

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1925

# The Evening Times-Star

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## COALITION TALK.

Whatever they may have voted for, the Canadian electors on October 29 did not vote for coalition government, and they would not vote for it tomorrow if they had it all to do over again. Nevertheless Mr. W. O. Sealey, of Hamilton, a former member of Parliament, is advocating a coalition, and the Toronto Globe editorially appears to be squinting in that direction.

Mr. Sealey knows exactly where and how Hon. Mr. King and Hon. Mr. Meighen fell short in the last campaign. They failed to take his advice. In a series of letters during October he preached in favor of "the conversion of our natural and agricultural resources into finished products before export, as well as the development and utilizing of our own waterpower for our own use within Canada, and the constant employment of our own people." It does not sound wholly original, but he calls it the Sealey policy, and he says: "If the Rt. Hon. Mr. Meighen had adopted a considerable portion of it a week before election day, he would have been elected hands down. If the Rt. Hon. Mr. King had adopted it a month or so ago, he would have been elected hands down." What would have happened if that had seized upon the Sealey policy early in the contest and adopted it, Mr. Sealey does not tell us. But, being still for the Sealey policy, he advocates coalition.

The Toronto Globe, which supported certain Liberal policies during the campaign, but which was sharply critical of the Prime Minister and his administration in many ways, makes no reference to Mr. Sealey, but on its own account advocates a non-partisan administration "till the air clears." It sees as a result of the elections three minority groups, "no one of which is in a position of itself to form a government and command the confidence of the new Parliament." It says that to play party politics in such a crisis is to invite chaos.

The Conservative Mail and Empire demands the immediate resignation of Mr. King. The Liberal Toronto Star says that Mr. King should stay on, meet the Commons and "challenge support in the coming Parliament." The Globe argues that they are both wrong, but it gives no intimation as to how much time must elapse before the air will be cleared, and it overlooks the obvious fact that unless Mr. King himself declines to meet the House, the course to be taken must be decided by Parliament itself, in other words by the representatives of the people elected on October 29.

Some of the Globe's arguments are interesting none the less, and they may be reviewed briefly without any intention of endorsing them. It doubts, for instance, whether another appeal to the people, now or within a month or two, would really clear the air. "The serious side of the situation," it says, "is the sharp sundering in main divisions of the Dominion. Is there any danger of intensifying the cleavage in a way which may easily do lasting injury to the cause of national unity? This is a question of far greater import to Canada at the present time than the adjustment of the party lines and the party Ours at Ottawa."

It reads the popular verdict as unmistakably a vote of want of confidence in the administration of Mr. King, but it says likewise the country "has failed to vote confidence in the policies and the party of Mr. Meighen. What change in the verdict could reasonably be expected by sending the case back to the jury forthwith? Could Mr. Meighen do better in Ontario, the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia? And what chance would he have after the Pateau performance and with his high tariff proposals, to make further headway in Quebec, Saskatchewan and the grain-growing West?" Again rebuking the partisan newspapers on both sides, the Globe says the country wants some form of stable government, "no matter under what leader or by what party name. It wants to get on with public business and take full advantage of renewed progress and reviving prosperity."

It says there are pressing problems upon which there should be no party differences, and important issues that ought not to be contentious. In conclusion: "There is a chance for a constructive, courageous, non-partisan administration to carry on till the air clears."

But the country's verdict, so far as setting up an administration with a clear working majority is concerned, was indecisive. The war, bringing a great national emergency, produced the first coalition government since that which followed Confederation. Another great national emergency might produce another coalition and keep it in office until the emergency had been passed. There are party emergencies to-day but no national emergency within the right meaning of such a

The pressing need for additional berthing accommodation and the fact that the question of additional facilities here is a national question are emphasized sharply by the letter from the Shipping Federation of Canada to which the Common Council gave attention yesterday. Whatever may happen during the coming winter, it is clear from the statement of the Federation that the traffic offering is in excess of present accommodation, and that the port is confronted by loss of business unless a definite building programme is decided upon at once so that construction may be pushed forward. Even if a decision be reached within a month it will be difficult to meet the requirements of the winter business of 1926-27. The failure to equip this harbor properly is one reason why the diversion of Canadian traffic to alien harbors continues to increase. It has long been obvious that the requirements of national transportation demand a comprehensive plan of development here which would not be interrupted by any political changes but which would be carried out as a sound and necessary national investment.

## Odds and Ends

Not What It Used To Be  
(Manitoba Free Press.)

Politics of today have many points in common with the old grey mare—she is not what it used to be. A strange, unaccountable blight has fallen upon a vocation which in former times was one of the most colorful of a man could select. Politics today lack vigor and vitality. Candidates make no use whatever of their opportunities. Political meetings, in contrast with those which were held a few decades ago, are flat and uninteresting. The mistake which is being made, of course, is that politicians are misinformed as to what the public desires to hear. They think that the electorate is demanding to be educated and accordingly they are delivering long discourses on the issues of the day, on the tariff, the national railways, the state of trade, the freight rate problem, immigration and a score of other subjects equally dull.

In the good old days, the politicians were wiser. They knew very well that what the public wanted at election time was fireworks. Not one of your pale disquisitions on the British preference or the like, but a red hot speech full of personal references to opponents and screaming with invectives.

By the same token, all the newspapers in the country seem to have been wrong in the way in which they handle election campaign news. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, the newspapers have stopped shouting abuse at opponents and have adopted a queer policy endeavoring to reason with him and to prove to him, as well as to the electors, that he is wrong.

If you come to look back on the major figures that occupied the political stage five years ago or more, you will not find a single one who was not old days, a political leader could no more escape being called names than he could escape being born. It was never Mr. King or Mr. the other, invariably a name, a name, a name, which stuck and in the course of a campaign or two he became familiarly known by it from one end of the country to the other.

If you read over the old stump orations you will find them filled with such expressions as "Wretched Trickster," "Imbecile," "Poltrone," "Jackal," "Cunning Coon," "Infamous Traitor." And to be quite frank, the newspapers were by no means behind hand. Here is a character sketch clipped from the Toronto Globe of 1840. Be it remembered that the subject matter of this sketch was a politician whom the Globe had supported a few years previously. It is really not a fair sample, because no paper would do itself justice in criticizing a person whom it had recently held up for public admiration.

"Dr. Rolph is a sleek-visaged man with cold grey eyes, treacherous mouth and lips fashioned to deceive. Dark, designing, cruel, malignant, traitorous are the depths revealed to a student. His manners are civil and insinuating. A cold distrustful sneer or grin plays about his mouth, and his oily lips, while at times glance forth expressions indicative of polished ferocity of soul, revealing the hard and strong depths beneath. In short he is a kind of highly polished human tiger."

A Seal in the Thames.  
(Christian Science Monitor.)  
The unusual sight of a seal in the Thames, nearly 100 miles from the open sea, has been observed every day for the last ten days at various places near Richmond and Isleworth. The seal, which has been named Sammy by unanimous consent, seems unafraid of anything and amuses itself chasing swans and making graceful dashes through the water. When it sees human beings watching it from the nearest bridge or punt, it obligingly raises its head out of the water and stares back for five or six seconds at a time. Noticing that it used a raft as a resting place, a boatkeeper placed some fish on it, and sea gulls made off with the meal, much to the disgust of Sammy on its arrival a few minutes later.

Still Champion.  
(Manitoba Free Press.)  
Mr. Dempsey is still the heavyweight motion picture champion of the world, including Russia and the United States of America, which are the only two nations not in—or almost in—the League of Nations.

## Just Fun

QUACK, QUACK

"I think the new doctor's a duck," she remarked coyly.  
"Well, I wouldn't go so far as that," said her husband, "but I will say I've noticed a bit of the quack about him."  
—Tit-Bit.

NOT HIM

"I know a good joke—have I told it to you before?"  
"No; you certainly have not."—Princeton Tiger.

UNKIND

"Ah, we doctors have many enemies in the world."  
"Yes, and more in the next."—Buen Humor (Madrid).

STRANGE

"Why was the car stopped?"  
"We are short of alcohol."  
"But this car doesn't run on alcohol."  
"No—but the chauffeur does."

COME-DOWN

"Has your husband still got his job as Tower Watchman?"  
"No. Now he is employed in a wine-cellar."  
"What a come-down for him!"—Nagels Lustige Welt, Berlin.

INVENTOR

Friend—"What does your lodger do?"  
Landlady—"He's one of the greatest inventors of the age."  
"Really? What has he invented?"  
"Well, every month he invents another reason why he can't pay his rent."  
—Humorist.

LONG AND SHORT

"Can you give a good description of your absconding cashier?" suavely asked the detective.  
"We'll, he's about the hotel proprietor, 'I believe he's about six feet four inches tall and about \$7,000 short."  
—American Legion Weekly.

YOUTHFUL

He—"Would you mind telling me your age?"  
She (ingenuously)—"Not at all. I'm 18."  
He—"Times what?"

GENEROUS

Landlord—"I will forego one-half of the rent you owe."  
Tenant—"Good! I will forego the other half!"—Kasper Stockholm.

HARMONY

Mrs.—"I don't believe you intend to give me any money."  
Mr.—"Then for once we believe alike!"

## SUNSHINE SPELLETS

By DR. W. F. THOMPSON.

If there is no hell, what has become of the food adulterator?

If we'd wear more loose, porous clothes we'd need fewer tight, porous plasters.

Medicine, long known as the art of healing, is fast becoming the science of prevention.

I'm weak and I'm weary  
From hearing the theory  
That age's the cause of all ills;  
For the fact of the matter  
It's the plate and the platter  
That run up the big doctor bills.

What care we of idle mince—  
Of what the coal men earn?  
Of when or where the Baron dines,  
While we have dough to burn?

A neglected wound is an infected wound.  
The fear of failure is at the bottom of most failures.

Wealth is not synonymous with health—just rhymes with it.  
For it's stimulating effect, better a cold bath than a cold bottle.

To strain one's strength to the breaking point is to shorten one's life.  
Light underwear and a heavy overcoat beats a light overcoat and a heavy cold.

## Other Views

STANDING THE GAFF.

(J. A. S., in the Westminster Gazette.)  
The country has undoubtedly very serious problems to face, but it is not likely to face them wisely if it loses its head or imagines itself ruined because its trade is depressed. The years since the war have been years of difficulty and disillusion, but also of remarkable achievement. It is apparently forgotten that we are paying our debts, maintaining our credit, supporting our unemployed, and to that end bearing a load of taxation which 20 years ago we should have thought impossible and insupportable. Of course it galls, and we have probably in recent months sacrificed rather too much to economic virtue. By taking the condition of the people as a whole, it is less surprising that we have suffered than that we have not suffered more, and that the enormous destruction of wealth in the four years of the war has so little depressed the general well-being.

THE CAT THAT WALKED BY HIMSELF.

(Manchester Guardian.)  
(Edinburgh) proposes to check the stray cat nuisance with the imposition of a shilling license, whilst London "believes the cat to be incurably maddic, and thus able to defy a battalion of inspectors." The cat, whom Shakespeare thought to be a necessary companion, has passed beyond the limits of utility, and his aristocratic temper has not saved him from judgment on utilitarian lines, while the unhelpful urban dog comports freely under license. But that licensing and registration would effectively bring the cat problem under control is very difficult to believe. To be a ward of Whitehall is the kind of fate from which the cat will turn contemptuously away, for he is an original and honorary member of all the anti-socialist leagues that were ever founded.

Lovers' form—

## A Common Effort



Britannia (to the Prince of Wales)—Welcome home, David! While I have been working for peace in Europe you have been spreading good will overseas." From the News of the World.

## The Best of Advice

BY CLARK KINNAIRD

WHEN DUTAGE CLAIMS US.

KNOWLEDGE, education, information—all are different. Knowledge is the most important. Knowledge must be acquired while the mind possesses a disciplined reason. Education is valuable because it disciplines our reason.

ARE you waiting for TOMORROW to improve your condition? If a man should live longer it is quite uncertain whether the understanding will continue sufficient for the comprehension of things, and retain the power of contemplation which strives to acquire the important knowledge of the divine and the human. When man falls into dutage, perception and nutrition and imagination and appetite do not fall him, but the power of making use of himself, and filling up the measure of his duty, is extinguished. The disciplined reason is gone.

OUR intellect is confined as well as the strength of our body. Some men are more robust than others; there are some who are dully near their death, but also because the conception of things and the understanding of them may cease first.

## Poems That Live

HOW CRUEL ARE THE PARENTS.

How cruel are the parents  
Who riches only prize,  
And to the wealthy booby  
Poor Woman sacrifice!  
Meanwhile the hapless Daughter  
Has but a choice of strife;  
To shun a tyrant Father's hate—  
Or become a wretched wife.

The ravening hawk pursuing  
The trembling dove thus flies,  
To shun impending ruin  
While her pinion tries;  
Till, of escape despairing,  
No shelter or retreat,  
She trusts the ruthless falconer,  
And drops beneath his feet.

—Burns.

## Who's Who

IN THE DAY'S NEWS.

JOHN PHILLIP HILL.

WHEN Congress convenes in December, John Phillip Hill, representative from Maryland, plans to introduce a bill providing for the repeal of the prohibition amendment. He feels that the law has proved a failure and for the good of the constitution should be repealed.

The representative was born in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1879. He received his A. B. at Johns Hopkins and LL.B. at Harvard three years later in 1908. After practicing law for seven years he was made U. S. district attorney of Maryland, and held that office until 1912.

## Dinner Stories

THE enthusiastic girl was thrilled when she was introduced to the famous author at a dinner party. She lost no time in starting a conversation and letting him know that she was one of the keenest admirers of his latest book.

"You have no idea how very helpful I have found it, Mr. Brain!" she gushed.

"Indeed," replied the author, "in what way, may I ask?"

"Oh, it has taught me to concentrate."

"To concentrate? That's very nice. Now tell me, what are you concentrating on at the present time?" asked the author.

"Oh," replied the girl, "lots and lots of things!"

A WOMAN teacher, in trying to explain the meaning of the word

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MARXIAN CONSERVATISM  
(Hon. G. N. Barnes in Westminster  
Weekly.)

Truly the role of the prophet is dangerous, but the hand of time is inexorable. Factory Acts, and trade union

pressure has transformed the industrial keep on repeating the phrases of 1848, world. But great is the power of the although those phrases are hopelessly phrase: Those who swear by Marx, out of tune with the requirements of although they have never read him, the new situation which has arisen.

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