

The St. John Standard

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THE TARIFF QUESTION.

Appropos of the open declaration of Mr. Fred Pardee, Liberal member for West Lambton, that he is a protectionist, in contradistinction from the Liberal "ants," The Woodstock Sentinel-Review, a Liberal newspaper, remarks that "it would not be surprising to find a considerable section of the Liberal party in practical agreement with an equally considerable section of the Conservative party in support of a moderate tariff." The Hamilton Herald, an independent newspaper, says: "And Fred. Pardee is not the only Liberal member of Parliament who believes in tariff protection, though the others may not be so frank and courageous as he is in the expression of their opinion."

There is no manner of doubt that in the past the tariff has been much involved in party politics. Men have stood in their own light and have acted contrary to their own best judgment because of the influence which party bias has had upon them. It is noteworthy, however, that the policy of protection has steadily made friends, and that this trend in our public life is still prevailing is made apparent in Mr. Pardee's profession of economic creed, in which he is likely to be joined, as The Sentinel-Review indicates, by numerous other Liberals.

Mr. D. D. McKenzie, while acting leader of the Liberal party, said that the country owed much to the policy of protection. More interesting still is the assurance which Hon. Mackenzie King, then a member of the Laurier Government, gave to the manufacturers of Kitchener, when reciprocity with the United States was the issue. Mr. King then declared it was not the intention of Sir Wilfrid in any wise to interfere with the protection accorded under his Government.

The fact is that Canada is overwhelmingly favorable to the policy of "Canada for the Canadians."

U. S. SENATORS AND IRELAND.

Mail and Empire: Canadians understand American politics better than Englishmen, perhaps, but they are none the less disgusted with the antics of the majority in the United States Senate, which has passed a resolution favoring "self-determination" for Ireland. It is a sorry compliment to the intelligence of the American voter that the Senators believe that such humbug can impose on him. The Senators are aware that their reprehensible resolution can have no effect whatever toward pacifying Ireland. In fact, it was designed to pacify—not Ireland, but Irish-Americans, and foster the British-hating element in the United States. If it has any other effect at all it will be to encourage the Sinn Feinners in their campaign of murder and arson and will lead to the death of more loyal police and soldiers. To the distorted fancy of some of the Sinn Fein leaders, the Senate resolution may appear as a first step in the direction of active intervention on the part of the United States in Irish affairs. It would have been well if the Senate had added a sentence in which it deplored the lawlessness in Ireland and urged the Sinn Feinners to abandon violence and commit their cause to constitutional methods.

Party lines were broken by Senators in their indecent haste to enter the Irish-American vote. Senator Lodge, while expressing sympathy with Ireland, said it would be hypocritical for a nation which had fought a bloody civil war to prevent certain States leaving the Union, to talk of self-determination. Senators Borah and Reed, who have distinguished themselves for the anti-British slant in their recent speeches, of course, supported the measure. Reed, however, thought the resolution was a mere empty gesture. Can it be that he desired to couple with it a threat? We in Canada are well aware that the masses of decent Americans are friendly to Great Britain, and that those among them who have given any thought to the Irish question know that Great Britain has gone after in the direction of giving Ireland "self-determination" as any nation could go. They know that Ulster is part of Ireland, and that Ulster has as much right to self-determination as has the South. Most of the Senators are familiar with these facts, but they are still more familiar with the strength and cohesiveness of the Irish-American and German-American vote. The resolution makes it clear that wherever the next President of the United States comes from it will not be from the American Senate.

A CANADIAN NAVY.

Judging by the appearance of things at Ottawa, both parties are somewhat disposed to "mark time" on the question of Canada's future naval policy. If anything is done this session it will likely be of a tentative character, preliminary to a definite plan to be adopted when the outlook is more certain. The general view seems to be that until naval experts have agreed, in the light of war experience, as to what will constitute the most effective naval agency of the future, until the question as to whether the United States is to enter or hold aloof from the League of Nations is decided (a matter which may have a decided effect upon the future of armaments), and, finally, until the coming Imperial Conference clearly determines a number of inter-imperial problems, involving the question of defence, it would not be wise for Canada to launch upon any particular line of naval effort.

WHERE ARE THEY AT?

Premier Foster—"I have read the platform of the United Farmers and can see little difference between it and that of the Government."

Mr. W. Duff, M. P.—"It is quickly realized that the folds of the Liberal flag are wide enough to cover and protect the interests of farmers, fishermen, laborers and even merchants."

News item—"Newmarket, Ont., March 21.—The United Farmers of Ontario, at a meeting held here on Saturday, decided to put a candidate in the field against Hon. Mackenzie King, Liberal Leader, in the next Federal election."

Do they know where they are at?

Bill No. 6, "An Act to further provide for funding Motor Vehicle Poles," now before the Legislature, was apparently drawn by some amateur who thought he knew better than anyone else, for he proceeds to enact it by "the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council." The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council have at one time or other availed themselves of powers they do not actually possess, but so far they have never yet tried to enact Acts of the Legislature.

Revolting troops marching out of Berlin sensed the fury of the crowd and held their rifles at a dangerous angle. But, when they had passed the Brandenburg Gate safely the rear guard turned and fired point blank into the crowd, killing many. That was bloody murder and typical of the brood of military assassins that led the German people over the precipice.

Jamaica is going to impose an export tax on sugar, but if the principle of imperial preference is followed, sugar going to any British territory will be taxed much less than that going to foreign countries. Jamaica does not wish to do this, because of the United States, but it is a principle the Empire should in general follow.

Labor radicals who are weeping for the German people in "their struggle for liberty and freedom" might shed a few tears for the Canadian widows and orphans, innocent victims of a war in which these same Germans participated gleefully until they found they couldn't put it across.

It is urged from Ottawa that housewives begin to accumulate sugar for their summer preserving. The advice is good, not because of the scarcity of sugar, but of the need of time to save up the price of it.

It costs from \$3 to \$4 a month put in the ice-chest, but enough of it will go out under the bridges in the next few weeks to turn Hades into a refrigerating plant.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Getting On. (Calgary Herald.) Thirteen years ago there were 35 teachers employed in the Calgary schools. Now there are 300. Only in the Canadian west is it possible to record such wonderful growth.

Three Short-Sighted Chaps. (Toronto Star.) Dr. Dillon in his cable dispatches censures Lloyd George, Clemenceau, and Wilson for having bungled the entire peace terms. We feared at the time that they were not consulting Dillon enough.

As Australia Sees It. (Adelaide Chronicle.) It has become an axiom in English-speaking communities that party Government is synonymous with healthy progress. How remote from the truth this may be the United States Senate is still doing its best to illustrate the lengths to which it is carrying its opposition to the Peace Treaty, especially the League of Nations part of it. The real flaw in the Treaty, in the eyes of the Republicans, would seem to be its negotiation by a Democratic Administration, and the fear that its adoption would redound to the advantage of the wrong party at the next Presidential election.

The Burden-Bearer. (Vancouver Province.) Great Britain would have little trouble about exchanging if she had borne only her own financial share in the war instead of financing all Europe. Think of this record—\$2,800,000,000 lent to Russia; \$2,350,000,000 to France; the same to Italy; \$500,000,000 to Belgium; and about the same to Balkan States. If this money were repaid, say \$5,000,000,000, the people of Great Britain could pay the United States for the excess of imports from that country and the pound would be worth \$4.86. Great Britain is still paying for the freedom of other countries. Britain is a nation which takes such duties for granted, and some other countries take it for granted that Britain shall bear their burdens.

MR. FRED MAGEE'S RIGHT ABOUT FACE

To the Editor of the Standard. Sir:—When Mr. Fred Magee spoke in the Provincial House, as the mover of the Address, there were many in this community, both political friends and opponents, who were pained at his loss in reference to the lumber industry. It may be as well to state at once that there are very few purchasers of lumber who do not believe that there is any just reason why both price and quantity should be placed in the hands of a few speculators, and the average man simply places the excessive price asked today, and the lumber operators among the extortioners and profiteers, now all too numerous. It is freely acknowledged that wages are all depressed, and the cost of manufacturing the lumber, but even after admitting all that, the purchaser agrees with Mr. Magee that the cost to them is excessive and so long as present prices are kept up a much heavier stumpage tax should be placed upon lumber operators, not only possible objections to such a course might be that the operators might immediately raise a higher price and bleed the public, to say the least, but the consumer would pay it themselves, for they are not built that way, the consumer is the victim every time.

After this digression, let us return to Mr. Magee. The writer knows him well and recognizes many qualities worthy of admiration. It is therefore all the more to be regretted that he has made an ass of himself so early in his political career by saying one thing, and doing another when it came to a vote on the stumpage question. No doubt lumber men will be mightily pleased at his feat of choking himself by such two-faced political tactics, and he has branded himself politically as being inconscient and unreliable. What his present bank in this reply to the Address, that lumber operators were too lightly taxed, and that when they were charging round \$40.00 a thousand, they could well afford to pay a good deal more, and then when the opportunity arrived to enact that they should pay more, he turns round, and makes his own assertion nothing but a bluff in the matter of a parrot, by voting that they should not pay more, for that is just what his side-stepping will stay. It is to be hoped there is not much more of that kind of politics in his composition, or we will soon find out that he is as unstable as the wind, which blows any and every way.

As a business man he has many interests here, and many friends. His fatherly and earnest "self-made man" who made a success in business, has been carried on and enlarged upon, owing to the ability and situation of his present operator, and hence it is that "Fred" is popular and among the good fellows before him comes to politics. His first venture shows that politics are likely to spoil him and place him among the tricksters, who, whatever they do, do it for private individual gain, so long as electors can be fooled to place them on exhibition, branded M. L. A.

Yours truly,
PORT ELGIN
March 20, 1920.

A BIT OF VERSE

UNSIGNED. (New York Times.) A strong man armed, we walk along, The blinded stumble, whom we will not lead. The hunger perish, whom we will not feed. The lawless work their will without reproff. Secure (the road to Jericho is wide) We pass unheeding on the other side. Our work is over, though the earth resound With growling evil that our hand may stay. Exempt, exalted, move we on our way. As though God made the ocean for a bound To Duty's field! Our answer to her call, "Let Europe stand alone, though Freedom fall!" Cold are we, to the weariness, Of woe of nations—now that conquered seas Invis to our commerce—though we own the seas. Long shied years of profit? Looking back. We know who barred the peril from our shore With broken bodies—who our charges bore! Late, late to kindle, yet we took the flame. When noble passion, like a prairie fire, Swept through the nation, did it leave the same Swift-finding embers? Had it, counting the narrow spite, the selfish creed. That curse our councils, it were well indeed!

Still hesitant, we stand to count the cost, To glean advantage, or to view with dread Some far, contingent peril seen ahead, Till Valor sickens, and the cause is lost. O God! Those voices from the fields of sleep? "We died to seal the faith they will not keep!" —Grace Agnes Timmerman.

THE LAUGH LINE

Housekeeping. Mrs. Naved: Mary, I think we'll have boiled mutton with caper sauce for dinner. Are there any capers in the house? Mrs. Naved: No, ma'am. Mrs. Naved: Then go out into the garden and cut some.

Benny's Note Book

Saturday afternoon I put some vaseline on my hair and brushed it straight back flat instead of parting it, on account of Mary Watkins saying she liked to see boys hair that way, and I skated around to see if Mary Watkins was skating, which she was, and after a while I accidentally on purpose took off my cap to scratch my head so Mary Watkins could see my hair, and she said O Benny, doesn't your hair look perfectly bewitching.

Maybe I'll brush it that way all the time, I said, and she said, O, that will be perfectly wonderful, did you do it just because I said I liked it that way? O, I don't know, I said modest. And on my way home I met Lorster Minor coming back from the store with things in a basket, and I stopped to talk to her and took my cap off so she could see my hair, and she said, My goodness, Benny, for goodness sake, what you bin doing to your hair? WY, what do you mean, why I said, and she said, Wy, it looks simply redickulas, you look too silly for anything, you look krazy.

And she started to laugh like anything, me thinking, Gosh, heck, G. And I quick put my cap on again and kept on skating home feeling worse instead of better, and when I got home they was eating supper and I started to set down and pop looked at me and then stopped looking and started to stare, saying, For the love of mud, who sat on your hair? Sir? I said. How haw haw, wats the use of paying to get in a side show when you can see sites like this in your own home, haw haw, yee gods, wat a object, haw haw haw, red pop. And ma and my sis-ter Gladis started to laugh too, and I went up in the bath room and washed the vaseline off and parted my hair in the regular way and went down again, and pop and ma and Gladis started to laugh as soon as they saw me without having anything to laugh at, proving it was jest habit.

An Easy One. Too Hoe: "What runs across the floor without legs?" Too Hoe: "I don't know; what?" Too Hoe: "Water."

Police Power. Mr. Peck—"Would you mind compelling me to move on, officer? I've been waiting on this corner three hours for my wife."

Diellusion. "The great ocean liner rolled and pitched. "Henry," faltered the young bride, "do you still love me?" "More than ever, darling," was Henry's fervent answer. Then there was an eloquent silence. "Henry," she gasped, turning her pale, ghastly face away. "I thought that you would make me feel better, but it doesn't!"

Cause and Effect. "Mafy had a little navy." Likewise a lobster stew. And ere the sunlit morning dawned She had the nightmare, too. Drama. Act I—Their eyes met.

Act II—Their lips met. Act III—Their souls met. Act IV—Their lawyers met.

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OBITUARY.

Thomas Lancaster Dever. News was received on Saturday of the death of Thomas Lancaster Dever, son of Mrs. Dever and the late Hon. James Dever. He had resided in the west for a number of years. Capt. James J. Cremon. Capt. James J. Cremon, son of the late Capt. Bartholomew and Mrs. Cremon, died on Saturday last, after a long illness, aged 52. Capt. Cremon, who followed in his father's footsteps for a short time as shipmaster, but in recent years had been residing at St. Maurice. He is survived by two sons, age and one brother. Mrs. John Loggie. Loggieville, N. B., March 20.—Death came with startling swiftness on Wed-

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