

PARTY SPOKESMEN PLEDGE AID FOR PROSPERITY LEGISLATION

MALCOLM, FLEMMING PROMISE TO BACK ALL CONSTRUCTIVE MOVES

Declare at Canadian Board of Trade Dinner Here That No Factional Differences or Strife Will Clog Wheels of Progress

THE assurance of representatives of the two principal parties in the Canadian Parliament that they and their associates would support every move which was for the common good of all the people of Canada, was the high note in speeches delivered at the first annual banquet of the Canadian Board of Trade in the Admiral Beatty Hotel last evening.

Both Hon. James Malcolm, Minister of Trade and Commerce, on behalf of the Government, and J. K. Flemming, M. P. of Juniper, N. B., on behalf of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, joined in the expression of a stirring Canadianism, when they declared in turn that no party differences or political strife should clog the wheels of progress when legislation tending to carry the Dominion to further heights of prosperity was being decided upon. Both speakers engendered encouragement in the presentation of the record of Canada's accomplishments of the past and a healthy optimism in their predictions for the bright future of the country.

It was a very full day for the members of the newly formed organization. Morning and afternoon sessions were engaged in the presentation of papers on a variety of interesting and instructive subjects, which included foreign and domestic trade, taxation and the problems of several sections of the Dominion. Officers were chosen and a committee named to arrange for the making of ways and means for the coming year of the board.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

Papers presented at the afternoon session included one on the problems of the Central Provinces, by A. Dawson, Montreal, vice-president of the Canadian Board, on the problems of the east, by J. D. McKenna, Saint John; on immigration, by Lieut.-Col. Ralph Webb, D.S.O., M.C., Mayor of Winnipeg; on the Canadian wholesale trade and its difficulties, by G. Lafoley, vice-president of the Montreal Board of Trade, and on municipal taxation with particular reference to civic management, by Dr. H. L. Brittain, director, Citizens' Research Institute of Canada, Toronto.

S. B. Gundy, of Toronto, the president of the Canadian Board, presided at the annual banquet, and the speakers were introduced by A. O. Dawson, vice-president, who paid a tribute to each as they were called upon to speak. Also seated at the lead table were Lieut.-Col. R. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., Mayor of Winnipeg; W. E. Payne, Vancouver; L. W. Simms, Saint John, also vice-president of the Canadian Board; C. W. P. Schwenger, president of the Victoria, B.C., Board of Trade; J. S. Royer, president of the Quebec Chamber of Commerce; Hon. Dr. W. E. Foster, Saint John; George Wilson, president of the Toronto Board of Trade; C. O. Smith, president of the Calgary Board of Trade; Col. H. Clarke, president of the Montreal Board of Trade; D. R. Turnbull, president of the Halifax Board of Trade; E. N. Todd, of the C. P. R.; R. G. Perse, Winnipeg; J. O. Hyndman, president of the Prince Edward Islands of Trade; Hance J. Logan, Amherst; and Col. J. L. Regan, secretary of the Canadian Board.

About 200 delegates and members were in attendance. When the chairman, S. B. Gundy, arose to open the speaking, he was greeted with much applause. He said that they were fortunate in having at the first banquet of the board guests who were two such distinguished gentlemen, on both sides of the house. He paid a tribute to Hon. Mr. Malcolm and said that they could have a no more distinguished guest than he.

DAWSON SPEAKS.

Speaking of the formation of the board the chairman said that in all great movements there is a man behind the scenes and while he was elected president, the man behind the organization of the board was A. O. Dawson, of Montreal. He paid a tribute to Mr. Dawson and called upon him to introduce the speakers of the evening.

PRaises MALCOLM.

Applause greeted Mr. Dawson, who thanked them from the bottom of his heart. He had suggested that Hon. W. E. Foster would be more appropriate person to aid in the introducing. He said that he as one manufacturer was glad of having the opportunity

Minister Speaks



HON. JAMES MALCOLM, Minister of Trade and Commerce, who addressed the first annual dinner of the Canadian Board of Trade here last evening.

In 1926 had been multiplied about six times and was now \$1,826,000,000. He pointed out that this was no mean growth and that it had meant improved trade conditions all over Canada.

BANK DEPOSITS GAIN.

Speaking directly to the Maritime people he showed how bankers considered that when bank deposits were increasing people were withholding their money from investment and were timid. When, however, bank deposits increased it showed that business was expanding and he quoted figures to show that during the period of from January to August, 1926, there had been an increase in bank deposits of \$2,250,000,000. While all areas showed an increase, with Quebec the highest with 18 per cent, Ontario 14 per cent, he pointed out that in the western province and British Columbia and Saskatchewan it was only 7 per cent.

FUNCTIONS TO PERFORM.

He next dealt with the export trade and said that the government had certain functions to perform. In export trade there were only two fundamental duties: the first was the removal of obstacles and the second was the application of force. To the government the duty of the removal of obstacles to trade. To those present, he said, fell the duty of applying the force. He said that this organization was going to be extremely valuable in giving advice to the government as to how to promote the free flow of trade. Business must not become stagnant, he said. He likened it to a ball which must be kept rolling. If a ball, he said, once became flat sided it would be hard to start up again, but if it was kept rolling it would gain momentum. When business went flat it took combined efforts to get the ball rolling and keep it rolling at a steady speed.

TO AID IMPORT TRADE.

The Department of Trade and Commerce was primarily to aid export business and it was his duty to see that channels of trade were made for Canada. Many thought that Canada was exporting all its raw material, but he said that it had imported from the United States last year \$210,000,000 in raw materials, such as raw cotton, petroleum and rubber, which was manufactured here. If we were to export raw materials, he said, it was the duty of his department to see that the channels were made easy.

ANOTHER DUTY.

Another duty of the department was the gathering of statistics of business in Canada, and he strongly urged his auditors to make use of these statistics as it applied to their own businesses. They should take advantage of these statistics and study and analyze them and see if Canada as a whole was taking advantage of the statistics and the duties of the department. He spoke of the birthday of the board here today he said that it had his assurance as minister of trade and commerce that he would be glad indeed to work together with it.

GROWTH OF CANADA.

Hon. Mr. Malcolm said that people had heard so much of pessimism that they sometimes forgot that there was a bright side. He next proceeded to give some figures showing the growth of Canada in various ways. In 1900, he said, the Dominion's population was 5,271,000 and in the quarter of the century ending with 1925 it had reached the figure of 9,264,000. He spoke of this growth in spite of the loss of life during the great war and the stoppage of immigration and the absence of a large number of men from the country. In spite of these handicaps, he pointed out, the population had increased 4,000,000 in that quarter of a century and the country had absorbed this increase.

He next spoke on the growth of trade in the same period and said that in 1900 the goods exported amounted to \$185,000,000. This figure

accomplished in ten years if the board continued as it had started out.

INTRODUCES FLEMMING

Mr. Dawson before introducing the next speaker, Hon. J. K. Flemming, said he was much pleased that Hon. Mr. Malcolm had asked for the assistance and advice of the Canadian Board of Trade and that at all times to lend all possible assistance to the government and the Trade and Commerce department. He also paid a tribute to his friend Hon. W. E. Foster, a former premier of New Brunswick and made prophecy that before long Mr. Foster would be occupying a place of honor and responsibility in the federal government.

It gave him great pleasure, Mr. Dawson said, to have the honor of the gathering, Hon. J. K. Flemming, an ex-premier of the province in which the Board was holding its meeting and he hoped the time would come when the opposition in parliament would not consider the main duty was to oppose any measure brought in by the government when that measure was in the best interest of the country.

FLEMMING PLEASED

Mr. Flemming expressed his pleasure at being present and being given the opportunity to speak as the representative of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the Federal Parliament. The opposition in any parliament had a useful function to perform but that function was not to oppose all legislation emanating from the government just because of that fact. It had never been a part of his policy to do that and never would, but on the contrary he would be ready to join hands with them in putting across any move for the prosperity of the country. He extended congratulations to Hon. Mr. Malcolm on his elevation to the cabinet and said he was assured that it would be the earnest purpose of the minister of trade and commerce to serve the country well.

PLEASED AT ORGANIZATION

"I am," said Mr. Flemming, "looking into the faces of men representing the business life of the Dominion and I am glad to hear that they have been so successful in the organization of this great body which has a wonderful field in which to work. The subjects with which you have been dealing in your sessions here are too big and important to engage party distinction or strife and should be dealt with on their merits, irrespective of politics."

"We sometimes expect too much in the way of immediate results in development, and are apt to imagine that no progress is being made. The young men do not go away because they want to but because they feel that by so doing they are bettering their condition."

NATION-WIDE BODY

"I hope the organization will go on to increasing success. It is a nationwide body and can be of great assistance in solving the problems of the day for the good of the people of the country."

Before declaring the meeting adjourned, the chairman said that it had been found necessary to curtail the trip which had been planned and it would not be possible for the delegates to visit Amherst, Moncton and Quebec at this time.

Mr. McKenna Speaks

The following is in part the address delivered by J. D. McKenna yesterday afternoon on "Problems of the East." "Many things have transpired in the Maritime Provinces since the last conference at Winnipeg. I have been asked to discuss Maritime problems. At the outset I might say that the problems of the Maritimes are the problems of Canada as a whole. Too much stress has been placed upon the problems of the Maritimes, of the problems of Central Canada and Western Canada. If we are prepared to view them as national problems to be solved in a national way, I believe the Canadian Board of Trade will fill a long felt want in this respect, and I believe it is a good medium to solve these problems. This Board is Canadian in its scope and comprises every section of Canada. I hope every delegate will carry with him the various messages expressed at this convention."

TO PREPARE STATEMENT.

"A short time ago the Maritime Province continued on Page 9"

FOREST DEVELOPMENT

"Turning from the soil to the forest, there has been a wonderful development in the last 25 years. For the last five years the exports of pulp and paper have been about \$150,000,000 a year, and this year they are hovering around the \$200,000,000 mark, and the end is not yet. "Let us look at our mineral resources. Fifteen years ago the mineral production was \$100,000,000 and last year it had grown to \$225,000,000, an increase of more than 100 per cent in that time. In 1910 the gold produced in northern Ontario was valued at \$42,000 and last year this had grown to \$20,000,000. Last year the copper produced was valued at \$16,000,000 and the ore in sight in western Quebec, north of Ontario and northern Manitoba give rise or making this country the chief producer of minerals in the world. These few facts show that Canada has a wonderful future as a producer of minerals and the surface has only been touched, as yet."

CONSERVATIVE STAND

"I would like to speak for a few minutes of one or two questions, which I believe are too big for party but deserve the best attention of all interested in the advancement of the country and I will say, speaking for the conservative party, that they will be found willing to aid in the promotion of any legislation tending to bring success to the agricultural, manufacturing and labor interests of the Dominion."

CHANCES IN MARITIMES.

He spoke of the opportunities in the Maritimes and said that they were as good here as in any other part of the Dominion. All the people had to do here, he said, was to apply the urge that he had mentioned previously.

He next voiced his belief in trade within the Empire as far as possible. The different parts must make contributions towards unity and he said that the load should not rest with the Mother Country. After the development of internal trade the exportable surplus should go to sister dominions and something in return taken from them.

NATIONAL SENTIMENT.

He spoke of the absolute need of a national sentiment and said that the young man in Canada could make as much progress, could enjoy as fine a citizenship, and develop as fine a character here as in any other part of the world. A strong faith in the country and its future was more essential than loyalty. If this faith could be created in the minds of boys it would be better than preaching sermons at them. He enlarged on the subject of citizenship and the dangers of overpopulation. He also spoke of the movement from the land to the city. He urged the board to have a department of national citizenship and outlined what could be done along this line.

Speaking of taxation he said that the taxes collected were less now than in 1914, if those resulting from the war were excluded. In conclusion he said that the Board of Trade would have much to do in the forming of public opinion and he urged them to take an interest in not only the material things but also the social. He looked forward with great hope and pleasure to what would be

"The first of these is transportation. This is one of the most important questions to which Parliament can turn its mind. For 50 years this has been a big problem and the country has been spending millions of dollars on its railways and canals."

VISION OF PROMOTERS

"The vision of the men who promoted these railways and canals was a succession of loaded trains traveling east and west with the commerce of the Dominion and being sent from Canadian ports to markets overseas. This vision has not been altogether realized and we have not seen the volume of Canadian traffic being carried over our own rails and to our own ports that we should. We may not hope to see 100 per cent of the traffic so carried but we can, and should, see an ever increasing volume so carried. The railways and canals of Canada bear the same function and if they do not deliver the required amount of trade to any part of the body politic that part becomes weak. I have been glad to see the movement of grain from Alberta through the port of Vancouver and we want the same traffic through our Atlantic Canadian ports."

DUTY OF RAILWAYS

"It is not the duty of the railways to carry its traffic at a loss to themselves but the country should make it possible for Canadian traffic to go through Canadian channels and any loss sustained by the government in this operation would be more than made up by the increased earnings of the railways and the employment given at the various ports of the country. "Let me refer to our coal problem. At the present time the country is importing \$100,000,000 of coal a year and this should be cut at least 50 per cent. We have coal in abundance in the Maritime Provinces and in Alberta, while the young men do not go away because they want to but because they feel that by so doing they are bettering their condition."

MATTER OF IMMIGRATION

"I wish to say a few words on the matter of immigration. I am quite prepared to justify this as a successful operation on bringing people in to the country, for we need them, but I do not believe that so many should be doing so to stop emigration from the country. For some years now we have lost an average of 100,000 yearly. It is necessary to stop this leak if real prosperity is to come. Capital and enterprise must combine to provide employment for them and government and municipal bodies must act together to make life on the farm more pleasant. The young men do not go away because they want to but because they feel that by so doing they are bettering their condition."

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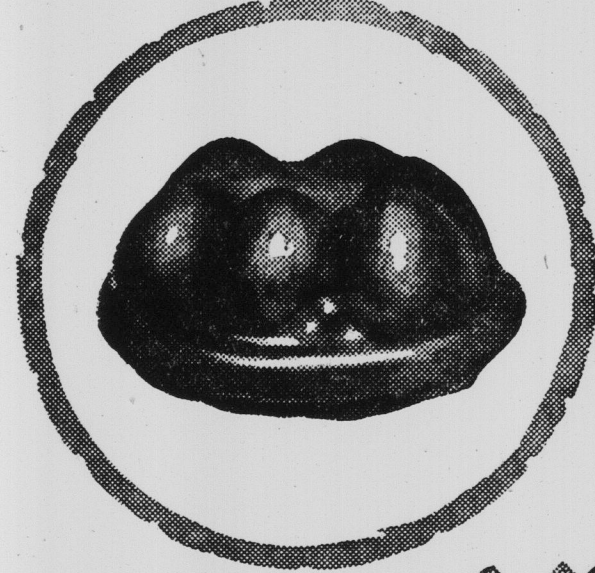
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