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MR. BORDEN'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

In number 15 of his "Kingdom Papers," Mr. John S. Ewart, K. C., of Ottawa, makes a smashing arraignment of the Borden contribution. Certainly the force of his logic against that policy is overwhelming. It is the more so, because Mr. Ewart agrees with Mr. Borden's contention that Canada must do nothing towards Imperial defence except be accorded a voice in shaping Imperial policy. He hails Mr. Borden's idea as practically "a declaration of independence," because the British Government will not, as Mr. Borden confesses, admit this country to a voice in defence policy. He objects to the Borden contribution as directly inconsistent with the Borden idea: we are to bear the burden without any participation in counsel.

Said Mr. Borden in the House of Commons, Nov. 24, 1910:

"If Canada and any other dominions of the Empire are to take their part as nations of this Empire in the defence of the Empire as a whole, shall it be that we, contributing to that defence of the whole Empire, shall have absolutely, as citizens of this country, no voice whatever in the councils of the Empire touching the issues of peace or war throughout the Empire? I do not think that such would be a tolerable condition. I do not think the people of Canada would for one moment submit to such a condition."

But now he proposes to contribute nearly \$55,000,000, though the British Government has refused his request. Mr. Asquith said at the Imperial Conference of 1911 that to divide with the colonies the control of foreign policy "would in our judgment be absolutely fatal to our present system of responsible government, to the very fundamental conditions on which our Empire has been built up and carried on." Mr. Borden said in the House, Dec. 5, 1912, that the answer of the British Government in the previous summer was that "responsibility for foreign policy could not be shared by Great Britain with the dominions."

Finally, Mr. Harcourt sent to Canada, Dec. 10, 1912, in express answer it seems to a passage of Mr. Borden's speech on Dec. 5th, in which he spoke of British ministers hoping to bring about a solution of joint control and responsibility, a dispatch pointing out that:

"The committee of Imperial Defence is purely advisory body, and is not, and cannot under any circumstances, become a body deciding on policy, which is and must remain the sole prerogative of the cabinet, subject to the support of the House of Commons."

Mr. Harcourt refers to Imperial federation as a "policy for many years a dead issue." If Mr. Borden ever expected that admission of Canadian representations to the committee of Imperial Defence would admit them to a share in shaping British policy, he has got a plain answer. His contribution is, as Mr. Ewart argues, directly contrary to the principle which he has several times announced.

Why Mr. Borden backed down from his principle makes the subject of a trenchant and rather amusing analysis by Mr. Ewart. Here are, in brief, the reasons:

1. The main wing of his party would not approve of his doing nothing.

2. He could not go on with the Canadian navy of Laurier, the only self-respecting course for a Canadian premier, having allied himself with the Nationalists and made engagements.

3. A "temporary policy" of neutral quality recommended itself as a party measure. Mr. Ewart shows that the gift of so enormous a sum is not properly to be called a temporary matter. It is like giving away an annuity of \$2,000,000.

As for the pretences urged by Mr. Borden and his friends, they are shown to be flimsy and unreal.

1. The admiralty wishes it. Of course it does, says Mr. Ewart. It wishes to control while we pay. "That argument will last for ever."

2. A concentration at Gibraltar will be "more effective defence" to the Pacific coast than a Canadian-Australasian squadron. Mr. Ewart quotes Messrs. Borden and Foster of 1909, and the admiralty itself of 1907, to the contrary.

3. An emergency exists. Mr. Bonar Law is quoted to the contrary:

"But in spite of all that has been said, does the country, does the House of Commons, do any of us, really believe that there is danger and vital danger? I confess that I have the greatest difficulty in believing it myself."

Canadian ministers have been dodging the word "emergency." And Mr. Northrup said, Feb. 18, 1913:

"There is a something, be it an

emergency, a crisis, or a peril, I care not what they call it."

This definition reminds one of the negro mother, who sang: "Dop't know what to call 'um, but he's mighty lak a rose." The resemblance of the Anglo-German situation, if there is one, to an "emergency" is about as striking.

If there were an emergency, says Mr. Ewart, Mr. Borden's principle of no contribution without representation would reduce to this: "Without representation, Canada is under no obligation to participate in British wars—except in cases of emergency, and except, more particularly, in the event of war."

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

At the meeting of the National Council of Women in Montreal last week, a proposal was made to bring before the various provincial governments the advisability of establishing a system of pensions for widowed mothers for the support of their children. After considerable discussion, the matter was referred to a committee to report at the session next year.

This is not a novel proceeding. Illinois has had such a law for two years. Since then it has been adopted in Colorado, New Jersey, Ohio and Wisconsin. So far as the experiment has been tried, the results would seem to have been favorable. The only statistics we have seen have been those from Cook County, Illinois, where the juvenile court cared for some 327 mothers, with a total of 1,200 children. The cost averaged \$5.75 per month for each child; while under the plan of providing for these orphans in institutions, it averaged in the same locality \$10 per month. The pension would seem to be the cheapest.

But cheapness is not the principal argument in favor of mothers' pensions. While orphan asylums and homes for children do a good work in caring for the destitute, yet on general principles the mother is the proper guardian of the child. It is no argument against the principle to show that some mothers are very inefficient, and that some children brought up in a mother's charge turn out poor citizens than some that are brought up in a public institution. These are but the exceptions that prove the rule. The mother is the proper guardian.

Of course, the question is not one to be decided off-hand. It calls for careful consideration. The tendency of charity, whether in the form of state aid or private contributions, to pauperize a certain class, and lead them to depend on others rather than on themselves, must not be lost sight of. Then there is the element of wife desertion. We have seen much of this lately. If a man felt that by deserting his wife he could secure state aid for his family, there is no doubt it would in some cases be a temptation.

The members of the National Council were wise in delaying action. The experience of those states which have passed mother's pension laws will be a good object lesson. We can wait and see the results of other people's experiments. Many suggestions look well in theory, but prove failures when put into practice. The poor we have with us, and are likely to have for many years in the future, if not for all time. How to aid them so that the state will get the best return for its outlay is a problem that demands our best thought.

WHY ALBERTA WENT LIBERAL.

Morley Manners undertakes in the Canadian Courier to tell why Alberta went Liberal.

The four cities—Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Edmonton—elected seven Conservatives and one Liberal. The result in Calgary is explained by the local feeling that the Government had given everything to Edmonton at Calgary's expense. Lethbridge and Medicine Hat are also in the south where there is a general complaint that in the eagerness to afford railway facilities to the vast area of the north, Southern Alberta has not received its share of development. In Edmonton there was a Liberal faction quarrel. City dwellers, too, are inclined to protection. But why did the rural constituents of Alberta go almost solidly Liberal? asks Mr. Manners, and he replies:

"The first and biggest answer is in one word—Reciprocity. It is true that reciprocity is a Dominion matter, and the Conservative press and platform were most careful to explain that it had no connection with present issues; but the farmers of Alberta looked back at Saskatchewan, and at the more recent by-election in Macdonald, and they concluded that if they elected a Conservative Government in Alberta, that fact would be quoted in Eastern Canada as an indication that the western enthusiasm for wider markets was on the wane. And the farmer of the west today is more desperately in earnest in tariff matters than he was in 1911; because while then he hoped to gain something, now he fears he will lose even that which he already has."

In other words he fears that not only will he not gain anything in the way of wider markets for what he has to sell, but that he may be pinched still more severely by an increase of the duties on what he has to buy. But the Dominion Government must realize that the demand for reciprocity has not lost its edge, and that it would be a dangerous provocation of the western farmer to put up the tariff after refusing him wider markets. No doubt the Government would prefer to characterize reciprocity sentiment by something short of reciprocity itself; but what can it do? It cannot reduce the tariff because it is bound to the interests which financed the last election. Apparently it must rely on the power

of patronage, and on the hope that time will work some economic changes that will make the American market less attractive.

It was bad enough to whitewash Mr. Renna, but why try to put him on a pedestal?

Godolphin intends to show what it thinks of the vote of censure on Mr. Proudfoot.

As to the Thorne letter it will take more than Mr. Hanft's piety and wit to cancel half a line.

Every Liberal refused to vote on the motion to report the naval bill. Will the gaggers now boast that the motion carried unanimously?

The charitable explanation of those forged tickets may lie in the fact that many Toronto Conservatives would do anything to hear Laurier.

It is curious that of the dozens of suffragette bombs found in the past few days, not one exploded. Somebody always happened along before the fatal moment. Perhaps the bombs are not so wicked as they are painted in dispatches.

While the tax rate is mounting and the city faces large expenditures on public works, the sum of \$60,000 is being spent on the antiquated courthouse of which one-half comes out of the city ratepayers' pockets. If this is economy what is extravagance?

The mayor complains of newspaper criticism, but it would be more to the point if he would discuss the courthouse expenditures, the absence of tenders for the incinerator contract, the tax rate, and other civic questions, and show wherein criticism is unwarranted.

Lloyd George pleads for a non-partisan settlement of the land question. Here is a great opportunity for the landed gentry to play a patriotic role and make atonement for the past. Will they rise to it? Probably not. History shows no example of a privileged class renouncing its privileges except under compulsion.

NUMBERED.

"What number did you engage this year?" the wife asked.

"The same old man," replied hubby.

"You know he has the combination of our numbered furniture."

WANTED TO KNOW.

[New York World.]

A Scottish minister was called in to see a man who was extremely ill. After finishing his visit, as he was leaving the house, he said to the man's wife: "My good woman, do you not go to any church at all?"

"Oh, yes, sir; we went to the Baron's Kirk."

"Then, why in the world did you send for me? Why didn't you send for Mr. MacLeod?"

"Na, na, sir; deed, no; we wadna risk him. Do you no ken it's a contagious case of typhus?"

A STRANGE SURVIVAL.

[San Francisco Star.]

Little Marie was sitting on her grandfather's knee one day, and after looking at him intently for a time, she said: "Grandpa, was you in the ark?"

"Certainly not, my dear," answered the astonished old gentleman.

"Then," continued the little information seeker, "why wasn't you drowned?"

ART AND ABSINTHE.

[St. Louis Post-Dispatch.]

The exhibit of futurist art which is being toted around the country at least will convince ordinary mortals that Congress acted wisely in forbidding the importation of absinthe.

NOT A MACHINIST.

"Could you help me to take a chicken apart?" asked the bride.

"I'm afraid not," answered the groom. "I know very little about machinery."

A BABY'S EYES.

[Albion Charles Winburne.]

A baby's eyes, are speech begun.

See lips learn words, and lips, bless all things bright enough to win

A baby's eyes.

Love, while the sweet thing laughs and lies,

And sleep flows out and in,

Lies perfect in their paradise.

Their speech might cast out pain and grief,

Their speech make dumb the wise;

But must glad godhead felt within

A baby's eyes.

THE PRICE.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

The ones who thrive in sinful ways

May think success attends them,

And give Good Fortune lavish praise

For every gain she sends them.

They may be filled with pride and think,

As low and lower still they sink.

The good of chance defends them.

The ones who thrive by spreading sin

And helping to display it

May prize the profit that they win

And to their credit lay it.

But while they count their winnings

Exact a hard and heavy price,

And Virtue has to pay it.

IT IS.

[Yonkers Statesman.]

Teast—I see street gas lamps were first used in London in 1807.

Crimsonbeak—Indeed, I didn't know that joke about the fellow holding up a lamp-post in the early morning hours was as old as that.

SOME RELIEF IN SIGHT.

[Stray Stories.]

"I got a new attachment for the family piano," said Mr. Growder, "and it's a wonderful improvement."

"What is it?"

"A lock and key."

NO DETERRENT.

[Cleveland Leader.]

One of the inconsistencies of human nature lies in the fact that May house-cleaning never has the effect of diminishing the number of June weddings.

THE REASON.

[Philadelphia Record.]

Neil-Has Maude always been cross-eyed?

Bella-No; some fellow once told her she had a beautiful nose, and she got that way from constantly looking at it.



FRONT ELEVATION OF THE NEW MONUMENT.

A FEW LINES FOR MOST ANYTHING

ERECTED IN LOVING MEMORY BY THE EVENING INSURATOR.

OUR CHILDREN: FILTRATION DIED 1909. ELECTRIFICATION DIED 1913.

Our Weak Ones Have Left Us

Both Victims of Public Opinion.

It's rather difficult to convince a healthy boy that manure is his ally.

Good-evening, have you done your Maying yet? Neither have we.

St. Thomas has a new cemetery. It is a very large cemetery.

When thinking of rare definitions, don't forget the boy who said, "A hill is a field with its back up."

Joy and Sorrow.

Soon now will the circus poster, Decorate the country town.

And the young man and the maiden, Do and giggle at the clown.

And can't you hear the lemonade, Their appetites will charm.

But the family doctor, next day, Will be busy at the farm.

To Dr. Hill, of Our Health Department.

How's your health, Doc? We are giving a little affair of eight or ten covers. May we borrow a turtle or two? Promising to return in good order and believing that turtle soup is potent if turtle serum is not, We are, yours, ELECTRA.

Talk has proved dear at Ottawa.

Hint to Gardeners.

A good way to keep pollywogs out of one's penning is to hire a duck.

A picture of Roosevelt's lions mounted appeared in this great family journal. We could believe that they were stuffed by T. R. himself.

Anxiously Awaited.

Free wool, free sugar," hobo cried, "On ev'ry side I hear

What we consumers need the most, And long for, free beer.

Some people have become suddenly frantic in the interests of West London. And West London will get a break-water in spite of them.

After looking over some of the male Sunday regalia we feel like organizing a Society for the extermination of Antiquated Flugs.

Perhaps the Evening Insinuator will give the same amount to save West Londoners as it gave to save Hiderow, 1:17.

Life Too Uncertain.

He walked along a country road, An auto car it struck him—Zim!

And while he rested in a lot, An aeroplane fell down on him.

He was collected later on, But did not manifest much vim.

If someone hit the mayor on the head with the incinerator while he was standing on electrification, would he yell, "Oh, my poh feet!"

These are the days when strong-bearded men are willing to get their shoes full of water to secure two, or three violets for some slurring beauty.

Fame seems to consist mostly in cutting in and getting out.

If all the persons promised jobs on the electric road register votes their is a danger of the scheme carrying.

It takes a fire to make newspapers warm up to one another.

DIED OF TYPHOID

Wm. Trayner Would Have Received Medal for Bravery Shortly.

[Canadian Press.]

Winnipeg, May 12.—Desk Sergeant William Trayner, of the Winnipeg police force, died last night from typhoid fever. Trayner, who would have received the king's medal on May 20 for conspicuous bravery on Aug. 8, 1911, in assisting in the arrest of Harry Kelly and Frank Jones, who are now serving long terms in the penitentiary.

In the fight Trayner received a bullet in his body.

NO CHANGES IN PRESENT POLICY SAY MUSICIANS

American Federation Meeting in Toronto, With 300 Delegates Present.

Splendid Progress Has Been Made During the Year, Says President.

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, May 12.—The rotunda of the King Edward Hotel was thronged today with 300 delegates for the convention of the American Federation of Musicians, which opens this afternoon for a week of business.

The meeting may be a most amiable one, and still, although the national executive do not know of any proposed radical changes in any way, it may result in something of a hot nature.

"We have really no burning question before us," said Joe S. Weber, New York city, for 13 years chairman. "It is the first time we have been in Toronto, and of all conventions the accommodation here has been the best."

Splendid Progress.

"The progress of the last year has been marked," Canada sends today 40 delegates, representing over 2,000 members, and this convention will be the largest ever held by the federation on the American continent. No one can tell beforehand what new changes may be proposed, as any member may send a resolution, and this is referred to the proper committee—then brought before the convention, which is the supreme body.

No Changes Planned.

"There will be no change in the personnel of the officers, but one thing you may say, and that is this, that the entire profession is organized on the American continent. There is not an orchestra, opera, or symphony, or band that is not now affiliated with this body, making it a very large one."

"There will be no change in policy," the president told the Canadian Press.

At 1 o'clock a monster parade of delegates and their friends, led by a band of 100 pieces, left the King Edward Hotel for the Labor Temple, where the mayor opened the proceedings.

Old Masters Will Be Put Up At Auction

[Canadian Press.]

New York, May 12.—A cable from London to the Tribune says:

It is understood that negotiations are in progress, for the sale by auction in London next month of the Stafford House collection of old masters, the property of the Duke of Sutherland.

Since the sale of the residence of Sir Wm. Lever, who has presented it to the government for entertaining the nation's guests, and as a home for the disposal of its art treasures, has naturally come to the fore.

The Duke of Sutherland disposed of a number of pictures when he closed Trentham five years ago, but many portraits of old English masters were retained. There were more than three hundred pictures by painters of international repute. How many of these will come into the market it is not yet possible to say, but it is understood that a large proportion of the collection will be offered for sale.

PARKHILL CONCERT A GREAT SUCCESS

Musical Society Band Made a Hit With All Numbers.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Parkhill, May 12.—The concert given by the Musical Society Band in the town hall was a great success.

Several numbers were given and the band, under the leadership of Mr. Russell, showed remarkable advancement in the players. Vocal numbers were given by Miss Adelaide Gibbs, of Parkhill, and Miss Jessie Steele, of Forest, and received hearty applause.

Mr. Clarke, of Forest, gave several solos and also rendered pleasing duets with Miss Steele.

Messrs. Gordon McColl and Thomas Houghton gave an excellent "coon duet" and were clever as amateur comedians.

Included with the musical numbers was a comic duet by Messrs. Douglas Russell and J. T. Galvin, with the band accompaniment, also a trombone duet by Messrs. Gordon McColl and Milton Armstrong.

Mr. Kenneth Kilbourn gave a patriotic reading on "Our Flag," and was called back by the hearty encore of the audience. The concert was in every way a success.

TAUGHT IN WINGHAM

George Buchanan Dies in Winnipeg After a Brief Illness.

[Canadian Press.]

Winnipeg, May 12.—George Buchanan, aged 53, chief clerk in the Winnipeg customs office, died Sunday.

He was born at Port Hope, studied law in Toronto, and taught school in Wingham before coming west 30 years ago. Many relatives live in Toronto and Wingham.

W. K. GEORGE, one of the new governors of Toronto University.

Mr. George is a director of the L. and L. E. T. Company, of this city.

Geo. B. Monroe's residence property on Main street, and will move into it shortly. Mr. Monroe will move his family to Toronto.

Leo Kells, of St. Catharines, and Harry Wilson, of Toronto, are visiting Mr