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FARMERS IN POWER WOULD PREVENT FLOW OF CAPITAL

If the Western Farmer leaders have their way, the great movement of United States manufacturers into Canada, which has been going on for years and which has done and is doing much to build up the country and make it self-sustaining, would immediately stop.

We need all the new capital we can get from any source and we would be worse than foolish if we were to stop it from flowing into the country, which would surely be the case if the Tariff walls were torn down. The American manufacturers who have established plants in Canada were practically compelled to do so by our Tariff to save their Canadian business. The Tariff says to these Americans, "If you want our trade come over and be one of us by doing your manufacturing here."

Crerar and Wood, the Western Farmer leaders, with Mackenzie King trailing behind, say, in effect to the American manufacturer, "Don't bother coming over here. We will make it unnecessary for you to do so by lowering our Tariff walls."

Narrow and Parochial Outlook

We do not accuse these gentlemen of lack of patriotism, but we do say they are woefully lacking in national vision. Their outlook is narrow and parochial. They deliberately shut their eyes to Canada's great humiliation, the fact that our dollar is heavily discounted in the United States and actually advocate policies which would make that humiliating condition very much worse.

The Tariff is an obsession with the U.F.'s, yet they have never seriously enquired into its working. Mr. Wood admitted this before the Tariff Commission in Calgary. They have never taken into consideration the all-important fact that manufacturing plants in a country of large population like the United States can produce, by reason of the large quantities required by the market, very much cheaper than manufacturers in Canada with its limited population. They have never given proper credit to the business men of enterprise who have risked their money in building up necessary industrial concerns which afford the variety of employment so necessary to have if the country is to be at all self-sustaining, and if it is to keep our young people within our borders. We cannot all be farmers. They apparently overlook the fact that Providence has endowed Canada with water powers which properly developed in conjunction with a moderate and sane Tariff policy, would make the country in time the greatest industrial nation in the British Empire. They likewise lose sight of the enormous coal deposits of Alberta—the greatest in the world, which before long are bound to be developed by the establishment of manufacturing industries in proximity to them. When that takes place the cry of Free Trade will no longer be heard in our Western Territory.

The same Free Trade cry was heard in the Middle Western United States and it was dropped when manufacturing became established there.

The farmer leaders forget the fact that the United States was built up by protection.

UNITED FARMERS OF THE WEST

"Le Canada," Montreal, one of the foremost Liberal newspapers in the Province of Quebec, writes as follows, under date of July 30, 1921:

One can easily observe in the organization of the new government of Alberta the dangers of the Farmer party, if we accept it as it is understood by the people of the West.

It is an admitted fact that even without a leader and without a program, this party has been able to elect a majority of members, simply on an appeal to class prejudice.

Without knowing who would govern them and how they would be governed, the electors of thirty-eight constituencies have voted for farmer candidates without any other reason than that they were farmers.

They have at their head, men who have no use for Canadian traditions, men who have been living in Canada but for a short period, men who have at heart, but one thing: the interests of the West and nothing else.

The farmer movement, which is essentially a class movement, constitutes a grave error in politics.

But this movement becomes an absolute danger when it is left in the hands of strangers who seek the interests of only one particular section of the country, and who have no use for the interests of all the provinces of Canada.

PREMIER ARTHUR MEIGHEN AT LONDON CONFERENCE

Canadian Prime Minister is Worthy Successor of Borden and Laurier

(BY M. GRATTAN O'LEARY)

When Mr. Meighen sailed from England for Canada, after having spent six weeks at the Congress of the Empire, Mr. John W. Dafoe wrote in the Manitoba Free Press as follows: "Mr. Meighen is on his way home. He will find Canada as disunited as ever upon the question of maintaining his administration in power but pretty well agreed that he represented his country with distinction and acceptability in the Conference of British Premiers."

This from the outstanding Liberal publicist of the Dominion, published in an organ both able and militant in its antagonism to Mr. Meighen's Ministry, constituted a remarkable tribute, but one that was not undeserved. It has been Canada's good fortune that ever since the days of Baldwin and Lafontaine, those two great exemplars of all that is best in our Saxon and Gallic origins, her statesmen, without regard to party, have cherished the ideal of Canada a nation within a British Commonwealth. Such was the common vision of Blake, the Liberal, and of Macdonald, the Conservative; of Wilfred Laurier, who bestrode the Imperial stage as one of the salient personalities of his time; of Sir Robert Borden, whose state papers, and whose acts and utterances at London and Versailles, stand as milestones along the path of our constitutional progress. And again, today in the not less difficult period of after-war restoration, when the political as well as the economic foundations of nations are being readjusted to changed conditions, it has been this Dominion's kindly fate that her national and imperial aspirations were entrusted to a statesman possessed of the will and the capacity to afford them both expression and promotion in the councils of the Empire and the world.

Fears That Were Groundless.

Mr. Meighen was not trained in the school of international statesmanship. Fated to be Prime Minister of his country at a time when her industrial, economic and transportation problems are infinitely graver than at any time in history, he had neither time nor opportunity for the study of external problems, and when last June he sailed for London to represent the Dominion at a momentous conference of Empire Prime Ministers, he was invading a sphere of affairs in which he had no experience. It was a hazardous adventure, and it is disclosing no secret to say that there were those, who aware of the pitfalls and the complexity of world and Imperial politics, entertained doubts regarding its outcome. Fortunately for Canada, however, and fortunately too, perhaps, for interests of vaster scope, they were doubts that were speedily removed. For that power of intense concentration, of subtle analysis and of acute perception which in domestic affairs brought a struggling young attorney from the obscurity of a western law office to the Premiership of his country, as speedily made its impression upon the Imperial stage. Arthur Meighen took his place as the worthy successor of Laurier and of Borden.

Meighen's Characteristic Courage

The first and greatest question upon the agenda of the Conference was the advisability of renewing the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. It was a delicate question, and vital, made all the more so because it was no secret that a powerful body of British statesmanship, backed by an equally powerful following in the press, favored the treaty being renewed. Mr. Meighen, however, with that characteristic courage, for which even his bitterest enemies give him credit, faced the issue without flinching. He was opposed to the Alliance, and in a speech which so competent an authority as Sir Maurice Hankey declared to be among the most powerful utterances ever delivered on the subject, he argued against its renewal. In effect, he said: "The objections to the Alliance are many. In the forefront is the fact that it has served its purpose. It was entered into to curb the Pacific am-

bitions of Russia and of Germany and those ambitions, or at least the power to realize them, no longer exist. Today there is no menace to Japan from any nation, and there is no menace from any nation to the Pacific interests of Britain. This being so, why the Alliance? We are members of the League of Nations, the spirit of which is antagonistic to military treaties and pacts; why then should we enter into a military alliance with any nation? Why not try to be friends with all? Finally, there is the consideration of the United States.

Effect of the Alliance

During the war and since we have said over and over again that the best hope of the world lies in a better understanding, in a greater moral and intellectual sympathy between the peoples of the British Empire and the United States. Do you think that ideal will be served by the renewal of this Alliance? In the world today there are three great powers—the British Empire, Japan and the United States. If two of these Powers enter into an alliance, what must be the effect upon the third? No matter what the character of the Treaty, it can have only one object: it will drive the third Power—in this case the United States—to arm; and if the United States continues to arm, Japan will arm, and that will mean that we too must arm, that the mad race in armaments will go on and on, burdening the peoples with taxation, and leading we know not where. You tell me that this Alliance is something concrete, that it has worked well, that Japan has been a faithful ally and that we should not let go the substance to grasp at a shadow; and you ask me if in the event of the Alliance being denounced, what I propose to put in its place. To this I answer that I do not wish to throw overboard, that I recognize in her a loyal ally, that I want her to continue as a friend, but I do not want her friendship to be at the price of the enmity and the suspicion of other nations. What I desire is that instead of a separate alliance between only two nations, that we have a conference of all the great nations, that we get together and see if by friendly concourse we cannot adjust the problems the Alliance purports to protect, and also see if it be not possible to limit armaments and the causes of strife and war."

British Press Gives Support

This argument (it is given only in effect) made its impression. It soon became known that Mr. Meighen was against the treaty and for a Pacific Conference; the British press, or at least a powerful section of it, took up his cause; and there followed that series of private conversations between Japan, the United States and Britain which had their sequel in President Harding's history-making invitation for a gathering at Washington. This, perhaps, is not the time to claim credit for Canada's Premier for what was achieved, but when the full story comes to be written, when the ascertainable records can be produced, then—and this is written with some knowledge of the facts—the revelation will be one in which Canadians of all parties can take a pardonable pride. Credit there will be in abundance for all—for Britain, for America, for Japan—but above and beyond all there will stand out the undeniable fact that more than anything else the force which brought about the coming Washington Conference was the insistence of Mr. Meighen that re-

newal of the Japanese Alliance was out of harmony with the spirit of the times, calculated to create misunderstanding with the United States, and to make a step toward disarmament impossible. In support of this there can be summoned as evidence the tributes of the British press; although for the present one view will suffice. The Manchester Guardian, the greatest organ of British Liberalism, and perhaps the foremost newspaper of England, said this of Mr. Meighen:

"It is now an open secret that but for Premier Meighen's courageous stand on Canada's behalf, after a heated discussion concerning the renewal of the Japanese Treaty, the Washington Conference might never have been called under such propitious stars as now."

Was Outstanding Achievement

The making possible of such a Conference as President Harding has proposed, was, of course, the outstanding achievement of the London gathering. No event of modern times has been fraught with such possibilities of good for the world, and if it had accomplished nothing else, the Conference of Premiers could well justify its existence on this one result alone.

But other problems, vast in their scope and possibilities, were dealt with, and in respect of all of them Mr. Meighen represented Canada with dignity and acceptability. No one could have a keener appreciation of the fact that he was in London not as the representative of a party, but of a nation, and it is a curious fact that most of the principles and policies which he advocated constituted what have been the cardinal points of traditional Liberal policy. Thus it was that he found himself fighting for the historic, almost Gladstonian creed of no special alliances, of friendship with all nations, as well as for the principle of complete Canadian autonomy in the matter of naval defence. Upon this latter question, he took the stand—that pending the Washington conference on disarmament, as well as pending the clearing up of the whole international situation, the question of the Empire's naval defence, so far as it affected the Dominions, should be left in abeyance. This, with a resolution reaffirming the declaration of 1918, in favor of local control of Dominion navies, constituted his position on the naval question. And whatever may be dictated by future events, and while the whole question of naval defence must sooner or later be considered in the light of coming developments, it was a position to which no Canadian party or school of thought can take reasonable exception.

Relations Between Dominions

On the subject of Imperial status, Mr. Meighen took a leading part. His speech on the relations which ought to exist between the Dominions on the one hand and the British Government on the other summarized into four propositions by the press—formed the basis upon which all subsequent discussion rested. It was a declaration of policy which, although it enunciated no new departure, defined and reaffirmed the altered conditions brought about by the war, and maintained and upheld the best constitutional aspirations of Canadian statesmen in the past.

On other questions, comparatively minor, but still of moment, Mr. Meighen's voice was listened to with ever-increasing respect. With General Smuts, indeed, he came to be regarded as among the dominant personalities of the Conference, and while he did not always see eye to eye with Lloyd George, and while their differences were sometimes expressed with a vigor and a candor that are at once the pride and the safeguard of British institutions, the two became fast friends. As for the British press, it was unreserved in its admiration for the young Canadian Premier. Thus the London Times and the Daily Telegraph vied with such Liberal organs as the Man-

TIME OF LOOSE THINKING AND OF LOOSER TALK

In these chaotic days a government of angels or supermen could not govern Canada or any other country without complaint. Something seems to be wrong with almost everybody and, of course, the Government is to blame for any and every trouble under the sun! There never was so much loose thinking and looser talk. The root of the trouble is that people were shocked almost out of their minds by the awful happenings of the war and they have not yet completely recovered. The slaughter of men gave place to the slaughter of ideals and standards. The rule that men and women must work out their salvation by earnest, honest effort became suddenly old-fashioned, and work, unless at wages dictated by the worker regardless of consequences, is made secondary to play. The young folks of the land are dancing as if it were their chief occupation in life; the middle aged are uneasy, disturbed and alarmed, while the old folks shake their heads and sigh for the days of old with their well-defined standards of decent and orderly thought and living. Heaven only knows what will come out of it all!

Progress or Retrogression

The world must progress—but is it progress we are witnessing today? Is it not rather retrogression? Who is there bold enough to say that in morals, in thought, speech and action the standards of today are better than the pre-war standards? What has been accomplished by the agitators and government destroyers, by the theorists and cranks who have run riot during the last few years? Apparently nothing but the production of chaos, the disturbance of men's minds, the creation of disrespect for law and order, and the development of wrong ideas of life in the minds of the young. We are living in a veritable fool's paradise. The foundations are all here for the development of a great nation of happy, contented and prosperous people, but opportunity is not being grasped by the hand. Most men and women are living for the day without thought for the morrow. There is a regrettable absence of real grip, of planning, of foresight and resolute will to overcome difficulties and to succeed.

chested Guardian and the Daily News and such Radical Reviews as the Nation and the New Statesman in eulogizing his abilities and gifts.

Premier Appeals to British

Reserved, reticent almost to the point of being secretive, ascetic in appearance and logical and incisive in his pronouncements, he appealed to the British public. The old-fashioned oratory no longer holds sway in Britain, and Mr. Meighen's capacity for cold, dispassionate analysis, his passion for facts and realities as opposed to rhetoric and high-sounding generalities, left an excellent impression. His speeches were few, but those he delivered were on a high plane. The best, perhaps, was that which he made at the unveiling of a Cross of Sacrifice over the fallen Canadians at Vimy. Beautiful in its solemnity and simplicity, chaste in structure, there was about it a touch of the spirit which animated Lincoln's majestic utterances at Gettysburg, and the London Times, not lightly influenced by the eloquence of statesmen, was moved to eulogize it as a "fine example of chaste and delicate diction." Hardly less excellent was his address at Gray's Inn, where, speaking to the leading jurists of the British Isles, he delivered a penetrating and eloquent analysis of the principles underlying the British constitution; or his speech at Edinburgh, where, with more passion than is his wont he extolled the part that Scotsmen have played in the development of the Dominion.

Avoids Social Functions

But Mr. Meighen gave little time to speech-making. Words of counsel he reserved for the council table, and social pleasures and festivities, so much a part of by-gone Imperial Conferences, he sternly avoided. His task, he believed, was to help despatch the business of the Conference as speedily as adequate consideration permitted, and to return to his own country to grapple with domestic problems. And whatever of criticism his enemies may level against him, however much his people here at home may differ as to the merits or demerits of his administration, one does not need to envy the mentality of any of his countrymen who cannot feel pride in the undeniable fact that in London he represented our common country with credit and distinction.

CANADA'S NEEDS

Four great needs of Canada are:
More capital;
More demand for labour;
More people;
More genuine, hard work.
Things Canada could well do without are:
Selfish class politics;
Group Government;
Immature economic thought;
and the Ranting and Raving of extremists and agitators