

# The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 23, 1926.

## THE INCOME TAX.

There is increasing discussion of the possibility of abolishing the federal income tax, which, introduced of necessity as a war measure, still remains with us. That it should remain is, in one sense, natural enough, for we have by no means paid the expenses falling upon us by reason of the Great War. In fact the national debt, which was comparatively light before 1914, attained its present height almost entirely through our war expenditures. And it must be paid. Most of our interest charge is due to it.

Obviously, everybody would like to see the income tax abolished, but immediately when the question is raised it becomes necessary to ask how so great a sum could be raised otherwise. That we shall be able to get along with substantially less revenue for some years to come is necessarily doubtful, but because the income tax is regarded as too great a burden upon the individual and upon business its abolition is being widely discussed at this time.

In a recent issue of Toronto Saturday Night Captain W. C. C. Innes, Dominion Executive Director of Legislation for the Retail Trade Bureau of Canada, presented "the case against the income tax" at some length, and his arguments find strong editorial support from the Montreal Gazette and from various other sources. Captain Innes argues that, in a young and comparatively undeveloped country like our own, requiring capital for the development of its natural resources and population, a Dominion income tax is absolutely wrong in principle. He says that while other countries have long had such a tax, their cases are not like ours since they are fully developed and have generations of accumulated wealth behind them. He asserts that the income tax in Canada is the most outstanding check upon the industrial life of the country.

Eighteen months ago the Retail Trade Bureau of Canada made an investigation of the working of the income tax, as a result of which the Bureau has been carrying on for twelve months past a vigorous educational campaign, holding public meetings in the principal cities and towns, and urging the taxpayers to unite in protesting against the abolition of this tax. It is held by those speaking for the Bureau that the tax has had the effect of "killing the spirit of enterprise and initiative in our people, preventing capital from embarking on new enterprises and to a large extent discouraging the inflow of foreign capital so necessary."

It is argued, also, that the tax is a check upon immigration. The Montreal Gazette asserts that neither capital nor people will come to Canada in anything like the necessary volume or numbers "while the bleeding process continues and fifty or sixty millions of dollars are diverted annually from productive uses. Experience has shown this to be the case and experience has also shown that in proportion as income taxation is reduced so does industry expand and prosperity increase." In the United States the national government has steadily reduced the national budget and cut the income tax again and again. This action, opponents of the tax assert, has resulted in increased commercial activity, together with a heavy movement of Canadian workers to the Republic.

To some extent the income tax is discussed on partisan political grounds. It is contended that the farmers, particularly those in the prairie district, pay little or no income tax and are naturally in favor of its continuance. That the total amount contributed by the farmers to the Dominion treasury through this tax is small is proved abundantly by the official figures, but that in itself is not conclusive.

If the farmers are escaping taxation through some improper device, then the Dominion authorities are at fault. If the farmers, on the other hand, are paying according to the established rules, that is to say in proportion to their earnings, the rest of the population has no complaint. Nevertheless, there is considerable force in the statement that Canada is at a great disadvantage as compared with the United States in this matter, and that an income tax so heavy as ours is tending to increase the exodus, spreads discontent among the people and results in discouraging the inflow of both people and capital.

The proposal to introduce new forms of taxation as substitutes for the income tax is certain to be resisted. There remains the method adopted by the United States in cutting down its national expenditures through vigorous administrative action, thus lightening the most objectionable form of taxation upon the people. That is an example which must be followed at Ottawa if the income tax is to be abolished or even reduced to the level of that obtaining among our neighbors to the south.

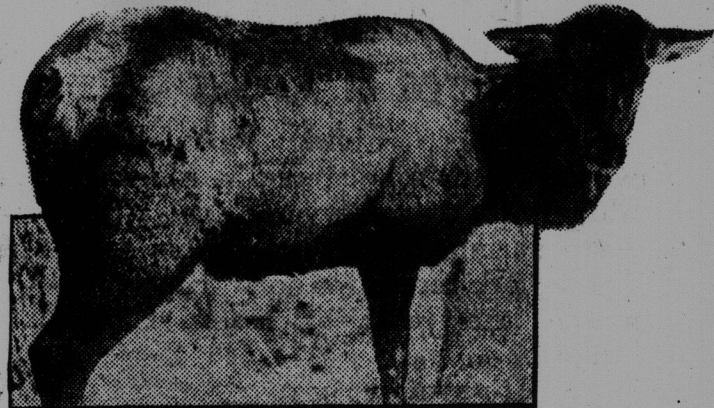
## The Question of the Day



"Pa, why didn't Noah save both those flies when he had the chance?"

## Queer Quirks of Nature

GOVERNMENT IS CONSERVING THE ELK.



The largest old bull of the Yellowstone herd.

By ARTHUR N. PACK.  
IN THE early days of settlement, the elk was a common animal over most of the woodland and prairie regions of the United States. Never as wary as the deer or moose, it fell an easy victim to the rifle of the frontiersman, and was soon exterminated from all but the wilder parts of our country. It seems to have been particularly numerous in the Middle Rocky Mountains, and was soon exterminated from all but the wilder parts of our country. It seems to have been particularly numerous in the Middle Rocky Mountains, and was soon exterminated from all but the wilder parts of our country.

So it came about that in these states elk persisted in numbers after most parts of the country knew them no more, and of all sections the region south of Yellowstone Park seems to have been most favored. Here they became accustomed to winter in the valley just east of the mighty Teton called Jackson Hole. But with the growing of the west, the valley of the elk became settled.

## The Political Fray

**Liberal**  
THE ROBB BUDGET.  
(Halifax Chronicle.)

At the beginning of the campaign, Mr. Meighen and his supporters evidently thought that they could distract public attention from the Budget by a flood of scandal, but they have learned that the Budget is immensely popular. Hence their present plan is to try to belittle it, to allege that it is "a thing of the past" while Mr. Meighen is making himself and his party ridiculous by denouncing the Budget. The relief is in the fact that the Budget is immensely popular. Hence their present plan is to try to belittle it, to allege that it is "a thing of the past" while Mr. Meighen is making himself and his party ridiculous by denouncing the Budget.

All this sort of talk is designed to belittle the fact that the people have been freed by the Robb Budget of the substantial sum of Twenty-five Million Dollars in taxation, that motor cars have been restored, that the Stamp Tax on the income tax has been abolished, and that there has been sweeping reductions in the income tax which with the increase in the exemptions, have removed nearly half the income tax payers from the list. There is also the further fact which the electors must face and bear in mind that if Mr. Meighen were returned to power, there would be an increase in the burden of taxation, and the relief which the people have received, by reason of the Robb Budget, would be lost.

**THE ROBB BUDGET.**  
(Ottawa Citizen.)

Mr. Meighen says that some mysterious virtue seems to have been attached to the Robb Budget. He is evidently worried by its popularity. He does not dispute that it reduced taxation. The relief is something that cannot be argued or explained away. It is something that the taxpayer knows from personal experience. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said before the change of government in 1916 that when he took office it would not be necessary to prove property by statistics, because everybody would see the evidence of prosperity himself. The promise was kept. The same thing is happening today. The people are more prosperous, and they are paying out less of their earnings to the tax gatherer. Mr. King says that if he is returned to power, he will probably be more tax reductions. He has given evidence of his sincerity by what he has done already. Taxation and good times are excellent reasons for continuing the King Government which has been interrupted for a few weeks by a queer shuffling of the constitutional cards.

## THREE ESSENTIALS

(Calgary Herald.)

What the public wants: Clean government, able government, Government with authority to carry out its policies.

## POEMS I LOVE

"An Old Song Reversed," by R. H. Stoddard.

THIS song is little more than an epigram in rhyme, perhaps; but it is so well done, so neatly turned, that it has long appealed to me. Not everyone can trust so skilfully an ancient meaning, giving it new life and fire.

"There are gains for all our losses." So I said when I was young. If I sang that song again, I would not be with that refrain, Which bristled with an idle tongue.

Youth has gone, and hope gone with it, Gone the strong desire for fame. Laurels are not for the old. Take them, lad, Give them gold. What's an everlasting name?

"There are gains for all our losses." Grieve beside the wintry sea, When my child is and my heart, For they would not live apart, What has been your gain to me?

No, the words I sang were idle, And will ever so remain; Death, and Age, and vanished Youth, All declare this bitter truth: There's a loss for every gain!

## ANOTHER PRIZE

DETROIT—Richard Biederman, a twenty-year-old art student of this city, has carried off another English honor, after the fashion of Americans this year. During a special three-month course at the Chelsea Art School in London he showed such remarkable work in painting that he has been awarded a three-year scholarship in the Royal Academy School at London, where he is expected to perfect his style and technique.

There is universal congratulation coming to him from England as well as his native land; for art—as sport may sometimes be—is international.

## GOT AWAY.

RHINELANDER, Wis.—Muskie in a lake here have a new fish story which they are passing around. It seems that one Johnny Muskelonge was cruising his favorite lake here, angling for humans when suddenly he had a magnificent strike. He knew by the feel of things that he had a fight before him and, possibly, a great catch. He settled to his work and before long had pulled Horace Cooper, of St. Louis, completely out of his boat and into the lake. It was simply a grand fight. The fisherman, who was a well-known angler on the lake and, just as the muskie was about to win through, George Rodski, who was Cooper's guide, joined in the battle and pulled his client out of the water. The muskie made off with his pole, uttering unhappily. But he had a good story about "the one that got away."

AT LAST.  
PANAMA, Okla.—Back in December, 1899, Joseph L. Epps, of this town, performed an act of conspicuous gallantry during the Gilmore relief expedition at Vigan, on the island of Luzon. Single handed he captured 21 insurgents. In 1920 Congress voted to honor him with the rarely given Congressional Medal. Then they began to look for Epps. He was nowhere to be found. For 24 years the war department kept up its search for this man, to the point where the medal has finally been given him.

**WHO'S WHO**  
IN THE DAYS NEWS  
LOUIS N. MORONES

A PROMINENT figure in the present Mexican government and a staunch supporter of President Calles' religious policies is Luis N. Morones, secretary of industry, commerce and labor, and the most powerful figure in the Mexican organized labor movement. Morones, physically a Dempsey, started life as an electrical helper and is still on the sunny side of 40. He was with Carranza against Huerta, and, like Calles, stood with Obregon in the movement which sent Carranza to the grave by an assassin's hand and elevated Obregon to the Presidency. It was as a labor leader that Morones first came into fame. Today it is said the organized labor movement of Mexico has a membership running into hundreds of thousands, the majority of whom, it is asserted, are standing behind the government in its struggle with the church.

Morones has been a member of Congress and was a warm personal friend of the late Senator Robert M. La Follette.

He who laughs last causes the rest of the audience to look around to see who the Mutt is who didn't see the joke at first.

## Just Fun

EVERYTHING comes to him who waits, including time for the next interest payment on the note.

THE trouble with knowing too much is you have so many more things about which you probably are mistaken.

## THINGS PEOPLE BRAG ABOUT

The fact that they can operate a typewriter by the touch system. The ability to roll an umbrella. Being able to drive a tack. Knowing a "little something" about art.

Their famous or infamous acquaintances. A college education. The lack of it. Being normal. Being abnormal. Not having had a doctor in eleven years—or is it twelve?

THE way of the transgressor is hard to understand.

## FAT CHANCE

Flavor your praise to the ladies. With a grain of common sense. For this is not the century. To say, "You look immense!"

AN EGG on the plate is worth two on the vest.

MOLLY—Do all good children go to heaven?  
Mother—Why, of course, dear.  
Molly—Oh, well, I suppose they earn it!

HAVE you ever noticed that you lose a lot of other things when you lose your temper.

WHAT has become of the old-fashioned rocking chair that squeaked?

WHEN snakes, fish and golf are out of season, there isn't much to lie about except taking a cold bath.

WHY is it that so many people depend upon the bankers to be their barometers on prosperity? It's the pawnbrokers who have the dope.

A FOOL is known by the crowd he follows.

## DINNER STORIES

COLE BLACK had fallen foul of the law and was having a preliminary conference with his counsel.

"Can you prove an alibi?" asked the lawyer.

"Al—what's that, boss?"

"Alibi. Can you prove where you were at the time the offense was committed?"

"Lawdy, boss, dat's jes' what ah's skeered der gwine to do."

A FARMER rode into a Middle Western town and inquired of the first man he met where he could find an undertaker.

"An undertaker?" the man asked. "Is there some one dead at your house?"

"No, there is no one dead," replied the farmer, "but my wife is pretty sick."

"Well, then," the man advised, "you want a doctor, not an undertaker."

"No," said the farmer. "What I want is an undertaker. You know, I have joined the Co-ops, and we have cut out the middlemen."

"TOM says that Mabel is too temperamental to make a happy home for a man. What is 'temperamental,' anyway?" said Mrs. Jay.

Mr. Jay: "Hm. See that woman crossing the street—the one with a baby in her arms—carrying a market basket—and two children clinging to her skirt?"

Mrs. Jay: "Yes."

Mr. Jay: "Well, she isn't temperamental."

"BROTHER JOHNSON," said the parson, "can't you all donate some small contribution to be fund for fencing in the old cemetery?"

"I dunno as I kin, parson," replied Brother Johnson. "I don't see no use in a fence round no cemetery. You see, them what's in there can't get out, an' them what out sho' don't want to get in."

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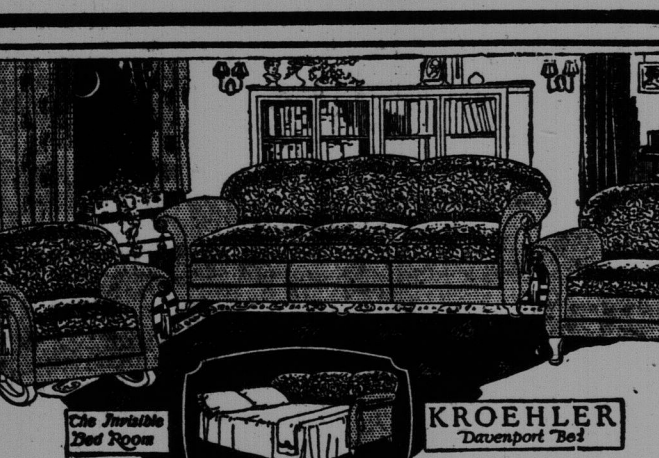
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