

The Evening Times and Star

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TO THE PEOPLE

The senate of Canada has adopted the amendment moved by Sir George Ross, calling upon the government to submit the naval aid bill to the people.

An attempt is made by the very press to make it appear that the Liberal party in the commons and the senate has voted against any participation by Canada in the naval defence of the Empire. For instance, the St. John Standard this morning says that—"The Liberal majority in the senate refuse aid to Britain."

The Liberal majority has done nothing of the sort. There is on the statute books of Canada a naval service act placed there by the Liberals, and not yet repealed by Mr. Borden, although he has done nothing to carry out its provisions. He could tomorrow bring down a proposal under that act to spend thirty-five million dollars or twice the amount to strengthen the naval defence of the Empire. The Liberals are not now and have not been opposed to strengthening the defence of the Empire. They are quite willing that money should be spent and spent very liberally for this purpose, but they want the work to be done in Canada by Canadians, to as great an extent as possible, and under the control of a Canadian government, whether that government be Liberal or Conservative.

The issue is becoming more and more clearly defined. The Conservative stand for centralization, and the Liberals for an imperial co-operation which preserves the autonomy of each of the overseas states. Careless Conservatives, whose habit it is to wave their hats and shout whenever the party leaders give the signal, do not appreciate the full significance of the policy upon which Mr. Borden has so lightly and cheerfully asked them to embark. Thanks to the action of the senate, the country may soon have an opportunity to pronounce its judgment between the two policies, and those who have studied the course of Canadian development for nearly a century entertain no doubt as to the result.

The people will not relinquish their hard won autonomy at the behest of a few noisy politicians and journalists who value titles, and the sincerity of whose professions of superior loyalty may be judged from the company they keep.

The Liberals are not dancing to the tune of either the Nationalists in Quebec or the Jingoists and armament makers in England. They stand today for the naval policy of which Mr. Borden himself heartily approved in 1909, but which the Nationalists induced him to abandon. Let the people decide the issue.

IN ENGLAND

Although some recent by-elections have greatly encouraged the Unionists in England, the situation of the Asquith government is not nearly so serious as some of the press correspondents would make it appear. The mother country was never so prosperous as at the present time. There is nothing in the policy of the Unionist party to commend itself to the British electors as of more value than the great policy of reform instituted by Mr. Lloyd George, and now being successfully carried out. The government has introduced radical measures, and has carried them through with great boldness and skill. It has not only some reserves, but if an appeal were made to the people to-morrow there is nothing to indicate that a Conservative government would be chosen. The electors in the old country have a habit of going against the government in by-elections, just to make it clear to the men in power that popular opinion must not be forgotten or ignored. The Asquith government has been sailing in troubled waters, but there is no reason to believe that it will not continue to avoid the rocks of defeat for a considerable time to come. It deserves popular support for it has not hesitated to grapple with the most serious problems and risk its own existence in laboring for their solution. Liberalism in Britain is still triumphant.

STUMBLING BLOCKS

The greatest stumbling-block in the path of the educational or social or religious reformer is the cold fact that so very many persons have no inclination towards reform, and therefore do not regard the reformer and his campaign with any degree of serious attention.

The United States Bureau of Education has just issued a bulletin bearing this title: "Why girls leave school." No doubt many persons if asked this question would say that the girls were compelled to leave in order that they might go to work, to earn some money for the support of the family. This, however, is not the answer given by the Bureau of Education. After an expert inquiry into trade and labor conditions among girls in Worcester, Mass., it was found that from half to three-fourths of the girls who were working in factories there could have remained longer in school if they had desired to do so.

When they were asked why they did not avail themselves of the opportunity to get more education, some said they did not like school, some did not like the teacher, some were not promoted as

rapidly as they felt they should be, and some wanted to go to work.

Of course girls of the ages of the great majority of these girls when they left school, say between thirteen and fifteen years, would not be the very best judges of what was good for them in the matter of education; and yet it is the Bureau suggests, courses of special training were provided in order to arouse their interest and keep them longer in school, it is very doubtful if the plan would work out satisfactorily. There would still be a considerable percentage who would find some excuse for freeing themselves entirely from the discipline of the school. The friends of social-centre work, who would like to see a larger use made of school buildings, confess their surprise when they have made satisfactory arrangements, that so little interest is shown by the employed girls who ought to derive the greatest advantage from the opportunities offered.

There are people who do not desire to be educated. There are people who have no ambition to live a sober life. There are people who would be unhappy if they were in good health, for then they could not dwell upon their physical ills and woes. Happily, however, there are enough normal persons to make it worth while to uphold certain standards and ideals, and to warrant the belief that as time passes those standards and ideals will be of value to an increasingly large number of persons in every community.

PROFIT IN SHEEP

A very interesting bulletin has just been issued by the department of agriculture of the province of Ontario. The subject of it, "Sheep-raising in Ontario, does it pay?" That it does pay is clearly set forth in the very interesting pages of the bulletin.

The Sheep Breeders' Association of the province wanted the question answered in such a manner as would be convincing and satisfactory, for there was a steady decline in the sheep-raising industry which ought not to take place if there was any profit in the business. The number of sheep owned in the province decreased from 1,197,218 in 1900 to 1,040,245 in 1911. In 1911-1912, therefore, a series of experiments was made to find out whether it was worth while to encourage the industry or whether it should be permitted to go on declining.

The plan adopted, with the co-operation of the live stock branch of the provincial department of agriculture, was to establish nine demonstration stations, of which seven would be scattered through the province, one located in Muskoka to raise summer lambs for the hotel trade, and one near Toronto for raising early lambs. At each station from ten to twelve good grade ewes and a pure-bred ram were to be kept. Each station was to have a good average farmer, and the general supervision of all the work placed in the hands of two inspectors, who would be expert sheep men.

At each of the stations full and accurate accounts were kept, and the bulletin contains tables and summaries showing the results obtained. After setting down all the particulars in such a way that the reader can see for himself what the profits were at each station, the bulletin says:

"When we consider the results of these experiments, we are bound to agree with the sheep-breeders that sheep-raising in Ontario pays. Flocks in this set of experiments were handled under ordinary farm conditions, and under every condition likely to be met with throughout the province; and every one of them showed a reasonable, and some of them a remarkably gratifying surplus in each of the two years during which the experiment was carried on. Sheep-raising in Ontario pays. Try it with a flock of ten or twelve grade ewes, and a pure-bred ram, and increase the profits from your farm."

The bulletin gives much valuable information with regard to feeding the stock and handling and marketing the wool. It is a timely publication, and will no doubt be found of considerable value to the New Brunswick department of agriculture, in its efforts to encourage sheep-raising on a more extensive scale in this province.

Will Mr. Borden go to the country? If not, where is the emergency?

Senator Ellis and Colonel McLean, M. P. They will now admire each other more than ever.

The Friedmann cure for tuberculosis does not appear to be standing the test of use as well as the original announcements about it led the public to expect. Dr. Friedmann himself suffered very much in public estimation when he commercialized his alleged cure. The fight against tuberculosis must be continued along the old lines of prevention, with sanatoria for both incipient and advanced cases.

The longest pier in New York harbor is 900 feet in length. The Imperator, due here on May 14th, is 919 feet long.

LIGHTER VEIN

SOBER SECOND THOUGHTS
Through all the past, with memories rich,
I've kept me many a friend
By tearing up the letters which
I wrote but did not send.

TRUTHFUL GIRL

Melvin—"Dear, and I the only one
you have sat with in this hammock?"
Melvina—"Yes. This is a new hammock."
—Judge.

AN ACCOUNTING

Van Demuit—"Rather poor house to-night, eh?"
Melvina—"Yes, poor but honest. No passes were given tonight."

WHEN GRANDMA WAS YOUNG
"Dear, dear, dear!" exclaimed the good old lady after she had finished the popular novel that had been recommended by her beautiful granddaughter. "Just to think of it! When I was eighteen my mother used to hide the New York Ledger from me because she was afraid the stories in it were too sensational for a young girl to read!"—Chicago Record-Herald.

IN THE NEAR FUTURE
"What was it finally broke up the militant movement among the suffragists?"
"The riots got so rough that a woeing old man went into one without having her good clothes all torn to pieces."—Buffalo Express.

A RAGING GALE
Heck—"What was the worst storm you ever encountered?"
Peck—"I think it raged at the rate of 800 words a minute."—Boston Transcript.

COMPENSATION
She—"I envy Miss Playne. She plays so well that one forgets how she looks."
He—"But you look so well that one forgets how you play."—London Opinion.

AN ANNOYING SPEED LIMIT
An old man nearly eighty years old walked ten miles from his home to an adjoining town. When he reached his destination he was greeted with some astonishment by an acquaintance.

"You walked all the way?" the latter exclaimed. "How did you get along?"
"Oh, first rate!" the old man replied, generally. "That is, I did till I came to that sign out there, 'Slow Down to fifteen Miles an Hour.' That kept me back some."—Youth's Companion.

Jackey Killed
New York, May 29.—William Smith, aged 19, of Warrenton, Va., a jockey, connected with the Widener stables, was thrown and killed while exercising a horse over the jumps at the Belmont Park race track.

Woman Ends Life
The residents of Oak Bay Mills, Que., were shocked on last Friday afternoon when it became known that Mrs. William Foster had committed suicide by shooting herself. She was in her 40th year and had been a great sufferer for years. She leaves her husband, four sons and one daughter.

For cleaning irregular shaped pipes a Michigan man has invented a long, close coil of spiral wire, with a cutting tool at one end, which, inserted in a pipe and turned, will work its way around any bend.

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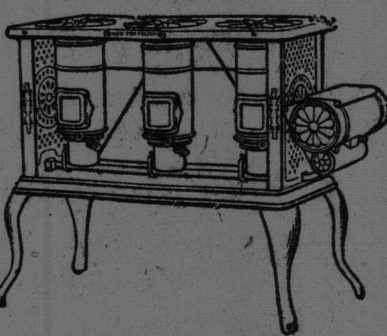
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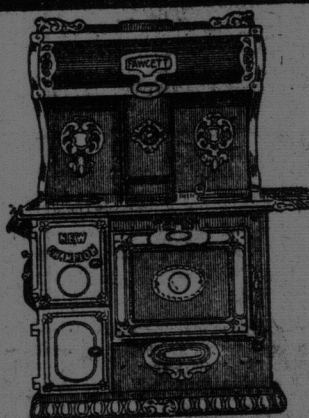
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