

Get Rid of it.

If you have catarrh, why don't you try to get rid of it? The first thing you know it will go down into your lungs or stomach and cause serious trouble.

OTTAWA LETTER

OTTAWA, March 21.—The budget debate has continued during the greater part of four days, and has not been without interest.

A vague remark and a nameless longing filled her breast. And a wish that she scarcely dared to own. For something better, Sir Charles Cartwright dwells in the past mostly, but he takes occasion to censure the new protectionists and gives Mr. Tarte a sardonic notice to quit.

Sir Richard Cartwright's speech, considered coolly after reflection, must strike that old gentleman himself as a curious production. He began by suggesting that Mr. Borden's speech recalled the old days when Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper were demanding protection during the Mackenzie regime.

Yet there was a moral to it. In the end he sacrificed the protectionist of the present day over the shoulders of his prototype of twenty years ago. He expounded the doctrine of balance of trade, unloaded on the house a volume of Oobden Club literature and wound up with a long quotation from Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Twice in his speech, Sir Richard declared that the Mackenzie government was the best that Canada ever had. This remark was not applauded by his colleagues, with the exception of one who is not a minister of the crown.

Following Sir Richard came Mr. Osler, one of the Toronto members, leading financier and broker in that city, who exposed in clear business language the extravagance and waste of this administration.

Mr. Heyd comes from Brantford, a great manufacturing centre, and while he disclaims the title of protectionist, he talks just the same as those who profess to be protectionists.

For many years Wentworth was represented by a tall and sturdy lawyer, Mr. Bates. They made him speaker of the last parliament after good service to the party as chairman

of the agricultural committee. Mr. Bates was somewhat unctuous in his manner, but he was persuasive and well informed and almost the ideal person to persuade a country constituency that the country was not as well governed as it ought to be.

It was rather a singular confession that Mr. Charlton made, when he said that though he was persuaded that the tariff ought to be raised and though he believed it to be the duty of the government to raise it, he begged Mr. Mackenzie to send out through the country a number of trained speakers to persuade the people that the tariff was high enough.

Mr. Charlton passed lightly over his own subsequent career as a commercial unionist, but calmly admitted that he was inconsistent. In fact he praised his own inconsistency, though others might give it another name. It is not inconsistency alone which makes a man a hypocrite, it is the failure to live up to his own principles.

Mr. Morrison of New Westminster, who formerly lived in Cove Bay, Cape Breton, has grown up with the country. He has the western discontent, and while in general terms he commends the tariff he only makes that a preliminary to a detailed attack.

Then came Mr. Charlton, who made a speech which seemed to be intended to place the member for North Norfolk at the head of the protectionists. Mr. Charlton was once at the head of the free traders of Ontario, and later the advance guard of the commercial unionists, but now nothing will suit him but retaliation and protection up to the point of prohibition.

When Mr. Dillon told Mr. Chamberlain the other day that he was a damned liar, he expressed in unparliamentary terms the same sentiment that Mr. Charlton set forth in other language concerning Sir Richard Cartwright. Sir Richard took occasion to say that Mr. Charlton had often claimed in the house to be a devout man.

He admits that he told the story one day in Cartwright's presence about the souls of protectionist farmers hanging suspended in Hades, like sides of bacon to dry, because they were too green to burn, but now says that if he had to tell it again it would not be these souls which he could so depict, but the souls of politicians who are satisfied with our present trade relations.

will contain pictures of the souls of his party. Mr. Fielding, Sir Richard Cartwright, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Sifton and the other dozen members of the cabinet who are undergoing the kiln drying process. The souls of farmer protectionists will now be transferred to cold storage.

The story which Mr. Charlton tells of his own make protectionists of Mr. Mackenzie and Sir Richard Cartwright is pathetic. Sir Charles Tupper has often described the time when Sir Richard, in 1876, having concluded to raise the duties from 17 1/2 to 25 per cent, was terrorized by a Nova Scotia delegation, headed by the present esteemed governor of the province, who told the premier that if they made the tariff higher the whole grip membership from the maritime provinces would go against them.

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came to call the party convention to nominate a government candidate for Ottawa in 1900, the ballot box stuffers were in evidence. Mr. Casey did not get the majority of the ballots, but it was discovered that the number in the hat was much larger than the number of delegates, so when the machine candidate took the field Mr. Casey did also. Then it occurred to the conservative that they might take a hand in.

This accounts for the appearance of Jabel Robinson, who was a patron and had the support of the conservative party in the campaign. He slipped in through the three-cornered fight, and is a fairly good supporter of the conservative policy, though the whole vote for Mr. Borden's amendment because he wants lower duties on farm machinery and coal oil.

Mr. Robinson several years ago had a debate with Mr. Charlton, somewhere down at a farmers' meeting in western Ontario. He made one short speech and Mr. Charlton two long ones. He was in favor of the British Empire and against commercial union, while Mr. Charlton was in favor of the continent to which he then belonged, and was an ardent foe of protection.

About ten years ago a Northumbrian coal miner came to this country and proceeded to Vancouver Island, where Mr. Dunsmuir, father of the present premier, was operating mines. The young man went to work, but having a mind for other things, he followed the example of several other talented miners, and gave himself to the work of the ministry in the Methodist church.

For nearly two hours yesterday Ralph Smith preached from the text proclaimed by Mr. William Nye when he came to this country. He said that British Columbia is ruined by Chinese cheap labor, and he goes for the heathen Chinese. It was a pretty good exposition, well reasoned, well expressed, and fortified with facts from the work done by history.

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Mr. Clarke shows that under the present tariff, with the late-called protective duties on the sale of British goods to England more than ours; that Australian sales to England more than ours; that the United States sales to Canada

have gained very largely, and English sales to Canada in a five-year period nothing at all.

Again Mr. Clarke does not agree with Sir Richard Cartwright concerning the census. He shows that the municipal returns in Ontario give as large an increase in the first five years of the decade as in the last five. He points out that Prince Edward Island, which gained 200 population in the decade ending ten years ago has lost 5,000 in the last ten years.

Those who have read Pope's Life of Sir John A. Macdonald may remember a letter written by the late Sir John George Brown, shortly before Confederation was accomplished, in which he spoke of the parliament and departmental buildings then approaching completion.

It did not occur to Mr. Brown then that he had a dozen years his time. Mr. Mackenzie would be obliged to add to the western building a wing much larger than the building itself, or that in another dozen years the Langevin block on the other side of Wellington street, an immense structure of Miramichi stone, would be required. Since that house was built a large and ugly brick structure at Nepean Point has been erected for the Printing Bureau, and Mr. Tarte has added a new interior wing to the parliament building.

This goes to show that the country will soon have to pay for some more buildings at Ottawa. No doubt the building would be a fine one, but progress if there were no difficulty about the site. The available space on Parliament Hill is occupied, and it would cost probably a million dollars to procure even a part of the necessary ground across Wellington street adjoining the Langevin block.

The Ottawa people would not like to have their park and would indeed be a pity to cover it up with stone. But that is the natural position for the next group of buildings. It is unfortunate that the Printing Bureau, which can hardly be an ornament, but is rather an offense to the eye, stands between Nepean Point and the Park.

There is something queer about this mint idea. Mr. Fielding passed a bill last year under which power is given to expend \$75,000 a year in operating the mint when it shall be established.

some ten years, valued the silver coin produced and the material required to make it, took the rest as profit and proposed to keep this profit at home by coining the silver ourselves. He computed that after paying the amount he called for there would still be a considerable profit in the transaction.

Now all this profit we get already. We are not such fools as to pay the English coiner, public or private, the face value of all the new coin he makes for us. We buy the silver and the other metal, pay the cost for his work and reap the profits for ourselves. I find on turning up the auditor's accounts for 1900 that roughly speaking a half a million dollars' worth of silver coin was brought that year into the country. The profits on that was 55 cents on the dollar, and Canada got it all.

There is no profit in minting gold, for gold coin is worth no more than gold bars. Mr. Fielding admits that the total profit is to be made out of silver. Now silver is not coined every year so extensively as in the year mentioned, and I think it will be found that we are only paying on an average six or seven thousand dollars a year for doing that work.

This leads up to a mention of the agitation in favor of the establishment of a mining bureau for all Canada, with the geological survey as a branch thereof. While this project has some adherents, it hardly commends itself to the judgment of reasonable people who understand the workings of the geological survey. No doubt the survey has its shortcomings, and under Dr. Selwyn its practical value was not as large as it should have been.

The provinces have their own mineral wealth have their own departments or bureaus of mines. It is not the business of the dominion to interfere with provincial affairs to the extent of establishing a rival department. If we had a department and minister of mines or mining bureau, it would have very little power of administration. It could not impose or suggest mining regulations, it could not issue licenses except for dominion unorganized territory, it could not collect royalties, and would probably be engaged in continuous strained relations with local authorities.

It is fair to say that the staff of the geological survey comprises as fine a body of men as can be found anywhere. Some of them have a continental reputation, some are young and will yet obtain recognition. All are honest, active and energetic workers receiving moderate incomes in proportion to their attainments and devoting to the public service their talents, energies and enthusiasm more from the love of their profession and the desire for knowledge than from the financial reward.

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