

# London Advertiser

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London, Ont., Monday, March 27.

## That Listowel Case.

DOES IT pay a town to grow into a bigger town? This question is prompted by a letter from a Hanover resident, regarding an editorial article which appeared in Thursday's paper. The item referred to the fact that Listowel was going to make an effort to secure more factories, and for that purpose the board of trade was being reorganized, and an advertising campaign was being considered to set forth the advantages of Listowel as a factory town.

Our Hanover correspondent makes some interesting comments, asking the question if it really is worth while for a town to grow in this direction. He says:

"The town of Listowel, being one of the best in Ontario, wants to improve by getting more industries. Will they have a better town with the addition of a few more factories? I doubt it—it is useless to paint the lily or gild refined gold."

"Listowel is successful because it has an excellent farm district, and the farmers generally are so well off financially that they can weather a few years of hard times. The result is that they are able to buy from the storekeepers the necessities of life and pay for them; this was shown in the panic conditions of 1907, and also during the present depression which has now about run its course. During these two periods Listowel was one of the few towns in the country that was doing business. Listowel is lucky also in having a furniture factory that always keeps running; the workmen are contented, and it is free from strikes and labor troubles, and the wages are satisfactory. Also a knitting mill that gives employment to all the girls in the district who care to work."

"Fill a balloon with the proper amount of gas and it will rise up in the world; give it too much and it bursts. Same way with business; too much expansion is sometimes unwise. Were there more factories in Listowel it would mean a greater population—more stores would come in to get the extra business. At present there are just enough stores to look after the business, and they are generally successful; the extra stores coming in would take away some of the farm business, which is the backbone of the town, and there would not be sufficient laborers come in to warrant the extra stores. The result is the stores would not do so well; they would not be able to give so much to the different churches, the hospital, sports, Salvation Army, or other organizations that harmonize in the making of a good town."

"Listowel's best plan is to be loyal to the factories that are now there, and assist them when help is needed. Create a better feeling between town and country, for they are inseparably inter-dependent upon one another. Bring back the old-time friendly feeling that existed before the farmers started to run banks, operate stores and trading companies. If the town of Listowel will do this more factories will not be necessary. If the farmers will get to work and till the soil they will get sufficient money for their product so that provincial banks will not be necessary."

"Compare the town of Listowel with the town of Hanover. This town has a larger population, seven or eight more flourishing factories—yet they want more. They are dependent upon factories as a town; our farm trade is not large. But are we better off? I doubt it. Hanover is a factory town; the board of trade is on the alert all the time to get the right kind of factories in; when they get sufficient they are satisfied; their desire only is to make a good, thriving town, and the opportunities they offer must appeal to the manufacturer, as is shown by past results."

"When a town gets too large the community spirit is lost, and would not be preferred as a living place by people like the Liberal leader, Mr. HAY, who will not desert his little town of big people for the bright lights and fast nights of the larger cities."

"There is a great deal of truth in the points made by the Hanover correspondent, who is a successful businessman in that town. It is a matter on which no hard and fast rule can be applied. Looking around one might form the opinion that towns can stand three things: (1) Go ahead; (2) Stand still; (3) Go back. And of the three the middle one is the hardest to do. Civic pride will prompt a town to reach out, and who is there, even against all the arguments that can be advanced to the contrary, who will say it is not a commendable spirit that prompts a town to stretch out and grow."

**That Coal Strike.**  
IF REPORTS from Calgary correctly interpret the attitude of the miners of Western Canada there will be a strike there starting on the first of April.  
Western Canada has not had a coal strike for some months, and some may have been nursing the poor hope that there would be no more strikes in this district. Unless all signs fall there will be a strike, and it will start very shortly.  
This is bad business for Western

Canada. The miners have to be out of the mines for only a short time before the damage begins. No matter if pumps and fans are kept going regularly there is an accumulation of gas in many of the areas that makes the work particularly dangerous and slow for some time after operations are once again under way.  
The miners themselves, or the great majority of them, are in no position to stand a strike. They are good spenders when they have the money, and when a strike settles down they are forced to close up, as the stores will not carry them, and business in all lines suffers accordingly.

Coal supplies in Western Canada go down very rapidly once a strike is called, because there is very little coal piled up for future use. Much of the coal that is taken from the shafts in the Alberta mines belongs to give off its volatile matter as soon as it comes in contact with the air, and in the bituminous areas it is highly desirable, from the standpoint of handling or of coking, to have it handled direct from the mines without storing.

What makes the strike in Western Canada less desirable is the fact that it is part and parcel of a widespread strike called in the United States fields. It should be possible for the miners and operators to get together in Western Canada and keep on working.

## Criminal Statistics.

IN THE fifty-third annual report of the inspector of prisons and reformatories in the province of Ontario for the year ending October 31, 1920, it is pointed out that there was an increase in the cost of jail maintenance over the cost during the previous year, and that the number of persons committed to jails and lock-ups shows a marked increase over the number committed in the previous year.

The commitments for murder, manslaughter and drunkenness, and for crimes against person and against public morals shows a decrease in the number of commitments for similar offences in the year 1919.

However, the number of persons listed for crimes against property, public order and peace, and the number of persons committed to the jails, showed a general increase over the number of persons similarly listed in the year before. And rather startling is the fact that the number of prisoners confined in penal institutions in Ontario was 304 more on September 30, 1920, than on the same date of the year previous.  
A great majority of those committed are observed to be temperate, while a small percentage of the criminals are known to have been illiterate people. A vast majority of those committed generally throughout the province were Canadians, while the number of foreigners among the prisoners about equalled the number of those who were from the British Isles.

## LITTLE 'TISERS

There's two sides to every question—my side and the wrong side.

Business is a bit "spotty" yet, says one report. Due, no doubt, to the presence of spotters.

It costs a New York girl \$250 to clothe herself properly. Of course, that doesn't show how much she does spend.

What's in a name? Not much, until it comes out in a police court case that you don't want published in the papers.

Wonder if this ghost stuff isn't an advertising campaign for electric torches? When a ghost's around there's nothing in the world as comforting as a little light.

When one reads day after day of the bills and measures that are being put through our provincial and federal parliaments it is with feelings of admiration and wonder that we turn and look at the whole Mosaic code condensed in ten commandments.

Border Cities Star: "Down in London the argument between city council and the board of education is so strong that the mayor talks of resigning and running to succeed himself in order to test public sentiment on the economy issue. The Forest City appears to take its politics very seriously."

Not half so seriously, sonny, as we take our tax bills.

The Winnipeg Free Press says: "Expenditures have jumped in Ontario by several million dollars, but revenue has kept ahead sufficiently to show a surplus. The government can at least be congratulated on its ability to get the money."

But will our dear westerner please remember that this money is being taken from the same people who are whacking up increased municipal and Dominion taxes?  
**LEARN A WORD EVERY DAY**  
TODAY'S word is PREVARICATE. It's pronounced pre-var-i-kayt, with accent on the second syllable.  
It means—to evade the truth, to give an ambiguous answer, to quibble, to deviate from the truth.  
It comes from—Latin "prevaricari," to walk crookedly.  
Companion word—prevarication. It's used like this—"As the prosecutor fired question after question, the witness was inclined to prevaricate."

# COLLECTING THE TARIFF

By JOHN McLELLAN, Advertiser Correspondent, Ottawa.

OTTAWA, March 25.—There is more than one aspect to the tariff problem than the possible effect on the manufacturing industries of the country that the so-called extreme tariff legislation would bring about. Few speakers so far in the house have avoided the tariff question. In the main they did not quote figures, or tire the house leading mathematical intricacies, but talked generalities on a large scale. The Progressives spoke of a new era, with an extreme downward revision of the customs duties. Tories drew back in horror at the thought of the idle workmen in the cities with the downward revision.  
Then came the voice of a statesman crying in the wilderness, ARCHIBALD CARMICHAEL, of Kindersley, Sask., concerning the collection of the customs duties. He drew his suggestion from the statements he made concerning the tariff, he since told the writer, from an impression that is today prevalent in Western Canada, viz.: That the machinery of collection of tariff revenue costs half the receipts.

What the member from Saskatchewan said was: "If we have a tariff revenue in the country for raising money, and that money is raised in a good and economical way, all well and good; if not, it is not so well and so good. I would like to give an illustration to show that the method for raising money for paying off our public debt by a customs tariff is not an essential one."

"If honorable members are good at arithmetic let them please follow these figures. I used to follow the school teaching profession, and I only wish I had a blackboard here and a piece of chalk to demonstrate my point. We will suppose that a suit is bought from Great Britain costing over there the sum of \$10.  
"The tariff duty on fabrics entering Canada is 30 per cent, which means that when the suit enters Canada its cost is \$13. It goes into the wholesaler's hands; he adds one-fourth of the cost of \$13 to him, which is an addition of \$3.25 to the \$13, making the cost to him for sell-

ing \$16.25. That suit goes into the retailer's hands. He adds 50 per cent to the cost price to him, which is \$8.15, added to \$16.25, making \$24.40.  
"Let us suppose there was no tariff. The original cost would be \$10. It would go into the wholesaler's hands and he would add one-quarter, \$2.50, making \$12.50; it would then go to the retailer, and he would add 50 per cent, or \$6.25, bringing the cost up to \$18.75. That means that the consumer pays out \$5.65 for a tariff of \$3. But does that \$3 all go into the government coffers? I think not. It is estimated, on very good authority, that to keep up all the expenses in connection with the customs tariff it takes fully one-half, so that out of the \$3 not more than \$1.50 goes into the government coffers for the payment of the public indebtedness. That means, Mr. Speaker, that it takes \$5.65 to put into the government treasury \$1.50. Is that economy? I think not. I do not know as it would be advisable to prolong the discussion. As intimated before, we have plenty of arguments that the old, antiquated method of collecting revenue by tariff is too costly for this country at the present time to tolerate."

STATERMENTS such as the above, as might be expected, were not allowed to go unchallenged by the proponents of high-board-fence protection.  
Four days later HON. H. H. STEVENS, Vancouver Centre, referred to them in his remarks. He said: "The honorable member for Kindersley (Mr. CARMICHAEL) I think it was made a statement which might be accepted by those who had not the data, but which I cannot allow to go unchallenged. He said that the collection of the customs tax cost fully 50 per cent of the amount received. Nothing can be gained by making statements that are wholly untrue. I do not suggest that the honorable gentleman deliberately made a statement that was untrue; that would be unparliamentary. But there is such a thing as making a statement in such a manner as to

convey to the mind of the public the impression that it is based upon official figures."

Going on, the member said: "Statements of that kind may be accepted by the people because of the responsibility of the person who makes them. I say to my honorable friend and to those who cheered him so loudly that the records are there and that during the last four or five years the average cost of collection of the customs duties of Canada has been less than 3 per cent."

Another who took notice of the member from Kindersley's remarks was E. B. RYCKMAN, East Toronto. He declared that what the member from Kindersley stated was 950 per cent above the facts.

BUT, according to Mr. CARMICHAEL, he still maintains what he said after a manner. He told the writer today that "the point I wished to make was that the cost of collecting tariff was far too great for the revenue derived from it."

When the member from Kindersley talks of collecting tariff revenue he includes in that cost not only the commission of the agents or collectors, but, in addition, all the maintenance of customs houses, rentals, heating, and every other detail connected with them.

In all public buildings, etc., expenditure, is directed from the department of public works, and there is no means of arriving at the amount the adjuncts and appurtenances of tariff revenue collection cost, since they are embodied piecemeal in the public works expenditures.

Whereas, when H. H. STEVENS and E. B. RYCKMAN speak of the cost of tariff revenue collections, they refer only to the commission and salaries of the agents of the customs department, which are certainly not one-half of the revenue.

Exact figures are unavailable to establish the statement of the member from Kindersley, and the other gentlemen have been talking at cross purposes, since their estimates of the cost of the revenue collection only includes a part of what may be included in all fairness as the real cost.

Let us look at the cost in 1921. According to the report of the auditor-general for 1921, the revenue of the customs amounted to \$163,490,

447.16. What were the expenditures? They were \$6,673,936.80, something over 4 per cent of the revenue.

These expenditures, however, cover only civil government, such as salaries of ministers, salaries of staff, etc. Nothing of the cost of customs buildings, and in this it might be noted that there is the interest on the money in those buildings to be counted, in addition to the original expenditure on building.  
So, if the real amount of expenditure were to be calculated, it would require traveling through the accounts of the department of public works.

Who is right? The figures will not justify fundamentally the members of the opposition in their contention, and there are no figures to justify the Progressive member.

## READ YOUR CHARACTER

[By Digby Phillips.]

### NO. 172—THE "BAY WINDOW"

The "bay window," otherwise known as the "chest" which has slipped down," and more scientifically designed as "abdomen, large and rounded," has more significance than the mere obvious fact that the owner thereof has not been starved to death.

The well-rounded abdomen is distinct from the flat type, even when a person has taken on weight, and also when the individual is not burdened with a surplus of flesh.

It's easy to classify the male "tummy" into either one of these two classifications, but even in these careless days you can never be sure of the feminine "tummy" except, perhaps, upon the beach in a knitted bathing suit.

The "bay window" (or the tendency toward it) is one of minor revelations of character. That is to say, it becomes accurately significant only when read in conjunction with a number of other indications and a balance is struck.

It indicates, however, a person of slow thought and quick action rather than the reverse, a person of instinctive action, strong emotions, natural refinement imitative rather than independent, amiable rather than aggressive and probably lacking in any tendency to be domineering.

Tomorrow—Broken Words.  
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# 25 YEARS AGO TODAY

Here We Have Items of Local and District Interest As Recorded in The Advertiser of 1897.

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1897.

Weather—Fair and milder.

A deputation representing the Methodist Church of Canada waited upon the Government at 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon with the new license bill. Among those present were: Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Dr. Briggs, Rev. Dr. Griffin, Rev. James Van Wyck, Rev. A. C. Crews, Rev. Mr. C. Courtice, Rev. Isaac Dobell, Rev. Geo. Webber, Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. Dr. Sutherland, Dr. A. D. Watson, Rev. D. L. Brethour and Mr. Ambrose Kent.

The executive committee in connection with the Grand Trunk Railway Employees' Insurance and Provident Society, for the fourth district, is composed as follows: London, Messrs. W. White and A. Kirkpatrick; Hamilton, Messrs. E. Leadley and Joseph Wallace; Brantford, Mr. J. Fuller; Niagara Falls, Messrs. R. W. Scott and H. A. Neil.  
George Peppall of Toronto and R. R. Neild of Stratford will attend the general executive meeting to be held at Montreal.

No. 2 committee held their regular meeting last night, with the following present: Chairman Parnell, Ald. Nutkins, Ald. O'Meara, Ald. Carrothers, Secretary Bell and City Engineer Graydon.

The election of officers for the Melbourne Epworth League took place the other evening, with the following result: Presidents, J. B. Cornelle, G. L. Griffith; first vice-president, Miss Tillie Richards; second vice-president, Mrs. (Dr.) James; third vice-president, Mrs. D. E. Martin; fourth vice-president, Mrs. Trowhill; secretary, Colin Scudamore; treasurer, Miss Cornelle; organist, Miss Gooding.

The following are the officers for Lady Stanley Lodge, No. 4, L.O.B.A., for the present term: Sister E. DeLage, W. M.; Sister Jane Kew, W. D. M.; Sister Mary Stratford, chaplain; Sister A. Rogers, recording secretary; Sister S. J. Martin, financial secretary; Sister S. J. Martin, treasurer; Sister M. Freerer, D. of C.; Sister A. Humphries, lecturer; Sister Minnie Kew, I. G.; Bro. F. H. Wright, G.; Dr. W. G. Teasdale, physician; Bro. F. H. Wright, Sisters A. Rogers

and E. Delmage, trustees and auditors.

Education committee No. 2 met last night with the following members present: Chairman Burdick, Gillen, Evans, Greenleaf, Stronk, Wilkins, McCormick, Dr. Campbell and Secretary McElheran.  
The following applications were selected from the 42 which had been received for the janitorship of Lorne avenue school: W. Burdick, Wm. McH. Allister, C. A. Stapleton, John Grant, John T. Martin, J. Premeo, H. Watson, W. English, J. Symons, R. Welch, W. M. Finch, James Nichol, Edward Arnett, John McKenzie, C. Eggett. These names were submitted to the board of education.

The annual meeting of the Christian Police Association was held in Association Hall yesterday afternoon and evening.  
The president, Mr. W. M. Spencer, was assisted by Mrs. Spencer and daughters, and Mesdames S. F. Glass, J. H. Bowman and Thornley in entertaining the members of the force and friends. Among the speakers were Dr. Daniel, Sgt.-Major Adams, Rev. Ira Smith, Mrs. Thornley, Mrs. Evans, Mr. Ivey and Secretary Sayer.

Resolutions against the license bill have been passed by the quarterly temperance meeting of the Dundas Street Centre Methodist Church, London, after speeches from Mrs. Thornley, Mr. J. H. Bowman, Mr. F. W. Daly and others. It was decided to send the resolutions to Hon. A. S. Hardy and Mr. T. S. Hobbs, M. P. P. Other speakers were Mr. L. A. Morrison, Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Mr. Wilmot, Rev. J. G. Laird and Mr. Isaac Webster.

## Our Own Country.

Question—What is Canada's chief industry?  
Answer—Agriculture is Canada's chief industry, yielding 931,000,000 in 1921.

Question—What are the two official languages in Canada?  
Answer—There are two official languages in Canada—English and French, operating in the Dominion Parliament.

# R. Leo Watson's Spring Fashion Week

When Thoughts of Spring Flash Through a Man's Mind---

He usually thinks in terms of new clothes. Little reminders which come to him now and then in the course of the day's business or over the dinner table, are signals that he should do something about it. With the "Dress-Up" holiday just a few short weeks away, clothes for Easter wear should be bought now.

Featuring Semi-ready Tailored Clothes For Men

## SUITS

Men's and Young Men's Suits, single and double-breasted styles, Business Suits, "sports" effects, including the new popular Homespuns, Herringbones and Tweeds.

\$35 - \$40 - \$45

## TOP COATS

Light-weight Topcoats for spring are here in large varieties, presenting a galaxy of new popular patterns and materials. Distinctive models for men and young men.

\$28 - \$30 - \$32

## Berg Hats

Every man and young man with a keen eye for good dressing will have a Berg Hat. See the New Models.

\$7.00 - \$7.50

## Borsalino Hats

The best quality of "Borsalinos" received in three years have just been put in stock, new colors and shapes.

\$8.00

# R. Leo Watson

"The Men's Shop of London."

183 DUNDAS STREET.

