

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1920

MR. MEIGHEN ON THE TARIFF ISSUE.

In his recent Winnipeg speech Hon. Mr. Meighen made a contribution to the tariff discussion of first importance, and raised it above the plane of crafty generalities and loose platitudes, where Mr. King and Mr. O'Leary would like to keep it. Standing squarely for a moderate tariff, Mr. Meighen offered cogent arguments, fortified by facts and figures, in defence of his position, a position from which with consistent logic he could issue a challenge to the national spirit of Canada—a challenge to the people of the country to develop their own resources and attain a larger measure of self-contained economic life, and financial freedom.

Mr. Meighen points out that our great competitor being the United States, which has tremendously expanded her industries during the war and augmented her wealth till she wields an unquestioned financial domination, the tariff question between this country and the United States is necessarily bound up with the problem of the balance of trade between the two countries. On the one hand we have the American manufacturer, who lays out his plan and specializes to meet the demands of a market of 100,000,000 people; on the other, the Canadian manufacturer, who builds a plant and adjusts his organization to meet the demands of a market of only 8,000,000 people. It is unreasonable to suppose that the comparatively small organization of the Canadian manufacturer could without protection of some sort stand up to the competition of the mammoth organizations of the United States, for the cost of production is very largely determined by the scale of production. As to what constitutes a reasonable measure of protection, that, says Mr. Meighen, "is matter for enquiry, and the enquiry is now proceeding, and will be made thorough and complete at no distant date."

The policy of the Government, as defined by Mr. Meighen—and he invites all Canadians to take part in a fair spirit in the tariff discussion and make their contentions and wishes known—is to so adjust the tariff that it will encourage the united efforts of all our people to produce more manufactured goods and more foodstuffs, to the end that the country may pay her debts, and obtain financial freedom. Instead of lowering the tariff to an extent that will permit American goods to swamp our markets and cripple our industries the first consideration is to utilize our own resources and reduce our unfavorable balance of trade with the United States. On this point the Minister is supported by two of the best known Liberal papers in the country. The Montreal Herald says that we are now paying in exchange to the United States at the rate of \$100,000,000 a year; and it adds that Canada is now in a condition of economic vassalage to the United States, and will soon be under absolute and complete domination unless a remedy is found for the unfavorable balance of trade. The Toronto Globe takes the same ground and urges the same cure—that we must diminish to the utmost of our power our purchases from the States and increase our capacity for sales to that country.

At present, Canada is buying \$740,000,000 worth of goods a year from the United States. Of this amount, \$74,000,000 is for cotton, which this country has to import, but of which we might obtain a considerable quantity from other parts of the Empire if we offered encouragement to cotton producers. Iron and steel imports from the United States is the greatest item, \$154,000,000. "And we surely have enough iron and steel in Canada," says Mr. Meighen, and suggests that we are ignoring or abusing a great opportunity in not developing our iron and steel enterprises sufficiently to meet our own home needs. Our coal imports from the United States are valued at \$51,000,000; and we have in Canada some of the great coal fields in the world, and have obviously been remiss in not developing them and solving the problems of distribution. While our farmers are being urged to wipe out the tariff in the hope that the United States will thereby be induced to give them free access for their farm products, we are importing from the United States \$20,000,000 worth of meat; \$19,000,000 worth of breadstuffs; \$16,000,000 worth of wool; and \$18,000,000 worth of hides. Here is \$103,000,000 worth of farm products that we import from the United States; products of the kind this country ought to be able to raise herself. Then we import \$15,000,000 worth of chemicals from the United States though this country has possibilities of chemical production almost unequalled.

Mr. Meighen's concluding remarks illustrate the spirit of his speech. He said:

"The eyes of the world are on this country as the last of great opportunities. Shrewd observers the world over are pointing to us by reason of the name made for us by our sons on the battlefields of Europe. They are pointing to us as likely to

secure in the great scramble for world trade in the new conditions a greater share of that trade than in years gone by. That is the only way to take care of the interests of the people. We have nothing in the world to fear if we make no vital mistake and take the lesson of the past and the readings of experience to guide us. We have the advantage of the favorable sentiment of the universe, an advantage bought by the sacrifice of our sons, and we live in a country that need take second place to none in the resources that it places at the disposal of a vigorous people."

"The very air that breathes from this northern climate and wafts over this land drives into our people a zeal for getting things done. A passion for progress, a zeal for achievement, the ardor to plan for great opportunities over the storm and haste and hurricanes of life. There is no reason why within the next decade the population of this country will not be fifteen millions and the scale of production in this country that will make the carrying of Canada's burden a very easy task for these 15,000,000 people and that is the only way I know to meet the world fairly and make our promise to pay as good as gold. It is the only way I know to overcome all the obstacles that now confront us, and the only way to spread wider and ever wider circles of comfort and culture here amongst us and to lay broad and deep the foundations of a prosperous and happy people."

TEXT BOOKS AND TEACHERS.

The National Council on Character Education, at its meeting in Ottawa, adopted a resolution empowering three great Canadian Universities to conduct surveys into Canadian text books on literature, history and geography. Queen's University was chosen for the survey on literature, Toronto for the survey on history, and McGill for the survey on geography. Opposition to the idea was offered at first by the Maritime Provinces and the Western Provinces on the grounds that their universities were not represented. Bishop Richardson, of Fredericton, said that the people of the Maritime Provinces were clamorous, and might consider themselves slighted if their universities were not represented. The survey on history, and McGill for the survey on geography. Opposition to the idea was offered at first by the Maritime Provinces and the Western Provinces on the grounds that their universities were not represented. Bishop Richardson, of Fredericton, said that the people of the Maritime Provinces were clamorous, and might consider themselves slighted if their universities were not represented.

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Perhaps when the professors and teachers are studying Myer's General History they may make a survey of Gustave Myer's History of Canadian Wealth. This genial American historian puts most of the old-time captains of industry in Canada in the same category as Jay Gould and Commodore Vanderbilt, and argues that the chief reason why the English-speaking races became dominant on this continent was that for far trading purposes run from the West Indies was cheaper than French brandy.

AFTER KING'S COLLEGE.

The St. John Commercial Club will make an effort to have King's College locate here. This move should have the hearty support of all good citizens. That the chief city of the Province has not had a higher institution of education in its midst has been sometimes considered a reflection upon the enterprise or love of learning of its citizens. The cultural influence of a college upon the community in which it is located may not be as great as it is sometimes supposed to be, but it gives a certain dignity to a city. Halifax is prouder of Dalhousie than Dalhousie probably is of Halifax; and it may be true that the new terminals and the shipyards did more to wake up Halifax than ever the contact with Dalhousie did. Nevertheless King's College ought to find a congenial home in the old Loyalist city, and the Commercial Club will deserve well of the community if they put over their proposal.

MONTREAL WORRIED.

St. John is not the only port that is having troubles. In Montreal the shipping companies are complaining that they cannot secure berths enough, and that there will be a good deal of congestion next summer. On top of that the Montreal Harbor Commission

has raised the port charges to a point that shipping men consider excessive. They fear the new rates will prove such an excessive tax that the business of the port will be jeopardized. Protests have been made to the Minister of Marine, and he has replied that he has looked into the matter and found the increases necessary. However, the shipping men propose to keep on kicking.

WHAT THEY SAY

And Britain Smiles.
 (Edinburgh City Star.)
 Mr. Lloyd George's policy toward Russia may not suit everybody, but it cannot be denied there is something solid and British about it: if you can't lick 'em, trade 'em.

Circumstances Alter Cases.
 (Portland Oregonian.)
 D'Annunzio has captured an Italian destroyer and taken it to Fiume. If anybody did this to one of his poems, d'Annunzio would be the first to yell piracy.

He That Toucheth Pitch.
 (Louisville Courier-Journal.)
 The good applies in a barrel does not hold the rotten ones, and by the same token, the law-abiding and country-loving people do not, by contact and example, make good citizens of the "reds." Segregation is the only remedy in either case.

Risk Them at a Turn of Pitch and Toss.
 (Boston Globe.)

Too often the average American plays with his personal finances in much the same way as he plays his National game of poker. If he does not prosper he is "broke," but if he wins he takes the table, and then gives a little on the side to the "kitty."

The Value of a Hobby.
 (Edinburgh Scotsman.)
 Anyone, of any age, who has a really beloved hobby, personal to himself, has a line of communication with first things and the equal of men and women of genius. He boys to whom no minuteness of observation of the ways of birds ever seem dull, however little they may interest anyone else, is a type of the mind truly alive and autonomous.

A BIT OF VERSE

WAR WINDS.
 The winds are sweeping round the
 And nations toss like forest trees,
 Dropping the sceptres and the kings
 Like trash of rookeries.

Now fall the trunks of hollow heart
 In all the pride of leafy trees,
 And many a great and sacred oak
 Turns knotted roots in air.

The woodmen hear nor sleep again
 Ere day brings calm and sunlight back,
 They plan for tolls awaiting them
 Along each forest track.

And fire and axe shall burn and cleave
 That men may work with quiet mind,
 To shape into a nobler world
 The harvest of the wind.

—J. E. H. MacDonald, in Queen's Quarterly.

A BIT OF FUN

At the Dance.
 Hostess (nervously): "Pardon me, two sitting out on the stairs; nobody would dream we have five salons and three ballrooms!"—London Opinion.

Bobby Knew.
 "Bobby," said the next door neighbor, "did you know your mother has been looking for you?"
 "Yes, but," answered Bobby, "that's why she can't find me."

Peaches to the Peach.
 From a Story—"Earlier in the day he sent her some orchards."

A Matter of Color.
 Of costly books he owns a stack,
 He even reads in bed,
 And though I know his name is Black
 He's certainly well-read.

Accepted as a Substitute.
 "How did they happen to meet?"
 "He ran over that puddle of which she was so fond."

"Did he replace it?"
 "Looks that way. He and she are now engaged."—Stray Stories.

Why He Was Sent to Bed.
 "Pa, what is anarchism?"
 "One who thinks there should be no government and no authority my son."

"Then, pa, is ma an anarchist?"
 "Schreacher—He was a wise post who remarked that in this world a man must be either snail or hammer. Pa, I don't know! It seems that most of them are merely bellows."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

He Had.
 "Would you risk your life for a friend?"
 "Well, I took a drink of home-made liquor with one yesterday."

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY HONORED AT MANSION HOUSE

Celebrate Tercentenary of Sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers—Distinguished Guests Present.

London Feb. 23—A luncheon was given at the Mansion House today in celebration of the tercentenary of the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers, and Washington's birthday. The luncheon was presided over by the Lord Mayor.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.
 Enter! Enter! Big Flood Caused by a Leak! Last Wednesday Sid Hunt bawled a fountain pen for 15 cents and the man told him it wouldn't leak no matter if he carried it up side down or any which way, so Sid Hunt put it in his pocket up side down to find out, and when he got undressed at night there was ink on everything he took off and some things he didn't, such as his side ribs.

Sports. Leroy Shooster is learning how to skate backwards on his new roller skates, which while he was practicing last Thursday he bumped into 6 things, being a fire plug, Puds Simkins, a tree, some kid pushing a push cart, and the push cart he was pushing, and Flatfoot the cop.

Pome by Skinny Martin.
 They Fall Easy Enway.
 I bounced our our baby in the air
 And did my best not to drop it,
 But my mother said "Waste you doing there?"
 And immediately made me stop it.

Intriguing Fucks About Intriguing People. Arties Alixander loves pets and wouldn't hardly know what to do without one, some of the ones he has had being a short tail goat, a little dog with a big bark, a flea in a round pill box, a lady cat and a chick in just big enuff to come out of a egg and not big enuff to lay eny. Advertisement. Cure your children from stuttering. We will follow them around and hit them over the head with a staffed stocking every time they stutter without charge just for the pleasure. See Roddy Merly and Ed Wernick.

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Among the principal guests were John W. Davis, the American ambassador, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, Viscount Bryce and the Earl of Reading. Sir Anckchar Godes Minister of National Service and Reconstruction, H. A. L. Fisher, Minister of Education, Sir George H. Perley, Canadian High Commissioner in London, Andrew Fisher, Australian High Commissioner in London, Sir Thomas Lipton, Viscount Mersey, Viscount Buryham, Baron Ribbles, Sir William Tyrrell and Rear Admiral Harry S. Knapp, commander of the American forces in European waters.

Drop Your Military Title And Get Back To Civil Life

Edmonton, Alta., Feb. 23—If you are carrying a military title of any sort around with you, drop it and come back to civilian terms. That is the purpose of an announcement that has been made by the local management of the Soldier Settlement Board, as far as its staff is concerned. Hereafter there will be no such names as "Capt." or "Lieut." or even "Col." around the Board's offices in Edmonton, the male employees of which are all returned men.

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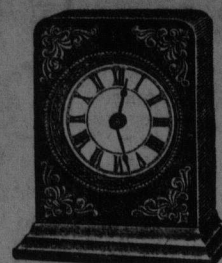
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Eyes Our Most Valuable The care of the our first thought, sight exist every Home, the School the Factory, etc. When glasses are comfort and ease Yours to K. W. EPST Optometrists Open Evenings

SHIPMENTS In a letter to the explaining why it necessary to order shipments for Greece port, the Canadian states that the port must be supplied by the supply of some Atlantic ports. It is to be loaded on the Greek government of wheat from Canada shipments to a U. confirming to state of the Wheat Board the inability of the a sufficient volume John. It is stated at St. John about manufactured goods of wheat from Canada Trade Commission that Canadian ports receive the preference of foreign shipments Canada.

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