

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1921.

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A NEIGHORLY ACT

The Liberal party in the maritime provinces is indebted to Premier Meighen and the St. John Standard for placing before the people certain planks in the Liberal platform of 1919. The Standard gave them front page space in good sized type on Saturday. In this way it rendered the Liberals a real service. It is true the Liberal tariff will be framed with due regard to actual national and international conditions when the revision is undertaken; but suppose the exact policy set forth in the planks of the platform as quoted by Mr. Meighen and the Standard were carried into effect, who in the Maritime Provinces would weep over the changes? The first proposal quoted is to reduce the cost of living. Who objects to that? It is notorious that the cost of living in the Maritime Provinces has advanced out of proportion to the advance in the other provinces, and that the cost in St. John, for example, as compared with the cost in Boston or New York, is so much greater as to make American visitors gasp with amazement. If, therefore, a Liberal government will adopt a policy to reduce the cost of living, there will be no chorus of protest from these provinces.

The other plank quoted calls for a reduced cost of instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources which need to be developed. This would include farm implements and machinery, fertilizer, saw mill machinery, fishing gear, mining machinery and the like, and the raw materials from which these are produced. Would such a policy as this bankrupt these provinces? Would it not rather tend to make them more prosperous? Reduce the cost of living, reduce the cost of production, and that result would inevitably follow. The Liberal policy is not to destroy but to build up industries based on our natural resources.

But suppose the opposite policy were adopted—that of a deliberately protective tariff. It would mean profit for the protected industries, of course—but where? Not in the Maritime Provinces. They would be shut out by prohibitive freight rates from the large markets of Canada, and while not producing by the industrial expansion would be compelled to pay tribute to the manufacturers of Central Canada—as they do now. To talk high tariff in these provinces, while the transportation conditions make industrial expansion impossible, is therefore not very good political bait, and Liberals are grateful to Mr. Meighen and the Standard for presenting the Liberal policy in that regard.

It would not be quite so bad if the Conservative policy in regard to transportation and development of our ports offered any compensation for the tribute we pay under the present tariff, but it offers nothing. All this talk about developing the ports along with the trade of Canada fails to convince while Canadian trade continues to flow through American channels. The opportunity to develop our ports and get the trade has not been wanting for some years past, but what has been done? Sir Wilfrid Laurier had it in mind in connection with the National Transcontinental, and Hon. William Prowse as minister of public works pursued a policy designed to develop and nationalize the port of St. John. A Conservative government diverted the transcontinental terminus to Westfield and the development of the port has not proceeded as the Liberal government had planned.

These provinces have had enough of vague promises, and have been lectured quite enough on their duty to consider from a broad, national standpoint the needs of all Canada. Fifty years is quite long enough. The policy of Canadian trade through Canadian channels and a square deal for the Maritime Provinces in all matters of transportation is the policy that appeals to the people, and for that reason they will vote for the return of a Liberal government to power.

That a steamer should load two thousand tons of sugar at St. John and discharge it at the river and lake ports of Montreal, Toronto and Port Arthur, is an interesting development in the internal trade of Canada. It happened that the steamer was going to Port Arthur to engage in the grain trade, and the St. John cargo was merely incidental. A little talk on this incident in a school room would help to teach the geography and something about the industry and commerce of Canada.

FAIR TO EVERYBODY

A committee of the Associated Charities met yesterday to consider the programme for the annual meeting next month. The matter is of public concern. It is desired to have at that meeting representatives of all churches and benevolent organizations and other persons interested in giving relief to the destitute. The purpose was to be attained and the committee is confident that it is possible, or take such other measures of relief as the conditions render imperative. This system should head up all the work of investigation in one central bureau such as the Associated Charities, in order to have a record, to prevent over-lapping, and to prevent imposture. It is found that many people are ready to give aid, if only in a small way, if they can be assured that the fund is wisely administered; and it is also found that many people are imposed upon by the unworthy and thereafter decline to run the risk of another such experience. It will be a notable community service if all those who are asked to send representatives to the meeting do so, and that any who are interested attend whether specially invited or not, and together work out a plan by which the objects here outlined may be attained. The coming winter will bring hardship to many, and sympathetic and discriminating aid may be the means of keeping many families together and many children fed and clothed and at school. System succeeds where spasmodic individual effort fails.

The citizens of St. John and his friends throughout the province learned this morning with very deep regret of the passing of Mr. Joseph A. Tilton. No man of the younger community was held in higher respect by his business associates. His high character and fine personal qualities commanded universal esteem. In matters relating to the development of the trade of St. John, and in civic problems as well, Mr. Tilton took a deep interest. He rendered splendid service in the activities of the St. John Chamber of Commerce, and was always a generous giver. Never seeking, but rather shunning publicity for himself, he yet entered heartily into all projects for the public welfare, and set a fine example of responsible citizenship. In his death St. John suffers a distinct loss, and those who mourn will cherish the memory of a life of conscientious rectitude and honorable service.

The Canadian Public Health Association, of which Hon. Dr. Roberts is president, will meet next year in St. John. The Association has gone on record in favor of a distinct ministry of health in the cabinet at Ottawa. That would be a great forward step in the promotion of public health service throughout the Dominion.

Moncton Transcript: The Hon. Mr. Meighen declares, with much warmth that no country in the world needs protection more than Canada. Certainly the people of this country need protection from the exploitation of high finance operating under the shelter of high tariff.

The bestowal by the British government of the Victoria Cross upon the unknown soldier of the United States, and the sentiment to which such a signal tribute would give rise, would tend greatly to enhance the feeling of cordiality and good will between the Empire and the republic.

The death of Dr. J. U. Burnett of Sussex, under such exceptional circumstances, recalls the long career of a village doctor, whose patients were scattered over a large territory, traversed in all weather and at all times of day and night, carrying help and hope to the suffering.

Threshing is about completed in the west and much fall plowing has been done. It is said the farmers are disposed to hold their grain, but the world crop of wheat does not offer much hope of higher prices, and they may hold too long for their own advantage.

The Ontario government will assist the municipalities in efforts to provide work for the unemployed, but makes it clear that the municipal authorities must not try to unload the whole burden upon the provincial treasury.

So desperate is the tory cause in Nova Scotia that Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper is coming all the way from British Columbia to make speeches in support of government candidates.

A DESTRUCTIVE MANIFESTO. The outstanding feature of Premier Meighen's manifesto, issued the other day, is that it is destructive and not constructive. This is in line with Mr. Meighen's record. He is recognized as a clever and in many respects an able man, yet his talents have almost always been exercised in the role of a critic. It was this fact, indeed, that

LOYD GEORGE HAS DEFERRED SPEECH

Statement on Unemployment off Till Tomorrow.

British Parliament, Opening Today to Give Chief Attention to This Question—Likely to be Brief Session.

(Canadian Press Cable)

London, Oct. 18.—Parliament opened today for its autumn session, but interest in today's session was diminished by the announcement that Premier Lloyd George had deferred until Wednesday his important statement relative to unemployment. This came as a surprise after a late meeting of the cabinet council, and it was inferred that the full details of the policy had not been completed. The session is intended to be brief, its business being limited to unemployment, although important matters insurmountable from the business situation must necessarily be handled. It was understood today that although measures dealing with the situation had been decided upon by the government, it was necessary, owing to the rules of the House of Commons, to give that body notice of the introduction of legislation. The first business today was a motion from the government to devote the whole time of the house to the unemployment question. Whether this will be moved by Lloyd George or Austen Chamberlain was not announced, but it was understood yesterday that if it was introduced by the premier he would also touch briefly on other matters, possibly the Washington conference and negotiations re Ireland.

LOCAL NEWS

While painters were burning paint off the roof of the general public hospital street yesterday, a fire caught under the eaves. A still alarm was sent in and the only damage done was the cutting of a small section where the fire was.

At a regular meeting of St. John's (Stone) Church Girls' Association last evening arrangements were made to hold a supper in conjunction with the Badminton Club of the church. Plans were also made for supplying Christmas boxes to the needy.

A conference was held yesterday in the mayor's office between Hon. J. B. M. Baster, minister of customs and excise, Mayor Schofield, Commissioner Bullock and R. E. Armstrong, secretary of the board of trade, in connection with facilities for the shipment of cattle from this port.

The first meeting of the Mentor's Association of the Y. M. C. A. was held last evening. A. M. Gregg discussed several aspects of the winter's programme in regard to work among the younger members. The following officers were elected: President, A. H. Davis; vice-president, L. H. Stubbs; secretary, H. G. Neaves.

A special meeting of the board of commissioners of the general public hospital was held yesterday afternoon. F. N. Brodie had been authorized to draw up plans for the hospital to be erected on the site of the old hospital and to call for tenders, but the plans were not ready yesterday. It is likely that the appointment of a radio-grapher will be made soon. The alterations in the former nurses home and main hospital were reported being carried out.

The opening of the Central Baptist young people's social centre took place last evening. The mayor gave a short talk on good citizenship. He congratulated the members on their beautiful hall. Rev. F. H. Bone gave a history of the movement which brought about this good work. The plans were made five years ago. Most of the work was done by the members. H. H. Wankmaker, superintendent of the Sunday school, also spoke briefly. The gathering last evening was very large and the programme was very attractive.

Reports of the work of the Y. W. C. A. were heard at the directors' meeting yesterday and brought home forcibly the need for a new building. The Travelers' Aid reported that a large number of young girls are travelling alone. Miss Hoyt's report was very extensive and told of the work which is being done. The girls' work report was given. Great numbers of girls are joining the club this year. The work is being hampered by lack of funds. The King street house and Cafeteria report was also given. The report of the physical committee told of the swimming classes and tennis activities. The date of board meeting was changed from Monday to Tuesday.

The case against twelve members of the Trades and Labor Council, charged with being members of an unlawful assembly, was continued in the police court yesterday afternoon. H. A. Powell, K. C., and J. A. Barry appeared for the defendants and H. H. McLean, Jr., appeared for the prosecution. The police chief said he ordered thirty men out on duty. All the regular beats were covered on the night in question and there were fourteen men at the power house. He said that he had been to F. A. Campbell's office to try to find out if a parade was to be held and what route it would take. He was unsuccessful in both. He heard that there was to be a parade from Mr. Thomson, about three o'clock in the afternoon. There was some discussion about the slowness of the prosecution in not having evidence ready and the case was postponed until next Monday afternoon.

NO LIQUOR ELECTION DAY.

(Montreal Herald)

The entire city will be liquorless on election day by the closing of all beer shops and taverns, and the Quebec Liquor Commission has submitted to the Administrative Commission yesterday and all permit holders must follow it. Election by acclamation does not give permission to sell beer in the ward on election day.

brought him into prominence among the leaders of his party, to which he gave effective service during the years spent in opposition.

NO COMPROMISE WITH FARMERS

Hon. Mackenzie King Makes Announcement at St. Stephen—W. F. Todd to Contest Charlotte—Woodstock Primaries.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Liberal leader, at St. Stephen yesterday, said that there was no understanding of any kind as to a compromise with Hon. P. A. Cresser or anyone else after the election. He said that increasing numbers of farmers and labor men are supporting the Liberal candidates.

Mr. King, A. B. Cope, of Westmorland, and W. F. Todd, candidate in Charlotte, last night addressed the electors of Charlotte in the St. Stephen rink. All three made a distinct impression and were loudly applauded. William F. Todd of St. Stephen was yesterday chosen Liberal standard bearer for Charlotte in the coming election. The names of Major McLean and Harry W. Mann were put up by the opposition, but Mr. Todd received a majority of the votes. On motion of the defeated parties the selection was made unanimous.

The Conservative primaries were held in Woodstock last evening and Dr. W. D. Rankine, W. J. Dibble and J. R. Brown elected delegates to the convention which will be held on Thursday afternoon. W. M. Smith, James Montgomery and H. B. Durost were named substitutes.

MEIGHEN ON DUTIES ON FARM IMPLEMENTS

(Moncton Transcript)

It is worth while noting that there was a time when Mr. Meighen accused the Laurier government of unduly benefiting the manufacturers because it did not reduce the duties on agricultural implements. This was during the session of 1910-11. He then claimed that these manufacturers were able to produce implements as cheaply as those in the United States, for which reason there was no good reason why they should be permitted to enjoy so much protection. Indeed, he claimed that "The manufacturers of agricultural implements are able, under the tariff, to exact a higher price than they could exact if the tariff were lower." Continuing his criticism of the government, Mr. Meighen said: "They have overlooked, they have neglected one essential feature of this policy, they have quite forgotten its guiding principle, namely, the principle that as our industrial institutions advanced in strength, and as they were able with every advance to acquire a hold on the home market, the import duties were to be diminished and adjusted in order to meet the evolving and changing conditions."

"It is that restraining and guiding principle which I claim this government has entirely overlooked, and as a consequence that have allowed in this respect, which I am discussing this afternoon, protection to run rampant, and they have, for reasons that are only too obvious, become the slaves of those who helped them into power and who now maintain them there behind the ramparts of gold."

It will be admitted that this was very strong language for a man who now says that to lower the tariff would be to strike a vital blow at Canadian industry. No free trader could use stronger words to show that the manufacturers of implements are getting a great deal more than they are entitled to that they are profiting at the expense of the farmers, especially at the expense of those in the west. Here is how he put the matter:

"Now, sir, what are the manufacturers of agricultural implements able to do? They are able under this tariff to exact a higher price than they could exact if the tariff were lower. I do not say that a reduction will to any very enormous extent affect the price. I believe it will materially and I think it will render some relief to particularly the farmers of the west, many of whom are struggling between success and failure every year. It will afford them some relief, and I believe it is the bounden duty of the government to afford it."

If these arguments were sound in 1911, and Mr. Meighen contended that they were, they are surely quite as sound today. The case against the manufacturers of agricultural implements was never better stated in parliament than it was by the present prime minister. He showed conclusively that as their exports were proof that they could compete successfully against the world, they were not entitled to as much assistance. He demonstrated beyond question that the manufacturers of implements in Canada could produce just as cheaply as those in the United States. That being so, why did they require so much protection? The duties on agricultural implements in the United States having been removed, then, as these things can be produced as cheaply in this country as across the line, why should there be any duty on them in Canada?

FARMERS HOLD GRAIN

Low Prices, in Western Report—Threshing Nearly Done.

Winnipeg, Oct. 18.—(Canadian Press.)—With the continuance of good weather and which has prevailed throughout the west during the last week all threshing in the three prairie provinces should be completed at the end of the present week, states a C. P. R. crop review issues yesterday. All fall work is proceeding, with many sections reporting from thirty to seventy per cent. of the plowing finished. Many farmers, the report states, are holding their grain in storage, owing to the low prices paid at the present time.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT READY TO HELP ALLEVIATE UNEMPLOYMENT DISTRESS

Toronto, Oct. 18.—Premier Durney said yesterday that the provincial government was prepared to do everything possible, within reason, to assist in alleviating the effects of unemployment in the province.

"Personally," he said, "I do not approve of the dole system. However, where we think that municipalities are actually trying to do something and are not imposing upon us, we will assist them in every way."

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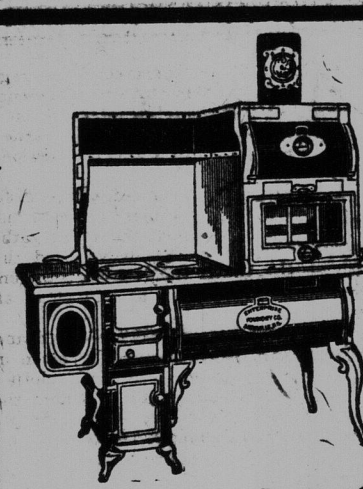
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SCARVES, MUFFS Hudson Seal, Mole skin, Squirrel, Foxes, Lynx, Wolf, Sables, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$45, \$50, \$60, \$65, \$75, \$90, \$100

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