

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1919

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DISUNION.

The breach in the Liberal ranks in this constituency has not been healed. Whether it is to remain permanent will depend upon the future action of those who last evening declined to give the Union Liberals a voice in the Liberal convention at Ottawa. No amount of sophistry can hide the fact that the majority of the Laurier Liberals as represented at the convention held in June and the one held last evening do not at present desire a reunion. There is no more reason that Union Liberals should go begging to the Laurier Liberals than that the latter should go to them. The two sections of the party differed on conscription, which is a dead issue. Those who voted for union government did not desert the rest of the Liberal party any more than the rest of the Liberal party deserted them. Both acted on conviction. The next great argument will not be as to who is the true Liberal, but whether this constituency is to go Liberal or Conservative; and it would be most unfortunate if then the Union Liberals felt that their support would be offensive to the candidates of their old party. Before that campaign comes on, however, there will be time to review the situation calmly, and perhaps to ensure an united front. After last night's convention active Conservative workers expressed themselves as highly pleased with the result. That they boast too soon will surely be the sober second thought of all who desire to see Liberalism triumphant in the general elections.

Whatever may happen in St. John, the Liberals and Unionist Liberals in other parts of Canada appear to be getting together. They realize that there is something bigger than a local dispute, and neither side shows any disposition to outbid the other for its attitude on conscription, which is not the present issue. There is yet time for a reconciliation in St. John, if the right spirit is manifested. Meanwhile Union Liberals of this city and county will have no elected representative at the August convention at Ottawa. That is not their fault. They attended in quite large numbers the convention last evening, which they hoped would re-unite the two sections of the party, but from the very outset they found themselves in a hostile atmosphere. The delegates chosen at the previous convention will go to Ottawa, and the party remains divided.

PREMIER FOSTER.

Premier Foster, at last night's convention, performed an extremely difficult task with credit to himself, and added to his reputation as a straightforward and fearless public man. What he felt he said and when the majority of those present decided against him or, rather, against the National Liberal Committee which he represented, he at once accepted the decision. He was not on trial as the leader of New Brunswick Liberals, but as the man selected by the National Liberal Committee to call conventions in this province. The National Liberal Committee, not Premier Foster, was turned down by vote of last night's meeting. When it came to a question whether he should be the chairman of the meeting his personal strength was made perfectly clear. In his references at the outset to provincial politics Mr. Foster was heartily cheered, and when Mr. Bentley referred to him as the man who saved the situation when the party was leaderless, and who is giving the province good government, the response was such as must have been extremely gratifying to the premier. The Standard's efforts to picture him as a discredited leader are ridiculous.

RESULTS OF PROHIBITION.

Both in Canada and the United States there is an artful propaganda the object of which is to convey the impression that prohibition is a failure and the people weary of the law. To offset this move by the liquor interests a committee was recently formed in the United States to gather reliable testimony. It was composed of Lemuel H. Murlin, president of Boston University, chairman John M. Barker, professor in Boston University, secretary John L. Bates, former governor of Massachusetts; Gen. L. Coleman, president of the Open Forum National Council, and Henry I. Harriman, former president Boston Chamber of Commerce. Here is an extract from its report:

"Of twenty-eight states which have had prohibition for more than four months, the governors of twenty-six give emphatic endorsement to the beneficial effects of prohibition. One governor was against prohibition, and one did not report his opinion. Albert E. Sleeper, governor of Michigan, the state over the state have been cut down to about one-quarter, and the effect of prohibition upon general business has been good." The mayors and chiefs of police

In the ten largest cities where prohibition has been in effect for more than four months, with populations ranging from 200,000 to 800,000, were asked to report upon the success or failure of prohibition. Seventeen officials gave opinions favorable to prohibition, one chief of police was opposed, and one was not replied. James Coussens, mayor of Detroit, Michigan, the largest dry city in the United States, expressed himself as follows: "Prohibition has brought a decrease, not alone in drunkenness, but in larceny, disorderly conduct, assault and battery, non-support, vagrancy, etc., a decrease in all punishable misdemeanors of \$9,140 over the previous year. Admissions to the poor house have decreased from 2,214 to 800. Deaths from alcoholism have decreased from 92 to 17. Savings deposits have increased over \$25,000,000."

Testimony of this nature cannot be laughed out of court or its significance minimized by those who want liquor or those who want to make money out of liquor. Prohibition is a source of economic gain, while its value in promoting social welfare is beyond computation.

The liquor interests in the United States are vainly trying to check the progress through the house of the Volstead bill for the enforcement of both war-time and constitutional prohibition. It is expected two weeks will elapse before the bill is ready for the president's signature, but the last attempt to hold it up was voted down, 223 to 59. A report of the debate says:

"A. J. Volstead, chairman of the judiciary committee, opened the general debate with a statement that he was not a prohibitionist and had never belonged to either the Prohibition party or the Anti-Saloon League. 'I have never made a prohibition speech in my life, yet it suits the purpose of all these opposed to this bill to call me and every one else who supports it a crank,' he said. 'It is not the cranks who are back of this bill. The cranks have passed on. It is the great industrial forces of the country, and it is those forces that will hold you men who are opposing it. I am a prohibitionist and I believe it ought to last,' he said. 'I wish we could make prohibition permanent right now.'"

AN HONORED SOLDIER.

The members of the Canadian Club yesterday heard from the lips of a man who won the Victoria Cross something of the story of the courage, resourcefulness and brilliant achievements of the Canadian soldiers in France and Flanders. Col. Peck made no reference whatever to his own deeds, but these add a brilliant page to the record of what the Canadians did in the great war. A native of New Brunswick, he has brought honor to the province, though his present home is in the Pacific province. He is able to say that his branch of the family, which has been on this side of the ocean for nearly three hundred years, has always been under the British flag. An ancestor was one of the earliest settlers in Massachusetts, and Peck from Massachusetts settled in Alberta county before the American Revolution. This descendant was not only a great distinction as a soldier, but is also a member of the parliament of Canada. It was as a soldier he was welcomed yesterday in St. John, and among those who heard him at the Canadian Club were quite a number who had shared in the battles he described. The reminiscences of such men as Col. Peck will be of the highest value when the full history of the part the Canadian Corps played in the war is written.

Christian Science Monitor: One incident of the visit of a Prince of Wales to the United States, in 1860, will not be duplicated by the visit of the Prince of Wales in 1919. During his stay in Boston the visiting Prince was introduced to Mr. Ralph Farnham, the last of the American soldiers who had fought at Bunker Hill. The veteran of the Revolution and the young Prince of the British Royal House exchanged autographs, for, as the old soldier said, he "wished to show the boy that he bore no anger for old times." The visit, however, undoubtedly did much to reduce anti-British sentiment in America, and the Prince proved himself, as the King did afterwards, a likable person with the power of making those he met feel friendly to his own country.

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OTTAWA SCENE OF IMPERIAL CONFERENCE?

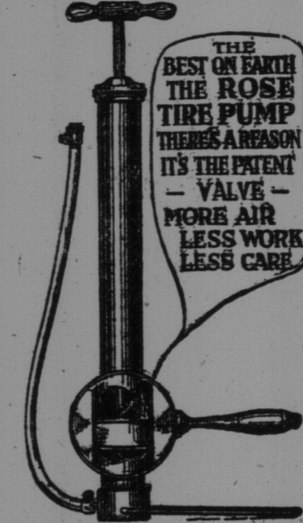
Question of Future Political Inter-Relationship of Empire

London, July 11.—(Reuters)—In the House of Commons yesterday Major O'Neill asked as regards the date of the special imperial conference to consider the future political inter-relationship of the empire.
Right Hon. A. Bonar Law, in reply, said many informal discussions which had occurred had been valuable. The desirability of holding the conference at the earliest possible time was recognized by all parties, but it was impossible to fix a date.
Archibald Hurd asked whether the government had considered a proposal to hold the conference in Ottawa. Mr. Law said this had not been suggested at any conference at which he had been present but he would look into it.

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HERMIT'S BODY FOUND; IT MAY PROVE MURDER

Montreal, July 11.—The discovery of the body of a man identified as Leon Demers at Shaw Bridge, near the Boys' Farm and Training School, on Tuesday afternoon, may develop into a murder case in the opinion of Coroner Labelle of St. Jerome. The coroner found that the man's skull was fractured and there was a rope around his neck.

Demers for several years had lived the life of a hermit in the woods.

NAVARRE, FRENCH AVIATOR, KILLED

Paris, July 11.—(By the Associated Press)—Sub-Lieut. Jean Navarre, who was one of the first aces among the French aviators during the war, and who was withdrawn from the service because of his eccentric conduct, fell while flying near Versailles yesterday afternoon and died soon after. He was trying to avoid a collision with other machines when his airplane crashed.

Navarre was officially credited with bringing down twelve enemy airplanes, although the Paris newspapers credited him with nineteen.
The name of the steamship Acl, launched at Hog Island, is the code word for the American Federation of Labor, in honor of which the vessel was christened.

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URGES RENEWAL OF BRITISH EMBARGO ON CANADIAN CATTLE.

London, July 11.—Dr. J. W. Robertson, Canadian agricultural commissioner, addressing the parliamentary agricultural committee yesterday, urged the renewal of the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle. It was a question whether these should go to England or the United States. The meat trusts of Canada now sent 200,000 cattle every year to fatten in the United States.

Perhaps the oldest clergyman in the United States is Rev. Albert Vogel of Jeannette, Pa., who has just celebrated his 102d birthday.

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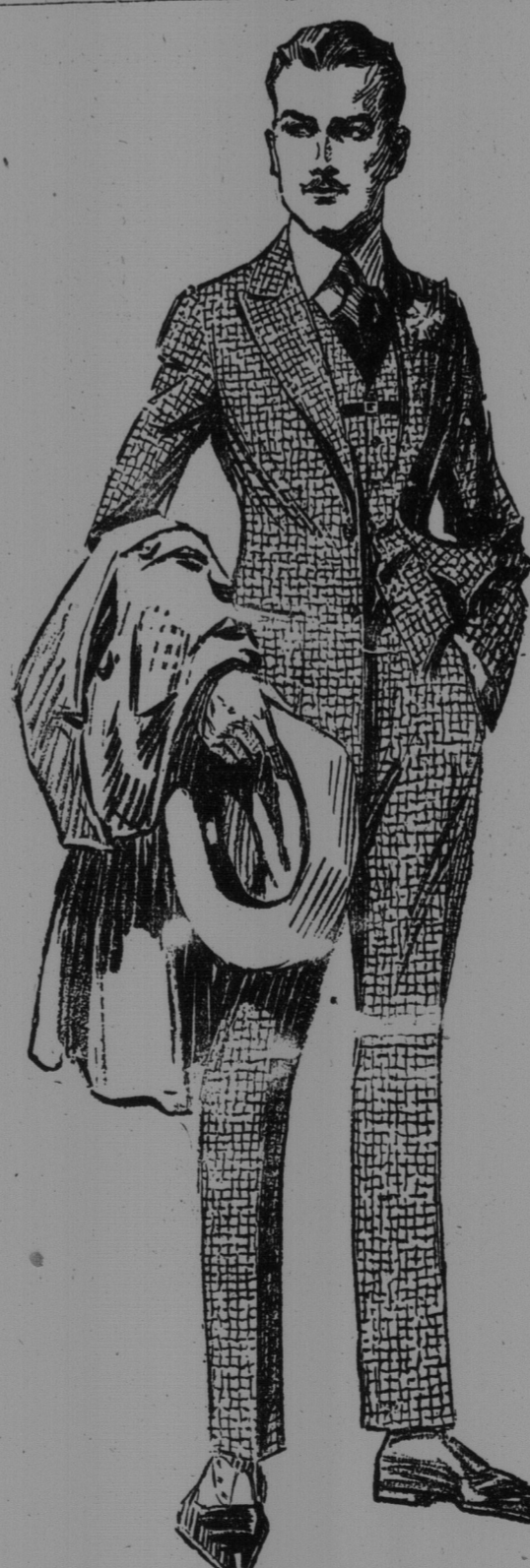
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35 labels.....For 30	\$25.00 Fall Top Coats, For \$20	
40 labels.....For 34	\$30.00 Fall Top Coats, For \$24	
45 labels.....For 38	\$35.00 Fall Top Coats, For \$28	
50 labels.....For 42	\$40.00 Fall Top Coats, For \$32	
Semi-ready Two Piece Summer Suits.....	at \$12	



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