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TWIXT THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP SEA

For months past, Mr. Mackenzie King has been vociferously demanding that the Government should appeal to the country on the ground that having been elected for a particular purpose, the prosecution of the war, and that purpose having been accomplished, it no longer represents the views of the people. The success of Mr. King's candidate in West Peterboro has caused a renewal of the demand for an election on the part of Mr. King and some of his supporters and press. Mr. King has been proceeding on the generally recognized assumption that Premier Meighen intended to adhere to his oft-repeated opinion that until the war was satisfactorily disposed of, the Government should carry on, and not recommend a dissolution until nearer the time for the ordinary expiration of Parliament. As long as the Government maintained this attitude, Mr. King realized that he was perfectly safe, he could condemn it in all the moods and tones, and attribute to it all the base motives his ingenuity could conjure up. He did not want, and does not want, an election just now, because he realizes—no one better—that neither he nor his party will gain anything from it; but as long as there was no danger of an election coming, to declare that the Government no longer possessed the confidence of the people and therefore an election should come, was good party politics.

West Peterboro election has, however, come and gone, and the possibility of an early election is now admitted in Government circles. What is the result? The Press which has so assiduously supported Mr. King's demand for an election, as long as it felt there was no prospect of one coming, now turns round and declares that under no circumstances must an election be held before redistribution; and that if Mr. King presses his demand for an early appeal to the people he is going to have trouble with his Western supporters. Now what is Mr. King going to do? His attitude will be very interesting to watch. Whatever reasons he may have had during the past year upon which to base his demand for a dissolution are just as strong today as ever they were, may stronger because the Government has lost East Elgin and West Peterboro within the last few weeks. If he was sincere in wanting an election before, he should be just as sincere now. The hon. gentleman is betwixt the devil and the deep sea, and his antics to avoid both will, at least, be amusing.

IN YORK-SUNBURY

In selecting Mr. R. B. Hanson, K. C., as their candidate for Parliament in the room of the late Col. McLeod, on Saturday, the Liberal-Conservative party of York-Sunbury have made an excellent choice. Few men are better known in the province than he, both as a lawyer and in the political field. Young, active and aggressive, he has already made a name for himself in public life, and it would have been difficult to find a man who has a wider knowledge of public affairs in the constituency than he. The general recognition of this fact will probably result in there being no opposition to his election; for although he is the nominee of the Liberal-Conservative party, he commands the confidence of men of all shades of political opinion. In fact he probably has just as many friends among those whose political leanings are towards the opposite party as he has in the party of which he himself is such a stalwart supporter. He also stands in well with the Farmers; in fact it was said at the time of the last Provincial election, that had the Farmer group been returned to the Legislature in sufficient strength to undertake the formation of a Government, he would have been their choice for Attorney-General. Like Sir Douglas Hazen and the late Col. McLeod, Mr. Hanson commenced his active participation in public life as Mayor of Fredericton, in which office he served three terms and could not doubt have served a fourth had he so desired. The convention which selected him was the largest and most representative that has been held in Fredericton for many years, and the fact that he received two-thirds of the total number of votes cast is the only ballot taken, is a striking testimony as to how he is regarded by his fellow electors. We confidently expect to find him on nomination day the only candidate mentioned.

The only other name to come before the convention was that of Mr. J. D. Palmer, the President of the Harbortown and Ship Company. Mr. Palmer has also taken a prominent part in

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Capital and Labor.
 This money the other fellow has in Capital. Getting it away from him is Labor.—Columbia, S. C. Record.

The Wise Globe.
 Better in an Atlantic tradition of Australia, held by the Premier of Queensland, is something referred to by the Toronto Globe. Has it forgotten its own skeptical attitude toward the great world war almost up to the opening of hostilities?—Hamilton Spectator.

Spells and Civil Service.
 Sir Sam Hughes has made it known that he proposes to present a resolution at the coming session of parliament calling for the re-establishment of party patronage as a necessary concomitant of responsible government. Sir Sam is not the only one who feels hurt at being deprived of the privilege of doing something for "the boys" who make themselves useful in election time; but he will have difficulty in convincing the public that responsible government is bound up with the spoils system.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

The Postmaster-General.
 Postmaster Biondi is entitled to re-buke his many critics in his native province for the criticism he has been subjected to for having joined the Union Government in 1917. Mr. Biondi, in the face of a sentiment that was bitterly opposed to the union, displayed a degree of courage that few men cared to exercise at that time. Quebec was up in arms against the authorities, its citizens claimed that it had been discriminated against and made to appear that it was disloyal, and proceeded to take vengeance upon the party then in power, not officially, but by action on the part of individuals, encouraged by politicians, who had their own ends to serve. Quebec was antagonistic to the union and would have had him had had him elected to remain inactive.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE JOURNEY.

It's a wild night for a soul to go,
 Stars shine, but winds blow
 And the flood tides flow.

It's a long road to the nearest star,
 Where the band of well-beloved are,
 But I shall reach it, near or far.

A wild night for a naked soul
 To cast aside the broken bowl
 And start for the distant goal.

A wild night and a lonely way,
 And death is terrible, they say,
 Yet methinks I like his looks today.

And glad I'll lay my garment by
 And fling me forth to the windy sky
 When Death rides by.

A long road to the nearest star,
 Where the band of well-beloved are,
 But I shall reach it, near or far.

—L. Le Mesurier, in Westminster Gazette.

THE LAUGH LINE

It may not cost any more to keep two thousand, but the father of a marriageable girl isn't willing to take the chance.

Women, as a rule, have poor heads for figures. That may be why it is most impossible for one to figure out her age correctly.

Doing His Best.
 "I never give money to beggars in the street," said the pedestrian. "But, my dear sir," returned the beggar, "I can't afford an office these hard times. You expect too much."

It's Finish.
 "McGinnis is that a mighty fine fellow," said the old man. "But, putting the last drops into his glass—Faith, O! don't know, but it's a good job it will ever be!"

A Long Walk.
 Jim—I had to walk the floor all night with the baby. Can you think of anything worse than that?
 Jack—Yes; you might have married out in Greenland, where the nights are six months long.

Sympathizers.
 "Yes, sir," said the soldierly-looking man, "I have spent fifteen years of my life in the service of my country."
 "So have I," volunteered the low-browed individual, offering his hand. "What were you in for?"

Thoroughly Disciplined.
 Rupert—"Don't talk to me of discipline."
 Jack—"Why not, old chap?"
 Rupert—"I served in the war, and then got married; but now I'm home I'm only just beginning to learn the real meaning of discipline."

Nature or Business.
 It is often hard to tell whether it is the idea of wage reduction, but it looks as if it might be good business for everybody.

The Buyer on Margins.
 "Are you a bull or a bear in the stock market?"
 "Neither," replied Mr. Dustin Stax. "When I'm on the trail of a sure profit I'm a bloodhound; and when I'm scared I'm a rabbit."

What is the Prescription?
 Doctors sometimes may agree even with they try not to. For instance, some preachers blame attacks of his coughs on "bad whiskey," while others say they are a result of mental depression, which may be interpreted as "low spirits."

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

Gettysburg afternoon my cousin Artie came around to help me play with my new electric train, and we were going to have a swell time and I set to pop. Pop can I move the engine room furniture back so me and Artie can set up the tracks and play with my new electric train?

Wy, I don't know, I should think on a beautiful day like this you would want to go out and get the air and the sunshine, and pop, and I set. Aw G pop we want to play with the train, we don't feel like air and sunshine.

Wy my dear boy, air and sunshine is 2 of the most important things in the world, especially air and particularly sunshine, and pop, I tell you wat I'll do, I'll give you money so you can both go to the movies.

Well goah pop, movies ain't air and sunshine, I set. They mite show pictures of oceans and mountains and ware can you get more air and better sunshine than oceans and mountains? set pop.

But we want to play with my new electric train, pop, aw G pop, cant we pop? I set.

Well, let me see, well, to tell you the truth I'll have to send those trains to the shop to be fixed, set pop.

Wy do you, pop, there ain't anything to be fixed about them, pop, I set, and pop set, Yes there is, unfortunately, you see I was looking them over last nite, that is to say I mean I was playing with them and it seems I broke them somewhat.

Aw G pop, wat the heck, a w heck pop, G, holey smoke! Jimminy crickets G wiza, pop, that's a heck of a note, I set.

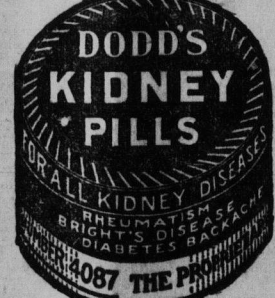
Wich it was, and pop gave us money to go to the movies and he gave me a extra quarter besides, making me feel a little better but not all.

China Is Rapidly Being Modernized

Advancing Along Western Lines and Quite Receptive to Teachings of Christianity

Special to The Standard.
 Lennoxville, Que., Feb. 13.—Rev. Dr. W. E. Taylor, educational secretary of the M. S. C. C., who spent several years in China during the critical period when the country became a republic, gave a lantern address tonight to the undergraduates of the University of Bishop's College. Dr. Taylor touched upon the natural beauty of Japan and her rapid strides in industry in capturing the British market for toys, silk, etc. He then passed on to China, whose chief ports, he said, were even more modern than Montreal, and possessed every possible convenience, such as railways, hotels, departmental shops, theatres, street cars, etc. Interior China, too, is rapidly advancing along western lines; the old beaten temples are empty, while the new Government schools are crowded. These are now based on the kindergarten, high school and university system. For the first time in history the industrial section of China is friendly towards Christianity. Leaders in every walk, from the general to the woolen mill manager, are ready to help and befriend the missionary. Parliament buildings, theatres and guild halls are willingly lent, and every opportunity given to Christians to proclaim the faith. The students, who come from the best homes in China, are quite open-minded, and receptive to Christianity; indeed, the old heathen temples are ready to do everything possible to bring about the conversion of China.

Willing to Risk It.
 Uncle Mose had put green paint on the garden seat and the boss had sat on it, ruining the new cream-colored trousers that Uncle Mose coveted. "Ah done tried everything, boss—slop, galine, hot iron—" "Did you try ammonia?" "No, boss, no," he answered, brightening. "Ah ain't tried 'em on me, but Ah knows dey'll fit."—American Legion Weekly.



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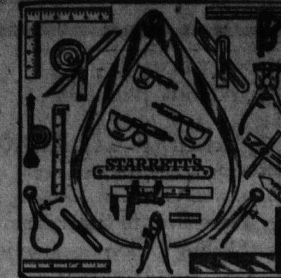
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