

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1922.

SIR LOMER GOUIN—
PROTECTIONIST.

Coming from a man who attended the Liberal Convention at Ottawa in 1919 and heartily supported the platform of reduced tariff in the general interest of the community, the speech of Sir Lomer Gouin in the Budget debate on Thursday will certainly cause some little surprise. We are told that it created "an anomalous situation," for it drew forth deep and sincere cheers from the Conservatives "besides rousing his own party to a high pitch of enthusiasm."

A statement that he made, that will probably cause considerable surprise in view of the resolution at the convention, was that the Liberal party had always been in favor of protection, as evidenced by the speeches of MacDonald, Blake and Laurier, and then he proceeded to defend the manufacturers of Canada, and declared that if the country had had more of them, it would not have cost a couple of millions of good citizens in the last ten years. Addressing himself to the Progressive party, he accused them of holding the idea that the Eastern provinces had a grudge against them and were selfishly inclined towards them, and somewhat pertinently asked them if they were prepared to take the responsibility of making such radical reductions in tariff as would throw over half a million citizens out of work.

The rank protectionist in the country could scarcely have done better for his cause than Sir Lomer did for them. Referring to the millions of dollars invested by British and American capitalists in the industrial enterprises in Canada, he said:

"Do you not think, Mr. Speaker, that if the tariff were removed it would have a very bad effect on these investments, and do you not think that capital which is easily driven away, would seek in some other country the return which it could not find in our land? Do our honorable friends (the Progressives) suppose that without our manufacturers Canada would have progressed as it has done even in their own provinces? We know, and we regret to know, that the farmers of the West are going through days of difficulty. But this can be only a temporary crisis, and I would ask them if they think that by cutting down the revenue of approximately \$103,000,000 that we receive from our customs, something like \$12 per capita, that by dropping that revenue they would remedy the evils from which they suffer and of which they complain? Would they take upon themselves the responsibility of making radical reductions in our tariff and closing down many, if not the most of our manufacturers, and throwing on the street the five or six hundred thousand workers who in those manufactures find a living and subsistence for their families? Moreover, if we have to reduce our tariff to such a figure that we would not receive more than ten or fifteen, or twenty million dollars, with the obligations we have to face we would necessarily have to find some other source of revenue, and our friends of the prairie provinces would have to contribute their share of the new taxes. The remedy for the conditions under which we suffer, is the increase of our population and strict economy. Abolish the tariff? No Government would think of it, and it could not do it, even if it tried."

When one reads Sir Lomer's speech and then recalls the tariff discussions reported, which took place at the Liberal Convention, and the speeches of the Liberal candidates during the last electoral campaign, on the same subject, one wonders what Sir Lomer can have in common with the so-called Liberal party.

SATURDAY'S RESULT

When riding in a friend's motor car on one of Mr. Veniot's durable "roads a few weeks ago, we happened in remark on the ease of our locomotion. "Yes, you've certainly got to hand it to Peter Veniot when it comes to making over roads" was our friend's reply. "Well, what else would you expect for the money he's spent?" was our next comment. "Oh, well, what does that matter. We don't have to find it. People are getting good roads and it costs them nothing. What do they care how much it lets the province in debt," was the reply.

This appears to sum up the situation pretty fully and accurately. From a dozen platforms at least during the last fortnight, the people of St. John County have had it put before them that the public debt of the province is now \$25,000,000; that the interest charges have reached to \$700,000 a year; that the Government is overspending its revenue to the tune of anywhere from \$250,000 to \$500,000 a year; that the only result of this sort of thing must inevitably be direct taxation to bring up the revenue to the required amount. And yet in the

face of this result, they elected a supporter of the Government and thus gave their endorsement to the practices it has followed.

SOME "TERGIVERSATION."

Well, if they are so fond of the Government juice, let them stew in it.

One of the most prominent figures at the Convention of the Liberal party at Ottawa in 1919 was the Hon. Mr. Fielding and he was one of those who supported the resolution which was then passed pledging the party when it should be returned to power to reduce the burdens of customs taxation with a view of diminishing the very high cost of living and also the cost of implements of production. When his attention was called by Mr. McKeen a night or two ago to his failure to redeem this pledge now that his party was in power, Mr. Fielding said:

"My honorable friend has no authority for that statement. I have never voted for the tariff items of the Liberal platform and never concealed the fact that I did not approve the platform in that respect."

As far as the records show, the only members of the party present at that Convention, who took objection to the resolution was the Hon. Mr. Oliver, Premier of British Columbia who felt that if it passed it would tie the hands of the British Columbia Liberals, and Kirk Cameron, a Montreal manufacturer. Mr. Fielding was told "was present throughout the whole of the Convention, occupying a prominent position on the platform, and he neither spoke nor voted against the resolution, which passed on a show of hands and carried almost unanimously."

Nor was this all. The matter of the leadership of the party was taken up next day, and Mr. Fielding had another opportunity to express his views on the tariff resolution, as he most certainly should have done if it was true, as he now says, that he did not approve of it. But he said nothing; apparently he was not generally understood that he objected to the resolution, or he would scarcely, one would think, have run Mr. Mackenzie King so close for the leadership. Is it to be supposed that the Convention would have a man for leader who "had never concealed the fact that he did not approve of the platform" it had so enthusiastically adopted the day before? Nor has it ever appeared that at any other time has Mr. Fielding ever repudiated this platform, although he somewhat cynically remarked that "platforms are only meant to get in on."

Even people who do not agree with Mr. Fielding politically, have a considerable regard for him as a man; and it will come as a shock to these to learn that he did not have the courage of his convictions at the convention, but for the sake of gaining the leadership kept silent on the platform, and later, for the sake of securing the votes of the Progressives did not repudiate the Liberal policy. Some Tergiversation in very truth!

U. S. FILMS IN CANADA.

Those who read the American trade journals have no doubt often been surprised at the number of inaccuracies the articles in those journals contain. So much so is this frequently the case, that the reader is almost forced to the conclusion that it is something that will extol American productions that is wanted, rather than actual facts. Recently, for instance, speaking of picture films, it was alleged that American pictures are supreme in Canada, that the public fancy is similar to American likes. It may be true that American films have a larger circulation in Canada than any other films, but this is simply because they are the most readily obtainable, and not because they are special favorites. The motion picture industry in Canada is only as yet in its earliest infancy, and home made productions are comparatively few and not easy to obtain, whereas America possesses more film making establishments than any other country in the world. British made films are, for many reasons, only available in this country to a limited extent, so that from sheer necessity picture houses are compelled to show American productions for want of any others. That most of the American films shown here are high class in character is admitted, but that is not the main reason for their being used.

AT EXHIBITION GROUNDS

The Exhibition Association has a crew of men engaged in cleaning up the buildings at the exhibition grounds and the city will have a repair crew at work this week.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

The Radio as Legal First Aid.

(London Free Press.)

The automobile and the plane have been as useful to men of evil intent as they have been to those delegated by the civil authorities in tracking down lawbreakers.

The race, in most cases, has been to the swift (est), and with has been outwitted by the man with the auto that could cover the longest distance with the greatest celerity.

A real "chaser" now has made its appearance in the form of radio. Radio broadcasting, that is almost as quick as thought, is bound to outdistance the evildoer, no matter how well his plans for escape have been laid.

Metropolitan cities already have provided their police stations with radio broadcasting and receiving sets, and the time is not far off that every criminal will be brought to justice by the world as soon as his crime is uncovered.

By "listening-in" police officials and others in authority will be able to hear the broadcast description of the crime and the criminal immediately it is let loose and by this means hundreds of people at once will be on the lookout for the suspect.

There is little doubt that society soon will have the satisfaction of seeing the crime wave rapidly decrease under pressure from the new vigilance corps—that is radio.

But It Won't Go!

(King's Review.)

Canada's navy is being reduced to the size of Switzerland's. Even the harbor watch on the Canadian navy will have a Swiss movement.

A Hard Choice.

(Indianapolis Star.)

A Detroit woman has secured a divorce because her husband is a "G. I." man. He is being sent to the front by the increasing difficulties of remaining a husband in these modern times.

Chesped.

(Hamilton Herald.)

Now that Premier Lord George has been the host of W. R. Hearst and his wife at luncheon, somehow the honor of being an invited guest at No. 10, Downing street doesn't seem to be as much worth while as it was.

Natural Artillery.

A woman screamed and drove burgars away from a Detroit meat store. This ought to give pause to the Toronto banks in which girl clerks are being taught to shoot revolvers. Perhaps if they were coached in screaming it would give better results. A chorus of piercing shrieks would throw any villain into a panic.

Burn Your Powder Puffs.

(London Daily Chronicle.)

Get to you city girls, and wash your faces! Many of you are young enough to save still something of the rose and white God made you, and the exquisite texture. Let the million little mouths of God's handwork breathe once more. You shall have your reward in skin that will be rosy and white when you are old, on which will be written the tale of your good deeds, being taught to shoot revolvers, or trying to make beautiful for your autumn and your winter.

Trying To Let Go.

(Kansas City Star.)

The Soviet Government is now trying to let go of the bear's tail. After a slow but steady retreat away from communism, conducted at first with extreme caution, it is now in open negotiation with those capitalist powers it was once going to have nothing to do with except at the point of the bayonet. The internal policy of Sovietism has been along the same line as its foreign reversal. It is abandoning the communist principle, or trying to do so. But its experience with the earnest souls who don't yet know of the change shows it is having troubles. Probably it will continue to have them. It is harder to stop revolution than to start it.

THE LAUGH LINE

Or Disgusted.

About the easiest thing to grow in a garden is tired.

Curiosity Inevitable.

Mother—You shouldn't eat your cake so quickly, Bobbie. I once knew a man who ate his cake so quickly that he died before he finished it.

Bobbie—And what did they do with the rest of the cake, mother?

The Absent Minded Professor.

"Where is the car?" asked Mrs. Diggs. "Dear me!" exclaimed Professor Diggs. "Did I like the car?"

Of course you did. You drove it to town.

"I remember now that after I got out I turned around to thank the gentleman who gave me a lift, and I found he had gone."—Winnipeg Tribune.

He Married Both.

Prison Visitor—And what brought you here, my man?
Convict—Well, madam, my father said when I was a boy that he hoped I would marry beauty and brains, and wanted to please him.

Visitor—Yes.

Convict—I committed bigamy.

Methodical Housewife.

Mrs. W.—You don't ever nag your husband, do you?
Mrs. G.—Only when he is beating our rug. When he is thoroughly irritated he does a much better job of it.—Boston Globe.

Must Be Paid.

As a rule the Piper does not extend long credit. He has a habit of collecting promptly.—Boston Transcript.

The Order of the Slipper.

They were talking about a mutual acquaintance, and the first man was full of praise.
"Smart chap, that, and a nice fellow to boot," he said.The second man had just received evidence of the smartness in question, and was still sore about it.
"You're quite right," he said. "He would be a nice fellow—to boot."

The Lesser Evil.

"So you intend to encourage your wife in her literary ambitions, do you?"
"Yes. It is better to have her make up stories about imaginary people than about the neighbors."—Boston Transcript.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THE INVENTION OF THE AIRPLANE

A Play by Benny Potts

Scene, the 2 Right brothers taking a walk in the wind.
1st Right brother. Good nite wad a wind! If it was any worse it would be a cyclone.

2nd Right brother. I don't seem o mind it.

Ack 2.

Scene the same.

1st Right brother. There goes my hat. Stop it!

2nd Right brother. There goes mine. Stop mine!

1st Right brother. G, look at them both sailing up in the air.

That gives me a idea.

2nd Right brother. It didn't give me any.

1st Right brother. If we can make our hats sail up in the air why shouldn't we make a airplane?

2nd Right brother. Why should we?

1st Right brother. Jest because nobody ever did does that.

2nd Right brother. Jest because nobody ever did does that.

1st Right brother. That's a good arguement. Wat do you say we try it?

2nd Right brother. Wat do you say we do?

Ack 3.

Scene, 2 weeks later.

1st Right brother. Hurray, we're flying!

2nd Right brother. Darn if we ain't!

The end.

Farm Organizations
To Continue Fight
For Deep Waterway

U. S. Organizations Will Endeavor to Secure Assistance of Canadian Farmers in St. Lawrence Scheme.

Washington, June 10.—(By Canadian Press)—Farm organizations of the middle west and northwest, whose support has been given to the St. Lawrence project, are giving serious consideration to the plans they will follow in view of the unwillingness of the Canadian government to negotiate a treaty at this time. They are not inclined to regard the refusal of Prime Minister King to negotiate as meaning a final refusal. They look at it rather as a postponement to a more opportune time.

One of the interesting suggestions for the promotion of the waterway is a campaign by United States farmers' interests in Canada for the purpose of adding to the support of the project in the Dominion. Whether this will be carried out, is not yet settled but in any event it is being talked of as one of the possibilities. Another suggestion is that the State Department be asked to use its best efforts to get the Canadian government to negotiate. Should a campaign to gain support for the waterway be undertaken in Canada, it would no doubt be directed in a large measure, though not entirely, to the agricultural interests of the Dominion. In the hope of getting the strongest pressure possible from agricultural interests there in support of the waterway.

Senator Calder, New York, who is opposed to the St. Lawrence waterway, predicts that the refusal of the Canadian government to negotiate a treaty will practically end the matter so long as Premier King is in office. Advocates of the waterway, however, do not take this view.

In the opinion of some in Washington the effort by this government to force negotiations now was a mistake and was due to ill-advised pressure from a small group of members of Congress who failed to see the wisdom of letting the movement take its time. Moreover, it is also felt here that the high tariff duties of the pending tariff bill, which are viewed with apprehension in Canada as well as other countries, have not served to help along the St. Lawrence waterway and have had a tendency to make conditions for negotiation of a treaty less favorable than they would ordinarily be.

80 Per Cent London,
Ont., People Own
Their Homes

Only Four Per Cent of Mont-realers Own Their Abodes—Ottawa 59 Per Cent.

Ottawa, June 11.—(By Canadian Press)—A total of 19,047 residences, eight thousand and fifty-nine of which are occupied by their owners, is credited to Ottawa in a summary of home ownership for ten of the principal cities of Canada. The relationship of home or house ownership is given as being forty per cent, while London, Ont., tops the list with 80 per cent and Montreal, the largest city of the Dominion is last with only five per cent.

The report states that there is no other country which shows so high a proportion of home ownership in the larger cities than does Canada, according to the figures compiled by MacLean Building Reports Ltd. London has 14,000 residences, 11,900 of which are occupied by owners. Hamilton has 24,000 residences and 14,400 owned by their owners. Calgary is represented with 15,500 homes, in which 8,100 owners dwell. Toronto is rated as having 56,593 homes, of which 47,579 are occupied by their owners.

Halifax with a percentage of fifty-one is shown to have 8,235 homes occupied by 4,226 owners. Vancouver has 22,129 residences of which owners occupy 10,571. Edmonton has 15,000, of which 5,499 are tenanted by their owners; Winnipeg has 29,326, with 12,963 of their owners occupying them. Ottawa has 19,047 and 8,059 owners living in them, and Montreal, 124,645 with 4,744 owners occupying them.

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