

The Herald

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Mr. Melsaac's Speech

(Continued from page 1.)

Our nearest competitor in the United States, and that country has only one mile of railway for every 404 inhabitants. The transition period has set in, and the trend towards contraction is inevitable, but in this respect, we may confidently hope that Canada will be less affected than other countries, and that she will proceed by gradual steps towards a normal and permanent basis.

Mr. Speaker, a moment ago I referred to Canada's transportation development. I instanced the fact that she had her own steamships on all the trade routes of the sea. I wish to develop this point a little more. We who have been brought up by the sounding sea and whose ears have been early attuned to the thunder of its surge, are perhaps somewhat like Byron's Child Harold—we love the ocean and find music in its roar. To turn from the sea and speak of the ships that sail thereon is simple and natural. I wish to refer to the Canadian Government Merchant Marine. This enterprise was inaugurated by the Government under the immediate direction of the Hon. Minister of Marine (Mr. Ballantyne) during the war period, when it was very difficult, if not impossible to procure ships to connect with our railways in order to transport our products abroad. The enterprise had scarcely been started when it was confronted with a serious handicap. Steel shapes and plates for these ships had to come from American firms, and were supplied only when it suited the manufacturers. This caused long and annoying delays in the construction of Canadian steamships. To overcome this difficulty the Government of Canada, through the Minister of Marine, entered into an agreement with the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, at Sydney, Cape Breton, to establish a rolling-mill plant, with a capacity of 50,000 square feet of plate per day. In consequence of this arrangement, the building of the ships of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine was rapidly advanced, and now a great fleet of splendid Canadian ships, built from Canadian material by Canadian workmen, in Canadian yards, and manned by Canadian officers and men, sail the seas of the world, and some of them have already circumnavigated the globe.

These great argosies bear away to our antipodean cousins under the Southern Cross; to the distant East and to all corners of the civilized world, Canada's natural and manufactured products. Each one of these ships has incorporated as an affix to its name the word "Canadian," and all fly the white Canadian ensign. Apart altogether, Mr. Speaker, from the splendid part they play in Canadian transportation service, they constitute the grandest and most widely extended advertisement for Canada that could be conceived. Surely, Mr. Speaker, this is a national transportation enterprise for which the Government and the Minister of Marine deserve the sincere thanks of all Canadians. The speech from the throne refers to

the matter of tariff revision as follows:

My advisers are convinced of the necessity for revision of the Customs tariff. In order to secure the most complete information a Committee has conducted an extensive and thorough inquiry, and has secured the views of all parties and interests in every Province. The hearings necessary for this purpose have now been completed, and the conclusions founded thereon will be submitted to you in due course. It is the opinion of my advisers that in such revision regard must be had to the necessities of revenue and as well that the principle of protection to Canadian labour and legitimate Canadian industries, including agriculture, which has prevailed for more than forty years in this country, must be consistently maintained, but that the Customs duties imposed to that and should be no higher than is essential to ensure good standards of living among our working population and to retain and make possible the normal expansion of the industry in which they find employment.

Mr. Speaker, the declaration set forth in this paragraph of the Speech indicates quite clearly the intention of the Government in relation to the tariff. A customs tariff such as we have in this country, of necessity requires revision from time to time. Changes in trade conditions, the springing up of new industrial centres, and many other circumstances, of their very nature render such adjustment imperative. In order to have a tariff established on an accurate and scientific basis, revision, following investigation, is necessary. The Government, therefore, acted wisely in appointing a cabinet committee to secure information all over the country. The revised tariff which will be presented during the session as stated in the Speech, will be based on the principles of the national policy, having for its essential qualities the requirements of revenue and the principle of protection to Canadian labour and Canadian industries, including agriculture. This is the manner of customs tariff inaugurated by Sir John A. Macdonald, and which has prevailed in Canada for over forty years. Under this tariff, Canada's industries have developed and Canadian workpeople have found abundant and lucrative employment. This tariff assures commercial stability and affords a guarantee of security to investors in new enterprises. Our cities and urban centres have grown great and populous under the aegis of this tariff, and outside capital has sought investment within our national boundaries. In consequence of this tariff, no fewer than six hundred branch factories have been established in Canada by American manufacturers, representing a capital investment of approximately \$400,000,000 and affording employment to about 87,000 people. Surely a tariff that produces such results as these is the best and the only tariff for Canada, and should be perpetuated.

Mr. Speaker, from whatever view-point we survey the situation at present, in retrospect, or in outlook, the position of Canada must inspire confidence and optimism. Canada has passed the crucible. She has been tried and has not been found wanting. The great deeds so splendidly achieved within the last six years, in war, in peace, in commerce and in finance, have placed our country in an enviable position, and have made her the object of admiration and emulation by sister nations. Her splendid record of the past is sufficient guarantee of her capability to meet all emergencies in the future, but in order to do this Canadians must do their full duty, they must be true to themselves. The great

dramatist put into the mouth of Polonius in his address to Laertes these memorable words: "This above all, to thine own self be true." Let Canadians be true to themselves, true to their country, true to the great heritage entrusted to them. Let them exhibit that same spirit of duty, service and sacrifice that characterized them during the dark and never-to-be-forgotten days of the war. Let them cultivate a vigorous and virile national sentiment. Let them stand together united in the bonds of national unity, and then there need be no question of our great nation's marching forward on the road of progress, prosperity and righteousness to the proud position she is destined to attain among the world's great nations.

Too Much Humbug

What is the matter with politics in Canada? Have none of us any principles or convictions that will withstand an unsympathetic atmosphere? Recently there was an election in West Peterboro. It is understood that the Liberal party and the Independent Liberal party are in favor of low tariff. But the position of both these parties on the fiscal issue was hardly distinguishable from that of the two Conservative candidates. Even the candidate of the United Farmers hedged and evaded. He made no such resolute demand for free trade with Great Britain in five years, a wide measure of reciprocity with the United States, and elimination of the principle of protection as the authorized Farmers' platform requires. As between the Liberal platform adopted at Ottawa less than a year and a half ago and the utterances of Liberal spokesmen in West Peterboro there was at best a very remote relationship.

One feels, too, that if the election had been held in a Western constituency and five candidates had appeared, representing such groups as had candidates in West Peterboro, the Farmer and Labor and Liberal representatives would have manifested less tolerance for the principle of protection, and possibly even the Conservative candidates would have found arguments in favor of a substantial, if not radical, revision of the tariff. The outstanding fact of the situation is that two of the political parties have low tariff platforms, while the leaders of both, conscious that the country will not have free trade, are interpreting the platforms to suit political prospects in different sections of the country. Mr. King now has no thought of free trade, and professes to want the advice of the people before he can make up his mind on tariff. He forgets that the mind of the Liberal convention of a year and a half ago seemed to be made up, and that he was chosen leader upon a platform which he now sets aside. So Mr. Crerar, as the political prospects of the Farmers improve, becomes wary of free trade and uses languages on the fiscal issue not so very different from that which is used in the platform of the National and Liberal-Conservative party.—Montreal Star.

At Regina, Sask., on February 25th, this remark was made by a farmer of that district: "If this weather holds, I am going to sow a piece of land in wheat on Saturday." He claimed that the land was dry and in shape for crop. Further information in the same connection says that men driving into the city on that day told of seeing gophers. They claim that this is the earliest appearance of the prairie pest in some ten years. It may be said, however, regarding this optimistic outlook, that changes are very sudden out in that country, and that perhaps by this time, instead of sowing his grain, the farmer may be endeavoring to dig himself out through an immense snowbank.

Local and Other Items

At Dowell, Ill., seven men recently entrapped in the Kathleen Mine by fire have perished. As the last hope for their lives has been abandoned the mine has been sealed up in an effort to extinguish the flames.

The negro population of New York city at the time of the 1920 census was 153,088, an increase of 61,379, or 66.9 per cent., according to the announcement of the general bureau. The white population was 5,457,004, an increase of 789,842, or 16.9 per cent., and all others 7,956.

From Calgary, on Feb. 25th, it was intimated that prior to the cold snap and snowfall experienced there ten days previously, digging had already being commenced on the land of the farmers in the Warner and Milk districts. At that date the farmers expected to be on the land again within three days, if the then existing warm spell continued.

According to recent advices from Halifax, formal transfer to the Dominion Government of all Imperial property in that city and elsewhere in Canada has been made. For a number of years the Dominion Government has had the custody of military, naval and other property in Halifax belonging to the Imperial Government, and now the Dominion Government is given ownership thereof.

The following item from Berlin affords a very striking example of rogues going one better than another: German counterfeiters had printed millions of marks which they were unable to dispose of, and then exchanged the false money with some residents of Soviet Russia for gold dust. When they came to examine the dust it was found to be only powdered bronze. Certainly this was an example of thieves beating one another.

Two boys were drowned, damage estimated at over \$100,000 done, 13 families were rendered homeless, and 28 persons were taken to the General Hospital as the result of a burst high water pressure main feeding the east end of the city of Montreal, which occurred at the corner of St. Urbain and Dorchester Streets early Sunday morning, 20th. Of the 28 taken to the General Hospital only two were seriously enough injured to be admitted to wards.

From San Francisco comes this information. The Carnegie Institute Power Brig Aull is in that harbour on return from a search of a group of islands which have been noted on the Government maps and chartered. The information that is brought by this ship is that this group of islands has mysteriously disappeared from out of the Atlantic area. What has happened to them, known as the Royal Company Islands, is a matter with which scientists are now busy. The islands are a British possession, south of Australia.

Word comes from Winnipeg that sixteen Manitoba physicians have been suspended for periods ranging from one week to six months, as a result of a wholesale issue of prescriptions for whiskey as a beverage. The council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons for Manitoba have made this announcement. One of the doctors suspended gave 10,000 prescriptions during one month, according to testimony obtained by a special committee appointed by the Council. Twelve of the physicians practice in Winnipeg.

Universal regret is experienced by all members of the House of Commons in consequence of the death of Mr. T. P. Owens, for many years editor of the Hansard Debates in that House. He died on Thursday morning, February 24th, after an illness of three weeks. Mr. Owens had connection with many Government commissions, was well known in official circles throughout Canada, and his death is sincerely mourned by a host of friends. He was appointed Hansard reporter in 1888 and editor of Hansard in 1917. He was only 57 years of age, and was formerly a member of the Montreal Gazette staff. His only son, Sergeant Owens, was killed in the great war.

Mail Contract SEATED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon on Friday, the 8th April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Milton Station Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the Postmaster General's pleasure.

Mail Contract SEATED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 1st April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Winsloe Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the first July, 1921, next.

Mail Contract SEATED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 1st April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Montague Rural Mail Route No. 4, from the Postmaster General's pleasure.

Mail Contract SEATED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 1st April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Montague Rural Mail Route No. 4, from the Postmaster General's pleasure.

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WANTED The names and addresses of all Contractors, Carpenters, Property Owners, Real Estate Owners, together with all others interested in the prices of Building Material, Doors, Sash, Mouldings, Hardwood Flooring, Roofing Paper, Asphalt Shingles, Mantels, Tiles, Grates, School Desks, Blackboard, etc., etc. We will issue in the near future, a complete catalogue covering all classes of Building Material, and will be glad to send a free copy of this catalogue to everyone sending us their names and address. Please let us have this information by Postal Card or letter, mailing same to us at Amherst. This catalogue will be one of the most complete of its kind, and to those interested in the purchase of Building Material, will prove of great value and assistance. RHODES, CURRY, Limited, Amherst, N. S. Feb. 23, 1921, Gt

Dominion of Canada PROVINCE OF Prince Edward Island In the Probate Court, 11th George V. A. D. 1921. In Re Estate of Patrick McKenna, late of Scotchfort, in Queen's County in the said Province, deceased, testate. By the Honourable A. Bannerman Warburton, Surrogate Judge of Probate, &c., &c. To the Sheriff of the County of Queen's County or any Constable or literate person within said County.

GREETING: Whereas upon reading the petition on file of John McKenna, of Charlottetown, in Queen's County aforesaid, Executor of the last Will and Testament of Patrick McKenna, above named, praying that a citation may be issued for the purpose hereinafter set forth: You are therefore hereby required to cite all persons interested in the said Estate to be and appear before me at a Probate Court to be held in the Court House in Charlottetown in Queen's County, in the said Province, on Tuesday, the Eighth day of March next, coming, at the hour of Eleven o'clock, forenoon of the same day, to show cause, if any they can, why the Accounts of the said Estate should not be passed and the Estate closed, as prayed for in said petition, and on motion of John McKenna, Esquire, the said Petitioner. And I do hereby order that a true copy hereof be forthwith published in some Newspaper published in Charlottetown aforesaid, once in each week for at least four consecutive weeks from the date hereof, and that a true copy hereof be forthwith posted in the following public places respectively, namely, in the Hall of the Court House in Charlottetown aforesaid, at the Store of J. A. MacDonald at Tracadie Cross, in Queen's County aforesaid, and in front of the Parish Hall at Tracadie, in Queen's County aforesaid, so that all persons interested in the said Estate as aforesaid may have due notice thereof.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the said Court (L. S.) this Thirty-first day of January, A. D. 1921, and in the Eleventh year of His Majesty's reign. (Sgd.) A. B. WARBURTON, Judge of Probate. February 2, 1921—41

J. D. STEWART Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public. OFFICE: NEWBON BLOCK Charlottetown Branch Office, Georgetown W. J. P. McMILLAN, M.D. Physician and Surgeon Office and Residence: 105 Kent Street CHARLOTTETOWN - P.E.I.

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