

The Observer

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NOTES AND COMMENTS BY THE EDITOR

Richard is himself again.

We have more respect for Mr. Olmstead defeated than for Mr. Fisher elected.

It is now Mr. Daniel Meigs, M. P. for Missisquoi. It may be just Mr. Meigs after the recount.

If the people like that kind of a government, that is the kind of a government the people like.

Mr. Meigs is elected from Missisquoi. We had hoped that it would have been, "Alas, poor Yorick."

Who says we cannot get votes in Brome county. We get more votes than we can count on our ten fingers.

A voter up in Sutton lost his bet over us. He bet we would not get over three votes in Sutton village. We got four.

Libel suits are numerous this election. The only paper that escapes is that wrecker of reputations, the Calgary Eye Opener.

Fisher wins in Brome county. The farmers evidently do not want the government to assist them with their tuberculous cattle.

We lose our deposit in Brome. The government will be glad to get it as they will need every dollar they can get hold of before long.

Mr. Fisher treated us like perfect gentlemen on the stump. We were however, not running the campaign on good conduct, but on principles.

We endeavored to get the Minister of Agriculture to come out for purity in elections during the campaign. He would talk on all other questions but this.

We wish to thank those Brome voters who voted for us, for their courtesy in so doing and for their principles. Their numbers were few, but that is a defect time will remedy.

The Montreal Herald never had the courage to say anything that might possibly be libellous. It is content to bend its energies to the getting five hundred dollars worth of job printing a week from the government.

Mr. George E. Ford has lost his election deposit. This fact alone does not bother him. What grieves his heart is the fact that his two hundred dollars goes to pay the election expenses of Daniel Meigs.

The Montreal Daily Herald sneers at us because we have made no reference to the fact that Sir Fred. Borden has sued us for twenty-five thousand dollars damages to his character. The reason we make no reference to the matter is because the case is now before the courts.

When the people awake they will realize the folly of dividing themselves into two parties irrespective of the black sheep that may be in either party. The time will come when the people will exact that the country shall be run by good men advocating good measures.

The Minister of Agriculture never denied that he had gone back on his prohibition pledges. We could get no word out of him on this question though we labored hard with him. The prohibition question is coming into the political field to stay, however in spite of him.

Standard Oil represents the Protestant group of capitalists of the States. Morgan and Hill represent the Catholic group of capitalists. Standard Oil was hard pressed for money last summer and nearly went under. The Rothschilds of London came to their rescue and the Standard Oil crowd are happy. The London Jews advanced the money because they were not anxious to see the United States dominated by Morgan and his crowd. Moreover the Jew, in reading the history of his people, has little for which he can thank the Catholics for except persecution. Financing includes not only the getting of money. It includes many things which the ordinary reader knows little about.

Theodore Roosevelt, jr., has entered a carpet factory as an apprentice to learn the business. Within a month he has been promoted. The son of the President of the United States is liable to find the way of toil easy and delightful as compared with the wretches who really have to learn the business for a living. He was off one day of that apprenticeship in order to attend the Vanderbilt cup races.

To many voters the government of the country appears to be an impersonal thing that does not interest them personally. For this reason they are willing to take money for their votes. Then the electors realize that the government of the country can be so conducted as to benefit them personally this apathy will disappear.

The District of Bedford has been hypnotized into a lethargic condition by the hotel keepers. Before three years have passed the electors of the district will awake and will gently put the saloon keeping hotel keepers out of business.

The Standard Oil Co. is growing weepy about the eyes over the cruel injustice it considers it is suffering at the hands of the public. The weeper it grows and the more it is fined the better the public will be pleased.

Laurier gets a majority of two thousand in Quebec East against Dr. Fiset. French gentlemen can wax eloquent over the cry, "Hurrah pour Laurier." But what crowd of French voters could become enthusiastic on the cry, "Hurrah pour Fiset?"

Clifton Sifford has suffered a rebuff in the West. His most trusty henchmen have been defeated and he himself has escaped by the skin of the teeth. He will probably be forced to retire from public life.

Wm. Randolph Hearst is beginning to throw his influence towards Taft. Little Willie hardly knows where he stands himself. All he knows is that he is against Standard Oil.

H. B. Ames, of peep show fame, is again a member. He might make a great hit by turning the limelight upon the sources of the Liberal campaign funds of the Dominion.

The Liberals are returned to power. Many members have been elected by corrupt means. Those members whose elections have been due to corruption should certainly be unseated.

Bryan says that high tariffs are the originators of trusts and panics. Bryan is correct. Laurier might try to live up to the Liberal platform and reduce the tariff.

Pope, Lefurgey, Fowler and Bennett are down and out. The Conservative party is made stronger by the defeat of these candidates.

Mr. George E. Ford was ploughing his fields all day election day.

A LAURIER VICTORY

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been returned to power by a greater majority than he himself could wish. The Liberal victory of the past elections had been a victory for Sir Wilfrid and for Sir Wilfrid alone. Had his picturesque presence and proven honesty not been factors in the campaign the Liberals would have gone down to defeat.

There are certain regrettable features about the elections. Clifford Sifton, H. R. Emerson and Sir Fred Borden have been returned to power as the chosen candidate of their counties. These men should have been left at home.

The line of argument adopted by the Conservatives was on the rampant corruption of the Liberals. The line of argument adopted by the Liberals was on the prosperity of the country, and, said to relate, the cry of prosperity has triumphed over the cry of corruption.

It must be admitted that some of the Conservatives corruption cries were not possessed of a reputation of strict honesty and this may have influenced the electors to a certain extent.

Nevertheless the electors have endorsed much corruption under the cloak of Laurier's honesty and the country's prosperity.

CASTRO

Castro is the idol of the Venezuelans. He believes in the policy of Venezuela for the Venezuelans and carries it out whole heartedly. He does not rely upon that effete civilized method known as the protection of home industries. He has evolved and amplified the European doctrine of eminent domain combined with the American doctrine of biased court decisions. When Castro finds any foreign company drawing a revenue from Venezuelan territory he issues an order outlawing it in the interests of the government. The courts decide in his favor. If a government does not like his actions and decisions he breaks off all diplomatic relations with such government. He is putting into thorough effect the doctrine of Venezuela for its citizens.

Civilized countries are shocked at his conduct. They think he should realize that his country is one of those semi-civilized regions especially made for the benefit of the exploiting Dutchman and American. He should realize that his countrymen should be made to work hard in order that rich Americans and rich Dutchmen might become richer. He does not understand why his countrymen should be made to export goods and raw material to America and Holland when they might want those same things themselves at some future time. Castro is not liked by foreigners but many of his own countrymen regard him as the protector of his home land against the exploiting activities of money-hungry foreigners.

A TEXAS FARMERS' UNION

The Farmers of Texas are talking of forming a union to protect their interests with regards to the cotton crop. The modern idea of making money is not that of doing service to humanity in return for money paid, but to get hold of some common article and by cornering it to make it particularly dear. The farmers of Texas are urging each other to hold their cotton for 12-1/2 a pound if they succeed in raising the price of cotton it means that almost every person in the United States will be taxed for the benefit of the Southern cotton farmers.

These same cotton growers are denouncing the railroads for charging excessive rates. It would appear that all over the American continent the tendency is for producers to combine in particular groups and raise the price of commodities. If a man has a farm or a tobacco company, he is likely to become rich. Those who have are receiving more and those who have not anything apart from their hands are being forced nearer the starvation point.

The old idea used to be that "the earth was the Lord's and the fullness thereof." The idea now seems to be that the fullness of the earth belongs to the trusts and the ordinary man must pay heavily to the trust holders if he wishes to share in even the scraps of that fullness.

AUSTRALIAN PROTECTION

The Australian Government is drafting an amendment to the Federal Constitution for the purpose of legalizing the idea of the new protection. Australians believe in a home market kept for Australians, but they do not believe in the manufacturers alone getting all the cream. They are willing to protect as long as the results in profits go to the working class. Australia's government desires to protect its manufacturers and then place an excise duty on all manufactured articles not manufactured according to a fair standard of wages.

In the United States and in Canada the manufacturers are light protected while the workers are kept down to a low standard of wages, because of the over-stocked labor market. Cheap labor is prevalent and women, married as well as unmarried, have to toil in the mills. The wage-earners do not share in the protection and are forced to buy dear goods while they sell cheap labor.

Australia is governed by the working classes and the legislation there passed would make a Carnegie, a Rockefeller or a Harriman hold up his hands in horror. When the workers awake in Canada, however, conditions will improve in our country in the same manner as they have improved in Australia. We will have fewer rich men and more well paid workmen.

RADICAL TRUTHS

A good part of humanity like to tell the truth—about others.

In co-operation is the only hope of conquering the fear of want.

What the world needs is the preaching and living of the golden rule.

The amount of wealth in a state is in itself no guarantee of social well being.

Fine clothes and diamond rings for the big fellows; patched overalls for the farmer and mechanic.

Thousand of dollars for middlemen and other parasites. Where does the farmer and workingman come in.

We have heard of men's hearts being touched on Sunday. The balance of the week is used to touch the other fellows pocket book as keen as the law will allow.

When the workers of Canada get to see that they keep the big fellows, the middle fellows, and get only the bare crust themselves, they will begin to seek a remedy for a more even distribution.

The struggle against want develops the worst passion of man. He forgets friendships, betrays trusts and commits crimes. He becomes like the brute of the fields. Measuring it all in dollars and cents.

A careful perusal of the newspapers, both Grit and Tory, and the speeches of the party candidates, gives one the impression that partisan editors and politicians tell the truth—when speaking about their opponents.

The mud-slinging and recriminations of the past election campaign have been sickening to honest men, who saw in it only the disgusting struggle for office and power. When you get to see that the whole system of wealth production is robbery of the working class, you will know why it is impossible to have "clean politics."

There is an issue looming larger on the horizon day by day, unseen though it be by either Grit or Tory, an issue, strange as it may seem, presses with most force and is most urgent in the countries with the greatest per capita of wealth and railway mileage. That issue is "How to secure for everyone a social equivalent for service rendered." "How to adjust production and distribution so that all serving may have a sure hold on all physical life and an equal share in the intellectual heritage of mankind."

The pay rolls of the Grand Trunk Railway last year called for an outlay of \$18,274,427. The increase in nine years was \$8,034,710, or 83.3 per cent. This was direct payment of wages by the company. The \$15,177,000 that, added to the pay roll total, made up the \$33,451,000 operating expenses outlay, was largely indirect payment of wages.

The genial Bill Pugsley is again returned for St. John, in spite of graft charges, affidavits and ministers' sermons. St. John always has an eye to business. It needs winter port facilities and other things, so a few thousand dollars more or less to the bad, makes no difference from their point of view. And the Conservatives never did anything for St. John.

The exports from the United States for September were valued at \$139,527,000, an increase of four million dollars over the figures of September last year. This is held to mean that the tide has turned, and that henceforward there will be an upward movement in both branches of foreign trade. The good crop is doing its work.

The Post Office Authorities in the United States are after Tom Lawson for alleged fraudulent use of the mails, and are to hold an investigation. Tom says he is tickled to death to have them look into his business, and he is looking for that kind of an advertisement. Tom also says he has been stepping on somebody's corns.

Lehmann, the librarian to the Czar, has been sentenced to three and a half year's imprisonment in connection with the recent thefts from the palace. These thefts included the purloining of His Majesty's medals and coins. Lehmann, it is stated, went so far as to substitute pieces of glass for the jewels in the Royal Crown.

The Chinese government has prohibited the growth of the poppy in six provinces. The powers at Shanghai seem to be in earnest in their pledges that they will help China rid herself of the opium curse. As the Occident introduced it, it is only fair that they help in the ridding of it.

A proof that the two candidates for the presidency of the United States stand for the same thing appeared in Chicago recently where, during the progress of the campaign, Taft and Bryan met and ate together as friendly as you please. Such a thing has never occurred before in a political campaign.

Socialism has 634 members in the parliaments of the world, being represented in all leading nations except four United States, Canada, Chile and Sweden. The total official vote at the last elections was 8,803,457. Growing? Well-Yes!

Keir Hardie is telling the folks in England that there is distress in every town in Canada, and that there would be 10,000 heads of families requiring relief in Toronto alone this winter. Keir is more than half right. He has been on the ground.

The Japs seem to have been greatly pleased with the recent visit of the big fleet of U. S. battleships. The little Japs are not always what they seem. They can remember to be businesslike even though seeming to be only happy.

A private soldier named Leiser, of the American army has been given six months imprisonment for eating green apples on a dusty march. It seems that this has long been a severe crime in the American army.

The Nova Scotia apple crop is the heaviest in years. It is estimated that there will be 600,000 barrels for export.

CRISP COMMENTARY BY THE SUB-EDITOR

"Better Men, Better Times," has not proved so catchy a cry as "Let Laurier finish his work."

The country has said to the Conservatives, "Clear your own skirts, before attempting to impeach others."

The Liberal papers are now crowing "We have a free hand." The verdict certainly seems to read that way.

Our own elections being over, we will now be able to watch with some interest the contest in the United States.

"Let Laurier finish his work" has caught the ear of Johnny Canuck. The work will catch his pocket pretty steep.

And now, gentlemen, let's forget all about it. Resume the quiet paths of peace and happiness. What's done can't be undone.

Mr. Borden and the Conservative party failed to show a united front to the public. The public have had ample time to notice this.

Mr. R. L. Borden has things a little his way this time. He has been elected in his home city where he was turned down last election.

A great many people are glad the election is over. We will now be treated—for a short time let us hope—to the sorehead yells of "Corruption."

Messrs. Fowler, Lefurgey, Pope, and Bennet have been retired from behind the Conservative leader, Mr. Borden will be the stronger for their absence.

The Independents have received little sympathy in this campaign. However, there's nothing like making a start. "Nothing venture, nothing have."

The Liberal government has the floor for another four years. It is to be hoped that they will be four years of strict, honest carrying on of public business.

G. W. Fowler, of "wine, women and graft" fame, has been sent to the woods in Kings county, N. B. The graft charges have acted like a boomerang in his case.

If interest in public affairs was as keen every day in the year as on Monday, there would be a marked improvement in the government of the country.

The country has not heeded the cries of the mud-slingers. Evidently it thinks that the unsavory odors released about the Liberals smell not quite so bad as those released about the Conservatives a little over twelve years ago.

G. W. Fowler, of wine, women and graft fame has been defeated down in New Brunswick. The defeat was deserved. He made charges against members of parliament in an indefinite way and refused to go farther. He would not tell on the Liberals because the Liberals did not tell on him. A man of that stamp should be given a job somewhere boiling soft soap.

While the east has sustained Pugsley in grand style, the west has handed it to Sifton very much the other way. Sifton's brother-in-law, Burrows, has been beaten in Dauphin; Sifton's personal candidate snowed under in Winnipeg and Sifton himself elected only by a small majority. Turriff of Assiniboia, is the only member of the timber gang to make any showing. The West evidently had them all sized up.