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CRITICISM OF THE BUDGET

One of the drawbacks of the party system of government is that the Opposition feels itself obliged both in and out of parliament to oppose every measure and every suggestion which an administration brings down.

On the other hand, the party in power rarely if ever adopts a suggestion, however good and necessary, made by the Opposition.

The common rule among politicians on both sides has been that adopted by those who attend Donybrook park: "When you see a head, hit it."

This may have answered in the past, when parties were fighting for the plums and patronage of office, but it does not make for progress in good government. All of the political wisdom is never found under the hats of any one side. Yet a large section of the Canadian electorate has acted as though the government is always right and the Opposition always wrong. Neither of which is true.

A change has come over the scene since 1914. The members at least desire to see more independence among their representatives and the actual elimination of patronage from politics. The loaves and fishes have been played too important a part in public affairs. If we mistake not, the cross benches in parliament will subsequently have more occupants than in previous years.

Two recent occurrences in the commons support the contention that any Opposition which opposes everything a government attempts to do or does, carries no weight. One was the proposal to appoint a commission to do the buying for all departments. This plan has been successfully tried by the Hydro municipalities and annually saves them large sums of money. It is a good business method. Yet it was opposed in the commons.

The Opposition would have served the public well in criticising the details but was in error in attacking the principle. The other outstanding instance was the budget changes.

Under the present form, the Opposition, no matter from which party it was drawn, would have felt itself obliged to adversely criticise the government's budget speech. It is then the system that is at fault and not the Opposition.

Take the country's expenditures for the current fiscal year. These will amount to \$620,000,000. Of this amount, \$340,000,000 will be required to complete mobilisation and provide sustenance for the men who have been engaged overseas. This task is insupportable.

After making reductions in the tariff, increasing the income tax and continuing the business profits tax, the largest sum deemed possible to raise by way of taxation was \$280,000,000.

It will be interesting to note the sources from which this \$280,000,000 is to be drawn:

Customs	\$145,000,000
Excise	30,000,000
Post Office	18,000,000
Profits War Tax	35,000,000
Income tax	20,000,000
Other war taxes	14,000,000
Miscellaneous	18,000,000

The Opposition's financial critic argued that the administration should cease borrowing. Were his suggestion followed the country would require to raise by way of taxation \$620,000,000 instead of \$280,000,000. This would be a physical impossibility.

Since \$340,000,000 is required for war expenditures when if his reasoning is sound, the \$1,327,000,000 which had to be raised last year had been expended on the war, the government would have been forced to raise the balance by taxation. Clearly this was beyond accomplishment.

None of the nations engaged in the war has been able to provide as it went along, the money needed to carry on the war. The United States, which is the wealthiest nation in the world, and had been less than two years in it, borrowed some twenty billions of dollars. Of this amount four billions or more were borrowed last month.

Mr. McMaster in the next breath to which he deplored further borrowing, held that the tariff should be to a greater extent be taken off the necessities of life. He did not stop here. He also urged that to square the loss of protection on manufactured goods, raw materials imported by manufacturers should be removed.

Were his advice followed the estimated revenue from Customs duties might be cut in two. It would then become necessary either to levy direct taxation upon the people of Canada or to borrow a much larger sum than is proposed.

Let it be assumed that Mr. McMaster's whole proposal were adopted and that as a result the revenue of Canada dropped from \$280,000,000 to \$200,000,000. The people would then have to pay in direct taxation, over and above what they are now directly paying, the sum of \$420,000,000.

Since a share of the cost of the war and of carrying on the affairs of the country should, in all fairness, be borne by every person, according to his ability to pay, the average sum per head, to be collected would amount to \$54 or \$270 per family of five. Ninety-nine out of every hundred persons would be unable to pay such a levy.

Mr. McMaster in speaking of the cost of living further suggested that the prices of essential foods be supplied to consumers at reasonable prices and, have, if necessary, parliament meet the difference between such prices and the market rates. This is idealistic but impractical, since there would be those who would reduce wages as soon as they saw that the people were receiving benefits from the Canadian treasury. Were it however done, the outlay would be large and have also to be collected by way of direct taxation.

As we view it, his revenue-raising scheme would not work satisfactorily. Canada will be doing exceedingly well to raise \$280,000,000 in revenue. In 1914 it raised only \$163,000,000. Last year it collected \$310,000,000 and applied \$70,000,000 on war expenditures. Upward of 15 per cent.

It is estimated that when the war bills are all in the national debt will reach \$2,000,000,000 or \$250 per capita. How many heads of families could plunk down this amount for each person in his household?

In asking that the country stop borrowing a great many difficulties, to lower or remove the tariff and to permit to directed taxation to raise the huge sum needed, are proposals that are not only impractical but have, in the past, been tried and failed.

Should the tariff be removed entirely and the government's revenue be raised by direct taxation, the receipts from income and other direct taxation would fall below the required amount.

Canada would stagnate and become a country waterlogged with debt.

The contrary course should and no doubt will be followed. A fair amount of protection will be given Canadian industry. Its business men will be encouraged as far as they can to supply the requirements of the home market and to export, in order that prosperity may continue and the country be developed.

Every belligerent country has borrowed huge sums in connection with the war. All of them will take fifty or a hundred years in which to repay loans, just as a municipality spreads over a long period its payments for a water plant.

An Opposition critic is expected to criticise. In this instance his criticisms were apparently made for the sake of criticism. We contend that it would have been better at this stage not to have made them.

Canada has too many problems on its hands to divide over theories. The best thought and effort of its M.P.'s should be conscientiously given to solving them. We are not yet out of the woods.

FOR AN ELECTIVE SENATE

H.M. Mowat, M.P., of Toronto is out for an elective Senate. He gives notice of the following resolution:

"That it is advisable to give support to those members of the Senate of Canada who advocate a change in the constitution of that body; to declare that a life tenure of the office of Senator in some instances begets an individual and not a representative attitude regarding legislative measures; to seek amendments to the British North American Act, 1867, so that Canada may be divided into Senatorial electoral districts, composed of groups of constituencies and that the present Senators may be appointed to represent the several districts, and when vacancies occur elections be held to replace the Senators vacating their offices; and that the term of office for elected Senators shall not exceed twelve years."

Why a senate at all?
It is, as far as the taxpayer and public interests are concerned, a useless and expensive frill on the shirt.

BY THE WAY

Montreal Council has decided to borrow and expend \$6,000,000 on housing as a means to encourage the building of homes.

France is coldly frank. It opposes any changes in the peace treaty as originally drawn, demanding a pact "heavy with glory and booty."

It does not seem that the Parliamentary Cost of Living Committee will, if it takes statements made before it at par, get anywhere.

Pipesmoking is said to be spreading among the women of Britain. They may have acquired the habit in the munition shops. If they must smoke, let them have the real smoke.

Extracts of Exchange

Albanian Proverbs

Exchange—"The Albanians, who constitute one of the sources of trouble at Paris objecting to be ruled by either Jugo-Slavs or Italians, are a shrewd race. Here are some of their proverbs."

"The dog does not wag his tail at you, but at your bread."

"Don't measure your happiness with someone else's yardstick."

"Even the wolf is honest when the sheep are locked up."

"He who sows thistles must not go barefoot."

"When the wolf preaches one must keep a lookout over one's sheep."

"If the stone falls into the bowl it is bad for the bowl. If the bowl falls on the stone it is bad for the bowl. In all circumstances it is bad for the bowl."

Circumstantial Reasoning

Syracuse Standard—When Theodore Roosevelt was governor of New York he knew quite well a farmer who lived at a house on the road where the governor, riding horseback, would always stop for a rest. One day when the governor rode up the farmer was reading a New York paper "Governor" he asked "aren't those New York papers pretty tall liars?"

"Why what makes you think they are?"

"Well, here's a story I was just a-reading of a man who paid \$14,000 for a picture of a cow. I don't believe it."

"Why not?" asked T. R.

"Because," said the farmer "I don't believe there's any man in New York who would pay \$14,000 for anything he couldn't milk."

WAIT A MINUTE

TODAY'S ANNIVERSARIES

- 1819—Charles Kingsley, famous English divine, novelist and poet, born. Died Jan. 23, 1875.
- 1844—Januarius A. MacGahan, the American journalist whose pen liberated the Bulgarians from Turkish tyranny, born near New Lexington O. Died at San Stefano, Turkey June 9, 1878.
- 1862—Prince of Wales (Edward VII) visited the Emperor of the Free at Fontainebleau.
- 1864—Emperor Maximilian and Empress Carlotta made their entry into the City of Mexico.
- 1869—Duel between William E. Cameron and Robert W. Hughes, rival newspaper editors of Richmond Va.
- 1892—Great Britain assumed a protectorate over the Gilbert Islands.
- 1915—The French continued to drive the foe back at the "Labyrinth".
- 1916—Austrians began a retreat to the westward of the Dniester line.
- 1917—United States Congress passed the Espionage bill.

Norwegian steamship Eidsvold torpedoed by submarine off Virginia Capes.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

- Constantin Angelesco, Roumanian minister to the United States, born at Bucharest, 50 years ago today.
- Victor C. Alderson, president of the Colorado School of Mines, born at Plymouth Mass. 57 years ago today.
- Dr. Henry F. Moore, who has been identified with the biological department of the U.S. Government for many years born in Philadelphia, 52 years ago today.
- Catherine Waugh McCulloch, noted Chicago lawyer and suffrage leader, born at Ransomville N.Y., 57 years ago today.

Charles A. Culberson, senior United States senator from Texas born at Dadeville, Ala., 64 years ago today.

Caroline Hazard for many years president of Wellesley College, born at Peace Dale, R.I., 69 years ago today.

Francis X. Bushman widely known as an actor in motion pictures, born at Norfolk Va., 34 years ago today.

Battling Levinsky, prominent as a heavyweight pugilist, born in Philadelphia, 35 years ago today.

WOMEN AS BRAVE AS THE MEN

Their Struggle Shows a Remarkable Spirit.

Talk of the bravery of men, but where can you find a finer spirit than among the half-sick women who are fighting and struggling to do their duty against the terrible odds of ill-health and who will not give up.

One woman in every three is struggling against weakness. Most of them are not exactly sick, but, oh, how miserable.

The burden and misery of it all has its foundation in the blood which is thin and watery. The red cells are too few. The very stream of life is reduced in vitality. Weakness and inevitable ill-health are the certain result.

Every ailing or weak woman can quickly regain her health in this very simple way. By filling the system with the nutrition that comes from rich red blood, a quick change for the better will result. To accomplish this, take two chocolate-coated Ferrozone Tablets after each meal. You'll feel better immediately for the simple reason that Ferrozone renews the blood. It gives you vim, vigor, endurance, restores a tired, worn-out system very quickly.

You'll feel like new all over once you get Ferrozone working through your blood. It puts color into faded cheeks, brightens the eye, quickens the step, brings back that wonderful feeling of youth.

One of the finest things Ferrozone does is to make you eat and digest it as well. With keen appetite, sound sleep, strong nerves and tons of nourishing blood you're bound to regain robust health. A sickly girl or ailing woman that Ferrozone won't make well must be incurable. There is a secret power in Ferrozone and it is worth a trial at all events. Fifty cents per box, six for \$2.50. At all dealers in medicine or by mail from The Catarhozone Co., Kingston, Ont.

F. S. Scott, M.P. Talks of Shoes and Tariff

U.S. AND CANADIAN PRICES.

OTTAWA, June 10.—F. Stewart Scott, of South Waterloo, combated the suggestion made by Opposition speakers that Canadian manufacturers added to the prices of commodities in addition to a fair profit, the amount of the duty on like imported articles. He dwelt with the shoe industry, and presented figures which he had secured from the Canadian branch of a large United States firm. Tan calf hats sold in the United States at \$7.50 a pair, were sold by this firm in Canada at \$8.25 a pair, or 9 per cent higher, the not 37 1-2 per cent, which is the rate of Customs duty on such shoes.

Gummett calf hats sold at \$7.15 in the United States, were sold in Canada at \$7.60 a difference of 6 per cent, and vice kid shoes, sold in the United States at \$7.40 a pair, were sold in Canada at \$8.35, a difference of 13 per cent. The difference between the United States prices explained by the fact that during the war there was a duty of 1-2 per cent on hides and leather and duties of 22 1-2 per cent on upper leather, 32 1-2 per cent on patent leather, 25 per cent on lining material. Mr. Scott said that in the case of shoes investigation would indicate that the Canadian manufacturer was not adding an excessive amount to the prices of his wares on account of the tariff.

The tariff, Mr. Scott said, had built up the beet sugar industry, which is now employing 1,500 men in Kent County. He was inclined to criticise the business profits, tax on the ground that it took out of industry money which might have enabled manufacturers to expand their plants and business.

The income tax, he feared, would be difficult to collect. In the United States it had been discovered that only 15,000 farmers out of 6,000,000 had paid taxation on their incomes. Concluding, he said that the United States had had a century of tariff controversy, and that the policy which had built up the United States would build up Canada. He believed with Prof. J.G. McLennan of Toronto, that Canada has to develop industry and apply to it science and industrial research.

LONDON CONFERENCE BELIEVES THIS IS NOT WORK OF NECESSITY

GODERICH, June 10.—Whether it is a work of necessity to draw milk to factories on Sunday, a question of vital importance to dairy counties of Ontario, was debated at length on the floor of the London Conference at the concluding session to-day and the upshot was the passing of a resolution requesting the attorney-general to give his consent to the prosecution of all cases of such Sabbath violation and also commending that official for his refusal to grant permission to milk companies for the Sunday delivery of milk to them.

"As it is all the milk concerns are defying the law and hoping to prove the necessity of such work," said Rev. W.K. Heger, of Almyer, in speaking to the question. "They were not granted a permit to draw milk on Sunday, but the attorney-general's department left it an open question whether or not it was work of necessity."

The matter of Sunday milk deliveries was mentioned in the report of the Sabbath observance committee, along with Sunday excursions and Sunday funerals, which the committee felt were also to be censured.

THE TIMAGAMI FOREST RESERVE

Every single angler who knows the real thrill of landing a "big fellow" desires to enjoy the sport that the wonderful Timagami region of Ontario affords. Sportsmen who have fished all the important waters of the continent declare that the fishing in Timagami cannot be excelled. Lake Timagami with its sixteen hundred islands and three thousand miles of shore line is the home of the black bass, the brook trout and other game fish, while the innumerable smaller lakes are also well stocked. There are no hardships to be encountered in reaching Timagami. A few minutes after leaving the Grand Trunk through train from Toronto the Sportsman finds himself in the bosom of the forest, and in a labyrinth of islands, inlets and channels inviting him to go north east and west. There are good outfitting facilities, and also some boarding establishments, but this great region is still absolutely unspoiled. For full particulars and information regarding this territory apply to Grand Trunk Agent or C.E. Horning D.F.A. Toronto, Ont.

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Ladies' and Misses' New Dresses in white and colored voiles, pink, blue, rose, maize, also fancy dark voiles, black and white voiles, made in pretty tunic and panel styles, at special prices, \$6.75, \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.75, to \$19.00.

Ladies' and Misses' Wash Dresses, in pretty colored ginghams, made with high and normal waist lines, all sizes, special at \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.50 to \$9.25.

Ladies' Handsome Georgette Dresses, made with bead trimmed, round necks, also deep square collars, very pretty styles, in colors of white, pink and grey, very special at \$25.00, \$30.00, \$35.00 to \$45.00.

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Ladies' Voile Waists, made in pretty styles, round and square neck, lace trimmed, embroidered fronts, all sizes, special at \$1.35, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.25 to \$3.00.

Fancy Voile Waists

Ladies' French Voile Waists in pretty stripes and dotted Swiss, made in plain tucked styles, dainty embroidery and lace trimmed, round and square neck, also convertible collars, at \$3.75, \$4.00, \$4.50 to \$6.50.

Our abundant stock of cool Silks and Cottons is satisfying the demand of those wanting Summer Clothing. The Silk Dept. and the Cotton section are interesting with their wealth of pretty things and we invite your inspection.

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