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DUNCAN MARSHALL,
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HIS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN.

Mr. Borden's proposal that the telephone and telegraph lines be "nationalized" is by no means a new or a one-sided question, but it is so new to Mr. Borden that he will doubtless be grateful for an opportunity of making some nodding acquaintance with such institutions under other than private ownership.

This opportunity he was afforded during his visit to Alberta and he should have gathered up a few facts here that would better equip him for the task of converting his corporations serving associates into disciples of public ownership.

From the Government-owned telegraph system in the west for example he should learn that these enterprises, even when under government ownership, require money to construct, maintain and operate them. The business of the manager of such system is not exclusively the receiving of money and the paying of dividends into the public treasury.

From the local telephone system Mr. Borden should be able to learn how a public system should not be managed, and yet how profitable such a system may be even in spite of mismanagement. It may occur to him too that a city owning such a valuable system would not submit to its being "nationalized" unless the nationalizers made good the loss of present and prospective revenue.

From Alberta's provincial system Mr. Borden should be able to learn the auspices under which long distance lines and rural systems can best be constructed and managed. Alberta has a system under construction, designed eventually to cover the entire province and being extended toward that ideal with all reasonable expedition. This system is owned by the people of Alberta, will be used in the first instance to supply them with efficient service at moderate rates and in the second place to provide whatever revenue may be consistent with that service.

His deduction from this observation should be that to the people of Alberta the "nationalization" of telephones would mean simply the "nationalization" of the revenues of a very valuable system which the people of the province have undertaken without national aid, which they are bringing into being at their own expense and which they intend to operate for their own use and benefit.

While no people in the Dominion are more ready to contribute their fair share toward the government till expenses of the country or more ready to sacrifice if need be for the country's welfare, they could not in reason be asked to give up this valuable property to the Dominion without receiving a very substantial indemnity in return. So far as we in Alberta are concerned "nationalization" would mean remuneration—and that on no such niggardly scale as Mr. Borden and his associates tried and are trying to apply to our provincial subsidies.

Should he pursue his observations further, Mr. Borden may discern from the inception of the Provincial telephone system who are the friends and who the enemies of public ownership of such enterprises in Alberta. Surprising as it may be to him the Provincial telephone system was neither proposed nor begun by his political friends but by a government of the political faith of those whom he is trying to oust from power by the argument that he has greater friendship for the principles of public ownership. The Liberal Government of Alberta made the construction of a provincial telephone system a clause in its policy, risked their existence on it, received the endorsement of the people and energetically undertook the work.

It may be still more surprising to this honorable gentleman to learn that his provincial friends adopted no such policy, waged war to the limit of their ability on the Government who had adopted it, and in their campaign had the hearty sympathy and active cooperation of the corporations controlling the telegraph and telephone lines in this province. Grievous as this may be to Mr. Borden it is a fact of historical certainty. The information is tendered him here because a feeling of modesty or a lapse of memory might prevent his Alberta friends mentioning the fact to him. This should serve to show Mr. Borden that not alone among the corporate serving gentlemen who sit with him in Parliament must the new gospel be promulgated; it needs preaching also among his friends in the province of Alberta.

"RANKEST IMPERTINENCE."

Mr. Haultain considers it a piece of the "rankest impertinence" that the Prince Albert Liberals should have challenged Mr. Borden to a joint meeting. Doubtless, the more so as Mr. Haultain must have had a pretty good idea how such debate was likely to terminate. On the other hand, if the Prince Albert Liberals had not done so they would have been open to the charge of rank stupidity or equally rank cowardice. Joint debates are the usual practice in political campaigns in this country. Mr. Borden saw fit to butt into the provincial campaign in Prince Albert. Had Mr. Borden desired to be fair and candid in his methods it would not have been necessary for the Liberals to challenge him to a joint debate. He would have invited them to, and they would have seen him slain. Mr. Borden was too wise to do anything of the kind. He hoped to be able to spring a one-sided meeting on the eve of the election and throw the whole weight of his influence into the scale for the Opposition candidate. But the Prince Albert Liberals were not slumbers at the switch and politely invited Mr. Borden to invite them to tell their side of the case. Whereat Mr. Haultain grew indignant at their rank "impertinence." Good for Mr. Haultain. From his point of view it doubtless is an "impertinence" that Liberals will persist in drawing breath.

HIGH PROTECTIONISTS DECLARE WAR.

The Mail and Empire is thoroughly alarmed at the prevalence of free trade sentiment among Liberals east and west and still more thoroughly alarmed at its own conviction that the Laurier Government approves of the sentiment, is encouraging and fostering it. This the Mail insists is not however the manifestation of any new principle or policy but only the more outspoken avowal of the principle and policy for which the Liberal party has stood for years and which the Government has been gradually introducing ever since they came into power. Whereon the Mail calls upon the projected interests of the country to rally to the attack upon those who would curtail their tariff favors, and incidentally to place in power the party pledged to maintain those favors and to increase them as opportunity may offer or political expediency dictate.

How alarmed the Mail is at the low tariff sentiment and particularly at the thought that the Government favors that sentiment may be gauged from the opening sentences of a recent editorial in which it arraigns the Government and their supporters for consistently adhering to the cause of tariff reduction and calls on the beneficiaries of high protection to turn out the rascals who would lay sacrilegious hands on the tariff walls. Says the Mail:

"That the Liberal leaders are preparing to renew their campaign against Canadian industry there is unfortunately, every reason to fear. In the West they have opened a 'strong free trade propaganda' and their papers teem with demands for 'further attacks upon the Eastern 'monopolists'."

The Mail received its first chill it seems from reading the Winnipeg Free Press in which a recent writer laid the temerity to advocate the advantages of free trade. This was speedily followed by another shock for the Mail tells us "It is notable that he Mail tells us 'the opening of this campaign in the west a movement of like character has been inaugurated in the east.' After duly paying its respects to the Toronto Globe or its part in the unholy cause of denuding the Canadian consumer from the rapacity of the protectionist the Mail continues: 'The liberal has now 'reappeared, and the people who are 'unfortunate enough to derive their 'views of public matters' from this source 'are again asked to regard the 'Canadians who are engaged in industry as common thieves and to vote 'accordingly. Thus the old free trade and commercial annexation faction is 'becoming active once again and is 'threatening our people.' Clearly 'the walls would be pathetic if the reader did not understand who 'our people' are."

But according to the Mail this low tariff sentiment is no new thing, neither is it a return to a cause dropped or forgotten for a time. The result is assured that Liberals have always been opposed to high tariff at heart, that the Government has always cherished designs on the tariff walls, only "After the party had 'reached office the war' against the tariff 'became furious and almighty' rather than open and frank as formerly." Now however "the old position has been assumed and it is 'very clear that the campaign of education suggested in the west has been 'determined upon.' In other words the Government and their supporters have been always low tariff advocates at heart, now they are showing their

before, wherefore the Mail and Empire declares war.

In conclusion the Mail calls on the manufacturers to rise and exert themselves to avert disaster to their interests and says: "That the campaign for free trade has been commenced in earnest is evident on all hands. It is being pushed both in the East and in the West; and the industries will have to fight its advocates, particularly those in the press, such as the Toronto Globe and the Winnipeg Free Press, or they will find, as they have found, a public opinion and a force in Parliament by which the 'Ottawa ministers will be only too glad to be guided.' The Government according to the Mail would be pleased to be backed in Parliament and in country by a force which would enable them to make further tariff reductions.

Two points in the Mail's article deserve note, the first a misrepresentation apparent enough to refute itself, the second an admission of fact such as the Mail seldom indulges in.

The Mail attempts to confuse the interests of the manufacturer and the interests of the mechanic, and to represent the low tariff advocates and the low tariff Government as the out and out enemies of the working man. The sufficient answer is that under the low tariff policy of the present Government he is working over time trying to overtake the orders—and is being paid for it.

The second notable point is the Mail's unequivocal declaration that the Government stands for low tariff, has always stood for it and is endeavoring to influence public opinion in favor of tariff reduction as against the Opposition policy of boosting the tariff to the Haman's gallow level. The issue on the tariff is thus made plain by the leading organ of the Opposition. The Government stands for low tariff—wherefore the Opposition will wage war against the Government with the help of the protected interests.

The Mail is witness both to the loyalty of the Government to the low tariff policy and to the devotion of the Opposition to the principle of high protection. More than this it is the mouthpiece through which the Opposition announces their alliance with the Government to make war on the low tariff policy of the Government. If Canada wants a Haman's gallow tariff the way to get it is made plain by no less authority than the Mail & Empire.

WHY THE SPOKESMAN FAILED TO APPEAR.

The Calgary Eye Opener publishes the resolution which was to have been presented to Mr. Borden by a group of prominent Winnipeg Conservatives, but who for some reason failed to connect. The resolution reads:

"Be it resolved that we request Mr. Borden to call a Dominion convention of the Conservative party, at Winnipeg, in the month of January 'or at some time suitable in the near future, with the object of deciding 'in convention and formulating the 'various planks of the Conservative 'party,' setting forth their attitude on 'the great political issues of the day; 'and further be it resolved that 'case Mr. R. L. Borden refuses to call 'a Dominion convention in the interests of the party, this association 'and the other Conservative associations of this city withdraw their active influence at the meetings 'by Mr. Borden in Winnipeg, and the 'Province of Manitoba, and that they 'communicate with the Conservative 'associations in the Provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, requesting them to also withdraw their support."

According to the Eye Opener a member of the Manitoba Government that was behind the ultimatum and Mr. Sanford Evans was to be the spokesman. This gentleman however suffered a violent attack of cold feet at the critical moment and failed to appear. The nature of the resolution provides internal evidence of the correctness of the story of its failure. Inviting the boss to retire himself is a delicate and not altogether pleasant duty—especially to a gentleman with parliamentary aspirations.

THE "OVER-PRODUCTION" FALLACY.

According to one school of commercial cure-alls "Good times will revive just as soon as the surplus products of our mills and factories have been 'consumed or disposed of one way or 'another.'"

Well, why not burn them if that would produce a revival? If our wealth varies according to the things we have not, why not do away with the things we have, forthwith and beyond re-adventure?

Few men in their right senses would propose seriously the wanton destruction of property, yet that is the goal

to which we are inevitably led by the sentiments rather more plainly than theory that the way to become prosperous is to become destitute of the things for which we labor.

If the way to create prosperity is to destroy the product of our labor, why does not the individual resort to this expedient and become wealthy? Why, for example, does not the carpenter burn the house he has just constructed for himself? The mechanic ruin the machine on which he has put weeks of labor? The mason upset the wall he has erected for his house? No tradesman capable of making anything useful is likely to adopt the expedient, but this is precisely what one school of thought is implying that he should do.

The suggestion is no more absurd to the individual than when proposed to the collection of individuals constituting a community or a nation. If the trouble with us is that we have too many of the things for which men toil why not relieve the trouble by destroying a part of those things and then starting to work to make them again? If the individual would be foolish for burning himself out of house and home in order that he might get work re-building the house, surely the nation would be quite as foolish in longing for the day when all the accumulated fruits of years of labor should have been consumed, and the workers be again confronted with the task of creating them.

The fallacy is in thinking that we have too much wealth in the form of products—that in the things for which we really spend our days in labor we have got beyond our needs or desires. What Canadian today thinks he has too many houses, too much food or clothing? And if the individual is not suffering from an over-supply, how can the nation of individuals be weighed down by too heavy a burden of good and desirable things? Are our people all housed as comfortably as they might and should be? As well fed? As well clothed? Unless so, we are still far from suffering any plethora of wealth.

Our trouble is not that we have too much of commodities generally, but that we have not enough of one special commodity—namely that we have too much of the product of our labor too much of the product of our labor accumulated, but that we lack the medium by which we affect the change of these products. It is the scarcity of money and not a surplus of products that is embarrassing us.

What we are trying to do privately, municipally and nationally is to get money, not to get rid of other things. And if we can get the money, who cares if we never get rid of the things we have made or caused our soil to produce? We shall not be able to get the money without parting with these, but we part with them not that we may be rid of them, but that we may get the money, with which to buy other things.

One single circumstance places it beyond doubt, and question that we are suffering from a financial scarcity, not from an industrial depression. Our factories are not closing down. They are running overtime and even running overtime are not able to fill the orders. If with the small amount of money available for carrying on the business of the country we still cannot make goods fast enough to supply our demands, what would be the condition if we had more money?

If in any lines of commodities the trade has fallen off during the past few months, the falling off has been directly and entirely due to the lack of money. And if our trade has not increased as rapidly in the past three months as in the previous quarter the cause was not that we had all secured as much of this world's goods as we needed or desired, but that as we needed or desired we had no scarcity of money prevented us buying more of them. The real demand for goods—this is, the desire for goods, has not fallen off, but the wherewithal to gratify that desire has not been available. If the orders received by the manufacturer have not been up to the expectations, it has been due not to a surfeit of the public desire for goods, but to the fact that the people have not been able to buy the goods they wanted. If they there exist in any line and to any degree an industrial depression, that depression is due not to the extreme wealth of the Canadian people, but to the lack of funds, preventing them gratifying their desires and supplying their needs.

Curiously enough the argument that we are suffering from an over-production of goods comes from those who argue that we need higher production to foster and increase our home productions. Well, if we have too great a supply of goods already, why tax ourselves to try and induce the production of more goods?

AN INSTANTANEOUS CONVERSION

The Whitney Government has become suddenly convinced that it is an evil to have public servants talking politics. But the announcement is not likely to be made in the calm and unimpassioned language in which one wraps the first fruits of abstract reasoning. At present, if at all, it is probably expressed in facial contortions, stifled mutterings, and in private, doubtless, by language appropriately vigorous. The conviction has come not as a logical conclusion, but as a revelation, and that of a kind not altogether pleasant. Dr. Beattie Nesbitt was the man who turned on the light and made Mr. Whitney sit up and think. Briefly, Dr. Nesbitt has emerged from his political tomb in the registrar's office of West Toronto, clambered onto the platform and handed the public a few plain hints about the Whitney government. One Minister he characterized as "one of Johnny Rockefeller's slick boys," and averred that the Cabinet was trying to shove Hon. Adam Beck out of the limelight. Whereat the Government doubtless because suddenly convinced of the exceeding impropriety of a political corpse resurrecting himself and telling stories out of school. We may now look for regulations effectively muzzling the civil servants of Ontario.

Meantime Dr. Nesbitt forstalls the muzzling by saying in an interview: "I have yet to learn under what 'law a man who happens to occupy 'an office in the gift of the government has got to relinquish his rights 'of citizenship or confine his opinions 'on questions in which he is interested within the sacred precincts of 'his own bosom. I utilized Rockefeller as a material embodiment of 'corruption influence. It is fortunate that Mr. Whitney should think 'that any member of his Cabinet 'so connected with Rockefeller that 'he should have to explain his position. I am free to confess that matter had not occurred to me in that 'light. While in office I have entirely 'abstained from taking any part in 'politics and I have conducted my 'office as nearly as possible like my 'predecessors, with exception that I 'did not write the lives of any prominent Canadians. In fact when compelled to retire from active politics

by my physician I took the registry 'office more for its enabling value 'from the standpoint of relieving me 'from political work than for its intrinsic value."

Proceeding, Dr. Nesbitt said: "It is 'quite within the power of the government to expel me from office for 'the supposed slight upon themselves 'and place me in the larger field which 'restored health would permit me to 'enter."

"Since you are not worrying much 'about the office, as a fair question, 'what is it worth?' was asked.

"I do not mind answering that question," said Dr. Nesbitt. "The office has averaged me \$9,000 a year. It was purely a sincere, and the system, in the interests of the public, 'should be entirely re-arranged."

UNANSWERED PROBLEMS.

The Toronto Telegram publishes a cartoon whose aptness is by no means limited to Toronto. In the foreground a teacher, "Canada," is directing the attention of two small boys labelled "banker" and "butcher" to a blackboard in the rear. On this are inscribed two puzzlers: First, How is it that no matter how dear money is the banks never pay more than three per cent. on deposits? Second, How is it that no matter how cheap cattle are the butchers never charge less than twenty-five cents per pound for beef-steak? The answers of the banker and the butcher are not forthcoming.

ON THE SIDE.

There was a family reunion at the buffalo park last week.

The Winnipeg Telegram calls President Roosevelt a Tory Democrat. It would be interesting to know what Teddy would call the Telegram.

Lethbridge Herald: "The Eastern Tory papers are getting mixed. They tell of the frosts killing the crops and of the enthusiasm attending all Borden's meetings. The proper order is a record of the frost that struck Borden and the enthusiasm that exists because of the bumper crops."

The Lethbridge Herald: "The Toronto Mail and Empire says in its issue of Sept. 30th: 'Mr. Borden is being received in the west with a degree of enthusiasm comparable only to that

with which he has been greeted throughout eastern Canada.' Of course this was written before the Lethbridge meeting which was as devoid of enthusiasm as a billiard ball of hair."

Calgary light rates are to be lowered—again reminding that that city owns its own lighting plant.

A Calgary paper claims a population of 22,000 for that city—a signal instance of the bad influence of Mr. Bergeron.

The Britons are taking steps to raise the standard of morality in India, probably as a counter attraction to the other gentlemen who are taking steps to raise the standard of revolt.

Calgary News: "When the Calgary 'Hundred Thousand Club goes to 'Edmonton, the people of the capital 'will have to anchor that town down 'so that it will not tilt up.' Or so carried off.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS.

(Ottawa Free Press.) Mr. R. L. Borden and the supporters of his plank which calls for the nationalization of the telegraphs of this country, will not find much to encourage them in the last annual report of the Post Office Department of Great Britain and Ireland, which has come to hand this week. This blue book tells us that the net deficit in the working of the postal telegraphs of the United Kingdom and Ireland in the year 1906 was £629,055, or if the interest upon the capital invested be added (as is the British custom) the total deficit was £923,745.

The number of messages handled, including government and press, was 59,493,000. A little sum in the arithmetic will show that there was thus an average loss on each message of over five cents.

If this is the result in a country so thickly populated as the United Kingdom, with all its wonderful ramifications of commerce, what would be the sequel to Government ownership in a country of the enormous distances and the scattered communities like Canada? The prospect is an appalling one.

Regulation of rates on telegraph systems is undoubtedly a very live issue in the Dominion, one which must be grappled with at the earliest date possible in order that such increases as the Canadian Pacific system has just imposed upon the press of the west may be prevented. That is quite possible without burdening the country with a system of telegraphs which would for many years at least be merely means of increasing the national debt.

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Rounding

He

When Michael Pablo Spring, Charles Undertaking.

That the last round-up of the buffaloes recently published by the Dominion Government head reservation was as evidenced by the fully five weeks to the bison in the corral, their shipment on the Railway.

Some of the drift round-up were taken representative by Chas. Norman K. Lutton, who in that task, Mr. capacity of superintendent Lutton, who accompanied Douglass, as photographer in connection secured a large number of negatives of the count of the buffalo in the mountains and the

Those engaged in the addition to the Mexican were Howard Douglass, Lutton, of Banff, Dr. Gary, veterinary; Alex. ion immigration agent and D. J. Bonney, a newspaper. Mr. Lutton is a son of W. F. Lutton of the Winnipeg Free Press, a natural newspaperman and the faculty of noting features of the event, described.

Nearly a Fair

"It was at one time the round-up would have been for this fall," Mr. "Michael Pablo had weeks, and eighty and a fine fellow, but he is an old man now, and he him the experienced man to do the arduous work of the corral. So he despair and told Mr. party to return and he would then have the corral ready for the

A Very Difficult The work of cutting out a most difficult quired both horses and tional endurance. The by the buffalo is about square in a valley with on one side and the other a line of hills, banks and huge rocks, a ideal home for the bull an about where it was a last week the animals become more than usual to the presence of the reserve.

Mr. Douglass Des With Pablo's confessed ability at that time to buffalo and the almost difficulties before him lass was naturally feeling dispondent.

"Happily, however," ton, "he thought of Cl and at once started for see if he could be induced take the work.

"The thirty-five miles ranch was made almost the party, as all felt the parent failure.

Mr. Allard Cont

"When Mr. Allard was sent to complete the possible, if Mr. Pablo w The latter at once acqu Mr. Allard, who model when Mr. Lutton told of his excellent work, is about 30 years of age, father, away back in 18 saw the value in coming herd of the rapidly disson. From an Indian the nucleus of the present date increased by buffalo from Jones, of Nebraska. For some y Pablo owned a half in the death of Allard, son obtained possession of the creasing herd.

Had Good Equip

Charles Allard at the has magnificent horses, were needed for the task. For years his name was tied with the horse racing state, where he has carried off large awards.

Animals that his men on horse Billy Mayhan in the racing circles of Washington.

To the task of completing Allard took twenty herd of 125 head of horses followed the men, and became fatigued it was fresh remount. Thus e four horses were used, fifteen men were continuing, the remaining five in making the changes.

Scouring the Res

Through the mountain ravines the cow-punch and at the end of ten d 126 buffaloes in the corral drive they covered a di miles and landed over animals.

The entire consignment the Elk Park was made animals, one lot of which stock and nearly all young bull broke its neck by a being driven into the corral. The animals were led given water every twenty at different stations along