

London Advertiser.

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LONDON, FRIDAY, NOV. 27.

A Political Gold Mine.

A hidden chapter in the politics of Ontario has come to light. It was partly revealed in some of the provincial election trials last year, when it was shown that Conservative candidates were plentifully supplied with funds from an unknown source. This fountain of wealth has been discovered under the name of the Ontario Conservative Association, which ceased to exist after discharging its functions as paymaster of the forces. The genesis of the organization is described by a friendly newspaper. It tells us that in September "eight or ten prominent citizens of Toronto" got together and decided to "combat corruption" by the process known to practical politicians of "putting up the dough." A profession of righteousness was solemnly incorporated in the constitution. The funds, it was declared, were to be spent for literature, for public meetings, for the employment of detectives, for prosecuting criminals and frauds, for putting down bribery and corruption, for engaging and paying organizations, for assisting local Conservative organizations, for candidates advocating the principles of the association. A pledge was drawn up, in which the party candidate, in acknowledging the receipt of money from the association, guaranteed to spend it only for legitimate purposes, and to return any portion of the sum he did not use in this way. The party brigade raised \$19,673 for the Federal elections of 1900 and spent all but \$1,956. "The result," we are naively told, "was a majority of upwards of twenty in this Province for the party candidates." In the Provincial election of 1902, a fund of \$28,856 all told was raised, of which \$23,000 was spent in promoting public morality. A portion of the balance was afterwards spent in election protests, but whether in defending Conservative members who were unseated for corruption, or in attacking Liberal seats, depositors say not. In the North York election trial, Dr. Snider, the Conservative member-elect testified to receiving \$500 from the association. He swore he spent \$106.42, and put the rest in his pocket. "I consider it mine," he said. The candidate in Center Bruce also kept what he did not disburse. The Conservative candidates in Lennox, North Perth and North Grey testified to receiving sums ranging from \$500 to \$1,000.

Says the historian of the association: "The group of friends who undertook to demonstrate corrupt expenditures did not claim that no corruption was practiced by Conservative workers in the last campaign, but in the main they are satisfied with the result of their labors, and they are satisfied also that only by such measures will politics be placed on a cleaner, saner and more economical basis—that is to say, by Reform from within." Hitherto moralists have complained of the distribution of money at election time, but they have been all wrong. What is needed is more money to cleanse and purify politics and stimulate public spirit by bribing candidates. That is the working creed of the new party unit of the Conservative party in Ontario. It worked so well that the fund for the approaching Federal elections will no doubt be vaster than has been.

Modern Railway Methods.

The Pere Marquette has acquired running rights over the Michigan Central across the Western Ontario peninsula. By means of this and similar leases in Michigan it can run its trains from Chicago to Buffalo. If necessary the Pere Marquette would have laid its own tracks to reach Buffalo, but it has adopted the more economical and sensible plan of renting tracks already laid. The money spent in paralleling railroads where one railroad is equal to the traffic is money wasted, and the public pays the piper in increased rates to make dividends on the unnecessary capital outlay. In the present instance the Pere Marquette saves the initial expenditure of millions of dollars, and the annual cost of the up-keep of over 200 miles of roadbed. The Michigan Central gets a handsome revenue, which is clear profit. The Pere Marquette will doubtless take some business from it, but the competition would have been the same if the Pere Marquette had built its own road. The two companies have adopted the modern railroad principle. It is illustrated in all parts of Ontario. The M. C. R. uses the L. and P. S. R. tracks between London and St. Thomas. The Wabash crosses Ontario and North Bay. These are only a few of the instances of joint use and operation. The arrangement in every case works smoothly and satisfactorily. Yet the provision in the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway bill, guaranteeing running rights to other railroads, is called impracticable by opponents of the measure.

The opposition to the great transcontinental project has almost died out, and the Conservative party from present indications will not make it a leading issue in the next election. The Grand Trunk Pacific has already sixteen surveyors in the field, and it is announced that the section between Winnipeg and Lake Superior will be ready for the grain traffic in the fall of 1935. This will be cheerful news for the west, which is enthusiastic over the contract. The Government can and will challenge the Opposition on its transportation policy in every province of the country.

Cook's Good Advice.

At a meeting of the Dudley, England, Chamber of Commerce, Mr. F. W. Cook, who recently toured Canada, declared that if the Canadian market was to be won, the small details of manufacture should be closely studied. Mr. Cook has discovered something that British manufacturers are very slow in learning. Canadian importers have all the same tale to tell. The British manufacturers will not adapt their wares to Canada, because, as they say, it does not pay them to do it for so small a market. This may be the day of small things in the Canadian market, comparatively speaking, but the day of great things is coming fast and the British manufacturers should get in before the rush, or they may find themselves in a back seat. They were being steadily crowded out at the main entrance, when the preferential tariff opened a side door for them; but they have not taken the fullest advantage of it. Canadian commercial styles and tastes have been largely assimilated to those of the United States. The people of the two countries eat, wear and use the same kind of commodities, and their business methods are much the same. This has given the American manufacturers an advantage over foreign competitors, which they have increased by familiarizing Canadians with their products. Rush orders from Canada can also be filled more readily in a country next door than across the Atlantic. The British manufacturer making for a market accustomed to his wares must differentiate for the Canadian market, which is accustomed to the wares of the United States, and fashions its own products on the American patterns.

The British manufacturers have held almost undisputed control of the trade of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, because these countries are not contiguous to a great manufacturing nation like the United States, and have been habituated to the almost exclusive use of British goods. Canada is in a different position, and so long as British manufacturers disdain to make a special study of Canadian requirements, they are apt to be disappointed by the results of any tariff preference this country may give.

The campaign against the Ross Government is one of bogus letters and bogus charges.

The author of the Jameson raid, who leads the Cape Colony Progressives, beats the Dutch at last.

One business in Canada shows a falling-off. The number of chattel mortgages has greatly decreased.

If this dumping keeps up, "made in Canada" will soon be as great a bogey in England as "made in Germany."

The Kaiser is taking a course in voice culture and may yet be able to speak what he thinks of the Canadian surtax.

Seymour Gourley, M. P., has been renominated by the Colchester, N. S., Conservatives. They must be fond of a joke.

The friends of the Western University must note with envious admiration the interest the Italian people are showing in a university question.

The question "Where did the money come from?" may be answered by a post-mortem examination of the Ontario Conservative Association.

The paragraph in yesterday's edition credited to the Boston Globe, calling for the forcible annexation of Canada to the United States, should have been credited to the Boston Record. The Boston Globe is sane and respectable.

A local contemporary asks how the Grand Trunk Pacific is to traverse the region of muskeg which it learns extends 50 miles south of James Bay. As the G. T. P. will not go within 150 miles of James Bay, perhaps a bridge will not be required.

His Judicial Toe.
[Toronto Telegram.]

If Lord Alverstone would be gracefully pleased to come out to this poor colony and kick some of his eulogies they would be delighted, and so would everybody else if his lordship only kicked hard enough.

The Personal Equation in Journalism.
[Huntsville Standard.]

To say that the lump of idiocy that graces the editorial chair in the Herald office down in Bracebridge constitutes the only wart on the landscape would certainly be drawing one's conclusions too hastily. When first we read the output of his pen during the recent campaign, we thought we would cage this object of degeneracy, but that simultaneously led to another and greater difficulty—how to retain it in a community where the board of health is strict. To this myth, denoun, nincompoop, or whatever else one may see fit to term him, we speak no further—we can supply him with the facts (to substantiate which we have only to refer to the files of his fetid sheet during the campaign), but it's impossible to supply him with brains to understand. Any further statements from his putrid pen will be treated with silent contempt, as his patrons and the public in general can plainly see the last feeble rays of his sun setting over the decayed stumps of his editorial existence.

Reversing the Order.
[Montreal Gazette.]

The fact that Chamberlain is going to stop speeches to study the tariff problem, leads many to think that he should have done the studying first and made the speeches afterwards.

Future of England's Parties.
[London Court Journal.]

Mr. Winston Churchill sees a new party, or rather he has evolved one out of the present political position—in this paragraph of an article in the Monthly Review.

"Out of all these changed conditions and unmeasured forces the new party will emerge. Not the old historic Conservative, with its traditions, its be-



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