

The Toronto World

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THE WORLD OUTSIDE

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Events of much importance are happening these days in the politics of Canada.

The first thing to develop is the resignation or dismissal of Mr. Tarte from the Laurier cabinet.

This has been much discussed of late. Some said it would happen, some said it would not happen. As a matter of fact, it has happened, and is out of the cabinet.

That is the first important event. A still more important thing concerns the health of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

It is not a well man. What we take to be a semi-official statement of his condition was given out by Senator Gibson, who traveled with him in Europe, and who returned home with him. The sum and substance of it is that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, while in Europe, consulted an eminent specialist for some kind of stomach trouble, and that under the treatment prescribed he has somewhat improved.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself has given out since his return that he feels much better, and that he prefers to remain in public life to retiring. Whether the Right Hon. the Prime Minister is a well or ill man will develop later on. That is the second feature in the situation.

A third feature is the presentation of the name of Hon. Mr. Fielding, the present Minister of Finance, as Sir Wilfrid's successor in the premiership. Mr. Fielding is certainly an available man. He is a good speaker and will develop still further in a more responsible position. He lacks, however, some of the gifts of a parliamentarian, and has been overmatched at times in the House in the conduct of debate. Mr. Fielding is an out and out free trader in profession, but willing and competent to take any turn that involves protection, if he sees it to be in his party's interest.

These three points constitute the main features of the political situation today, but bound up with them is included the situation in Ontario, which is critical for Mr. Ross. Another feature is the presence in the Ontario cabinet of Sir Richard Cartwright, who is the one declared and uncompromising exponent of free trade. All the other gentlemen in the cabinet are largely opportunists. What also looms up in the situation is the so-called "solid Quebec." With Mr. Tarte out, what will it be? To our mind, Sir Wilfrid Laurier is still dominant in that province, and can command a solid vote there, with or without Mr. Tarte, although Mr. Tarte, if he went into opposition, might play great havoc in time with Sir Wilfrid's supremacy. Sir Wilfrid in bad health would alter the situation. Another complicating circumstance is Mr. Tarte's influence out of the cabinet. This will develop in a few days.

EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE

This is an age of combinations.

Capital combines to further and protect its interests, and the employees of capital combine to further and protect theirs. Trusts are formed on the one hand and labor unions on the other. Each species of organization is probably justifiable so long as its efforts are confined within certain limits, but when either resorts to unscrupulous or dishonest methods, its right to existence thereupon ceases. In recent articles The World has pointed out the dangers with which the capitalist monopolies threaten the public, but for the present phase of the problem will be left out of the question. We are now dealing with the attitude of combined capital against combined labor, and with the attitude of combined labor against combined capital. And we say that whenever employers begin to oppress their employees they put themselves out of court, and that as soon as employees attempt by unjust methods to assume control of their employers' business they likewise, as far as public opinion is concerned, ruin their own case.

In the history of Canadian labor troubles the recent formation of "The Employers' Association of Toronto" constitutes a unique departure. The announced objects of the organization, which is duplicated in a number of United States cities, may be summed up as follows: (1) To protect the members thereof in their right to manage their own respective businesses, and (2) To make it impossible for employees who refuse to settle their disputes with their employers, to obtain further employment in the city. The association includes a number of the leading manufacturers and merchants of the city, and it starts out with a pretty strong front. Prior to the formation of the organization, the promoters thereof stated the reasons for its formation. They claimed that the pressure of the trades unions was becoming intolerable, and that unless the power of the manufacturer organizations was checked the manufacturers would have to move their factories to other centres. The business men seem thoroughly alarmed, and assert that a serious crisis is at hand. They charge some trades unions with attempting to ruin certain businesses, and assert that Toronto's reputation as a seat of industry is being established here, and threatening to drive existing enterprises away.

These allegations, if not exaggerations, reflect an unfortunate state of affairs, and we shall watch with interest the efforts of the combined employers to check the aggression of the unions. What they really propose to do is to force arbitration on the laborer, and in case the laborer refuses to abide by the finding of the tribunal to cut him off from employment, and thus render it impossible for him to live in the city.

As is well-known, and as has been already indicated, Toronto is not the only city in which antagonism characterizes the relations between capital and labor. Portland, Oregon, is suffering from a similar state of affairs, and one of the newspapers of that city expresses the fear that the unfortunate conditions may result in a serious commercial set-back for the community. The Portland Daily Journal sizes up the situation in these words:

Manufacturers are preparing to move from the large cities to the smaller towns—to avoid the restrictions of organized labor.

This is a cool-headed fact. It is not susceptible of honest dispute. Manufacturers are in places preparing to do just that thing for just that reason.

Right here in Portland is a concern employing scores of men, the manager of which states that the Journal that he and his directors contemplate removing to another Oregon town for the very reason set forth herein.

This is significant. It cannot be ignored by the earnest student of affairs. The laborer must consider it. He must learn exactly what it means, what its effect will be, why it will be, whether or not the manufacturers are right, whether or not there is some feature of the labor propaganda that might be eliminated for the betterment of society. These things must be considered and pondered earnestly. The right conclusion must be reached.

We who observe what goes on in the industrial world have some very grave issues before us here in Portland and Oregon. We must not make the mistake of creating antagonisms between other elements of the community. We must be better for all. There must be no discrimination between those who oppress laborers and those who do not.

There must be justice towards the just employer.

There must be no blind following of one class, regardless of whether or not that class is right.

There must be a great, powerful body of sentiment that stands as an umpire, fair, honest, just, consistent, persistent, watching the progress of events and determined to prevent the community from being torn and rent with disputes when agreements might as well as not be reached.

These are what Portland must have. Else there will be trouble, bitterness, injustice, blighting of blind leaders; or, worse, unreasoning following of leaders that care less for society than for themselves.

And the leaders are of both the laborers and the employers. It is not to be misunderstood. This means not that all of the leaders are wrong. Only some of them are wrong. But those that are wrong must be bundled off to some other occupation than disturbing a community that is on the verge of forward movement that may, if not stopped, compel recognition of the wonderful resources of the city that has heretofore been backward in the work of development.

It is time to talk plainly. It is time to work on people's minds, if they be faced the wrong way and not progressing in the direction in which they should go.

The table of the surgeon applies right here.

The situation, both in Toronto and Portland, which is here presented, is, to say the least, truly alarming. Are these and other cities to be retarded in their material development by the failure of capital and labor to agree? Here, again, as the record of the strike, the innocent public must suffer. Without having a voice in the precipitation of these recurring difficulties, the unoffending private citizen, the average man, must pay an undeserved penalty.

The general subject of employer and employee is under consideration. We may profitably refer to a powerful weapon which certain trades unions across the line are accused of resorting to, and which, so far as our information goes, has not as yet been utilized, this country, the "boycott" policy of trades unions is meant. The boycott is discussed from a necessarily prejudiced standpoint by Mr. W. G. Merritt, a hat maker of Danbury, Conn., and he calls it "a monstrous conspiracy to put up prices, to stem all the forces of economic laws, and rise upon the ruins of the victims," and as a "power to subvert both employers and employees who dare to exercise their liberties." He is one of three among thirty Danbury hat manufacturers who have stood out against the unions. He has suffered a good deal, and is accordingly, bitter.

To quote Mr. Merritt:

The articles manufactured by independent manufacturers may be better, or cheaper than those of union manufacturers, the consumer does not have access to them, for they lack the union label, or sanction of the union, which is the necessary passport to reach the market. Retailers and jobbers dare not buy them. Extravagant as the phrase may seem, it is literally a reign of terror. Let be emphasized that these are not strike conditions, but the ceaseless boycotting of goods during peaceful times when public sentiment is in favor of them. It has not the excuse of angry passion or sudden impulse. It is the result of an elaborate and pre-meditated scheme to bring to disaster and ruin all non-union manufacturers and employees, and to deprive them of their inalienable right to the unimpeded pursuit of a livelihood.

Except in towns where union sentiment is predominant, this does not ordinarily take the form of popular boycott by the consumer. The average purchaser does not know whether he is buying a union or non-union article. A majority undoubtedly would not recognize the union label. This emblem of tyranny and injustice is generally situated in an inconspicuous place. It is not the influence wielded over the consuming public that makes the boycott so successful. It is the minds of the jobber and retailer who are frightened and who are afraid to buy non-union goods. They fear that their trade will be boycotted if they buy non-union goods, and they are afraid to buy goods against which there is no opposition and the purchase of which would make them no enemies.

Sometimes happens that this general and continuous boycott is not disastrous enough to satisfy the union, and they institute what is termed a special boycott. Some independent manufacturer, because of unusual business success, or because of the failure of their ordinary efforts to injure him, will arouse their antagonism and his name will be virulently denounced in the press. All union men will be

exhorted to become active in the destruction of his business. Special efforts will be made to secure from point to point, and secure the countermand of orders just placed.

Where is the antagonism of employer and employee going to end? Is there not danger of general social and economic disaster? There are just and unjust employers, and there are fairly and unfairly conducted labor unions. The difficulty is to discriminate. On both sides the just must suffer with the unjust.

To sum up the whole matter, this continent evidently faces a difficult crisis, and means must be devised to meet it. Our newspapers, our public men, our legislators, must carefully weigh the entire problem to see if some remedy cannot be hit upon.

And, despite the opposition which the proposal meets with in certain quarters, compulsory arbitration appears to be the best road out of the present deadlock, and, if carried out, it would be a great step towards a peaceful community and causing dissatisfaction among the employers, which we have witnessed in the past year.

When this suggestion is put in practice there will be no further use for either employers' or employees' unions, thus saving a great deal of annoyance and waste of money, and also preventing the danger of coming into a peaceful community and causing dissatisfaction among the employers, which we have witnessed in the past year.

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Sir Wilfrid Laurier is palpably afraid of the letter which Mr. Tarte has raised. The departure of Tarte puts the Laurier government in the position of a man who has to leave the house in a hurry. Sir Wilfrid has no reason to dread a renewal of the old dispute. The Conservative government has been captured by the Laurier government. That mistake has only to be followed by opposition to the "economic principles" which Mr. Tarte represented, and the Tories can get ready to celebrate the year of jubilee.

The great principle in politics or warfare is to find out what your enemy wants you to do and do something else. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will ignore this principle if he gets rid of Mr. Tarte. Conservative in the future of Hon. J. Tarte is the best proof of his importance. Conservatives are no interest in the future of Hon. Clifford Sifton. They realize that his retirement would carry with it the loss of the political genius from the government ranks, and would be hailed as the beginning of better days for the Conservative party.

THE MOLSONS BANK.

That the Molsons Bank has had its share of the protection of the business community is indicated in the reports elsewhere. The profit of \$351,375, provided for a 9 per cent. dividend, added \$100,000 to the reserve fund of the bank.

The management which produced the results thus briefly indicated is the management of the Molsons Bank. The history of the Molsons Bank for many years now has been one of steady progress and growth. It has been a model of enterprise in reaching out into new fields, it has found profitable use for its increasing surplus strength. It has been a model of enterprise in reaching out into new fields, it has found profitable use for its increasing surplus strength.

The need of larger capital to enable it to take full advantage of its opportunities.

MR. FRED GOUGH ON PORCH.

Editor World: I have noticed in your valuable paper several articles, including a photo of the present situation here in this case. Before commenting on the supposed bravery of the said constable it might be well to obtain the facts. Was it a revolver or a silver mounted pipe which was presented at him? Are the duties of a constable explained to him, and is he informed that he must take certain risks, or is he told that he must take certain risks? In arresting desperate characters, if threatened, he is to let them go and appeal to the authorities. I pardon me if I say that the publicity given this apparently undeserving case, and the effect on the efficiency of the police. There are men serving on the force at present who have been at and wounded on several occasions while endeavoring to do their duty. "Reader into Caesar the things that are Caesar's." This is a case for the full investigation by the Board of Police Commissioners. In order to maintain an efficient and reliable force, as well as retain their present reputation.

He that fights and runs away, Lives to fight another day.

In battle, never lives to fight again.

F. H. Gooch.

A REMEDY FOR STRIKES.

Editor World: On reading an article in your valuable paper of the 15th inst., entitled, "Union to Fight Unions," I was much surprised at the idea of our business men in Toronto trying to remedy the strikes in such a manner as this article described. That is, by arranging something to settle the difficulties in a peaceful manner, they form a Manufacturers' Union and create funds (as it appears to the writer) simply to antagonize the employees, thereby causing two separate unions in one manufacturing establishment to be formed, each with its own set of grievances, and each with its own set of grievances, and each with its own set of grievances.

I would suggest as a remedy for these existing troubles, that for each province go and make a list of the names of the employers or arbitrators in cases of disputes, and appoint and retain by the government on yearly salaries such salaries to be defrayed by placing a small tax on each company or corporation, according to the amount of their capital stock.

Owing to the various kinds of manufacturing industries, it will be necessary for these three arbitrators to have a full knowledge of the industry.

THEORIES ABOUT FOOD.

Also a Few Facts on the Same Subject.

We hear much nowadays about health foods and hygienic living, about vegetarianism and many other fads along the same line.

Restaurants may be found in the large cities where the food is served, and the food is served in his glory, and arguments and theories are advanced to prove that meat is not necessary for human stomachs, and almost make us believe that our sturdy ancestors who lived four score years ago on a diet of roast beef, pork and mutton must have been grossly ignorant of the value of food.

Our forefathers had other things to think of than to formulate theories about the food they ate. They were too busy to think of anything but to get on with their work.

A healthy appetite and common sense are excellent guides to follow in matters of diet, and a mixed diet of grains, fruits and meats is undoubtedly the best.

As compared with grains and vegetables, meat furnishes the most nutritious in a highly concentrated form, and is digested and assimilated more quickly than vegetables and grains.

Dr. Julius Remmon on this subject says: Nervous persons, people run down in health and of low vitality should eat meat and plenty of it. If the digestion is feeble at first, it will be corrected by the regular use of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after each meal.

The average purchaser does not know whether he is buying a union or non-union article. A majority undoubtedly would not recognize the union label. This emblem of tyranny and injustice is generally situated in an inconspicuous place. It is not the influence wielded over the consuming public that makes the boycott so successful. It is the minds of the jobber and retailer who are frightened and who are afraid to buy non-union goods. They fear that their trade will be boycotted if they buy non-union goods, and they are afraid to buy goods against which there is no opposition and the purchase of which would make them no enemies.

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BOUND BY OLD AGREEMENT

Thru Medium of Robert Gloecking of the Labor Bureau Strike of Bindery Girls is Averted.

EMPLOYERS WILL TREAT WITH THEM

As Committee of Various Shops, But the Union Will Not Be Recognized.

There will be no strike of bindery women, an amicable arrangement having been made with their employers thru the mediation of Robert Gloecking, secretary of the Ontario Labor Bureau.

Mr. Gloecking was appointed conciliator by the bindery women under a provision of the Ontario Disputes Act, and as such he met the master bookbinders yesterday afternoon. The masters declined, under any circumstances, to treat with the girls as an organization. They pointed out that they had no objection to the girls working for them as individuals, but that they would not recognize the girls as an organization.

The girls, however, insisted that they were an organization, and that they would not work for the masters unless they were recognized as an organization. The girls, however, insisted that they were an organization, and that they would not work for the masters unless they were recognized as an organization.

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at least thirty days' notice from either party stating their grievance in order to give them sufficient time to thoroughly investigate both sides of the situation. The decision arrived at by the said arbitrators be taken as final, and to be carried out by both parties for the protection of the public.

The men acting as arbitrators, in case of any wrong-doing, such as being bribed or dishonesty in any form, will be liable to a penalty of ten or fifteen days' imprisonment without the option of a fine.

To prevent the services of these official referees being abused, the traveling and incidental expenses to be paid for by whatever company requires their services.

When this suggestion is put in practice there will be no further use for either employers' or employees' unions, thus saving a great deal of annoyance and waste of money, and also preventing the danger of coming into a peaceful community and causing dissatisfaction among the employers, which we have witnessed in the past year.

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The great principle in politics or warfare is to find out what your enemy wants you to do and do something else. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will ignore this principle if he gets rid of Mr. Tarte. Conservative in the future of Hon. J. Tarte is the best proof of his importance. Conservatives are no interest in the future of Hon. Clifford Sifton. They realize that his retirement would carry with it the loss of the political genius from the government ranks, and would be hailed as the beginning of better days for the Conservative party.

THE MOLSONS BANK.

That the Molsons Bank has had its share of the protection of the business community is indicated in the reports elsewhere. The profit of \$351,375, provided for a 9 per cent. dividend, added \$100,000 to the reserve fund of the bank.

The management which produced the results thus briefly indicated is the management of the Molsons Bank. The history of the Molsons Bank for many years now has been one of steady progress and growth.