

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 22, 1913.

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WHY NOT MARKET GARDENS?

Why is there not a flourishing colony of market gardeners in the immediate vicinity of this city? The conditions are favorable, both in the matter of soil and climate, and there is a good and growing market. No special effort has ever been made to develop this branch of work. There are farmers and dairymen, but market gardening as it might be carried on along the roads leading out of this city is practically unknown. The settlement of prosperous market gardeners in the vicinity of the city would not only be of great benefit to the consumers, but it would increase the business of the city merchants. From every standpoint it is desirable to encourage the market gardener. The people who are now living on the land within easy reach of the city are not taking advantage of their opportunities to anything like the full extent. Perhaps it is because they do not fully realize the possibilities, and perhaps they lack the knowledge which would enable them to make the most of their opportunities.

Is not this a subject to which the board of trade and other citizens might give careful consideration? There is a growing tendency to send agricultural experts among the farmers to demonstrate the value of better methods. These experts tell a farmer what a particular piece of ground is best adapted for and they encourage him to make a test and prove it. They tell him about drainage, about pruning his orchard, about rotation of crops, about how to get the best results in dairying and in keeping live stock generally. Why should not an expert be engaged to devote his whole attention to the encouragement of market gardening and intensive farming in the immediate vicinity of St. John, encouraging people to take up the work and giving demonstrations of what can be done? No doubt such a man could be got among our own people, one who has had experience and some scientific training, and who would have sufficient enthusiasm to make his work tell. It would pay the city of St. John to contribute the salary and expenses of such a man, because the result of his work would be of great benefit to the city. One of the criticisms to which we as a people subject ourselves is that we do not take advantage of the opportunities at our doors. It is necessary in these days to get away from the old individualistic idea and to co-operate in order to get the best results. If a man of knowledge and experience were engaged to devote his whole time to going about among the people on the land within a radius of ten or fifteen miles from St. John, talking to them individually and in groups, making demonstrations here and there, bringing to them the best knowledge available, and encouraging them to adopt system and modern methods, there would be a remarkable change in the appearance of the outlying district in the next five years.

THE CONSUMER IS HIT

The Canadian consumer is now doing some hard thinking. The laboring men were permitted themselves to be deluded into voting against reciprocity will now find themselves, if the revised United States tariff is adopted, in a somewhat unpleasant position. The new American tariff will benefit the Canadian producer and the American consumer, while the Canadian consumer must simply look on and pay a higher price for the necessities of life than he would have done under reciprocity. When he goes out to buy products of the farm he will not merely be competing against his neighbors in Canada, but against the people of the United States; for the Canadian producer will have access to the American market, and when the prices there are high the Canadian consumer must meet the competing demand from his southern neighbors. On the other hand, when prices are low in the United States, and in those seasons when American products are available at a lower price than Canadian, he must pay the Canadian duty before he can get them. Under reciprocity he would have been in as good a position as the United States consumer. The farmer will have got all the benefit that he could have got under reciprocity, and the consumer, while he might have been opposed to reciprocity, is now face to face with a condition which leaves him worse off than he would have been had the agreement for a mutual free exchange of products been ratified. The Montreal Shareholder, discussing this question, sums up the situation in the following illuminating paragraph:

"Possibly a trial under the conditions which will soon prevail, will do more to cause the Canadian laboring man to realize what he has lost than any number of arguments could do. As a consumer, he will compete in the open market with 85 millions of people to the south of him. The Canadian farmer cannot be blamed if he takes advantage of the open market to the south, and instead of shipping his potatoes, eggs or cream to a city in Canada, will send them south of the border. As the Canadian laboring man, or in other words, the Canadian consumer, cannot get free access to the American producer, it means that he will have to pay more for everything he buys. The amount he will have to pay in excess will be practically equivalent to the reduction in the duties made by our American neighbors. In some cases this will be as high as 25 per

cent. We are disposed to say that it serves the Canadian consuming public right. They turned down an agreement a year and one-half ago which would have given the Canadian people access to the market to the south of us. That treaty was mutually advantageous. The present tariff reduction except in one or two minor points, is entirely one-sided, being to the advantage of the American people. Under the treaty which we rejected, the Canadian farmer had access to the United States markets, but on the other hand, the American farmer had access to the Canadian market, and the consumers in both cases would have benefited from the free exchange of natural products. Possibly after the laboring man sees everything he has to buy increase in price from 10 to 25 per cent, he may come to the conclusion that he made an unwise move in rejecting the proposed Reciprocity Treaty of 1911. He was impervious to reason in 1911, but he may now be convinced through his pocket."

There is talk of some changes in the Borden government. If Mr. Borden would go to the country he would be relieved of all worry on that score.

It is announced that there will be an increase in the salaries of school teachers in Prince Edward Island, amounting in all to about 25 per cent. The people of the island province realize the importance of retaining the services of skilled teachers, and they know that in order to do so they must meet the competition of the western provinces, where higher salaries are paid.

It is now reported from Ottawa that the Nationalists may bolt on the closure bill. The government will of course use every means available to keep them in line, but may not succeed. Mr. Borden would be greatly relieved if the Liberals would consent to help him out of his present difficulty, but he will look in vain for comfort from that quarter. The Liberals are fighting the people's battle in this controversy.

St. John is to be congratulated that seven of its citizens yesterday subscribed together the sum of \$19,000 for the benefit of an educational institution. The Institute at Mount Allison has played a very important part in the educational development of the province, and deserves the enthusiastic support of the whole Methodist body in the three provinces; while throughout Canada there are communities which derive benefit because they have among their citizens able men who received their educational training at Sackville.

The discussion of the housing question at the meeting under the auspices of the board of trade and the Canadian Club this evening ought to prove a turning point in connection with this important matter. It is necessary not only to arouse public interest, but to concentrate public attention upon the conditions, and bring about through a general committee or in some other way a survey of the city and if possible some practical scheme by which the demand for good houses to let at a rental within the reach of people of small income may be provided. Other cities in Canada are confronted by the same trouble and are giving it careful study.

The announcement that the government of the United States is about to launch a plan for the promotion of world peace is one of the most significant that has been made for a long time. Mr. Bryan, the secretary of state, contemplates the negotiation of treaties between the United States and all other nations, providing for a temporary limitation of armament and war preparations, and the setting up of international machinery for arbitration of disputes before an appeal is made to the arbitration of war. Mr. Bryan is said to be willing to have referred to arbitration questions of the most vital interest, and those affecting national honor. In this he goes farther than the United States senate has hitherto been willing to go. Whatever may come of his proposals, it is a significant fact and cannot but have a strong effect in promoting world peace that so powerful a nation as the United States takes the initiative.

Jersey City has adopted the commission form of government. Votes were taken in four municipalities in New Jersey on one day recently, but three of them rejected the commission plan. Jersey City, however, is the second city in the state, and the nineteenth in point of population in the United States. A vote was taken on the same question in 1911, and the commission plan was defeated. Commenting on the situation in New Jersey Bradstreet's says:—"Commission government has been an issue in a number of New Jersey towns and cities since President Wilson, while governor, came out as a strong advocate of the new plan. It appears that out of thirty-six municipalities that have voted on the question in the state, fourteen have decided in favor of the commission form. The working out of the experiment in Jersey City will be watched with much interest, particularly in the east, where the new system has not had the vogue which it has attained in the west."

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

TUESDAY, APRIL TWENTY-TWO

The Rev. George Bryce, of Winnipeg, clergyman, scholar and author, was born at Mount Pleasant, Ont., on April 22, 1844. He went to Winnipeg in 1871 and has long been prominent in church and educational circles. He was for years on the faculty of Manitoba University.

The Hon. D. M. Eberts, speaker of the legislature of British Columbia, was born on April 22, 1859. He is one of the leaders of the bar in Victoria and has sat in the legislature for many years.

The Hon. C. A. Magrath, of Lethbridge, was also born on this date in the year, 1860, at Augusta, Ont. He is a surveyor by profession and has long been associated with development work in the west. He sat for Lethbridge in the local house for several years and was a member of the Parliament of Canada. He has also represented Medicine Hat at Ottawa.

LIGHTER VEIN
TOO BUSY TO BRAG.
"Is he making good?"
"He must be. He never seems to have time to stop and tell anybody about it."

HELPING SOME
"And, Sam, do you do anything toward helping to get the wherewithal to support the family?"
"Deed I do boy; why, only last week I went down and ordered a washin' machine for my wife."—Yonkers Statesman.

A GLOOMY FORECASTER
"Didn't you want to see the world a place of complete peace and harmony?"
"No," replied Mr. Chever. "Just as soon as you get the world peaceful and harmonious, a lot of people will arise and kick because competition has been eliminated."—Washington Star.

BIG LETTERS ON GREEN PAPER.
Griggs—Say, did your wife ever find any letters in your pocket and raise a row?
Biggs—She's found 'em and she's there but she always kept quiet about it.—Baltimore American.

GOOD ADVICE.
Miss Fols LaFollette, in a settlement address in New York, spoke of her husband's advice. "Wives should never nag their husbands," she said. "A husband is like an egg. If kept continually in hot water, he soon gets hardened."—Washington Star.

KEEPING HIM TRUTHFUL.
"Do you believe everything he tells you?"
"Yes. You see I long ago gave up asking him questions that I know he'd lie about."

SPRING SONG.
Spring is coming; we may know it by the gentle, eager cooing of the doves upon the eared;
In the hollows there are echoes of the golfers' cry of "Fore!"
And the landlords are beginning to want higher rents once more.

Spring is coming; we may know it by the willow's golden glow.
By the gladness that is in us when the west winds gently blow;
Spring is coming; we may know it by the robin's morning call.
And the mud left by the children when they scamper through the hall.
—Chicago Record Herald.

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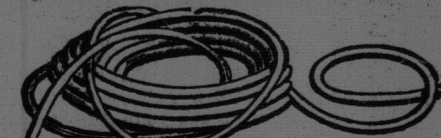
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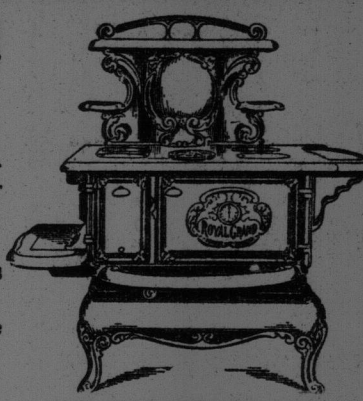
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CANADIAN COLLIERS' ON THE BORDEN POLICY

Premier Not Candid—The Bluff About a "Temporary" Policy

(Canadian Collier's)

Surely Mr. Borden is not living up to the reputation for candor and blunt honesty which has hitherto been his when he says that the proposal to contribute \$35,000,000 to the British Admiralty funds is only a temporary policy. Such a statement on the part of the prime minister is dangerously misleading. A great many people in this country might be led into supporting this policy in the belief that they are merely helping England out of a difficult position, and that the giving of his money would amount to nothing more than a gift such as John Jones might make to his father in order to help the old man meet some heavy debt on his resources. But, as a matter of fact, the giving of the \$35,000,000 in the manner proposed by the premier is really the first step in a permanent policy of centralization.

Mr. Winston Churchill already makes it clear that Canada's three ships would become part of an "imperial squadron" governed, we know not how. The Borden policy of contribution has only one logical object in view, and that is the centralizing of the whole empire and the creation some day of an imperial parliament or some other sort of machinery for governing the whole empire. Personally we do not believe that an imperial parliament is desirable. We feel that any attempt to bind the parts of the empire within one political fabric will not only fail, but will ruin the empire in its failure. However, our criticism of Mr. Borden is not based upon what may be our opinion of centralization, but upon the fact that he advances as a temporary policy what is obviously the beginning of a permanent policy.

Once committed to this "temporary policy" of Mr. Borden's, we shall never be able to go back upon it without creating hard feeling between ourselves and the mother country, or between ourselves and other parts of the empire. To carry through this proposed policy now means that Mr. Borden commits Canada to a most serious course. He is practically taking upon his own shoulders the responsibility for deciding what is probably the gravest matter that ever confronted the Dominion of Canada. If he carries

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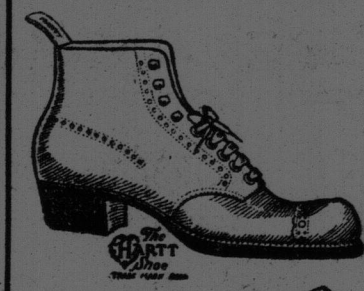
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It is through without having the explicit endorsement of the Canadian people, he shall have done us an injury. We are inclined to think that Mr. Borden is not so much deceiving us as deceiving himself. It would be much wiser and more statesmanlike were he to call his policy a permanent policy, and then look at it with clarified vision.

Poultry intended for the market should be plucked under the most favorable conditions otherwise as plucked fowls are generally more salable than those unplucked. They should not be given any food for a period of at least 24 hours before being slaughtered, in order that the crop and intestines may be emptied. They should be given a small quantity of water just before they are slaughtered.



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