

## London Advertiser

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The London Advertiser, Printing Co.,  
Limited.  
LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC. 11.

### FOOD AND THE TARIFF.

In trying to offset Sir Wilfrid Laurier's policy of free food the Conservatives are laboring hard to show that customs duties are not responsible for the high cost of living. It is the old story that we have heard so many times in the past: the purchaser does not pay the duty. It has been refuted over and over again by the argument of actual fact, but it bobs up as serenely as ever.

Does the tariff affect the price of food? If it adds to the cost of the material purchased it certainly does. And in regard to that there should be no question. Take the last year under the Borden Government and see what it collected on some of our food material. There was \$4,180,000 on sugar, and syrups of various kinds; \$1,221,422 on fruits and nuts; \$1,695,968 on meats, fish, poultry, and live animals, exclusive of horses, which we are not yet compelled to eat; \$1,274,000 in round numbers on flour, cereals, vegetables and breadstuffs; very nearly \$1,000,000 on eggs, butter, cheese, lard and similar products; \$179,818 was the tax on cocoa, and its compounds, and so on. Adding to these a large number of smaller items the duty on which aggregates more than half a million, we find that on articles that may be classed as food there was a sum of over ten millions of dollars collected in duty.

Who paid this money? To say that anyone but the consumer pays it is nonsense. If you import an article from some foreign country that costs a dollar, and then have to pay 25 cents duty on it before you can get it out of the customs house you do not have any doubt that the tariff has raised the price of that article just 25 cents. The consumer paid that \$1.25, 000,000 last year without any question. It is all very well to say that the rise in the price of food is common to all parts of the civilized world, and is due to changed conditions of life which affect all communities alike. That may be true as far as a general increase in prices is concerned—both of labor and of products; but it does not alter the fact that, however high prices may go, a customs tax adds just so much more to the cost.

Nor can it be altogether saddled on the middleman. He is a necessary member of society. We could not get along without him in many cases. That he wants his profit on the sales effected through him is only right and proper. It may be that sometimes he takes advantage of his position to secure an exorbitant profit. That is the crime of the individual not of the whole class, and should be remedied by suitable laws. With a proper regulation of combines and middlemen, as Sir Wilfrid has suggested, these evils can be minimized. But the outstanding fact remains that if it were not for the duties imposed by the Government, food would be much cheaper.

We have said nothing here about the duties collected on other articles whose purchase comes under the head of "living expenses." They can buy British cloth and other manufactures necessary in a house cheaper in the United States than we can, despite our preferential tariff, because under their new tariff our neighbors do not have to pay as high duties as we pay. We have simply confined our remarks to food because that is the most important consideration for the housewife, as it involves a daily expenditure.

And a free-food policy carries with it if necessary the abolition or reduction in the tax on all articles that go to the production of food. While this is not being discussed to any extent, the one is but the logical accompaniment of the other. And it can be effected without injury to anyone. Our manufacturers have in the past been able to sell their goods to some extent in the United States without loss. Now, with the new tariff they will have full entrance to that market. And if their skill and enterprise do not enable them to compete in foreign free markets there must be something wrong with themselves, which they had better rectify as soon as possible. It may be expedient for revenue purposes to retain some duties on certain classes of goods and manufactures from outside the Dominion. But the less tax we pay on imports of foods and what produces food, the greater will be the reduction in the cost of living.

### WILL THEY BE JEALOUS?

It would be ill-advised for anyone to object to the proposal of the Municipal Power Union to vote the sum of \$8,000 to Hon. Adam Beck in addition to the honorarium of \$6,000 which he has received from the Government. Many people are of the opinion that Mr. Beck has earned every cent of \$14,000, and all will admit that he has expended a great deal of energy in the advancing of his program. But what

will Sir James Whitney, with his paltry \$9,000, say? What will Mr. Hanna say? What will Premier Borden say? Of course, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has no right to be considered in the same class, but what of all these \$9,000 and \$6,000 men?

If Adam Beck is worth \$14,000 a year to the Province of Ontario, is Premier Borden worth only \$12,000 a year to the Dominion of Canada? How much for Mr. Hanna's prison farm? Surely he's worth a lot to the breweries, taking their finished product and trying to make it look like something! Of course, Newton Rowell, working at the other end of the liquor question, is not earning anything. And Dr. Pyne and Jimmy Duff are just a couple of the hired men.

### BUILD THE SUBWAY.

There is now some pre-election talk among the aldermen of getting after the "higher ups" on account of the blocking of railway crossings, and the consequent disruption of street railway service. It may be found that the "higher ups" are great aviators, and hard to catch on short notice. It would be a spectacular thing to summon President Chamberlin to court. But a subway at Ridout street would do a great deal to relieve the situation, and all interests might be willing to cooperate in securing it. Not only would London South be relieved, but cars of the southeastern lines could be diverted and loss of time greatly reduced. The cost would be a mere drop in the bucket as expenditures in London go at present.

Municipal candidates will do well to make the building of the subway a plank in their platforms.

### HUMAN TARGETS.

Boys armed with rifles may find the shooting of chickadees and snow-buntings rather tame sport, and seek to heighten the excitement or render it more like real soldiering by making targets of each other. Boys in the uniform of cadets and carrying military rifles may level them on strangers on the streets, and be excused on the ground that such a possible use is what military rifles are made for. The Toronto papers have recently been reporting such occurrences as taking place in or near that city. It may just be that the publicity they are receiving exaggerates the importance of the particular occurrences themselves. Nevertheless there is a disposition to regard them as signs of a tendency affording matter for serious thought.

The Toronto Sun, an independent weekly, fears that the virus which has been for some time so industriously inoculated into the Toronto public schools is in danger of spreading throughout the country. It notes the efforts being made to introduce it into the schools of the Province generally, and says that "if a brake is not speedily put on we may find a generation arising in all Ontario which will have as its ideal the creation of a nation in arms rather than an industrial commonwealth."

Judgment and knowledge of the world are not the endowments of youth. As the Sun says: "Boys naturally love excitement. The trappings of military dress and equipment appeal to their imagination. Stories of conflict stir the blood. It is easy to fill their minds with a picture of war in which all is action and color, and the blood congealing in unscarred wounds, and the horrors of the rough work in a field hospital, are hidden from view."

If the people's schools to which every child must go as required by law are to be made the agency of a propaganda for either militarism or for pacifism, which should it be? One spirit is the opposite of the other; you cannot inculcate both. Which is better for Canada? Which do you prefer? Granted that most people are willing to do that soldiers, like policemen, are yet necessary, does it follow that the public schools, whether parents are willing or not, should be made recruiting ground for either class?

At Guelph it was rather rough on Dough.

"Safety First" does not seem to have been in the Union Life's text book.

The season's real hero will be Dad when he tackles that Christmas turkey.

Huron College has a gathering of its sons of whom citizens may be justly proud.

The Kaiser is "hard up," and Mrs. Kaiser will now have to go in for eggless recipes.

Do your Christmas shopping early; however some of us will have to wait just to keep the stores open until Christmas.

French scientists are asking "Is the moon dangerous?" Surely, if it is mellow and taken in conjunction with a pretty girl and a summer's night.

Michigan fruit growers are now boasting that besides their famous fall peach, they will soon be producing a winter peach. Pshaw! We know of an all-the-year-around peach right here in London.

### NOW HE KNOWS.

"Really," began Mrs. Nagg, "the inquisitiveness of those people next door has driven me crazy!"

"Oh," replied her husband, "is that what did it?"

PRESIDENT WILSON'S OPTIMISM.

[New York Sun.]

The president forgets that some very good, public-minded men, including the late President Madero, have in the past been beaten in Mexico, and elsewhere. Nothing is gained by a hopefulness that looks to the early and complete victory of right over might, and forgets to provide for the un-

pleasant eventualities if might triumphs after Huerta's fall. Does not one in the administration realize the peril in such a case of hardships and disorders greater, more prolonged, than Mexico has yet dreamed of?

### AN HONORED GUEST.

[Kingston Standard.]  
This is only a guess, of course, but we venture to say that Sir Wilfrid was himself enjoying free food at the very time he launched his free food platform.

### UMBRELLAS FOR HIRE.

[Vancouver Province.]  
They have a system in vogue in Paris that ought to commend itself to dwellers in the moist belt. By paying five francs a year, you receive a metal disc that entitles you to an umbrella at any tobacco shop in the city. When the rain is over, you return the rain stick, and are saved the trouble of juggling it around or the chances of having it stolen.

### ORIGINAL RESEARCH.

[Kingston Standard.]  
Professor Kalmus at Queen's is doing good work for Canada. His researches into the production and the alloys of Cobalt promise to mean millions of dollars to the country. This is but proof of what we are always contending for—the necessity of more funds being given to our universities for original research work.

### FEW YEARS HENCE.

[Kansas City Journal.]  
"Who is that on the bench with the judge?"  
"That is the judicial surgeon. Between them they decide whether a man needs an operation on his head or six months in jail."

### AW, GWAN!

[Cincinnati Enquirer.]  
The yardstick has three feet, and yet, We'd like to make a little bet That it can't walk.

### LIKE A LITTLE LADY.

[Life.]  
"Why Ruth!" exclaimed the little girl's mother, "you came downstairs so noisily that I heard you way back in the kitchen. Now try it over again and come downstairs properly."  
The little girl went upstairs and a moment later entered the room where her mother was waiting.  
"Did I come down quietly that time, mamma?" she asked.  
"Yes, dear, you came down like a little lady."  
"I slid down the banisters."

### PEOPLE LIKE LUXURY.

[The Council Bluffs Nonpareil.]  
When "four-wheeled carriages" made their appearance in Spain in the days of Ferdinand and Isabella it was confidently predicted that they would bring the country to ruin. So strong did this conviction become that a statute was enacted prohibiting certain and diverse persons from recklessly spending their hard-earned savings for carriages. It was the judgment of the wise men of

## WATERWORKS SHOULD PAY FOR PRIVILEGES IT SECURES

*Ald. Richter Contends That Utility That Charges City Should in Turn Be Charged For Use of the Streets.*

The special waterworks committee had another session last night, considering the report of Engineer John M. Moore on the waterworks property. The committee was named for the purpose of securing accurate and complete information concerning the property, and Wednesday night, through the efforts of Ald. J. G. Richter, and despite the objections of Chairman Philip Pocock, of the city works, who declared it was a waste of time, went very fully into the figures submitted by Mr. Moore and ascertained the sources from which his report was obtained. The work was not completed, however, and an adjournment was made, subject to the call of the chairman.

It is Ald. Richter's idea that the council should know the true value of the waterworks property, and whether or not the rates being charged are adequate to protect the business, or whether, perchance, they are too high. Ald. Richter believes that the city should get something from the waterworks department in the same way that it would collect taxes or revenue in exchange for a franchise if the water business was handled by a private concern. The ratepayers, through the city council, are forced to pay for everything they get from the water commission. They pay for street sprinkling, for water used in the city hall for fire purposes. In the neighborhood of \$10,000 is paid the water commissioners by the council every year for the several hundred hydrants throughout the city.

Should Pay for Privileges, Ald. Richter believes, and his view is that of many ratepayers, that the waterworks, being a publicly-owned utility, and having the advantage of the city's backing in disposing of its debentures or of incurring debts of any kind, should pay the city, as a municipal corporation, for the privileges that it enjoys.

It is proposed that the city should have a recommendation along the lines laid down by Ald. Richter, viz., that the waterworks department make some apportionment of the water to go into the complete figures demanded by Ald. Richter.

It is not a waste of time for the man who wants the public to know the truth," is Ald. Richter's comment.

A point that Ald. Richter is particularly anxious to have made clear is that of the appreciation and depreciation of the waterworks property. It has been contended by some that the appreciation

## BRALEY'S POEM TODAY

**NECESSARY EVILS**

In the days of old Ramesis when he ruled along the Nile There were human sacrifices of a rather gory style, And if tender-hearted people at this sort of thing demurred, "It's a Necessary Evil," they were told, when it occurred, "For the mighty gods require it and we mustn't tell them, 'No.'"

Or the crops would cease to prosper and the Nile would cease to flow! Yet in time this custom perished, 'spite of priest and king and thral, For a Necessary Evil's no necessity at all!

In the time of Mr. Nero, who was Emperor of Rome, There were Necessary Evils which were very much at home; There were gladiators' battles and a lot of other games, Such as feeding Christian martyrs to the lions or the flames.

But the reign of Nero ended and he had his little day, And those Necessary Evils were completely swept away, Swept away like little sandhills in a sudden windy squall— For a Necessary Evil's no necessity at all!

There were good and kindly people who defended slavery, As a Necessary Evil which was simply bound to be, Yet it's washed away forever by the flood of noble men; It's a Necessary Evil which will not come back again! So the Barroom and the Brothel, which are ever talked about,

As two Necessary Evils which we cannot do without— They shall go like those before them, they shall crumble to their fall, For a Necessary Evil's no necessity at all!

—BERTON BRALEY.

## ABE MARTIN



Lots of fellows know President Wilson that he can't place. Some fellows' idea of being public-spirited is having their hair trimmed once a week.

That time that people were likely to spend their money foolishly for luxuries and in this manner bring upon themselves want for actual necessities unless they were curbed by rigorous laws. Today we have the same problem in the auto world. And the wise ones are seeking to devise ways and means of preventing people from mortgaging their homes for the purchase price of a joy wagon. Human nature seems to change but little with passing centuries. Roosevelt said every reform has its "lunatic fringe." So it seems every generation has a similar fringe.

**WILL MAKE MONEY FLY.**  
[Kingston Whig.]  
The Dominion Government will make the money fly next year—over two millions—in an attempt to bluff out hard times. Some of the money will be borrowed. The man who is prodigal in his expenditures on lighted cash is now regarded as tight in the head. A lower tariff and cheaper living is more in order.

**TEARS.**  
[John Vance Cheney.]  
Not in the time of pleasure Hope doth set her brow; But in the sky of sorrow, Over the vale of woe.

Through gloom and shadow look we On beyond the years; The soul would have no rainbow Had the eye no tears.

**'ADVANCED' HENS**  
[Toronto Mail and Empire.]  
There appears to be an egg shortage at the present time, but this is not to be wondered at when so many valuable hens are gallivanting about at poultry shows instead of remaining at home and attending to their domestic duties.



**MOST PERFECT MADE**

THE INCREASED NUTRITIVE VALUE OF BREAD MADE IN THE HOME WITH ROYAL YEAST CAKES SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT INCENTIVE TO THE CAREFUL HOUSEWIFE TO GIVE THIS IMPORTANT FOOD ITEM THE ATTENTION TO WHICH IT IS JUSTLY ENTITLED.

HOME BREAD BAKING REDUCES THE HIGH COST OF LIVING BY LESSENING THE AMOUNT OF EXPENSIVE MEATS REQUIRED TO SUPPLY THE NECESSARY NUTRIMENT TO THE BODY.

E. W. GILLET CO. LTD.  
TORONTO, ONT.  
WINNIPEG MONTREAL

of the land, for instance, could be taken into account and used to offset the depreciation of machinery and other depreciable property, but with this Aid. Richter very decidedly does not agree.

"You might quite as easily declare," said Aid. Richter, by way of illustration, "that because the land comprising Victoria Park had increased in value, that that increase offsets the depreciation on a mower used for cutting the grass. When that mower was worn out, and you found it necessary to purchase a new one, you would have to find the money for the purchase. The increased value of your land would not pay for the new machine."

**BLAMES DOWNFALL TO DYNAMITE DRINK**

Frank Harris Claims Something Was "Did" to His Potion.

Frank Harris, whose spontaneous orations have made him a celebrity in local police circles, stood in the police court docket this morning and pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk yesterday. He blamed the disaster, who served him for his fall from grace, and he spoke rather scathingly of the position that functionary mixed for him.

"Why, judge, honest, it was just like dynamite. Ah, don't pose as no 'theory on them' fernal machines, but dar was cunty somethin' very rasmadidness about my liquor, and I see gwine to see about it," argued Frank.

The court evidently was not impressed with his story, for a fine of \$10 or 21 days in jail was imposed. "Good-night," exclaimed the prisoner, as he heard his fate.

Roy Strong, a husky youth, who has been in jail since Dec. 4, on the charge of trespassing on the right-of-way of the C. P. R., was brought up for a hearing. He pleaded guilty, and was allowed to go on the promise that he would go to work at once. The court warned him that should he fail to carry said promise out, he would be re-arrested and sentenced for a term of six months in the Central Prison.

Harry Wallace, an aged man, who was charged with using abusive language to a Mrs. Stewart and her daughter, was dismissed, as the evidence on both sides was conflicting.

**LITTLE SHOPLIFTING IS PRACTICED HERE**

With the approach of the Christmas shopping season, the merchants who own the larger stores assert that they are generally confronted with a system of thievery carried on by shopmanagers and petty thieves, who seize sundry articles when the salesgirls are not looking and make away with them.

So far this year, no such thefts have been reported to the police, and one merchant of a leading store said while he had engaged the usual number of private detectives to watch the counters, he did not think they would have a great deal to do.

"The shoplifter's punishment is generally a severe one, and is humiliating in any event," he said, "and I don't think there will be many of them operating here."

The local police heads concurred with the opinion of the merchant, and don't believe that many shoplifters will visit this city.

### CASADY—MONROE

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Exeter, Dec. 11.—A very pretty wedding was solemnized here on Wednesday afternoon when Mrs. Margaret Monroe was married at her home to Mr. George W. Casady, of Charles City, Iowa. Rev. E. G. Powell officiated, and only the immediate relatives of the bride were present, and the bridegroom's father, Warren Casady, of Monona, Iowa.

After the ceremony the wedding party sat down to a daintily-prepared supper. The bride was dressed in a pale gray paillet silk. The going-away gown was a black silk. The happy couple left on the 5 o'clock train for a short wedding trip west, after which they will return to Exeter to pack up their household effects, and will make their home for the present in Charles City, Iowa.

EXTRA TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN GUELPH AND GUELPH JUNCTION, DEC. 9, 10, 11 AND 12.

For the convenience of those visiting Guelph on the above dates, extra train will leave Guelph Junction, 10:45 a.m., via Canadian Pacific, arriving Guelph 11:20 a.m. Returning, will leave Guelph 3:30 p.m., arriving Guelph Junction 4:05 p.m., affording direct connection to and from points west of Guelph Junction.



## Give Useful Gifts

This year more people than ever are giving useful and sensible gifts. We make suggestions along the most practical lines, and find that our customers appreciate it. Today's advertisement tells of lovely soft Blankets, Comforters filled with pure down, a sale of Silks, a sale of Coats, and other items suitable for common-sense giving. Just eleven more shopping days. Come in the morning if possible.

### White Wool Blankets

Annandale Blankets, made in Scotland, pure white wool, clear color, thoroughly scouring and shrunk. These blankets measure 70x90 inches, and weigh 7 pounds to the pair. There isn't a housewife in the land who won't like a pair. Price .....\$5.95

### Pure Down Comforters

Large size Arctic Down Comforters, covered with best English sateen, plain border effects. In green, blue, mauve, gray and rose colorings. Were \$7.50 and \$8.00. Makes a beautiful gift. Friday and Saturday price .....\$6.95

## Women's Coats

A rack of Women's Winter Coats, specially priced at \$10. Choice of Boucle, Curl Cloths, Pony Cloths, Diagonal Coatings, made in the newest styles, with two-way collars. The Pony Cloth Coats have long roll collars and are lined throughout. Usual \$16.00 values. On sale at a bargain price. ....\$10

## Misses' Reversible Tweed Coats

Warm Winter Coats for misses of 12 to 16 years. The material is a heavy reversible tweed, in gray, tan and blue, with contrasting reverse side, which is used for trimming. Our special price for these Coats is .....\$4.50

### Handsome Plush Coats

Plush Coats are in great demand this year. We have just received another delivery of handsome Plush Coats from New York. Made of rich silk seal plush, full length, and lined throughout with satin, fastened with a silk frog. The graceful roll collar may be closed right up to the neck.

All the Coats in this lot are lined with colored satin. Price .....\$25

Girls' All-Wool Serge Dresses, navy blue with red braid trimming, made in Balkan style, with pleated skirt. 12-year size .....\$3.25 14-year size .....\$4.00

## Silks at Reduced Prices

POPLIN SILK, in exquisite two-toned colorings, black and blue, black and red, and black and green, in dress lengths. Were \$2. On sale Friday and Saturday, per yard .....\$1.00

FRENCH CORDED TAFFETA, 31 inches wide, elegant quality, blue and white, black and white, or brown and white stripe, Regular \$2.50. On sale Friday and Saturday, per yard .....\$1.50

### Opera Scarfs

Five dozen knitted silk opera scarfs, gathered in stole ends or finished across the ends with fringe. In white, sky, maize, pink or black. A few in the lot are of beaded/chiffon. Very dainty for gifts. Worth up to \$2.50. On sale now at, each .....95c

### Ladies' Umbrellas

One dozen ladies' gift umbrellas, with gold-mounted or mother of pearl handles, silk and wool coverings, with silk case. Worth \$4.00, \$4.50 and \$5.00. You'll not find anything to equal this value. Just one dozen. A great bargain at, each .....\$2.75

### Sample Case Goods From New York

We have just received a sample line of cases from a New York wholesaler, which we have priced very specially. Included are: MANICURE CASES, DRESSING SETS, COMB AND BRUSH SETS, WORK BOXES, COLLAR BOXES, SEWING COMPANIONS, NEEDLE CASES AND MEN'S TRAVELLING CASES.

### Table Cloths

Bleached pure linen table cloths in spot and clover leaf patterns size 22 yards, hemmed ready for use. Reduced price, each .....\$1.39

## Special Bargains in Boxed Handkerchiefs Ready to Give

Dainty Swiss lawn and mull handkerchiefs, with corner or full border designs, hemstitched or picot edges. Worth 18c, 20c and 25c each. A special purchase which we have boxed for Christmas.

### 2 in a Box, 25c

Pure Irish linen handkerchiefs, beautifully embroidered designs and hemstitched, some with colored embroidery. Each one in a fancy box. Each .....25c

Many other beautiful displays of Christmas handkerchiefs.

## Flannelette Night Gowns

You might put a nice warm gown on the gift list. Well made Flannelette Gowns, with high neck and long sleeves, trimmed with embroidery. Pink or white. ....85c

## CHAPMAN'S

239, 241, 243 Dundas Street