

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 31, 1925.

CONFUSION AND DELAY.

Both Hon. Mr. King and Hon. Mr. Meighen asked the people for a decisive verdict which would result in a safe working majority. The elections have given Mr. Meighen the largest group in the House, approximately equal to the combined forces of the Liberals and the Progressives, and the result is confusion, with the prospect that there will be a period of delay before the situation is cleared up and the country can enjoy government free from compromise.

Ottawa is predicting another general election within five months, and that seems probable enough under the circumstances. Hon. Mr. King, who must decide between resignation and meeting the House, will not make his decision until all of the doubtful seats of which there are still six are cleared up. He himself could find a seat, and has already been offered one in which he might expect a majority, though he would have to fight for it, for with the opposing forces so nearly balanced it may be anticipated that nothing will be given away. Should Mr. King attempt to carry on with the assistance of the Progressives he would be faced immediately with the problem of the by-elections necessary to complete his cabinet. Should he resign and permit Mr. Meighen to make the place, the Conservative leader might be confronted early in his reign, at the very outset of the session in fact, with an adverse majority composed of Liberals, Progressives and others. In that case he could be forced to the country, and would have the reasonable expectation of returning with an ample working majority.

Even if one or two of the doubtful seats are decided in favor of the Conservatives, Mr. Meighen will still probably fall short of a majority over all possible combinations. It is improbable that he will have 120 seats, and he needs at least ten more to give him the margin required for independent action, although 124 would be sufficient to elect a Speaker and give him a majority of one.

The situation is an awkward one, and it is without equal in the history of the country. Although the Conservatives developed considerable strength in British Columbia and Manitoba, and while they were overwhelmingly strong in Ontario and in the Maritime Provinces, much of the Prairie West and practically all of Quebec stands arrayed against a high tariff, and the vote in the Maritimes, which was mainly a protest against lack of fair play to this division in the past, can scarcely be counted as an endorsement of high protection, although the Conservatives will naturally claim to regard it. Hon. Mr. King, however, declared very positively during the campaign that what he was seeking was an ample working majority to enable him to carry out his policies. He wished to be independent of all other parties. Judged by that standard his forces fall disastrously short of the number necessary. And while the Conservatives are still below the number required to control the House, they constitute by far the largest group and they will declare that another appeal to the country under existing conditions would assure them an ample majority over all.

Ottawa is probably correct in anticipating another election within a few months, an election which the country does not want, but which seemingly will be necessary in order to clear away the existing confusion.

"The broad theory on which general elections in Canada are held," says the Saint Ste. Marie Daily Star, "is based on the idea that it is a shame to let the other side hold office."

Commenting upon the fact that annexation received some mention during the Canadian election campaign, the Boston Transcript says this discussion is likely to cause a smile on the American side of the boundary. "Probably not one citizen in a hundred in the United States," it observes, "believes that there is the slightest prospect of the union of his country with Canada."

The Ottawa Journal regards Hon. Mr. King's resignation as likely, in which case the Governor-General would probably call upon Mr. Meighen "as the leader of the largest party in the House, to form a government. Mr. Meighen would accept the task, if it would seem only on the understanding that there be another general election forthwith or at early date." The Journal takes the ground that the Conservative party can make no alliance, and that it cannot govern the country without a clear majority of the House. What's wrong with the situation from the Conservative standpoint, the Journal says, is "the obtuseness of Quebec."

An election summary based on information available at nine o'clock this morning is issued by the Canadian Press. This gives the Conservatives 116 seats, the Liberals ninety-nine, the Progressives twenty-one, Labor two,

Independent one, and six still doubtful. The doubtful seats include Queens, Prince Edward Island, where the vote is split, one seat in Ontario where the Liberal is leading, two in Alberta, and two in Saskatchewan. One of the Alberta seats is certain to be Progressive or Liberal, as the Conservative is running third. The latter returns indicate that the Conservatives are certain to fall short of actual control of the House, but what course will be adopted by Premier King is still uncertain. He will probably make up his mind until every seat is definitely accounted for. The situation is unchanged in one important respect, which is that the Conservatives have a considerable majority over the Liberals alone, so a Liberal administration would be wholly dependent upon Progressive support. Its tariff policy unless the Progressives yielded through fear of another election. On the other hand, Mr. Meighen, on the face of the present returns, could not proceed with his tariff policy in the face of combined Liberal and Progressive opposition. Here, then, is substantially a condition of stalemate, increasing the probability of another election.

Odds and Ends

Good Conversation

Lord Riddell, in John O'London's Weekly, presents a fresh point of view regarding the art of conversation. "Much has been written regarding the essentials of good conversation. These being matters of taste, who shall decide? Therefore, persons able to impart a conversational tonic are universally popular. Vivacity is a rare but popular gift. . . . But vivacious people usually talk twaddle. They may not be clever or learned; they may say nothing you can carry away; but they have the priceless gift of brightening things up. Among back-chat is a gift possessed by few. . . . Unless spontaneous and witty, it is a complete failure. Talk that smells of the lamp is usually poor stuff. The premeditated impromptu rarely succeeds. Spontaneity and variety are the charms of conversation. Skilful talkers know instinctively when a subject has been exhausted, and gracefully and unobtrusively pass to another. They never engage in the depressing task of 'flopping a dead horse.' . . . If aptly used, the anecdote is a valuable ally; but a continuous succession of anecdotes is a nuisance. To be at his best the anecdote should arise out of the context, or, at any rate, have some connection with it. Anecdotes dragged in by the heels are usually severely mauled in the process. A good talker is not necessarily a good conversationalist. Most good talkers walk the floor to themselves. Conversation, in the word implies, consists in the interchange of ideas. This often involves self-restraint and self-suppression, so that every member of the company may have his fair share in the discussion. We should always reserve a corner in our minds in which to make room for the opinions of others."

"BABY MINE."

(Charles Mackay.)

I've a letter from thy sire, Baby mine! I can read and never tire, Baby mine! He is coming back to thee, Baby mine! He is coming back to thee, Baby mine!

Oh, I long to see his face, Baby mine! In his old, accustomed place, Baby mine!

Like the rose of May in bloom, Like a star amid the gloom, Like the sunshine in the room, Baby mine!

Thou wilt see him and rejoice, Baby mine!

Thou wilt know him by his voice, Baby mine!

By his love-kiss that endear, By his laughter ringing clear, By his eyes that know no fear, Baby mine!

I'm so glad—I cannot sleep, Baby mine! I'm so happy—I could weep, Baby mine!

He is sailing o'er the sea, He is coming back to me, He is coming back to thee, Baby mine!

The Convict Violinist.

(From the Boston Post.)

Because a life prisoner at Charleston plays the violin very sweetly, to the delight of persons who have heard him over the radio, and because Henry Ford has promised him a position, if released, a movement is on foot to procure his pardon.

Neither his ability as a musician nor the interest of Henry Ford should weigh in the slightest, but undoubtedly both things will if the public interest is sufficiently aroused and its sympathies touched, people are eager to overlook cold facts which interfere with sentiment.

Probably at the same time this man was convicted and sentenced there was a demand for stern punishment and summary justice. Now that the immediate details of the murder are forgotten his violin playing seems of more moment than the crime for which he was sentenced.

We would not for a moment oppose the release of a man who had earned a pardon and was entitled to a fresh start in life, but his case should be predicated on his conduct and the facts surrounding his sentence rather than on the particular talent for awakening the interest of the public that he possesses.

Cause and Effect?

(Manitoba Free Press.)

There is a lady in India called the Begum of Bhopal. She is always veiled. The only man who ever saw her face was her husband. She is a widow.

Just Fun

THEN AND NOW
CERTIE—"To think you used to catch me in your arms every night!"
George—"Yes, dear, and now to think I catch you in my pockets every morning!"

BLINDNESS.
The farmers of the fertile fields
Are blind to all the beauty there,
And he to whom the meadow yields
Its richness does not find it fair.
But he who looks through grimy panes
Of city workshops, loves the sky,
And he is fain of growing grains
Whom harvests pass unheeded by.

The man who pounds the pavement
hears
No inspiration in the noise;
He thrills not to its hopes and fears,
His dreams know nothing of its joys.
A yodel of the country looms
The city's moaning in his soul—
He yearns for its rush, appeals
To him, and in his vision's goal.

What lures them who say they long
For spots that haunt in their youth?
Let's tell romancers they are wrong—
Let's get right down and tell the truth.
The city man would be a clown,
The rustic years for urban charms—
And so the farmers move to town,
And we darned city fools buy farms!

"Man's capacity for pain increases
with his capacity for enjoyment."
And so the farmers move to town,
And we darned city fools buy farms!

MY DOG'S so fast that when he runs
around a haystack he has to jump
over himself every third lap.

ASK EUCLID:

1.—Necessity knows no law.

2.—A bootlegger knows no law.

Therefore: A bootlegger is a necessity.

"Who was that Jane I seen you out
with last night?" asked the popular
waitress at ——— of her lover from
Fairville.

"I call her Chiffonier," replied the
amorous swain, "because she's such a
swell little dresser."

WON'T YOU SIT DOWN?

RIP VAN WINKLE tottered home after
his 20-year absence.

"Well, dear, did you finally get that
income tax return filled out?" asked his
wife.

"WE ARE forced to lead a fast life, as
those not in pursuit of happiness
are fleeing from trouble."

A SOFT pie turneth away discerning movie fans.

A MARRIED man doesn't get any time
off for good behavior.

IT IS true that some newspapers print
too much crime news, but it is also
true that the newspapers also print too
much mush. And a police reporter
wants to know what good a society
page does.

PINK PAJAMAS

(Apologies to Amy Lowell)

Pink pajamas are a waste of artistic
effort.

The aesthetic joy is great, but private
World that it might break convention,
And parade down the crowded sidewalks.

Clad in pink pajamas
Exposing such beauty to the populace.
Who'd gaze in wide-eyed wonder
Exclaiming "There go Pajamas Pink!"
Surely a most beautiful hue of pink—
The color my mother loved—
And tears would crowd the vulgar eye
As some vital spot of their soul was
prodded.

Opening up new vistas to their mind's
eye.

Vistas of pink pajamas.
But now—it is cold—oh cold!
I prefer radiators, cozy beds—
Wait till Winter is over—oh, pink
Pajamas!

SUNSHINE SPELLETS

By DR. W. F. THOMSON

He drank polluted water—
Had fever for a spell;
But with the aid of nature
The doctor got him well.

Pepsin, powders, pills and teas—
These we take to cure disease;
Then when nature rights the wrong
We praise the stuff and praise it strong.

And another good way to settle the
coal strike is to burn oil.

Said Doctor Jim Davis
"Just nothing'll save us
If we slumber in hot stuffy rooms;
For the old pneumococcus
Will certainly knock us
When annoyed by our death dealing
brooms."

THE CAD.

"Didn't you hear about it?"

"No."

"But it happened in your neighborhood."

"I know—but my wife's been away."

—TIT-BITS.

WHAT REWARD?

TOMMY: "Father, my Sunday
school teacher says if I'm good I'll
go to heaven."

FATHER: "Well?"

TOMMY: "Well, you said if I was
good I'd go to the circus; now I want
to know who's telling the truth?"—
The Passing Show.

PRACTICE.

WELLINGTON: "Can I borrow a
cigar?"

WARRINGTON (tensely): "Well,
you ought to be able to—you've had
enough practice."—Answers.

WANTED TO BUY

A FORD Coupe.

Must be in good
running order and
cheap for cash.

Write "Coupe,"
Telegraph-Journal

t.f.

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRECLAY FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE

Sold by Hardware Dealers.

The Big Turn At Locarno



Showman Austen—"All done by kindness, ladies and gentlemen." From the News of the World.

The Best of Advice

BY CLARK KINNAIRD

AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM.

MUSSOLINI, doing with Italy as he
pleases in the wilful way of a Caesar,
says, possibly defending himself,
that "Liberty is a dream."
And who will deny it?
Only savage people enjoy any measure
of liberty.

Only the man who lives far out of
contact with the best of mankind can
ever enjoy Liberty and Freedom.

WHEN he claims the privileges of
organized society, the individual is
compelled to sacrifice his freedom of
will.

He can neither decide nor act accord-
ing to the imperious demands of his
own personality.

For a few this is a painful sacrifice,
but to the majority it is not.

A MAN living in the open country
apart from the immediate re-
straints of society is quite distinct
from the citizen living within an organized
community.

When a man leaves the open country
and settles in a city, he submits him-
self to countless restraints.

He must sacrifice freedom,

He must sacrifice freedom of judgment,

And he must sacrifice freedom of will.

He cannot dash madly through the
crowded street as he would in the open
prairie. There are fences, walls and
policemen to impede his movement.

He may not shout and sing as he
may feel inclined to do in the open.
There are others not only to be con-
sidered but to be protected against
noise, disturbance and injury.

IT HIS study, International Society,
Professor Philip Marshall Brown
observes that "The individual in soci-
ety makes the great sacrifice of free-
dom and judgment. He cannot de-
cide even about his own family affairs
without running counter at times to
the judgment of men about him. The
first lesson he must learn in organized
society is a decent respect for the opin-
ions of mankind." This he finds to be
a basic principle of political society."

ONE of the wisest things John Mil-
ton ever wrote is not to be found in
his masterpiece, Paradise Lost, but in
a short essay, "License they mean
when they cry, Liberty! for who loves
that must first be wise and good."

Poems That Live

MUSIC, WHEN SOFT VOICES DIE.

Music, when soft voices die,
Vibrates in the memory—
Odors, when sweet violets sicken,
Live within the sense they quicken.

Rose-leaves, when the rose is dead,
Are heaped for the beloved's bed;
And so, thy thoughts, when thou art gone,
Love itself shall slumber on.

—Percy Bysshe Shelley.

Dinner Stories

MR. BANG had been pacing the sta-
tion platform for twenty minutes.
Rather hot under the collar, he went
back to the ticket window.

"I thought you said the noon local
was on time today," he roared at the
station master's youthful assistant.

"Wal, she were," replied the latter.

"Went through here right on the dot,
'bout three minutes afore you come in
an' ast me."

Inspector came out and proceeded to
dress. He chaffed the boys for not
coming in, and said: "I suppose you
are afraid to bathe with the inspector?"

"No, sir," said one of the boys, "but
we saw a crocodile in this lagoon yester-
day."

This Car Cost a Widow \$10,000

HER husband was a young business man of
good prospects. He believed in living
more carefully than his wife did, having business
instincts and principles which she lacked.

"I would sooner put the money it would
cost me to run a car into life insurance," said
he. "I could get a good life endowment policy
with the money running a car will cost us
every year."

"The Joneses have a big new car," she
replied. "Everybody we know has a car."

That was three years ago. She has her car. It
is still a fairly good car. She would like to sell it for \$200.

Her husband was right. A \$10,000 Mutual Life policy
would have been a far better investment. But it's too
late, now.

Are you carrying the amount of life insurance you
should? Talk it over with our agent.

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Put one on—the
pain is gone

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Must be in good
running order and
cheap for cash.

Write "Coupe,"
Telegraph-Journal

t.f.

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GUIDE—\$6 page—
illustrated, showing how
when, and where to trap
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Other Views

WAR AND CRIME.

(Gudph Mercury.)

Crime in the U. S. is estimated to
cost ten billion dollars a year. The
war didn't cost half that for the same
country, but it will be easier to collect
the war debt than that resulting from
crime.

AT THE BOOKSTORE

(Judge.)

Cross-tempered Customer (with
grievance)—I—I can't find words to
express my disgust with you.
Smart Assistant—May I sell you a
dictionary, sir?

A GOOD REASON

(Tit Bits, London.)

He—I say, I wish you would not
call me Mr. Jenkins.
She—Oh, but I've only known you
for such a little while; but (sweetly)
why don't you wish me to call you Mr.
Jenkins?
"Merely because my name is Robin-
son."

THE INTOXICATED DRIVER

(Chicago Journal of Commerce.)

A sentence of eight months in prison
has been imposed in an Indiana court
upon a woman who, while intoxicated,
drove her automobile into another car.
An intoxicated person at the wheel of
an automobile is so great a menace that
courts should make it a rule to impose
heavy penalties, regardless of the sex
of the offender. A car driven by an
intoxicated woman can kill and injure
as many people as a car driven by an
intoxicated man.

PITY YE POOR ED.

(Melrose, Wis., Chronicle.)

It is reported that one of the fastid-
ious newly married ladies of this town
breads bread with her gloves on. This
incident may be somewhat peculiar,
but there are others. The editor of this
paper needs bread with his shoes on;
he needs bread with his shirt on; he
needs bread with his pants on; and
unless some of the delinquent sub-
scribers to this "Old Rag of Freedom"
pony up before long, he will need bread
without a damn thing on, and Wiscon-
sin is no Garden of Eden in the winter
time.

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10 O'clock

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While Stock is Complete.

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Insurance - - 55.80

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