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SEMI-WEEKLY.

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C. F. HAYES, Business Manager

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1909.

THE MUTINY.

Our Opposition friends are taking a very lively interest in naval affairs. Sea-fighting in fact seems to suit them immensely. Just now they demonstrate their liking for it in that they are very much at sea and that they are fighting vigorously—among themselves.

During the summer many of the newspapers supporting the Opposition violently attacked the naval policy of the Government as expensive and useless. When Mr. Borden landed in Halifax, he, without waiting to see what the papers had been doing, denounced the idea of making contributions to the Imperial navy and manfully backed up the resolution he voted for in March last, which resolution was unanimously adopted by the House and is the basis for the Government's policy of creating a separate Canadian navy.

This put it up to the papers which had been condemning this policy to either back-up and get in-line or maintain their positions and stand the consequences. Some of these journals appear to have chosen the latter course and Mr. Borden is receiving attentions from them, indirectly, which cannot be too much gratifying. Worse still, the disaffection has spread to his Parliamentary followers and we have Mr. Herron, of Alberta, and Mr. Magrath, of Lethbridge, declaring that Canada should not build a fleet, but should present the Old Land Government with a sum of money in lieu of it. Mr. Lake, of Qu'Appelle, and Mr. McCarthy, of Calgary, are said to have joined the revolt.

For this disaffection among the Parliamentary forces Mr. Borden no doubt has to thank Hon. Geo. E. Foster, who was making himself busy in the West while Mr. Borden was studying the question in London and tossing on the stormy deep on the way home again. Nominally, of course, Mr. Foster was simply "lecturing" on "Imperialism." But those who are familiar with the circumstances of the hour and the history of Mr. Foster, guessed that the "lectures" he was making to the public and the addresses on a cognate subject which he was delivering at private gatherings of the faithful were not exactly alike in nature or intent. To suppose that Mr. Foster, finding a measure of divided feeling on the matter in the party, and having the leader safely out of the country, would fail to seize the chance of fomenting trouble for Mr. Borden for purposes of his own was to suppose that Mr. Foster had forgotten his talents and changed his disposition. In the deluge which followed the death of the Chief, Mr. Foster was a busy man, and the busier he was the worse for the gentleman who at the time happened to hold the position of nominal head of the party. Ambition dies slowly, especially when the ambition is combined with so good an opinion of one's own merits as Mr. Foster possesses. It is thoroughly in line with that gentleman's past to suppose that he is the man behind the scenes in the disaffection of the Conservative members, if he did not have a hand in stirring up the newspaper campaign which preceded and caused it.

Suspensions of this character were emphasized when the Winnipeg Tribune, which is concerned in defeating the Laurier Government more than in any other mundane purpose, called on Mr. Foster to split with his leader and head a party revolt. The invitation was extended, after Mr. Foster had visited Winnipeg. Though Premier Roblin kept Mr. Foster from making a break in public he did not, of course, curb the ambitions of that gentleman nor could he prevent him setting in his fine work on the side. It is quite allowable to assume under all the circumstances that the Tribune sent its invitation after receiving a hint somewhere some kind of a hint that its invitation would be accepted by the Honorable George.

Meantime the newspapers at whom Mr. Borden took his inadvertent shot have not all received the fire in silence. Most of them have withdrawn to plug up the holes and repair damage.

But there have been exceptions. For instance, the Daily Standard, of Kingston, in an editorial refers to Mr. Borden's reference in his Halifax speech to Sir John A. Macdonald and his ideas and ideals, and then goes on to say that it also can speak of Sir John and his ideas and ideals, and also of the ideas and ideals of the Conservatives of the city of Kingston, which cradled him, and which was honored for so long when he was its representative. Voicing what it declares to be the sentiments of the Conservatives of Sir John's own home, it says absolutely and without equivocation that ninety out of a hundred of the Conservatives of the city are absolutely and unalterably opposed to the policy of a Canadian navy, and that in the Conservative county of Frontenac also the proportion of Conservatives opposed to a Canadian navy is fully as great. "It is only right," adds the Standard, "that when Mr. Borden refers to Sir John and the other great leaders of the party should know what the sentiment in respect to a Canadian navy is in Kingston, Sir John's home city."

That Mr. Borden notes these signs of the times he made clear by issuing a manifesto from Ottawa outlining what the party wanted, as he understood it. Coming when it did the statement must be taken as directed to those who had seen fit to differ with him. In his statement Mr. Borden declared:—

"So far as the Conservative party is concerned, the question of Canada's participation in the organization and maintenance of imperial naval defence rests today exactly where it did when the unanimous resolution of Parliament was passed on the 29th March last.

"That resolution was so modified at our instance as to permit of a special contribution in time of emergency. Whether such emergency existed then, or is imminent today, is within the knowledge of the British Government and the Canadian Government.

"The report of the proceedings and conclusions of the recent Imperial defence conference when laid before our Parliament will doubtless throw some light on the subject. Canada should take no action which does not receive the unqualified approval of the British naval experts.

The leader is at pains to point out that he does not consider it incompatible with the resolution to make a cash notation to the Mother Land if persuaded that she needs help speedily. This seems to indicate that for once Mr. Borden is willing to abandon the story of the "divine right," and that in the interests of peace he is prepared to construe the resolution of March with something of a twist. Whether the concession will satisfy the mutineers, even temporarily, remains to be seen. It cannot do so permanently, and when the appropriation votes come, either the admiral must capitulate, the rebels must concur, or there will be an interesting but sanguinary scene.

TO ROB OR BE ROBBED?

The United States Government is trying to round up people who have been defrauding the customs. The extent of the depredations reflects the attitude a large section of the public take toward the payment of duties. On this subject very many good people have not very tender consciences, while a considerable number openly declare it no sin to smuggle. There is a mitigating condition for each in the incidental effect of a tariff such as the United States maintains. It has been abundantly proved, alike by the researches of opponents and the admissions of supporters, that the high duties levied against imports in that country place the home manufacturer under a standing temptation to take more from his customers than is at all in keeping with the laws of fair play. And this temptation the manufacturer is not always, perhaps not customarily, inclined to regard as a temptation at all, but as an opportunity. The State has undertaken to make him prosperous by keeping foreigners out of his market; why then should he not implement the purpose of the State by making himself as prosperous as possible? The State has exalted his interests above those of the general public; why then should he pay any particular attention to the public interest? The representatives of the public have given him a wide open opportunity to fleece them; why then should he not embrace the opportunity, the more so that it was extended with full knowledge that he had embraced it in the past and was quite as likely to do so again. If people like to pay him more than his goods are worth, why should he prevent them? On these, or similar self-justifying arguments the protected individual makes a full use of the tariff to take out of his patrons all he can compel them to give. The patrons know this, and the knowledge of it is no doubt one of the reasons why it is wrong to elude the customs officer. Many people would sooner rob than be robbed, perhaps few would not. And very many people regard a protective tariff as a device for enabling certain individuals in the

country to rob them. It is hardly to be wondered if they do what they can to escape the device.

It is foolish in the face of a revelation like that being made in Washington, to declare that a high tariff does not increase prices. If it did not do so, why would people smuggle? If goods of equal quality could be bought in the country at as low prices as abroad, why would people spend time and money carrying on a smuggling trade? The practice is carried on, not as a diversion, but as a business. If there was no money in it, it would soon be abandoned. Importing is under any circumstances, an unusually expensive and inconvenient line of business. One must carry on continuous communication with the foreign markets, must know always what is wanted at home and what is offered abroad. He must indeed anticipate the home demand if he wants to get his goods on the market first. If there were no tariff at all, one would not engage in such a round-about system of buying and selling unless he saw large profits in it. But when there is added the necessity of eluding customs officials, and of maintaining a system of bringing in goods by surreptitious means and sometimes by round-about routes, the expenses of the process are immensely increased. Clearly the profits must be correspondingly increased or nobody would engage in the business. And when to this is added that detection means severe punishment, perhaps imprisonment, it is proven that this extra inducement, created by the tariff, must be very large. Men and women will not play so dangerous a game for small stakes. Every smuggler is a living witness that the tariff does raise the prices of protected articles, or permit them to be raised. From a number of the smugglers being taken down by the U. S. Government and the magnitude of their operations one may gather some idea, indefinite but none the less conclusive, of the extent to which the tariff of that country enhances the cost of life's necessities.

SION.

Britain New Service.
A most enjoyable social and dance was held on Friday evening last, Guy Fawkes' Day. The weather which had been grand up to then, changed to a snow storm and so prevented some from coming from the longer distances, but it was all the more enjoyable for those present. The music was excellent and there were some talented musicians who delighted the audience at intervals with both instrumental and vocal music.

The ladies catered well for the needs of the inner man as there was no lack of interest, thrills and the hall looked best with the decorations left from the harvest Thanksgiving services.

Many new settlers were present and expressed themselves with enthusiasm, saying if this social was the first of the season, it assured well for the coming winter and how the Sion people meant to have a good and enjoyable winter.

Sion, Nov. 6.

REXBORO.

Britain New Service.
Mr. Querquander, who owns some fine timber land in this part, is out looking after his interests. He expects to have a saw mill on his land this winter.

Rev. Mr. Wright, a former pastor of this place, captured the silver cup given for an all-round athlete at the Alberta college.

H. M. Smith has gone to the States for a lecture on Cuba which will be held November 18. Mr. Elliot will give a lecture on Cuba which will be very instructive and interesting.

Herbert Ghegan conducted the service at the funeral of Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carder of Fallis, attended the literary meeting at Rexboro Thursday evening.

A gang of men are opening up a road between section 26 and 23.

Some freighters passing through the west lost a valuable horse.

Rexboro, Nov. 7.

WABAMUN.

Britain New Service.
J. Hallum has moved his blacksmith shop to his homestead on 24-53, where he will do all work which comes to him until freighting starts, when he will move to some point along the line where the shooks will come in at a satisfactory rate. When the time is over he will return to Wabamun once more. The family will remain in place.

C. H. Dunn made a business trip to Edmonton last week. He will soon take in a bunch of his heavy work horses for sale.

A. C. Smith has an Edmonton visitor last week.

F. E. Cassan is again home from the west, where he has been working for some time. He reports a fall of six inches of snow at the Macleod river, also that the G. T. grade is ready for the steel as far as Wolf Creek.

Mrs. W. C. Dunn visited relatives in Edmonton the first of the week.

Another one of those very enjoyable social dances was given at C. H. Dunn's on Friday evening, which was as usual well attended. Quite a number from neighboring places were present. Refreshments were served by the ladies, and a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

Miss Minnie Miesbach was in Edmonton on Sunday.

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R. P. Cull, of Seba, went to Edmonton on Saturday on business for the Seba Trading Company.

W. Taylor spent several days of last week in the capital city purchasing supplies for the Wabamun Trading Company.

Mr. White, C. E., has finished re-surveying the section of land for the east end of the lake and taken his departure. Next to the lake and is laid out in small lots which are made larger as the distance from the lake increases. On the west side the lots are very rough and hilly and cut up by sloughs and the lots contain seven acres each. Another part is divided in five acre lots. The date of selling the lands and terms of payment has not been announced as yet. The entire piece will be put up at auction. When the lots are sold and a section was passed asking the Edmonton office, now opened on Sunday from 10 o'clock till 4 o'clock he kept open during the same hours as the Winnipeg office is open, viz., from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. This resolution will be forwarded to the Minister of the Interior, the Postmaster General, Hon. Mr. Lemieux, and all boards of Western Canada will also be notified of the action that has been taken.

The regular monthly meeting of the Edmonton Board of Trade Tuesday afternoon was the most largely attended for some months. It was thought that the C.P.R. agreement would come up for discussion but this was left over till a special meeting next Monday evening to be held in the board rooms.

The most important matter considered yesterday was the action of the Lord's Day Alliance in approaching the Federal Government to have the post office closed all day Sunday. This proposal was strongly condemned by various speakers and resolution was passed asking the Edmonton office, now opened on Sunday from 10 o'clock till 4 o'clock he kept open during the same hours as the Winnipeg office is open, viz., from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. This resolution will be forwarded to the Minister of the Interior, the Postmaster General, Hon. Mr. Lemieux, and all boards of Western Canada will also be notified of the action that has been taken.

It was pointed out that the locking up of the post office doors all day Sunday would make no change in the work of the employees of the Sunday's mails would have to be attended to otherwise a congestion would occur for a greater part of the week. An extra staff could not be put on Monday morning for the inside work requires skilled hands.

Ferry in East End.

A reply from John Stocks, deputy minister of public works, in reference to the proposed east end ferry was read. Mr. Stocks stated that nothing could be said at present as to whether the matter would be taken up next year or whether money would then be placed on the estimates for the work.

As this matter has been hanging fire for several years the board decided that action should be taken at once and a committee was appointed to interview the Hon. Mr. John A. Macdonald, and other M.P.'s whose districts will be benefited, to see that an appropriation be made for next year.

Resolution was passed asking the provincial government to urge upon the C.N.R. the construction of their extension to Athabasca Landing by the 1st of September, 1910.

ATROCITIES OF SLAVE TRADE.

Anti-Slavery Society Trying to Arouse Sentiment in United States.

New York, Nov. 6.—Bringing tales of unpardonable atrocities in the slave trade to the attention of the United States, the Anti-Slavery Society of this city, through the efforts of the British Anti-Slavery Society, has succeeded in procuring a resolution from the United States Congress, to the effect that the United States should not recognize the slave trade, and should not permit its citizens to engage in it.

The resolution was passed by a large majority, and the Anti-Slavery Society of this city, through the efforts of the British Anti-Slavery Society, has succeeded in procuring a resolution from the United States Congress, to the effect that the United States should not recognize the slave trade, and should not permit its citizens to engage in it.

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