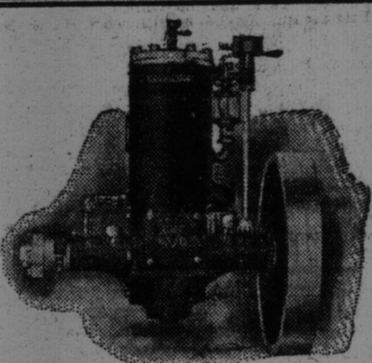
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EVENTIDE

The day is gently sinking to a close;
Fainter and yet more faint the sunlight grows.

O Brightness of Thy Father's glory,
Thou, Eternal Light of light, be with us now!
Where Thou art present, darkness cannot be;

Midnight is glorious noon, O Lord with Thee.

Our changeful lives are ebbing to an end,
Onward to darkness and to death we tend;
O Conqueror of the grave, be Thou our guide,

Be Thou our light in death's dark eventide!
Then in our mortal hour will be no gloom,
No sting in death, no terror in the tomb.

Thou who in darkness didst appear
Upon the waves, and Thy disciples cheer,
Come, Lord, in loneliness days when storms assail,
And earthly hopes and human succors fail.

When all is dark, may we behold Thee nigh,
And hear Thy voice, "Fear not, for I am I!"

The weary world is mouldering to decay,
Its glories wane, its pageants pass away;
In that last sunset, when the stars shall fall,
May we arise, awakened by Thy call,
With thee, O Lord, forever to abide.
In that blessed day which has no eventide.

—Christopher Wordsworth.

SOME OBJECTION
TO NEW HYMNAL

Two New Hymns Which Anglicans Are Said to Desire to Have Eliminated.

(Toronto News.)

There is undoubtedly considerable feeling in the Church of England circles that the new Book of Common Prayer should not go out to the public in its present shape. It has to be presented to the general Synod for ratification next September, and it is felt that if it did not pass that body with entire unanimity the object aimed at in issuing the new hymnal would be frustrated.

The trouble, so far as can be learned centres around two hymns in the section devoted to communion hymns, the feeling of low churchmen as expressed being that it is difficult to read these two hymns in such a way as to shut out the idea and teaching of transubstantiation—the real presence in the Sacrament. They are of Thomas Aquinas and being written with the idea of praising the real presence it is impossible without considerable alteration to make them mean anything else.

Those who desire to see the book adopted in its present form say that (1) Low Church parishes, if they don't like these hymns need not sing them, and (2) if they do sing them they need not attach that sense to them in which they appear in transubstantiation. Two of the hymns, which are objected to are given below. Regarding the three hymnals now in common use in the Church they appear in Hymns Ancient and Modern, but not in the Hymnal Companion, and they appear in modified form in church hymns.

NOW MY TONGUE.

Now my tongue the mystery telling
Of the glorious Body sing,
And the Blood all price exceeding,
Which the Gentiles' Lord and King
In a Virgin's womb once dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.

Given for us and condescending
To be born for us below,
He with men in converse blending
Dwelt the seed of truth to sow,
Till he closed with wondrous ending
His most patient life of woe.

That last night at supper lying,
"Mid the Twelve his chosen band,
Jesus with the law complying
Keeps the feast its rites demand,
Then more precious Food supplying,
Gives Himself with His own Hand.

Word-made-flesh true bread he maketh
By His Word His Flesh to be,
Wine His Blood, which whose taketh
Must from carnal thoughts be free,
Faith alone, though sight forsaketh,
Shows true hearts the mystery.

Therefore we before Him bending
His great Sacrament reverent;
Types and shadows have their ending
For the newer rite is here,
Faith our outward sense defending
Makes our inward vision clear.

THESE WE ADORE.

These we adore O hidden Savior Thou,
Who in Thy sacrament dost deign to be,
Both flesh and spirit at Thy Presence fall,
Yet here Thy Presence we devoutly hail.

O blest Memorial of our dying Lord,
Who living Bread to men dost here afford,
O may our souls forever feed on Thee,
And Thou, O Christ, forever precious be.

Fountain of goodness, Jesu Lord and God,
Cleanse us unclean with Thy most cleansing Blood,
Increase our faith and love that we may know
The hope and peace which from Thy Presence flow.

O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
May what we search for soon our portion be,
To gaze on Thee unveiled and see Thy face,
Vision of Thy glory and Thy grace.

THE SCHOOLBOY BRAIN.

One of the most substantial and genuine of delights for those of humorous appreciation consists in a study of the answers made by schoolgirls and schoolboys in examination papers. A writer in the current "Harper's Weekly" has collected a new batch of these, which the following specimens are among the most choice:

"Blood consists of two colorless—red colorless and white colorless."

Asked to explain what a buttress is, one boy replied, "A woman who makes butter."

One pupil defined primae as "the wife of a Prime Minister."

"Gravity was discovered by Isaac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the autumn, when the apples are falling from the trees."

To the question, "What is a limited monarchy?" this answer was returned: "A limited monarchy is government by a king who, in case of bankruptcy, would not be responsible for the entire national debt. You have the same thing in private life in limited liability companies."

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