

The Evening Times and Star

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THE NAVAL QUESTION

Hon. James Allen, minister of defence for New Zealand, who is now in Canada, has made it clear in an interview that his country will not endorse a policy of contribution. It stands for the policy which was adopted by Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and endorsed by the British Admiralty, when Sir Wilfrid Laurier was at the head of the Canadian government. The New Zealanders propose to man their own vessels and control their own fleet.

An attempt has been made in this country to convey the impression that New Zealand favored a policy of contribution. Hon. Mr. Allen tells a different story. The London Nation severely criticizes Mr. Winston Churchill for the course he has pursued in connection with the naval policy of the Borden government. It points out that Mr. Churchill and Mr. Borden have caused serious friction in Canada, although the Admiralty had previously accepted the policy which was adopted by the late Liberal government at Ottawa. Commenting on the situation the Nation says further:

"The friction has its lessons; but there will be much more of it under the system of least ships, with the ownership, the use and the manning divided between the imperial and the colonial governments, and with a watching colonial representative on the committee of defence. We cannot imagine how the government can have been rushed into such heedlessness."

There is as much reason now as before closure was adopted at Ottawa for the Liberals to oppose the Borden policy, and the news from the capital indicates that if the measure is forced through the commons by closure it will probably be thrown out by the senate. Perhaps Mr. Borden would be very well pleased to get rid of it in this way, for it is evident he fears to go to the country.

NEW SETTLERS

The Nova Scotia superintendent of immigration reports that since January 1 more than twelve hundred immigrants for Nova Scotia have been met by representatives of the department at Halifax, who have either sent them forward to places for which they were already booked or directed them to places where they would probably secure situations. The files of the department show that two thousand two hundred and twenty-four letters had been received up to last week since January 1, and most of these were from the old country, showing an enlarged interest in Nova Scotia as a field for immigrants. Yet, Mr. Barnstead says that comparatively little is known in the mother country about these provinces, and that there is great need of a more active campaign of publicity if they are to get their fair share of immigration. Asked by the Halifax Chronicle if there was an active demand for labor in Nova Scotia, Mr. Barnstead said that he could place one hundred farm laborers and three hundred ordinary laborers at the present time. There is, he said, an abundance of work in Nova Scotia, at good wages, and the supply of native help is altogether insufficient. Of course the developments that are taking place in Cape Breton create a growing demand for labor, but it is also evidently true that in the provinces generally there is more than ordinary activity, and the present year will witness substantial progress. The indications are that this will also be a year of notable progress in New Brunswick.

THE CANADIAN CONSUMERS

The downward revision of the United States tariff is bad for the protectionists in Canada. Placing food products upon the American free list will have a tendency to make higher prices for these products in Canada. That will mean a higher cost of living for the working man, who will not get any compensating advantage from a reduction in the duties on articles which he buys. Obviously, as a result of the action to be taken by the congress of the United States, he must pay more for food products, and therefore he will not only be bitterly opposed to any increase in the Canadian tariff for the benefit of manufacturers, but will soon be demanding a downward revision of the Canadian tariff. In other words he will want what he might have gained to a considerable extent under reciprocity. The action taken by the United States government has completely altered the situation with regard to protection in Canada, and as soon as the effects of the new American tariff are felt in this country the high protectionists will find themselves confronted with a country-wide agitation for a downward revision of the Canadian tariff.

Mr. H. M. P. Eckardt, a well known authority on financial questions in Canada, points out that the revised American tariff must touch Canadians at numerous other points than those relating to the mere exchange of food stuffs. He points out that the purpose of the reduction in the American tariff is to reduce the cost of living, and that the cost of living has been steadily rising in Canada as well as in the United States. The Ottawa department of labor gives the index numbers applying to wholesale prices in Canada as 134.4 for 1912, as against 127.4 for 1911. If now the revised American tariff

as it certainly will do, causes a further advance, the Canadian consumer would be amply justified in demanding a reduction in the Canadian tariff. In the course of a clear analysis of the situation as it now appears, Mr. Eckardt, in a special article in the Financial Times of Montreal says:

"One of the leading Ontario dailies remarked the other day that immediately on publication of the Underwood bill a rise in food prices in Toronto occurred. And it seems quite clear that the proposed revision will have a tendency to boost food prices north of the boundary line. For aggressive American buyers will likely appear in our country markets in search of cattle, sheep, poultry, milk, cream, butter, meats, etc., and it will be strange if their competition does not suffice to send prices, in some instances, to higher levels."

"It is probably the case that the publication of the details of the new American tariff law will make it more difficult for Hon. Mr. Borden's government to raise any of the Canadian duties. Although his government is avowedly for the free protection of Canadian industries, the force of events since he attained power has been such as to cause him thus far to move towards lower duties—the remission of the cement duties and of rail duties being important cases in point. Now this American revision, with its sweeping reductions on articles produced by Canada, serves as another event with a tendency to force action in the same direction at Ottawa."

"For it must be remembered that in certain respects the Underwood bill will have a tendency to increase the power of American manufacturers to compete for the Canadian market. We have seen that the tendency is to make the cost of living lower in the States and higher in Canada. Hence, in theory, the Canadian manufacturer is subjected to pressure for higher wages while his American competitor is relieved to a certain extent from such pressure. And another thing—the great reductions in duties on iron and steel, wool and cotton, mean that American buyers will be able to get those articles and others in competitive markets. The cost of production or manufacture in the States should be sensibly lowered. If Canadian costs cannot be correspondingly lowered, the American manufacturers may have increased power to compete in our home market."

It is said that the naval bill will not be taken up at Ottawa this week. Mr. Borden is indulging in a further period of sad reflection.

Mr. J. A. Belyes and President J. M. Robinson of the board of trade, in reply to an enquiry from the Canadian Courier, write that the commission plan of government is working out well in St. John. In this they express the view that is held by the citizens in general.

The revelations that are being made in Berlin show that the armament makers are also manufacturers of war scares and emergencies. They are the better able to manufacture an emergency when they are able to yoke up with a politician who thinks that an emergency will serve his turn.

The announcement that Dr. Friedmann has sold the American rights to his tuberculosis cure to a syndicate is somewhat disappointing. If he has a cure it ought to belong to all the people, and the governments of countries should make such terms with Dr. Friedmann as would enable them to get it. One would like to associate the name of the discoverer of a great means of conserving human life with something higher than the mere spirit of commercial bargaining.

It will be interesting to the members of the Canadian Club of St. John to learn that the membership of the Ottawa Canadian Club is now 1,107. President Kuhring expresses the hope that the club in St. John may this year attain a membership of 1,000, and the experience of the Ottawa Club should encourage the movement to bring about this result. The Canadian Club of Ottawa held twenty luncheons and two evening meetings in the last year. The receipts of the club for the year amounted to \$4,000.00 and the expenditure to \$4,500.11.

Keith's assembly rooms will be doubly a source of interest this evening. First there will be the address of Professor Kylie before the Canadian Club on "Canada, East and West," and then there will be a discussion of the need of immediate action to place the port of St. John in a position to handle the increasing steamship business in winter. This matter of the congestion at Sand Point is of so much importance that delay means loss of business, and this cannot be afforded at this critical time in the history of the port. Other ports would be very glad to get the business. It is up to the citizens of St. John to see that the necessary improvements are made before the business of next winter begins.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

SUNDAY, APRIL TWENTY-EIGHT.

Hon. J. K. Fleming, premier of New Brunswick, celebrates his forty-fifth birthday today. He was born in Woodstock, N. B., and is a merchant and lumber manufacturer. He was first elected to the legislature in 1900 and from 1908 to 1911 was provincial secretary.

H. L. Drayton, chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, was born on April 27, 1869, at Kingston. He practised law in Toronto for several years, becoming corporation counsel in 1910. Last year he succeeded the late Judge Mabey in his present position.

Mr. Allard, vice-general and cure of the Cathedral, Valleyfield, a noted Catholic divine, and the Rev. Manly Benson, a celebrated Methodist clergyman, were born on this date.

MONDAY, APRIL TWENTY-NINE.
T. B. Flint, clerk of the House of Commons, Canada, was born in Yarmouth, N. S., on April 28, 1847. He was for a long time a barrister in his native town, holding various municipal and political offices. He represented the county at Ottawa for two terms and succeeded the late Sir John Bourne in 1902.

Palmer Cox, creator of the celebrated Brownies, was born in Granby, P. Q., on this date in the year 1840. He lived for many years in the United States, where he achieved distinction as author and artist. He still retains an interest in his native town, where he spends part of each year.

LIGHTER VEIN

NATURALLY
For a man who has money it's easy, you know, to be free with his fortune and melow. He has plenty of gold in his coffer, and so, why, of course, he's a "capital" fellow.

IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.
"To what do you attribute your remarkable success as a wrestler?"
"To the fact that so many chaps think they can throw me and are willing to put up money on it."—Chicago Tribune.

PUTTING IT UP QUICKLY.
William, who was erecting an edifice out of building blocks, showed such unusually bungling workmanship that his father, who is a carpenter, took him to task.
"What kind of a shak do you call that?" he asked the boy.
"Oh, that's all right, papa," replied William, "I'm building it to rent."—Youngstown Telegram.

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Porter's Drug Store
"The Biggest Little Drug Store in the Town"
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Jelly Pudding

Butter a good sized jelly mold, then cut enough BUTTERNUT BREAD into small squares to nearly fill it. Prepare two cups of jelly—any kind you like—and pour it, hot, over the bread squares, and set it away to cool. Serve with whipped cream. The use of BUTTERNUT BREAD makes a difference.

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OFF ON HIS GUESS.

Wife—I wish, dear, that you'd settle my last year's millinery bill. I really can't sleep for thinking of it.
Hub—Your conscience pricking you, eh?
Wife—Oh, no; but I need two more hats right away. —Boston Transcript.

A gentleman in Paris has made a successful claim against the owner of a motor car which epileptized him and spoiled his clothes.
The Pennsylvania legislature has passed a bill requiring ten verses of the Bible to be read daily in all school rooms of the state.

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