## THE WEAKLY ONTARIO, THURSDAX, JUNE 3, 1920

## THE WWHKLY ONTARRO.



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PARDEE HIT HARD Mr. Fred Pardee, member for West Lamb-
ton, laid his finger on the weaknesses of the ton, laid his finger on the weaknesses of the
Draton taxition plan in an nluminating
speech in the Commons on Wednesday. The Drayton budget was in bad odor that day, for
two members who have supported the Governtwo members who have supported the Govern-
ment in the past declared that they could not
follow its leadership in this matter, and announced that they would vote for the opponi-
tion amendment. Mr. Pardee's speech was the
feature of the feature of the sitting and it will take all the in-
genuity of the ministers to answer the argugenuity of the ministers to answer the argu-
ments that he presented against thelr plan of
raising money. What Mr. Pardee made raising money. What Mr. Pardee made spe-
cially clear was that under the term "luxury
ta⿰亻 tax" the administration is 'simply camouflag-
ing. On actual luxuries there is a minimum tax, while the burden really falls on the ne-
cessities of life, on the food, the clothing the cessities of life, on the food, the clothing, the
things most widely consumed. The result of this is certain-the cost of living will go still higher and the
agent contributi
being played.
Mr. Pardee made a telling point in pointing out the large profits made by the hinghy-
protected textile industries of the country and the low wages that they pay to country and
employees. Profits funning to more than 25 employees. Profits Yunning to more than 25
per cent. are being made by firms paying as low average annual wages as $\$ 538.23$. Com-
menting on such an industry Mr. Pardee saia; "It pays enormonus dividiends to tits share
hholders, but the employees receive scarcely living wage under conplititions receive scarey areely a
I have often heard protection held up as the I have often heard protection held up as the $\left.\right|_{\text {ti }} ^{\text {p }}$ gives him good wages, but here we have start
ling examples of what protection does not do. If further proof were needed of the way in
which the Unionist Government is owned body and soul by the protected interests of this
country in which the new taxes are going to add still further to the profits of the people who
evidently dictated the scheme. By yet more effectually shutting out all foreign competition the interests are endeavoring to get the Cana-
dian market completely in their own hands.
The taxes that must be The taxes that must be paid in order to boring
about this monopoly of trade are to be paid about this monopoly of trade are to be pald,
not by the protected manufactures, but by the
consumer, and there today that does not paty a tax of some sort.
The Government might' at least have avoided hypocrisy in taling of luxury taxes wher such do not exist. Deft shifting about of th the so-called excise makes it look as if there were efforts to check extravagance. Five dol-
lars added on to the price of a fifty-dollar suit lars added on to the price of a nity-dollar suit
aifty what sort of suit can be had at less than Ifty-means that extra burden to the working,
man already finding it hard to make his wage cover his outlay. The sport, however, who
pays one hundred dollars for his outfit cares nothing at all for the extra ten. He is not go-
ing to be deterred from having what his dictates by the interposition of a ten dollar bny. So all along the line the one who is to be goat,
as so often in past, is fhe poorer in as so often in past, is fhe poorer consumer who
already pays heavy taxes on all his necessities and must now pay yet more.
through this monstrosity of taxation, but not surgents from thembers, backed by the inhad a chance to set the faets before the coun-
try. A clear business-like speech of the type delivered by Mr. Pardee will be far more influence in the country thàn the deliberate attempt of verblage the real sting of the bill. The Govs ernment will yet find that the people of this country are not deceived in the character of
the new taxes that have been latd upon them and the.
time.
tax confusion
Diffculties in the adminisitration of the
new budget taxes are increastng, demonstrat-
ing the unwisdom of having such $a$ tax Ievied
without. due notice or adequate machinery for
cillection. The taxes are made retroactlye
from May 19th, but there is still considerable
confusion as to just what articles are taxable,
even government, offlcials being in the dark. even government, offlcials being in the dark.
The following is an instance from the Toronto
Daily Star: =In some shons it it The following is an instance from the Toronto
Daily Star: "In some shops it it said that an
extra cent has been tacked on to the Ice cream
cone price. That is unpardonabie. Theres cone price. That is unpardonabte. There's mom
tax on ice cream, which has been declared by
the courts to be a food, and food is not taxed."
In some eities offcials are said to have ruled In some cities officials are said to have ruled
differently, but there is as yet no definite judg
ment ainnounce on the subject. Another el
ement of confusion is that the new budget has
not as yet received the sanction of the House of Commots, and and the sanction of the House
budget is amended to exempt certain articies now announced as tax--
able, how are the monies conlected from the publie by the retailers as taxes on these artic
les to be returned? Canadians are willing to
ssume the national burden as che

## Talk of the Town And of the Country

                    revern devise simpler methods of collect-
                    ing revenue from the people.
    The Ontario has nothing whatever of say
against the organisation or the object of Satur-
day's tage organisation or the object of Satur-al. Both were worthy of
the fullest support. We wish merely to rem
that this mupport. We wish merely to remark
restricted to the of reisising mossibey should be dimensions.
We submitted to many such came
Ne submitted to many such campaigns during
he war but the war is now over and we feel
at tagging should, in peace ter and we fee , resort
d to on extremely rare occasions, and the
In the first place, no one should be permit-
ed to use our streets in this way unless after
due application had been made to unless after
Council and official City
Council should not grant consensent secured. The it was
wased that othe object was deserving, that it
ase an object such as might properly, be sup-
ported by the entire public, that the organiza
on had no other resol
ney.
Indiscri
objectionable. They apeals of such a niature
sreets as to interfere withe thuc freedom of of the
Jeneral public. People to whom the object
oes not appeal are
distinction of being cxassed as an une tight-wadas onde
santhropes. The campaigns are sometimes
tat Bellevilegular way. We have known
ere tagging has been resorted to for privat
eneral public, , ot for any one denomination,
lass or organisation. Tagging like bridg
olls, is one of the petty annoyances to many

## our years

The more we live, more brief appear
Our life's succeeding stages: Our life's succeeding stages;
day to childhood seems a yee A day to childhood seems a yea
And years like passing ayes.
The gladsome current of our youth, Steals lingering, like a river Along its grassy borders. But cheerful people live in the cheerful And strive to

## strive to hat grow old,

m
Lie's pathway shines on young and ol nd as the careworn cheek grows
And sorrow's shafts fy thicker,
stars, that meas liy thicker
Why seem your courses quicker?

## When joys

And life itself is vapid,
And life itself is vapid,
Why, as we reach the falls of Death,
We feel its tide more ratid
It may be strange, yet who would cha
Life's course to slower speeding. When one by one our friends have gon
And left our bo
Heaven gives our years
Indemnifying fleetness
And those of youth's a seeming length Proportioned to their sweetness.

- J. W. Hunt.



