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### Premier Meighen and the Disarmament Conference

Never in the history of Canadian politics has there been such a miserable campaign of misrepresentation as has been carried on against the Meighen Government. Without a policy on the tariff issue, the railway problem, the marvellous marine, or any other big question of the day, the Liberal leaders and the Liberal press have resorted to innuendoes and falsification.

The latest in an attempt by Liberal papers through editorially written dispatches from Washington to show that Canada is not being properly represented at the disarmament conference, and that in some mysterious manner Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen has sacrificed Canadian interests. The London Advertiser even declares that Sir Robert Borden is not present as an accredited delegate. This is absolutely incorrect. The British Empire is entitled to six delegates. Sir Robert Borden is one of these six, and is taking an important part in the proceedings. Canada is very much to the fore at Washington.

The Advertiser has a special Washington dispatch which reads: "The Canadian position at the conference has been written by an American, ill-informed of Canadian affairs. Certainly no Canadian posted on the recent Imperial Conference could have been responsible for such misstatements. Here is what the dispatch states:

"The United States and Canada have bickered over the back fence now and then as most neighbors do, but they have solved the problem of going along peacefully and sympathetically. "Whatever may have been Japanese opinion before the conference began, there are signs looking large to-night that they are now thoroughly aware of the Canadian-American entente that has grown up in the past century. "It is that unofficial entente that Canada should have represented at the conference had not the prevailing attitude of Premier Meighen at the London conference deprived the Dominion of her rightful sphere in world affairs."

The facts of the situation are the absolute opposite. Mr. Meighen went to the conference determined that a removal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance must be opposed. He resisted a renewal of this alliance would threaten the good friendship between Canada and the United States. When he arrived in London, he found that the British diplomats and Australia and New Zealand wanted to renew the alliance. It was a delicate situation, but Mr. Meighen showed characteristic courage and determined opposition to the alliance and proposed a conference of all the nations interested in the Pacific Ocean to come to an agreement.

It soon became known that Mr. Meighen was against the treaty and a Pacific conference; the British press, or at least a powerful section of it, took up his case, and there followed a series of private conversations between Japan, the United States and Britain which had their sequel in President Harding's history-making invitation for a gathering at Washington. This, perhaps, is not the time to claim credit for Canada's position, for what was achieved, but when the full story comes to be written, when the ascertainable records can be produced, then the revelation will be one in which all Canadians of all parties can take a pardonable pride. Credit will be in abundance for all—for Britain, for America, for Japan—but above and beyond all there will stand out the undeniable fact that more than anything else the force which brought about the Washington conference was the insistence of Mr. Meighen that the renewal of the Japanese alliance was out of harmony with the spirit of the times, calculated to create misunderstanding with the United States, and to make a step toward disarmament impossible. In support of this there can be summoned as evidence the tributes of the British press, although for the present one view will suffice. The Manchester Guardian, the greatest organ of British Liberalism, and perhaps the foremost newspaper of England, said this of Mr. Meighen:

"It is now an open secret that but for Premier Meighen's courageous stand on Canada's behalf, after a heated discussion concerning the renewal of the Japanese treaty, the Washington conference might never have been called under such propitious stars as now. Without desiring to preclude what might be said, we hope Mr. Meighen may often return to imperial conferences."

In another editorial The Guardian declared: "Canada would not have the treaty (Anglo-Japanese) at any price. She feels that in this matter of the treaty and all that it implies, her interests and America's interests are the same, that for good or ill they are in the same boat and that she is out of it. Therefore, Mr. Meighen, with wise forethought and frankness, appears to have taken an extreme step. He let it be understood that if the treaty were renewed Canada might have to proceed herself outside it. That would create a singular and anomalous position and one that might make a considerable breach in the constitutional unity of the empire. It was a grave prospect with which the wisdom and legal acumen of the foreign office and its chief were by no means prepared to cope."

Does all this look like misrepresenting or sacrificing the interests of Canada? The disarmament conference was an American affair and invitations were in the hands of President Harding. He decided to ask six delegates from each great power. To recognize Canada in the same way he would have had to recognize Australia, India, South Africa, New Zealand and Newfoundland and given Great Britain 26 delegates to opinion in the United States would not back such a move and he placed the British delegates at six. Canada was asked to name one of the six, and Sir Robert Borden, Canada's veteran statesman, who was also at the peace conference, was selected. If Mr. Meighen had refused to have accepted this dictum Canada would have been unrepresented. The only other course was to have declared Canadian independence and have secured representation as a sovereign nation. This may please some Canadians who are supporters of Hon. Mackenzie King, but the great mass of Canadians are proud to be a part of the British Empire, and proud to be represented by Sir Robert Borden, at Washington, as one of the six great powers.

### Shall We Keep the Railways?

Nothing concerns the people of Canada more vitally at present than the question as to whether the Dominion Government shall retain control of the Canadian National Railway system and the other railways. The Canadian National Railway is to-day owned by the people of Canada. Thanks to efficient management and a policy of co-ordination of the lines the great public-owned system of 22,000 miles is now becoming a reality.

Do the people of Canada want to hand over these lines to the C. P. R. or to private hands? The Canadian National Railway system faces a real menace in the return of the Liberal party.

The Liberal party in the Province of Quebec is dominated by the "big interests" of Montreal. The Montreal interests are opposed tooth and nail to public ownership. Practically every Liberal candidate from Sir Lomer Gouin down has declared himself as an opponent of private ownership. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux has declared himself in favor of the Shagnessy plan, viz., handing the system over to the C. P. R. Hon. Walter Mitchell, James Robb, chief Liberal whip, F. R. Hart, M.P., editor of the Canada, the chief Liberal organ, and so down the line to the humblest Liberal candidate, all are against public ownership. The Quebec group if it wins will dominate the party. They will control the situation. They will wreck the public-owned system.

Do the people of Western Ontario, firm believers in the principle of public ownership, want to hand over this railway system to the "big interests" of Montreal? Perhaps the best possible argument for the support of Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, who is a firm and determined public ownership man, is to be found in the following extract from a recent editorial from The Toronto Globe:

"It ought to be made clear that no Government which undertakes to tamper with the Government railway system will have the support of Parliament or of the people. The railways are ours, and we mean to keep them. Any new Government which is formed ought not merely to accept the railway situation, sighing and groaning over the burden, but to take up the task cheerfully, hopefully and with courage, determined to make the system a success. Setting their faces sternly against C. P. R. monopoly, they must show to the public that the courage shown by the promoters of that enterprise in its early days when it trembled on the edge of disaster. The Government and the people of Canada then came to their aid. They gave it the best of capacity and public spirit who are as willing to work for their country as the promoters and the staff of the C. P. R. were willing to work for a private enterprise. Surely the C. P. R. can do at least as well as we can do at least as well as the necessity for earning profits and dividends eliminated, and with every dollar of earnings going into the public service."

### The Man of the Hour

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, with his straightforward, clean-cut, definite, practical, common-sense policy, which has been consistently and fearlessly expounded from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has made a profound impression upon the people.

The swing of public opinion is markedly with him. Reports from every province, even from Quebec, which in the past has been the most antagonistic to the Government, are of the most favorable character. They indicate clearly that the people are applying the test of reason to public issues and are realizing that the nation's safety and welfare depend upon stability of government and tried and proven policies. Genuine alarm is being expressed over the multiplicity of candidates and groups with conflicting views and interests, and it is becoming generally recognized that the hands of the Government must be upheld if political chaos, with probable financial and commercial ruin in its train, is to be avoided.

### NOTE AND COMMENT

Mr. King's "sinking platform" evidently was not planned to scale.

The "Hero of Jutland" is hero of the hour in Canada just now.

"Making mincemeat of things" will be the reasonable order of the day. Had plum pudding and mince pie!

The turkeys are still on their high perch and Christmas but a little over three weeks off!

China's new loan is to be secured by wine and tobacco, which proves they have not yet lost all their virtues.

"Mark down," mark down!—the cry Germany has forced on herself by the initiation of a world war.

The delegates at the Limitation of Armaments Conference and the "telegraphers" are the men on the job, today.

The old war-god has a well-founded fear that the Limitation of Armaments Conference is about to reduce his fighting force ad absurdum.

There are two classes of animals that are great on the honk—the wild goose and that other goose—the speeding auto driver.

The Russian autocracy had a gray evening, the republic a "Red" morning—then how could the Russian people escape the storm?

In Canada there is plenty of "driving power in the drive." The recent "Poppy Day" campaign netted \$80,000 for French orphans and \$90,000 for G. W. V. A. funds, to be used exclusively to relieve unemployed soldiers.

## The Third Column

MARSHAL FOCH.  
"Why do they cheer for Marshal Foch?"  
A small boy asked his dad.  
"Why do they wear their hats and shout?"  
Why is the town so glad?

"Why are the flags flung out for him?"  
Why is the music played?  
Why do the people clap their hands  
And soldiers all parade?

"He looks to me like men I know,  
Like you and Uncle Jim.  
Or Mr. Smith who lives next door—  
Why do they cheer for him?"

And the father said: "He kept the faith  
When dangers great arose.  
He served the truth through bitter days  
And conquered freedom's foes."

"Men cheer because he kept the faith,  
And if you're faithful, too.  
And serve your country to the end,  
The throngs will cheer for you."

—Edgar A. Guest.

### A BANKRUPT.

He was walking down the street,  
The morning of life would never come.  
His clothes were old and ill kept.  
A sign was on his back. It read:

"Bankrupt Sale, etc."  
And I wondered if he realized that  
he was carrying the sign of his own sad  
failure. Maybe he did. But I at least  
admired his willingness to do something  
—while pity, as with sympathy, crept  
into my heart.

I wondered about the years that had  
gone before. I had a curious desire  
to get him aside that I might learn  
the whole, true tale.

And then my mind ran to the other  
end—to the store that was to sell its  
stock and the man, or men, back of  
this commercial failure. And then I  
thought of the many failures happening  
all the time everywhere.

Why is it that some men fail and  
others cannot fail? I asked this of  
myself.

What a thing of tragedy is a bank-  
rupt business, or a bankrupt man. But  
deeper in darkness is a bankrupt mind!  
And that is where, I believe, all bank-  
ruptcy starts.

We win largely because we say in  
our hearts that we will not fail. We  
keep our minds stored and prepared  
against the unexpected.

I believe the first thing a boy should  
be taught is to lay up something for  
the future—something to give him  
strength and will when the unforeseen  
comes.

There is nothing in this world that  
breaks down the public's trust in one  
of his will as using up all the resources  
at one's command with the coming and  
passing of each day.

But there are extremes in saving as  
well as in wasting. There are many  
who become rich in money, but who  
face their end pitiful bankrupts in soul.  
He succeeds who helps others to  
succeed. And there can be no bank-  
ruptcy here!

—George Matthew Adams.

### WINTER WORRIES.

Winter brings its own diseases, call-  
ing for a change of pills; when the  
climate up and freezes there's a brand  
new set of ills; so I put away the  
bottles that the summer saw me buy,  
for the frigid winter throbbles all the  
allments of July. And with jubilant  
emotions to the pharmacy I scout, and  
buy up new pills and potions, hoping  
they are worth a hoot. Thus the win-  
ter time is giving satisfaction manifold;  
for a change makes life worth living,  
and it's routine makes us old. Every  
form of stern endeavor should be mixed  
with harmless play; doing one odd thing  
forever takes one's pep and vim away.

I was tired of taking bitters for my  
sunstroke and my hives, summer aches  
that human critics must consume or  
lose their lives; now I have my winter  
ailments, rheumatism, croup and flu,  
with the usual ailments of a wish-  
bone or a thew; ailments more or less  
dreadful, foreign and domestic ills;  
but I count it quite a blessing to con-  
front new kinds of pills. There is al-  
ways something cheering in this happy  
life we lead; always some attraction  
nearing, if only give it heed. When  
the cold no longer pleases, and the  
winter seems a grind, spring will find  
in diseases of a new and quaint kind.  
Novelties are to us troubling, always  
something new and strange, and the  
old world goes a-whirling down the  
ringing grooves of change.

—Walt Mason.

### LITTLE BENNY'S NOTEBOOK.

FRANK FEERNOT'S DULL DAY.

A Play.

Scene. Frank Feernot standing on a corner.

Frank Feernot. I wish a runaway horse and carriage with wings and motor, and children in it would go past so I could stop the horse and save the wings and children. There too many automo-

bels nowadays, that's the trouble. First boy going past. Hello, Frank. Bin doing anything brave lately?

Frank Feernot. Nothing special.

Act 2.

Scene, the same.

Frank Feernot. Even if it was only a runaway horse and a husker waggin it would be better than nothing. If I could save the wings and children at least I could save the vegetables.

2nd boy going past. Hello Frank, have you did anything brave to-day?

Frank Feernot. Not so far.

Act 3.

Scene, the same.

Frank Feernot. I'd even be glad to stop a runaway horse without any carriage or waggin or anything, that's how desperate I feel. Im jest waiting my time standing here.

Newsboy going past. Exter exter all about the boy stopping a runaway train and saving 609 lives including wimmin and children, exter exter.

Frank Feernot. Aw heck.

The End.

—Lee Page.

### A SEA SONG

The voice of many waters  
Is calling to my heart,  
From landman's joy and landman's  
toil  
My way sweeps far apart.

The mighty sea, the mystic sea  
It clutches at my soul;  
It will no half-allegiance take.  
But asks and claims the whole.

The roaring winds, the ocean winds,  
That through the darkness blow  
They call to me o' stormy nights—  
And I must up and go.

The cottage of my fathers  
Can be no home for me,  
With fire at nightfall on the hearth,  
And bench beneath the tree.  
No wife of mine, sweet wife of mine,  
Shall use my mother's chair  
Or, crooning, sing my child to rest  
Upon her bosom there.

For loud o' day, and loud o' night,  
The great sea calls me so—  
I've given it my heart and soul,  
And I must up and go.

—N. H. ROYNTON, In The Sailor

## GREAT LABOR LEADER STANDS BY MR. MEIGHEN

Peter Wright, president of the British Seamen's Union, is an outstanding figure in the English-speaking world. He is held in the highest esteem by all classes of the community and during the war rendered services of the utmost value to the allies.

The following letter, addressed to Premier Meighen by Peter Wright, containing, as it does, grave words of warning to the people of Canada, will be read with interest at the present moment:

Empress of Britain, October 4, 1921.

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen:

I went to Montreal for the purpose of attending your meeting, but failed to obtain admission in the hall. I was greatly disappointed, but I was delighted after perusing your speech and desire to congratulate you on your firm and wise stand at this particular period, when the world is passing through a stage of transition. The old political shibboleth must be scrapped and only by hard thinking and honest desires will we be capable of surviving the terrible financial aftermath of this world war. I am convinced in my own mind that the policy for which you stand is the only practical solution at the moment to tide Canada through this crisis. Otherwise Canada will become a mere adjunct for the purpose of the surplus commodities of the U. S. A., which means poverty and starvation for the industrial classes and a bitter experience for the farmer. I am sure that you will pay an awful price. At this moment in Canada it is absolutely imperative to combine the forces on common sense and honesty and really as a united force against the warring elements that

will lead into chaos "politically" and land you on a lee shore, amongst the wreckage of democratic fallacies that will not bear the test of time. If the democracy is to survive and stand the test of time it must be based on science as well as sentiment. Anyhow it is all in the lap of the gods at the moment, and I pray that your health will stand the terrible ordeal of this strenuous contest of a general election, and I feel persuaded that your honesty and the sense of sportsmanship you have displayed so far will be recognized by the Canadian people and eventually place you in the position of a great leader, to make Canada take her place amongst the great nations of the world and our empire become eventually the happiest place on your great continent.

This is my wish and the sincere desire of one who loves Canada. I wish you Godspeed in your noble efforts for a united Canada. So good-bye.

Yours sincerely,

PETER WRIGHT.

## The Political Arena

Judge C. W. Colter, who is running as Liberal candidate for the Commons in East Elgin, was one of the central figures in what was the bitterest struggle for a riding in the political history of Canada.

It happened in the riding of Haldimand in the five years from 1886 to 1891, in which half-dozen six federal elections were fought, which probably stands as a record for the Dominion.

The first five of these contests were fought between Judge (then Mr.) Colter and Hon. Dr. W. H. Montague, one of the most brilliant orators Canada has produced, and whose father had been a clergyman in the county.

Mr. Colter, then a young lawyer from

New Brunswick, who had settled in Cayuga, won the constituency in a by-election in 1886 and in the general election of 1887 he defeated Mr. Montague by a majority of one. A recount was demanded and the decision was given in favor of the Conservative. The Liberals, however, were not ready to throw up their hands. They laid charges against Dr. Montague and his friends of wrongdoing in connection with the election and, following an investigation, the doctor was unseated and a new election was ordered. This time Montague won out by 17 votes, but the Liberals again protested the election and, after a famous fight through the courts, which lasted more than a year, the Conservative again lost the seat. It was in January, 1889, that the next by-election was held and in this contest Mr. Colter was victorious by 46 votes. Charges of boodling and personation were again lodged, this time by the Conservatives, and the battle in the courts was renewed, resulting finally in Mr. Colter losing the seat. Mr. Colter met his Waterloo in the next by-election, held on February 20, 1890, when Dr. Montague won the seat by 227 votes. Dr. Montague was re-elected in the general elections of 1891 and 1896, and became a member of the Bowell and Tupper Cabinets, in succession.

Some time later Mr. Colter was appointed county judge for Elgin, and in 1900, now, after a lapse of 31 years, he is again in the political arena.

### RATHER UNLIKELY.

People in Canada who thought Mr. Meighen in the right in 1917, when he so splendidly championed their cause, and the cause of liberty and the empire, will not be likely to withdraw their support from him when the main attack directed against him in certain quarters is in regard to his patriotic stand in those perilous and soul-stirring days—Calgary Herald.

## Canada and The U. S. Tariff

Agnes C. Laut is a writer of recognized authority on the affairs of both Canada and the United States. There is, perhaps, no better informed woman writer in Canada. Recently she interviewed the author of the United States tariff, known as the Fordney tariff, as well as other public men in the United States on the tariff relations of that country and Canada. Here is what she says, and her words should be carefully studied by everyone wishing to understand the tariff situation—she is not writing in the interest of any political party:

"The first amazing fact is that 12 leading countries have advanced their tariff since the end of the war from 1 per cent. to 300 per cent.

"The second amazing fact is that these advances have not been made to protect 'infant industries'—as would cry—to protect the factory and the farm markets from floods of imports from countries whose wages average a cent a day, whose exchange runs from half a cent on the dollar to one-twentieth and one two-hundredth of a cent, and whose undervaluation of imports on these basis were running at the rate of 600 invoices a month at Atlantic ports of entry this year.

"The third fact—and we'll have to accept it, whether we like it or not—is that there is not a ghost of a chance of lower tariffs with the United States. I was going to say for the next 10 years, but I'll modify it—for the next four years.

"When I asked Mr. Fordney how the United States expected to sell Canada 1,000,000,000 a year, if the tariff cut

off half the \$450,000,000 Canada pays to the United States—he sat back and answered clear as a bell. 'There are no Fordney's statements, not mine, but they are portentious for Canada. Canada does not buy \$1,000,000,000 worth in the United States because she gets it cheaper here. She buys it because she has not these products herself, or they are better here. There silk, madras, steel, standardized motors.

"It is idle for any party in Canada to pretend she can buy cheaper here. She cannot except a few highly standardized products, whose standardization has reduced costs, as motors or shoes. To admit she could buy cheaper here would imply a lower wage made here and lower standards of living, which is absurd. We have the highest scale of wages and the highest standard of living in the world; and we intend to maintain it; for it means buying power, so that we can always market 50 per cent. of what we produce in our own land.

"Attached to the ways and means committee is a body of the most highly trained tariff experts in the world. One is Mr. Dingler, son of the author of the famous Dingler tariff. When I asked Mr. Dingler his idea of the remedy for the onerous conditions prevailing on the farmer he answered: 'The one ground of reconciliation between East and West, manufacturer and farmer, is to build your manufacturing in the heart of your farming community, to build your markets in your farming community; so that the farmer's buying market is his selling market. We sell 90 per cent. of all our own products at home. You must build up your markets to do the same.'"

"The moral of it is: 'There is no use looking to the United States for relief. Canada must build up her own markets—give the manufacturer reasonable protection and so create centers of population which will furnish the farmer with home markets.'

THE ISSUE IS CLEAR---TAKE NO CHANCES---GO TO THE POLLS

# Canada Needs Meighen

The National Liberal and Conservative Party  
Publicity Committee.