

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1921.

THE PREMIER AT FREDERICTON

The speech of Premier Meighan at Fredericton on Monday was a masterly answer to the critics of his policies. Many unbelievers who attended to hear him, went away convinced not only of the wisdom of the policies upon which the Government stakes its existence, but in the absolute sincerity of the man who propounded them. He showed up in all their wretched nakedness the miserable trickery and hypocrisy that opponents of the Government are resorting to in their frantic efforts to create distrust of the party in power, and made it abundantly clear that whatever illa the people may be suffering from at present, they are mild when compared with the illa that would result if policies advocated by the Opposition and Farmers' were put into force.

The Premier touched upon the unemployment question which is at present somewhat prominent in this country. Will any student of affairs honestly maintain that conditions would improve if the free trade policies of the Farmer-Liberal party were put into force? Farmers of course are admittedly out for the furtherance of their own particular class interests; the Liberal party clamors for reduction of the tariff, even to the extent of removing it altogether on many articles. What is to become of the artisan when industries are put out of business by the competition of the United States and other countries where labor conditions are such that production can be carried on much more cheaply than it can in this country? This is the great question for Canadians to consider just at present.

Then again there is the question of direct taxation. The present Government is charged with being friendly to the big interests, and the Farmer party wants more taxes piled on to capital than it already has to stand. The existing Canadian income tax is among the most severe of its kind in the world. It is on a par with the same tax in the United States, and in respect of large incomes, (when it comes to the frontier) it is higher than the tax in Great Britain, and several of the other overseas Dominions. As a business man, Mr. Meighan the Farmer leader, must know that for Canada to go higher would be to invite grave danger. The great need of this country is capital, and capital the most sensitive thing in the world, does not follow taxation. To increase the present income tax would be to kill the goose which lays the golden egg. It would dry up the source of revenue; it would keep capital out of the country; it would retard development, and in the long run, it would defeat the very object the farmers profess to desire. Even though it secured ten of fifteen millions more of revenue (which would be inconsequential in making up the loss the Agrarian tariff policy would incur) it would still be prohibited by the paralysis it would bring to trade. The Farmer-Liberal policy is free trade with the United States. On the goods we imported from the United States during the last fiscal year, amounting to \$856,593,470, we paid exchange to the amount of approximately \$102,781,216, based on an average exchange of 12 p.c. If instead of paying that amount as individuals, our Government had paid it to the Government of the United States just for the privilege of buying goods from the manufacturers of that country, what would happen? Would not every red-blooded man in Canada howl himself hoarse about it? We would get some action then to remedy the situation; but because we pay as individuals, in dribs, we fatuously either forget about it, or throw up inefficient hands in despair. The trouble with the Farmer-Liberal party is that they have lost all sense of proportion, of numbers and of values. If, as now seems certain, the United States is going to exclude nearly \$200,000,000 worth of our products from the United States, how could the Farmer-Liberal party justify admitting American products duty free, thus increasing enormously our unfavorable balance of trade, and driving the value of our dollar in New York down to fifty cents? The idea is absurd.

Conditions in Canada today are not perhaps just all they might be, but in what country in the world will they be found any better? If it comes down to a fine point, there is no country where they are as good as in Canada. But under such policies as the Liberal-Farmer party want to inaugurate if they ever get the chance, Canada, instead of being one of the most prosperous and progressive countries on the face of the globe, would gradually sink into industrial oblivion. Canada's most inveterate enemy cannot do her more harm than Mr. Crear and Mr. Mackenzie King and the factious few who follow them would do if they had the chance. The thing to do is not to give in to them.

FIGHTING WITH WORDS

Mr. Mackenzie King, who likes to strike a militant pose in Parliament, is more anxious to fight the Government with adjectives than with bullets. Thus in York-Sunbury, and in Medicine Hat, where a writ for a by-election has just been issued, Mr. King is without candidates. The former riding affords fair fighting ground; the latter has been Liberal since 1911. Yet the Liberal leader, who tries to give the impression that the country is clamoring to make him Prime Minister, is content in both cases to strike his flag to the farmers. It is an ignominious position for the once militant party that fought so brilliantly behind Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the sad part of it is that, under Mr. King, it has become almost chronic. The same refusal to fight took place in Glenagarry-Stormont, in Yale, in Colchester, in Victoria, in Kingston and in Ontario. Mr. King of course may justify his policy from the standpoint of tactics, but we venture to think that such tactics do not inspire either confidence or enthusiasm. A party that refuses to fight cannot expect to win.

"LINKING THE EMPIRE BY TELEPHONE."

The links that bind our empire together are long and strong. Links of affection, sentiment, tradition, customs, manners, education, thought, institutions and, in part, language. Added to the intangible links which, unseen and insensible to touch nevertheless are infrangible, we have the links of trade, commerce, industry, the links of steamships, airplanes, cables, and now are almost on the eve of another empire link—wireless telephony.

The great "wizard" of the day, Marconi, says the hope for a system of wireless telephony that will link the empire as it has not yet been linked before, is merely a matter of minutes as far as the structure of the machine is concerned. There is something quite emotional in the thought that the day is not distant when it will be possible, from London, Canada, or, turning westward, to have a chat with friends in British Columbia, and hence over the vast Pacific to outposts on the other side of the great watery divide. "In those days there lived giants"—is true of today in an especial sense. When the feat of linking dominions in dominion, and dominions in turn with the Homeland, is completed, there will have been established the greatest agency for unification that the British Empire has known.

A SOLAR BOMBARDMENT.

It seems that we have just been bombarded by the sun without any casualties except to cables, electrical machinery and other apparatus having to do with transmission by means of electrical force. From all over the continent come reports that the sun's rays have done considerable damage to land lines and submarine cables, telegraph and telephone wires and other communicating systems. And the scientific fraternity make the whole thing plain by explaining that the disturbance is caused by a great stream of electrons shot out into space from sun spots and impinging on the atmosphere and surface of the earth. The fact that electrons, which are the most minute particles of negative electricity, were emitted from the sun in great number was first demonstrated by Prof. Zeeman, of Holland, and he also found that the spectral lines of the sun were changed whenever sun spots occurred. It was then shown by Prof. George Hale, an American scientist, that the sun spots were electrical or magnetic in formation. The new step was the discovery that the appearance of sun spots was accompanied by a greatly increased flow of electrons or electric force from the surface of the sun. These were shot out into space and as a part of the sun's light falls on the planets in space so did a portion of this electric force fall upon the earth and other planets. What happened in the last week was that the sun, in addition to its light, emitted a large number of electrons, part of which impinged upon the earth but which were not sufficiently strong to completely destroy our communicating systems. They were strong enough, however, to disorganize many of them. This phenomenon was due to the presence of spots on the sun, but normally the sun

is always giving off electrons which are negligible as far as local or general effects are concerned; it is only when accumulated by the presence of sun spots that the electrons become powerful enough to cause trouble. As the sun revolves on its axis the spots are carried further away from the earth and the disturbances disappear. When the sun spot is in position nearest the earth's surface the display known as the aurora borealis becomes visible. This is frequently witnessed.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Ulster. Ulster is more than the home of a group of Irish people dissenting from the main body. It is a province, not of Ireland merely, but of the Empire. In a few days it will have its own administration and parliament. There will be all the outward and visible signs of authority. Inauguration of that province will be celebrated by the appearance of the King, the Prince of Wales, his ministers and premiers of the dominions over the sea. The capital of Northern Ireland claims to be the largest city in Ireland, and it is the greatest business and industrial centre. The wealth of the province as judged by the proposed contributions to the Imperial revenue is 44 per cent. of the whole wealth of Ireland. Once this province is established and organized it will become a source of pride to the southern province or nation as it is to Ireland—Vancouver Province.

The Drayton Budget. The Drayton budget is a reasonable effort to meet the situation. With such an enormous revenue to be obtained and such an unfavorable balance of trade as anything like a general reduction of the tariff were not to be taken seriously. Nor was it to be expected that the income taxes, burdensome as they are, would be abolished at such a time. The excess profits taxes had, of course, passed their time, but the extension of the sales tax indicates an understanding of the needs of the business situation which it is to be hoped will continue in evidence in the future.—Toronto Financial Post.

A BIT OF VERSE

REVELATION.

The hour hath moments when it bores
 A whisper from diviner spheres,
 Denies the flesh, dismisses the cloud
 And leaps across estranging years
 So far from earth, so near to God.

We do not know the voice that calls,
 Nor when the pregnant whisper falls,
 But from our right by fleshy walls,
 Are prospects that we do not share.

Just on the outer rim of night,
 We seem to lean against the light,
 And half in hope and half in fear
 Strain upward to the shining height
 Where dim familiar forms appear.

Though we have loved the indulgent earth,
 And wept its tears and sung its mirth,
 And grudging to have the years run on;
 The mystery of the second birth
 Still has the quickening touch of dawn.

So with high faith we travel on,
 Along the way the gods have gone,
 The light of morning in our eyes;
 Out of the night, into the dawn;
 And death itself hath no surprise.

—Sir John Willson, in Canadian Magazine.

THE LAUGH LINE

Love may bubble over, but hate is apt to slop over.

Many a great hope is erected on a small foundation.

Never look the other way, even to avoid an enemy; you might miss a friend.

Germany may not be making any money, but she can't say she's without occupation.

Cited For Valor. The swastika had just encountered a bulldog that looked as if he might shake a mean lower jaw.

Nearly Crazy With ECZEMA.

No rest day or night for those who are afflicted with that terrible skin disease, eczema, or as it is often called, "itching".

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There is no remedy like Burdock Blood Bitters for giving relief to such sufferers; no remedy that has done, or can do more for those who are almost driven to distraction with the terrible torture.

Apply it externally and it takes out the stinging, itching and burning, and promotes a healthy healing.

Take it internally and it gets at the source of the disease in the blood—for eczema is a blood disease—and drives it out of the system.

Miss L. M. Bouttiller, 89 Victoria Road, Halifax, N. S., writes: "I have suffered for years from eczema. I could not rest day or night. I suffered great agony, and was nearly crazy with the itching and burning. I used all kinds of salves, but nothing seemed to help me. I saw Burdock Blood Bitters advertised, and was advised to try a bottle. I found great relief, and I really cannot recommend it highly enough for what it has done for me."

Burdock Blood Bitters has been on the market for over forty years, and during that time has been manufactured only by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Me and pop was taking a walk and tawking, especially me, and we started to go past a man with a wooden leg and a accordion, and he was playing the accordion as if he had had many lessons how to play, me saying to pop, Hay pop, if I gave that man a cent would that be an act of charity?

Most certy, sed pop.
 Well gosh, G, pop, I only got one cent, a cents all I got, I sed.
 That would make the act of charity all the greater, sed pop.

Well then I think I will, I sed.
 Wich I did, and the man stopped playing the accordion and put the cent in his pocket, saying Thank you kindly, and started to play the accordion agan, and me and pop kept on wawking, pop saying, Well, youve done a grate act of charity, you have given your intire fortune to the poor, do you feel better or worse?

Worse, I sed. Wich I did, on account of me not even having a cent, and pop sed, Well jest to show you that bred thrown upon the water shall return to you I will return your money 2 fold, in other words, heers 2 cents insted of one.

Wich he gave them to me, me thinking, G, heray. And we kept on wawking till me started to go back, and wen we started to go past the one legged man with the accordion agan, I had a good idee how to get 4 cents insted of 2, saying, Hay pop, I think ill give him my intire fortune agan.

Wich I did, giving him the 2 cents, and he took it, saying Thank you kindly, as if that was the only anser he knew, and me and pop kept on wawking without pop saying anything about giving me 4 cents insted of the 2 to prove about the bred coming back, and after a while I sed, I gave him my intire fortune agan, pop, and I feel worse agan.

The lord loveth a cheerfull giver, expect your reward in heaven, sed pop.

Me thinking, Aw heck.

"Why, Percy," she exclaimed as he started a strategic retreat. "You always swore you would face death for me."

"I would," he flung back over his shoulder, "but that darn dog A-T-T-I dead."—The American Legion Week.

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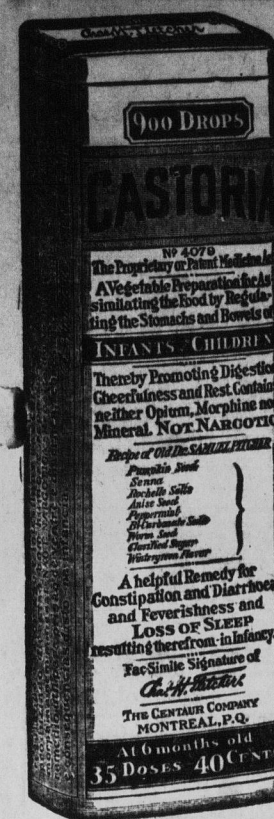
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Exact Copy of Wrapper.

LIGHTNING HIT STREET CAR.

Montreal, May 24—Lightning struck a street car on Ontario street, near Moreau street, Sunday afternoon, during an electric storm, and in the panic that ensued when the car took fire, one woman suffered a fractured skull and a girl had her arm fractured. The woman jumped from the car and struck her head violently. She lost

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