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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 21, 1910

LAURIER'S EXASPERATING EVASIONS.

The average loyal British subject becomes at least half angry over the backing and filling of Sir Wilfrid Laurier over the probable course and position of Canada in the event of a British war. Sir Wilfrid once said that Canada would be at war when the Empire was at war. But again and again the premier has declared that Canada would not take part in such a war unless Britain was justified.

How can Canada be at war and not take part in the war? How are we to decide whether any British war is just or unjust? The Dominion government is not likely to be a better judge of such a matter than the government of Great Britain. If we are a part of the Empire for the purpose of British protection, we are a part of the Empire to help defend the Empire.

Sir Wilfrid declares that the Crimean war was unjustifiable. Many Canadians living at the time thought otherwise. Should a similar war arise today, Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues might decide that Britain was wrong. The opposition party, or the governments of some of the provinces might decide that the war was just. We should have a political issue, and perhaps a general election over the question whether our navy would be sent to the war. Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa would do the same. By the time the question was settled Britain might be conquered. It would be a consolation to the vanquished Empire that she had been vindicated by the vote of the colonies while the enemy was occupying her cities.

If we are one Empire we are all right and wrong together, because together every part must stand or fall. If Canada is an independent country then we may decide for ourselves—if the enemy allows it—whether we shall be at war. But those who believe that Canada is, or ought to be, independent of the Empire, should say so plainly, and let it be perfectly understood that we are only voluntary allies of Great Britain, free to fight her battles or not to fight them according as their merits strike us. Britain ought to know where we stand on the matter, for if we have no obligations to her, she has none to us.

In this debate the premier said that there was no such thing as a Canadian merchant vessel. They are all British, carrying the British flag, and claiming the protection of the British navy. The only Canadian ships that are not British will be the fighting ships. These will constitute our only Canadian shipping. While British war ships will protect commercial ships of Canada, Canadian war ships will not even be under obligation to defend Canadian owned merchantmen, because they also are British.

A SENATOR'S BELLOWS NOT IN ORDER.

The speaker of the Canadian senate has established an inconvenient precedent by ruling that it was improper for Senator Power to say that Senator Cloran "gets up "and bellows away in the most absurd manner."

The gravamen of the offence is not the charge of absurdity, but the allegation of bellowing. It would evidently be considered quite in order for the Halifax senator to say that the Montreal senator talked absurdities. But even if Senator Power had said that Senator Cloran bellowed most appropriately and naturally the criticism would still have been open to objection on the point of order. Senator Cloren is understood to hold that he does not bellow after any fashion, absurd or reasonable.

There are tastes in tone of voice as in music. What is one man's eloquence may be to another a bellowing. It was admitted by high authority that though he spoke like an angel, he would in certain circumstances be sounding brass, or in other words a mere bellower. True, Mr. Cloran has a certain sonorous generosity of note which would suggest Mr. Power's designation rather than the simile of the sucking dove. On the other hand Senator Cloran in no moment of disgust would have intimated that Senator Power bellowed. The term popularly intimates a resemblance to the tone of a bull. Mr. Power's voice is rather tenuous, and has in it a cadence of complaint. Only a bull of very tender age, like that with whose blood Horace proposed to stain the waters of his favorite fountain, would answer to the comparison.

Yet while bellow seems to have elementary reference to a bull it is by no means certain that there would not have been such a word if bulls were mute, or had arrived with liquid singing voices. The word has been applied to the wind for many centuries without sinister intention. Had the sons of Zebedee been quick as Senator Cloran to take offence they might have complained of a title applied to them, implying a kinship to thunder. Diomede, of the Trojan battle fields, had precisely the same cause of protest, but there is no record in Homer that ever raised the point of order.

To come down to modern political history Senator Power has heard, if his friend from Montreal has not, of a famous account given by Joseph Howe, of Hon. Thomas Morrison, "standing over me bellowing like one of the "bulls of Bashan." Captain Morrison is said to have been rather proud of this simile, as well as of the metaphor involved in his political nickname "Roaring Billows"—not to be confounded with bellows.

But Senator Cloran need not have thought of the bulls of Bashan, which, however, are believed to have been animals of high repute. He might have thought of the tempest, and considered that he had been credited with breezy, or perhaps, stormy speeches such as he would be proud to make. There is no contemptuous reflection in the lines of Emerson descibing the incident of his gathering a delicate shell on the shore, where something like this happened:—

"The bubble of the latest wave,
"Fresh bloom to its enamel raves
"And the bellowing of the savage sea
"Greeted its safe escape to me."

Or Mr. Cloran might have thought of that useful piece of machinery found in the blacksmith shop, whereby air is gathered in a large leather receiver which, being contracted, drives forth the blast to stimulate the flames and produce fervent and melting heat. Such bellows in a figure of speech would worthily apply to a senator who desires to soften the iron hearts about him.

But no such extenuations are now possible. The speaker has ruled out the bellows, taking the wind out of them as it were, and Senator Power has withdrawn them.

MR. BORDEN IS RIGHT.

A few sentences in Mr. Borden's speech on the navy bill sets forth the situation as it ought to be. The bill is the government programme. Mr. Borden's declaration is the loyal and popular programme. Loyalty by order-in-council is not the loyalty of the people of Canada. They do not desire authority from a cabinet to be with the Empire in time of war. Who in Canada wants a cruiser, whose commander has to wait for official permission before he can assist a British ship attacked by an enemy in time of war? Even if we have only a "tin pot" navy, it should be British. There may be many fleets or squadrons, but there can be only one navy in an Empire that is to remain whole. The British Empire is not a loose group of allies, any of which may be neutral in time of war, which is to say it may give its moral support to the enemy. It is one state, one power, so joined that neither Sir Wilfrid Laurier nor any other departmental influence shall be allowed to tear it apart, either in time of peace or time of war.

WHO IS THE DECEIVER?

Has anybody heard from the Valley Railway delegates an explanation of the account they brought back with them from Ottawa? They returned saying that the Valley Railway legislation would not be introduced this year, because Sir Wilfrid had a bargain with Mr. Borden not to bring down more legislation. No such agreement or anything like it was ever made. Mr. Borden has so declared: Sir Wilfrid has so admitted. Sir Wilfrid is absolutely free to introduce such legislation. If he told Mr. Foster, Mr. Chestnut and their associates anything to the contrary he told them what was not true. If he did not tell them so, they have absolutely mis-stated the case, to give the premier a way of escape, and justify his delay. There is no such justification, and the people would naturally like to know who is the deceiver.

MR. FOSTER'S CONSTITUENTS.

The Conservatives of north Toronto riding, who sent Mr. Foster to parliament, have thought it a good time to make themselves heard concerning their representative. They propose to give him a banquet, which will equal any demonstration ever given by Toronto to a public man. In the meantime, since Mr. Foster is not able to attend such a dinner, they have met and expressed their sentiments in a resolution, and in speeches that are not wanting in emphasis. Last year the Winnipeg Conservatives gave Mr. Foster the largest political banquet ever held in that city, and Toronto does not propose to be beaten by Winnipeg. Mr. Foster's enemies are rapidly increasing his popularity.

LOCAL OPTION VOTE.

It can hardly be said that Sydney and Stanley wards did not take an interest in the local option vote. In both wards the vote cast on this issue was far larger than the vote for alderman or mayor.

Sydney ward cast 231 votes for mayor. The Sydney vote for Sydney alderman was 230; for other aldermen 223, 228 and 229.

But the Sydney vote on the local option question was 459, or practically double the largest municipal ballot.

Stanley cast 82 ballots for mayor. The largest vote for alderman was 85 for the Queen ward candidate. The smallest was 62 for Guys.

But Stanley gave 169 votes for and against license.

The Department of Agriculture announces the prospective arrival of another lot of Clydesdale horses and some pure bred cattle. These will be immediately distributed by public sale, and will thus be added to the stock of the New Brunswick farmers. The lesson that the farmer will make more by giving his good feed to the best stock than to scrub cattle and horses is not yet so well learned by all as it ought to be. Every one of these imported animals is an object lesson to the farmers round about. The wider and more general the distribution is, the more good it will do. Every importation is an advertisement of good stock. It is also an advertisement for the province which demands such animals, and finds a place for them.

The "tin pot navy," as Mr. Emmerson calls it, may not amount to much as a war machine. But the business begins with the establishment of a new department at Ottawa, with a preliminary staff of twenty-nine officials, having salaries from $5,000 down. The first year's expenses of the new department for salaries and contingencies is estimated at $49,650. This is before the navy appears. What the cost at Ottawa will be when there are ships built or under construction we may vaguely foresee.

"We dimly learn from blessings known,
Of others out of sight."

In spite of all the statements as to the intentions of the King toward Mr. Asquith, it is safe to say that His Majesty has not disclosed any policy, or given any undertaking for the future. When Mr. Asquith goes to King Edward and recommends the appointment of four hundred Liberal peers to vote away the powers of the peerage, he will know for the first time what the King means to do about it. That is, he will then know it first from the King himself, but he will be justified in expecting the King to consent to this course as soon as the people have declared unmistakably in favor of it.

Sir Richard Cartwright does not appear to be eager to hand over the senate leadership to Mr. Fisher. His remark that he would be glad to have another minister associated with him did not indicate a desire to serve under such leadership, but rather a willingness to add to his own authority. Yet without doubt Mr. Fisher is the coming senate leader.

Does any body see in the record of yesterday's vote any sign of division in the Conservative party? The government has a majority of forty-one. Its nominal majority is more than that. Seventy Conservatives voted together. The absent and ill numbered seventeen. One hundred and eleven voted with the government. The absent and ill numbered twenty-two.

The death of Mr. George R. Vincent, county-secretary and license inspector deprives the municipality of an efficient and reliable officer, and the community of a good citizen. Mr. Vincent has done the country good service, and was a respected member of his profession.

To this year's main estimate of more than a hundred millions is now added by Mr. Fielding a supplementory offering of over five millions. It is the greatest appropriation that has been.

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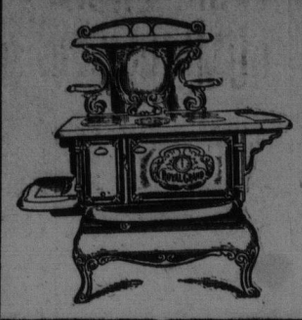

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THEN IT HAPPENED.

(Our Daily Discontinued Story.)

"Don't worry, ma'am," cried Nora, blithely, from the kitchen, as she poured gasoline into the stove. "I'll have a fire made in a jiffy, bless your swate——"

THE END.

Although being given away, brides generally retain their self-possession.

Some women would sooner have a graceful carriage than a costly automobile.

If beauty is a passing thing, it's a wonder more women don't grab it as it passes.

Stringing the Little Corporal.

Napoleon complained of being hampered. "Rope," he exclaimed, "all I want is rope!"

"Yes, sire, Eu-rope," responded one of his generals.

Weggie's Way.

Reggie:—"Do you wink?"
Miss de Smyth:—"What do you mean?"
Reggie:—"I should say do you woller-skate?"—M. A. P.

Charitable.

"A dear little girl your daughter is. She always has something to say to me when I meet her."

"Oh, yes, she's not a bit proud. She speaks to every one."—Sourire.

True Love.

Rich Father:—"Which of my daughters is it you wish to marry?"

Suitor:—"Well, let's see now."—Fliegende-Blatter.

Now Which?

She:—"Do you prefer an ugly woman with brains, or a pretty woman without any?"

He:—"Madam, I prefer present company to either.

(And she is still wondering exactly what he meant.)—The Tatler.

What Else!

Prospective Lodger:—"I hope you will have those cobwebs swept away before I come in."

"Of course. We only leave them there in the summer so as to catch the flies."—Pele Mele.

Up To Him.

"Look here, my lady," exclaimed the thrifty man to his extravagant wife, "you're carrying too much sail."

"Why should that worry you?" she retorted.

"Because I have to raise the wind; that's why."—Catholic Standard and Times.

TO SIR WILFRID

Sir, we have heard you speak. You told this land
That England's war touched not the Daughter State
That if at bay she stand.
Your parliament will patiently debate
To fight or not to fight. Is this indeed—
Is this Ruth's vow to help her mother in her need?

You have forgotten. We have many a guest.
Wide stand our portals and our lands are free.
But to our utmost west
She is our Queen, the Queen of every sea.
These lands we hold in trust for those who own
One flag, one fleet and one imperial throne.

British are we. The feet of Britons trod
The long lone trails that knit the world in one,
Prayer to our country's God;
Men's, women's graves—the deeds that these have done—
The long years spent from home, the bitter toil,
Have made the British land and sanctified its soil.

It may be well in what concerns the whole,
That those who find the men and build the fleet,
Should share in their control
In time of Peace, when Britain's foeman meet
We will not question if she's wrong or right
At the first flap at that old flag—we fight.

CLIVE PHILLIPPS WOLLEY.

JOSH WISE SAYS.

"When a girl gits engaged ter be married she acts 'sif she doesn't expec' ter do another lick o' work from that minute. Later on she wakes up."

Of The Fair Sex.

A woman wants her gloves to fit without a wrinkle—also her skin.

A woman seldom loses her head over a man who has lost his hair.

If a woman hasn't any faith in men, the probability is she's spent all her faith on one man.

TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the office of the Common Clerk, room No. 3, City Hall, addressed to him marked "Tender for Supplies" up to 4 p. m. of Tuesday, 26th April inst. for the following supplies for the Public Works Department, viz:—
About
1000 bbls. Gas Works Coal Tar.
95 tons Trinidad Lake Asphalt.
600 loads Bank Sand.
40 cords of Hardwood (rock maple, or yellow birch).
6000 square yards Spruce Paving Blocks.
All of which are to be according to specifications to be seen in the office of the City Engineer, Room No. 5, City Hall, and to be delivered in such quantities and at such times as may be ordered by the City Engineer.
A cash deposit equal to five per cent. of the estimated full value of contract at price named in tender will be required.
The City does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
No tender will be accepted unless on forms supplied by the City Engineer.
The City reserves the right to increase the quantities up to 10 per cent. above those estimated and such increase to be at price tendered. St. John, N. B., 16th April, 1910. WM. MURDOCH, City Engineer.
ADAM P. MACINTYRE, Comptroller. 81

Tenders For
Taking Down Chimney.
Sealed Tenders will be received at the office of the Common Clerk of the City of Saint John, addressed to him marked "Tenders for removing Chimney" up to April 25th, at 12 o'clock noon—
For taking down the old Electric Light chimney at the North End and remove all material. Tenders to state price for taking it down and what sum he will give the city for the said old material, or what amount the tenderer will give for the chimney as it now stands.
Contractor to remove the same inside of four weeks. Contractor to assume any liability or responsibility in the removal of the chimney.
The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
Saint John, N. B., April 19, 1910.
ADAM P. MACINTYRE, Comptroller.
ROBERT WISELY, Director of Public Safety. 51-dAp.27

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