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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1922.

CANADIAN TRADE WITH BRITAIN.

In the course of some remarks made a few days ago when he formed one of a deputation from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in England that waited on Mr. Larkin, the Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. F. C. Wade, the Agent General for British Columbia, is reported to have said: "I think you are feeling very strongly on the question of the cattle embargo. We are not feeling half so strongly on the tens of thousands of other products we could export to Great Britain if we had the power to do so."

There is food for a great deal of thought in this remark. If some of the energy which is being put into the movement to obtain the lifting of the cattle embargo was put into efforts to sell other Canadian produce to Britain, the result would be of considerable pecuniary benefit to this country. There are many kinds of Canadian products that Britain wants, and needs; but she neither wants nor needs Canadian live cattle. Why there should be this insistent effort made to get the embargo lifted is a mystery to those who really appreciate the situation. The great bulk of the food which is fed to cattle in Britain is foreign grown, and has to be imported; what particular inducement is there therefore for Britain to import more live cattle to feed, when she cannot grow enough food to feed those bred there?

Apart from the British view of the matter, what advantage is it to Canadians to ship cattle on the hoof rather than in the carcasses? The freight charges per carcass are trifling compared with the charges for live animals. If slaughtered in this country our farmers get the benefit of the hides and other offal, besides the value of the fertilizer. There is no loss when shipping dressed carcasses, as there frequently is when live animals are sent. Then there is a certain amount of cruelty in shipping live animals. Some few weeks ago we saw a vessel lying at one of the wharves here, the decks of which were being lifted up to accommodate cattle. "God help the poor beasts," was our first thought.

As Mr. Wade said, if more anxiety was evinced to get other Canadian products sold on the British market, it would be much better for Canada. There is no kind of agricultural produce that Britain does not need that Canada cannot supply; and in view of the fact that the market for the produce which was formerly found in the United States, is now shut off, it would seem to be only a matter of good business to endeavor to cultivate the British market instead. But this everlasting kicking about the cattle embargo is simply energy mispent.

THE VAGARIES OF CENSORSHIP.

Censorship is something with which many of us very frequently get out of patience on account of the vagaries which are to be observed in connection with it for one thing; and for another, our own opinions on the matters concerned may be so radically different from those of the censors, that the latter raise either our ire or our risible faculties. During the war, for instance, quite a number of books were published in Germany, which were forbidden entrance to the British Isles and also to Canada. One of them was entitled "Hindenburg's March into London," which graphically described the landing of a German horde on the South coast, and its victorious journey in which it trampled down all before it, up to London, where the city was formally handed over by the Lord Mayor to the conquerors. Why this book should be banned from England, we could never understand; we would have thought that it would have been spread broadcast, for we can imagine nothing more calculated to rouse Englishmen to action than this story. No red-blooded Englishman could possibly have read such a story without his blood boiling at the very thought of what might happen. However, official censorship thought differently.

In a recent issue of the Manchester Guardian there was an article dealing with the perplexities of censorship. It called attention to the fact that an American novel, banned on this side, has just run out of print in England; on the other hand, an English novel suppressed over there has been doing well in the United States. A French novel which has been sold freely in France for half a century is forbidden in America, but an American novel running as a serial in France has just been cut short by the authorities. More complicated is the case of an Irish novel published in Paris and suppressed in America which can be legally bought and read in England, although its publication there would not be legal.

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With respect to motion pictures the picture is a contemporary.

case is still more confused, for the Guardian points out that in Manchester a film is shown which is forbidden in Middlesbrough and London. In our own country the same diversities appear in the conflicting practices of different provinces, a cause of much trouble and loss to producers. The film drama, indeed, brings out in the most forcible way these anomalies, because this form of entertainment is peculiarly adapted for world-wide distribution. Aside from the titles, which can readily be translated, there is no barrier of language and it is possible to conceive of a pictorial drama of such universal appeal that it could be understood in all parts of the world and would appeal to barbarians as well as civilized spectators. Yet this hypothetical drama might be forbidden in a particular province or a particular town while elsewhere it went unchallenged.

So ridiculous are these inconsistencies when surveyed as a whole, that the Guardian suggests an international censorship as a means of affording a more systematic protection of morals. The difficulties are obvious, for different nations have widely different notions of what constitutes an offense against public decency, yet it may be plausibly argued, from an analytical study of conflicting decisions, that the vagaries of censorship are not a trustworthy guide to variations in moral standards. A decision on a particular case is usually made by a few persons whose judgment may be fallible and who have not the aid of a vast collection of precedents such as help the courts to maintain a certain degree of congruity in their rulings. Granted that the censorship of books and plays is frequently erratic, it might at least be possible to arrange for an international committee to examine into freckish and meaningless variations of this sort and to make suggestions for a more logical and uniform practice. It would still be possible for the different countries participating to apply their own taboos, but this too ought to be done in a reasonable and systematic way.

"BACK TO NATURE."

There is an old saying, that if a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well. This apparently is the principle upon which the Portland authorities go to work—sometimes at any rate. It seems that Portland's water supply is drawn from Sebago Lake, near the shores of which the village of Smith's Mills has grown to considerable size in late years, due to the fact that it is the site of a mill owned and operated by the Dupont Company, and it boasts a hotel capable of accommodating 100 people, also a movie theatre. Lest the proximity of this village should be detrimental to the purity of the water supply of Portland, the authorities of the city have bought up the village and will raise it to the ground. In a short time therefore the site of this village will be restored to the status it had when the noble red man roamed the neighboring forests; and in years to come, after the spruce planted by the water district officials have attained considerable growth, the locality will look much as it did before the first Smith built his mill there.

There are sixty-five members of the Progressive Party in the Commons, of them all but nine voted against the Budget. If these nine had voted with their party, the Budget would only have been carried by the casting vote of the Speaker. And yet we are gravely told by one Government newspaper that the vote plainly demonstrated that the Progressives have no intention of playing the Conservative game, and will not join with that party in an effort to defeat the Government! On the face of things, 56 out of 65 of them don't appear to feel that way.

At the Liberal Convention in 1919, Mr. Fielding is reported to have said: "Politics is not a mere game, and should not be a game; and it is a poor miserable game when they do things merely to gain power." High flown language in truth; but the self same orator said later, that "political platform, like those of Pullman cars, are only to get in on."

An obituary of a Maine physician states that he was born in the house where he died 57 years ago, which would indicate that someone was rather slow in reporting the man's death.

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WHAT OTHERS SAY

Tariff Exhortations.
(Winnipeg Tribune.)
In his speech on the budget Mr. Crerar reaffirmed the old doctrinal position of the Liberal party on the tariff. His amendment to the Drayton amendment differs from it only in that he approves of the Liberal platform which the Liberal party has repudiated, whereas the Drayton amendment only laments the repudiation of public pledges by a political party. Neither Mr. Crerar nor Mr. Drayton recognizes the principle of necessity. Mr. Crerar does not recognize the facts, that if he were in office, having given the same pledge as the Liberal party gave in 1919, his minister of finance would be compelled to bring down a budget, which, while perhaps more favorable to western producers would nevertheless be identical in principle with the budget Mr. Fielding has brought down. His speech is weighed with a subconscious admission of this fact.

Mr. Drayton on the other hand insufficiently realizes that the Liberal party repudiated its platform when it accepted certain support necessary to victory not when it brought down its budget, that nobody expected anything different from Mr. Fielding, and that the Canadian people have expressed disapproval of this fact.

There can be no doubt that the tariff may be made the instrument of particular and sectional injustice, and that it will develop inequalities and abnormalities if not conformed to changing circumstances. It is equally obvious that the principle of necessity is so embedded in Canadian policy as to be irremovable. So regarded, the Fielding budget, is, as budgets go, a good budget, and one very well suited to the somewhat anomalous times in which we sojourn.

Both the Progressives and the Conservatives are raising a false atmosphere of emotional partiality, and because they are not compelled to face reality. The Liberals are worse than either of them when they do this. They are not responsible of office. But they are now in office. The Fielding budget represents the reality they are compelled to face.

The people of Canada pay as much attention to the tariff exhortations of Liberals, Progressives or Conservatives as the rank and file of the Methodist Church pay to denunciations of card playing and dancing, and have paid no more during the last twenty-five years. The complacent acceptance of the Fielding budget generally is abundant evidence of the fact.

If the Progressives and the Conservatives would combine to keep a tight rein on what is done with the proceeds of the tariff and other taxes; if they would bend their efforts to the enforcement of a policy of retrenchment, instead of chasing fiscal wild-geese, over the quagmires of abstract economics, they too would have their minds upon the reality peculiarly appropriate to an opposition and to serve well of their long suffering country.

And No Safer.
(London Free Press.)
The Empire is as good and as safe as the Empire's children make it.

A Growing Understanding.
(Portland Press-Herald.)
As time goes on we are better able to understand why England was so willing to have the Irish settle the Irish question.

One Item, Anyway.
(Toronto Telegram.)
Up with the German mark and down with the Canadian mechanic is the great conspiracy of the day.

In the West.
(Calgary Herald.)
Judging by reports so far heard the Government's minus-on customs-and-plus-on-sales-tax policy has not made any hit with the western farmer.

Must Begin at Home.
(Woodstock Sentinel-Review.)
It is beginning to appear that it was beyond the power of the British Government to confer self-government on Ireland; that is something which the people of Ireland must acquire for themselves.

Our Tariff Preferences.
(Hamilton Herald, Ind.)
Mr. Fielding has applied the preferential principle to German manufacturers. His proposal to admit German goods into Canada at their value in German currency is a far greater profit to Germany than is the preferential tariff to Britain.

A Railway Mistake.
(Quebec Herald.)
In refraining from putting excursion rates into effect again the railways are cutting their own throats. High rates on holidays have had more effect in diverting holiday traffic to motors than anything else, not to mention the limitation it has placed on conventions, regattas, church gatherings, etc., and it is passing strange that the railways continue such a suicidal policy at a time when they are apparently in need of all the resources they can obtain.

(Port Arthur Chronicle.)
Who Should Own the Lakes?
(Port Arthur News Chronicle.)
Mr. Henman, M.L.A., denied that he was acting for Mr. Beckus in the court he accepted against the bill. Probably not, but the seeming close relations that exist between the two gentlemen will likely be taken as evidence that they at least talked the matter over. It would have been a real snap if Mr. Beckus could have secured absolute control of the waters of the Lake of the Woods, English and Winnipeg Rivers. The prompt action taken by the Western Government a year ago was the only thing that stopped Mr. Beckus attaining this ambitious privilege. In the face of the Dominion legislation there was but one thing for Mr. Drury to do. He was talked last session in his earnest intention of fulfilling his obligation to Mr. Melgren and Mr. Morris, Friends of Manitoba. He was threatened with an insurrection by Mr. Henman and a solid opposition from Liberals and Conservatives. His feet took a chill, but in the meantime he warmed them up and hid defiance to the Opposition from whatever quarter, and now has won out.

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Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

I didn't think ma would leave me go out after supper restful day for several reasons, the main one being because she sed she wouldn't, me thinking, G, I know wat, ill rite a pome about how thin she's getting and everything and she'll think im grate and leave me go out. On account of ma not wanting anybody to think she's fat, wich she kind of is, and I went up in my room and rote it and took it down and ma was imbrodering imbrodering, me saying, Hay ma, I rote a pome about you, do you want to heer it?

Wat kind of a pome? ma sed suspicious, and I started to read it, being:

My mother dont way 200 pounds
She never did, Im sure.
In fact you can almost see throo her
She is so thin and pure.
She's more like the giraff than the elephant
And more like the minny than the wale,
She reminds you of a small peoce of cotton
But not of the intire bale.

Being all, and ma sed, Well I declare, I never herd of such a thing in all my life, I may be a trifle plump but goodness knows Im not any such a size as to have come valentines ritten on the subject and for zina I'd give you a good hard smack.

Hay ma, thats supposed to be a compliment on your thinness, thats wat that is, G, ma, I sed, and ma sed, Well nobody would over aspect K, the deer.

And I went back to my room without asking her it she had changed her mind about leaving me go out, and I lissened to the fellows yelling outside a wile and then I did my lessins on account of not being able to think of anything elts.

THE LAUGH LINE

Jerry-Co.
Bricklayer—"Op it! We can't have you showing that trumpet round ere."
Boy Scout—"Why?"
Bricklayer—"Tain't safe. You know wot 'appened to the walls of Jericho, don't yer?"

Correction.
Western Exchange: "The report of the wedding of Tom Barr and Lizzie Flynn at Pligton published in The Herald the other day is all wrong," writes Magistrate May, who says it was a light instead of a wedding. We are glad it is not so bad as first reported.

Modern Art.
"Your picture of the infant Hercules strangling the serpent is very good. But how did you get a model?" queried the admirer.
"My kid gave me the idea the day he got tangled up with the hose, on his mother's vacuum cleaner."

A Small Point.
His wife—"So your client was acquitted of murder. On what grounds?"
Lawyer—"Instantly. We proved that his father had spent five years in an asylum."
His wife—"But he didn't, did he?"
Lawyer—"Yes, he was a doctor there, but we had not time to bring that fact out."

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

Left Him No Escape.
"If you feel that way, why did you propose to the woman?"
"I didn't. She proposed to me."
"But you could have refused her."
"No, I couldn't. She said 'Will you marry me? Have you any objections?' so whether I'd said 'Yes' or 'No' she'd have me either way."

"Well, you shouldn't have answered her."

"I didn't, so she said 'Silence gives consent,' and that settled it."

Collar Touch.
"There is now no need to send soldiers to the laundry to be cleaned," says an evening paper. We shall continue to send ours there to be sharpened.

Change of Faith.
Susie had for a long time been praying for a baby sister. The other day on claying down the Mansfield News, her mother said:
"Our new pastor's wife has a new baby."

"How do you know?" asked Susie.
"It's here in the paper," her mother replied.

"Please read it to me," Susie insisted and her mother read: "Born on Nov. 21, to Rev. and Mrs. John Smith, a daughter."

Susie was very quiet for a minute, lost in thought, then she said:
"I'm going to stop praying and advertise—Dry Goods Economist."

Not Pushing Himself.
"Did you interview many prominent people while you were in Washington?"
"Why, no," replied the modest citizen. "I remarked to a rather imposing doorkeeper that I thought it was a hot day, to which he agreed, but the only other important person I conversed with during my stay was a hotel clerk."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

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