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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 20.

THE CONFUSION OF EXPERTS.

The assertion of eight members of the City Council that the reports of Messrs. Warfield, Eastman and Marshall prove the case for electrification, is a flabby pretext for obeying the orders of the boss.

A painstaking examination of these reports must convince anyone that so far from supporting the electrification scheme, they condemn it.

This is the finding of Ald. Richter, whose financial acumen is acknowledged by his critics.

Furthermore, the three reports do not hang together. There are wide discrepancies in respect to nearly every detail of revenue and expenditure.

The Warfield report, for instance, estimates the annual revenue at \$233,211; the Eastman report at \$210,000; and the Marshall report at \$202,000. Mr. Marshall expressly discredits the revenue figures given by the other experts, describing them as too optimistic.

The variations as to expenditures and fixed charges are even more startling.

Mr. Eastman makes an annual charge of \$15,000 for car rental, a requirement which Mr. Warfield did not dream of; yet \$20,000 or \$40,000 yearly would be needed for this purpose if the Warfield estimates of freight business are nearly correct.

Again, in order to produce a paper surplus, Mr. Warfield allows only 1.3 per cent. for a sinking fund, and nothing at all for depreciation, though the wear and tear on railway property are considerable. At least 5 per cent. should be assigned for depreciation.

The capital charges of \$85,000 allowed by Mr. Warfield should be at least \$117,000, which would allow a very modest 5 per cent. for depreciation.

On this basis and setting aside \$15,000 for car rentals, as advised by Mr. Eastman, the Warfield report would show an annual deficit of over \$40,000, accepting as correct the estimates of earnings made by Mr. Marshall, the only one of the three experts who is experienced in railway traffic management. If the Eastman estimates of operating charges are applied to the Marshall estimates of receipts, there is a deficit of over \$50,000, allowing \$117,000 for capital charges.

It simmers down to this: that if the report of any one of the experts were approximately correct, the reports of the other two would be grossly astray, and that taken together nothing but deficits can be deduced.

A BOON FOR THE FARMERS.

Canadian producers are now beginning to get immensely interested in the revolutionary effects that will come from the new American tariff. All classes of not only producers, but shippers and dealers, in this country, are making preparations to meet great changes in the current of trade. An incalculable stimulus will be given to production and southward shipments.

Cattlemen particularly are worked up, in both the eastern and the western provinces. With prices at their present high range, the new market is exceedingly attractive. Opened right at our doors, it cannot but encourage the raising of cattle, hogs and sheep in Canada. Patriotic or unpatriotic, our stockmen will sell to the Americans who have taken down their bars against cattle and meats. If that is what being an adjunct means, Canadians will not worry.

Those who will get least out of the new order of things are the western grain growers, the men who have the hardest time under the present fiscal system. It is true the Americans are lowering the duty on wheat, barley, oats and flax, but still every bushel will have to pay a tax at the border. Wheat is our most remunerative product, the mainstay of the west. A great opportunity is now presented to our Government to remove the duties on American grain in order to secure free admission of Canadian grain to the American markets. No doubt the new tariff law of our neighbors will start a vehement and universal agitation among the grain growers of Canada for the abolition of the duty of 12 cents a bushel on wheat, which is useless to Canadian farmers.

The present Government, however, cannot do anything. It built up its whole case against the reciprocity pact on the danger of free exchange. Two dreadful things were sure to happen. Loyalty to Great Britain would be broken down, and the east and west haul, bulwarks of Canadian Confederation, if you please, would have its back broken everywhere. It was pointed out then, and is evident now, that a decrease of American duties alone would draw stuff south, with or without action on the part of the Canadian Government. British money-lenders saw what the Wilson Congress was doing, but were not so worried over the east and west haul as to refuse Sir William Mackenzie his millions. The east and west haul is as able to endure or profit by a southward diversion and increase of traffic as the loyalty of genuine Canadians can endure business relations with their neighbors. But the Borden Government has ridiculously compromised itself against the interests of Canadian farmers. It will now be necessary for it, in order to do justice, to swallow itself and to admit every argument for reciprocity.

SPARED A WHITE ELEPHANT.

The London Daily News and Leader hits the nail on the head when it says that it is not the Canadian Senate that has increased the burden of the British taxpayers, as Mr. Borden contended in his Halifax speech, but Mr. Borden's own policy that would increase that burden.

The Canadian Dreadnoughts were, according to Mr. Churchill himself, to be extra. They were not to be included in the 60 per cent. margin over Germany, which he and other experts had pronounced quite sufficient. Yet they were to be manned and sailed by British men and money. In other words, Canada was to present a suffering mother country with a white elephant. The Senate said no. Sir George W. Ross, expressly and explicitly argued that Great Britain wanted not empty ships but ships fully manned, and sailed at our expense.

The bunkum of "co-operation" or admission to a share in the direction of imperial defence is thus met by the London daily: "If it is an anomaly for Canada to have no voice in the foreign policy of the Empire, it would surely be equally anomalous if her wishes were liable to be overruled by the representatives of the other dominions who might hold divergent views." Here is the crux of the matter. No definite plan has been formulated by anyone, whereby the various British nations can actually amalgamate for imperial defence. Much less has any plan come to light to which all the British nations can agree. Endless friction and worse would be the issue of an imperial "co-operation," contemptuous of national feeling and autonomy, mail-listed, conscriptionist and truculent, such as some jingoists vaguely dream of. It will not work out, as Mr. Harcourt practically told Mr. Borden last winter, and as the London Daily News and Leader again instructs him.

imagine if you can, a virile, vigorous, young generation of Canadians allowing the top to go to waste!

OUR SUGGESTION FOR GOVERNMENT.

[Lethbridge Herald.]
 The Winnipeg Free Press suggests John Burns for Canada's next governor-general. We beg to second the nomination, realizing that the four hundred will turn up their noses at the very idea and that a certain element of the labor class will become highly indignant at the very thought of John Burns accepting a \$50,000 job from the King. At the same time John Burns would do the position credit.

NOT NECESSARY.

[Buffalo Courier.]
 German girls, they say, are forming a society whose members are pledged to marry home men. But that is what nineteen out of twenty of them would do, anyway.

THE COMPLIMENT.

[J. W. Bengough, in the Globe.]
 Of all the visitors who come a-touring through our land, There is one to whom we offer the warmest, gladdest hand; He's the gentleman from England who, with kind, ingenuous smile, Congratulates Canadians on being truly loyal.

There is something in his manner so pleasant and frank (Though he may be very probably a man of lofty rank); There is such engaging candor in his languid English eyes, As he speaks the tribute in a tone of gratified surprise!

He gives us the impression by his attitude and air, That he finds us, Oh! so different from what he thought we were; But chiefly he's discovered this most peculiar thing— Canadians, by Jove, you know, are loyal to the King!

Now, since to hear this always gives Canadians ecstasy, Why shouldn't we reciprocate when we're across the sea? English hearers, I'm sure, as do our own, On being told that Englishmen are loyal to the throne.

Why don't we always tell them so at banquets over there? We ought to; 'twould be decent, and nothing more than fair; We mustn't let them beat us at this complimentary game; I deeply feel, And should make us blush with shame.

THE GIRL WHO POSES.

[Judge.]
 Though she is dressed in bathing clothes, We see her hold aloof; And she is wise, for well she knows She is not a waterproof.

SURE OF A BIG MEMBERSHIP.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
 Why not have an international association of Thaw lawyers?

THE GOVERNMENT THAT DOES THINGS.

[Moore Jay Times.]
 Away back in 1909, Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster saw the clouds growing blacker and blacker, and they announced the empire was in peril, and that there was a great emergency. As late as December last, nine months ago, Mr. Borden announced the peril was so great "we could not and would not wait," and he promised if Parliament rejected his plan to save the empire in the "emergency," he would appeal to the people. When Mr. Borden and his Government going to appeal to the people? This is the Government that does things!

WELL NAMED.

[Boston Transcript.]
 "We call our office boy the Little Dragon."
 "Warlike little fellow, eh?"
 "Oh, no, it's because he has to be booted and spurred before we can get anything out of him."

MOTHER'S PART.

[Aitchison Globe.]
 A family reunion is usually held at mother's to get her to do the cooking required on such momentous occasions.

DYNAMITE FARMING.

[Cassell's Magazine.]
 A farm in Kansas that was underlaid by a zone of hard subsoil and would have been considered dear at \$10 per acre if valued by the growth it would produce, after being broken up by dynamite at a depth of four or five feet now contains a 100-acre field of as fine alfalfa as grows in the state and annually produces from \$30 to \$35 per acre. Fifteen thousand dollars has been refused for this 100-acre farm. On another Kansas farm there was a 40-acre swamp that could not be drained in the usual way. In some of it the water was three feet deep. It was tapped by a main of a series of blast-holes and the next day the owner walked across the tract. A year from then that field produced 1,600 bushels of oats and is now in fine alfalfa.

LITTLE SURPRISES.

[Chicago Tribune.]
 "You're perfectly right, sir; I remember you got that counterfeit half-dollar here."
 "I can see, Mr. Smith, that you don't need any shampoo, eyebrow-trimming or hair-singling, Next!"
 "No, old man, I haven't any old clothes to give away, but if you'll come with me to the clothing store around the corner I'll buy you a new suit."
 "Oh, George, if you want me to marry you, why don't you spunk up and say so?"

IN THE SAME BUSINESS.

[Chicago Journal.]
 "It seems strange that he could plunder a great corporation like that for years without being found out."
 "Well, you see, the corporation was pretty busy itself."

CAN'T IMAGINE THIS.

[Belleville Ontario.]
 There may be germs in kissing, but most people are from Missouri, and will never believe until they see them and then they will pronounce them harmless. We might as well have a germ-ridden world as an un-kissed world. Just think of the wealth of un-kissed lips that are waiting on resubdued lips to be gently but lovingly and lingeringly plucked. Then just

A FEW LINES of MOST ANYTHING

All men of discriminating taste wear these," said the tactful clerk. This merely to explain how we fell for that bow in the back.

Anything that makes a noise like a new railway trying to get into the city gets a mighty cool reception in some quarters.

Another fine, unsolicited testimonial to Ald. Richter. Eight members of the present council voted against him.

And so the bakers are to use tongs. Soon the coal man will be called upon to wear a carnation and a white shirt and to present his card.

OUR EXACT ARTIST

GETTING ON TO THE ROPES

About Even.

"Will you love me when the roses fade from my cheeks?" asked she; "When my hair has turned to silver and I'm wrinkled as can be?"

"Will you love me?" back he questioned.

"When you find that I've grown fat? When you see a hairless desert? Every time I lift my hat?"

When you notice corrugations Like a washboard's, on my brow, And my teeth are manufactured, Will you love me then as now?"

Then she said: "Well, the chance I'll take, It seems to be an even break."

A big bunch of divorcees are being asked at Ottawa. That's when dear fatherly senators do show their sound sense.

A mayor has been driven out of a southern town because he walked barefoot in the streets. Shocking custom is the most dangerous undertaking in civilization.

Having succumbed to a bow on the back of our hat, we should worry and lose our instep.

Rural mail delivery has closed forty Ontario rural postoffices. Uncle Henry says he won't have an excuse left to sample the crackers and codfish "up to the store."

QUIET DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Wretch! When you courted me you said one word from me would make your life happy. Sure I did, but you went and said the wrong word.

A villain always looks villainous after he's labelled a villain, doesn't he?

"A man is just a boy grown tall." That's why so many of 'em keep cows and dogs and horses and chickens after they outgrow the rabbit age.

Only 96 days left to do your Christmas shopping.

Mosquitoes are artful birds, And just this point remember: That though you dodge 'em in July, They'll get you in September.

The movie won't go out of business—not so long as we can see a mile and a half of 'em for a dime.

What, with \$85,000 for "repairs" to the court house, \$6,000 for "repairs" to the ex-city hall, \$20,000 for "repairs" to the present city hall, we'll begin to be patched up properly pretty soon.

The only brilliant thing left for the majority of the city council now is to inaugurate that pagoda and tell themselves good-by.

"For the fashion of this world passes away," says the prophet. This hopeful sage must have written the line especially for those transparent effects.

It's easy to write a closing line, furnishance: *

Have you got 'em on yet?

Money Paid Over For Magee Deal

The deal for the purchase of the store occupied by Gray's, Limited, and owned by the Magee estate, was completed on Friday, and the money paid over.

The price given for this property, which has a frontage of about 19 feet, was \$47,000, the highest figure ever given for business property in London.

The purchasers are not even known to the lawyers who have been transacting the transfer.

FAREWELL BANQUET AND A GIFT FOR MAJ. GORDON HALL

Popular Officer Dined on Eve of Departure For New Command.

IN THE OTTAWA DISTRICT

Regrets His Removal From London and Has Good Word for Compulsory Training.

Major Gordon-Hall, who shortly leaves No. 1 Militia District to take the responsible position of director of forces in the Ottawa district, was tendered a farewell banquet at the Tenth House Friday evening by the officers of the First Division. Sixty or more officers, representing nearly every regiment in the district, were present to bid farewell to an officer who during the three years that he has been stationed here has made himself popular with every rank in the service. As a token of the esteem in which Major Gordon-Hall and his wife are held, a beautiful silver salver, suitably engraved, was presented on behalf of the officers.

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Major Gordon-Hall, in reply, spoke at considerable length, reviewing the work he had endeavored to accomplish since coming into the district. He felt that he deserved little of the appreciation that had been shown him, when he considered the high ideals he had set before him when he came to this country. It had been his aim to serve the division in the spirit which should inspire all military service.

Compulsory Training.

Taking up the subject of compulsory military training, Major Gordon-Hall answered some of the objections made to it. It had been adopted by many countries, but Canada had not yet adopted it. Its introduction into Canada would not necessarily mean war.

"We don't want war," he said. "The object of militia training is peace. Since compulsory training was introduced into Europe there has been no great war," he continued, "with the exception of the eastern countries, where law and order is not recognized."

The chief objection to compulsory training seemed to be that it would take men away from their civil pursuits for a period of years, he said. This could be answered by the fact that men spend many years attending college to better fit themselves for the duties of life, and a military training would do much for them along educational as well as other lines. "Why should time spent in military training be regarded as lost time?" he asked.

Sorry To Go.

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An enjoyable evening was spent in music and song. A splendid orchestra was in attendance, and Lieut. F. L. Hodge rendered two solos in excellent style. Capt. Hunt, of the Seventh Regiment, gave a splendid recitation. The singing of the "Maple Leaf" and "God Save the King" brought to a close a brilliant function.

WIRELESS PHOTOGRAPHY TAKES NIGHT PICTURES

Inventor Claims It Will Do Away With Collisions in the Dark.

[Canadian Press.]
 Vallejo, Cal., Sept. 20.—A local inventor has evolved a wireless photographic instrument, which works only at night, and reflects on a mirror, it is said, a picture of everything within a radius of several miles. He has invited by Secretary of the Navy Daniels to take the machine to Washington for inspection by experts of the navy department.

The instrument receives its impressions from a web of wires attached to a small mast. For this reason it is adaptable to ships, making impossible, its inventor claims, night collisions, accidents due to fog, and running foul of icebergs. It would be valuable, too, it is claimed, for army use, in which the movements of an enemy at night could be easily followed.

A test was made recently of the instrument here. The night was dark, but observers say they saw reflected on the machine's mirror a picture of the district for a distance of two miles, saw the shipping in the vicinity of the Mac Island navy yard, railway trains passing up and down the valley and persons in the streets of the city.

The inventor formerly was a wireless operator in the Government's employ.

PROTEST ENTERED AGAINST SEYMOUR AS NEW PRESIDENT

Trades and Labor Delegate Most Appreciative as to Future.

THOUSANDS ARE LEAVING

Labor Men Object Stongly To Militia in Recent Nanaimo Strike.

[Canadian Press.]
 Ottawa, Sept. 20.—During the ninety days ending with July, 10,000 Americans who had come to Canada went south again from British Columbia alone. Western Canada is flooded with immigrants and people from the east, her cities are "already full of unemployed, and now that the harvest is over, we are going to have, in my opinion, probably the worst experience we have ever had so far."

Such was the rather depressing prediction made by Mr. W. R. Trotter, of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, who is in Ottawa en route to attend the 25th annual meeting of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, in Montreal next week.

Country is Flooded.

"There are special reasons why the immigration question is of burning interest this year," he stated. "The country is now flooded from one end to the other with thousands of people who cannot get work; railway staffs and those of manufacturers, business houses and the like, have been reduced. The chief immigration inspector for the United States in Vancouver told me 10,000 American citizens left Canada for the south again during the 90 days ending July 31, through the three British Columbia ports alone."

Object to Militia.

Another big question to be considered, said Mr. Trotter, would be the use of the militia in suppressing strikes. "With recent events on Vancouver Island in mind, and the other strikes, following so closely on the Johannesburg riots in South Africa, organized labor was convinced that the only object of the Canadian, as with other militiamen, was its use against the workers at strikes. Resolutions calling on trades unionists to refrain from joining the militia will probably be introduced at Montreal."

OFFICIALS GALORE ARE BEING HALED TO COURT

Magistrate Determined to Learn Who Is Responsible for Blocking Crossings.

Before a charge of blocking Colborne, Burwell and Maitland street crossings of the Grand Trunk is finally settled, all the officials of the railroad who have jurisdiction over this division may be haled into court.

A week ago today Engineer G. Harris, of Sarnia, was summoned for blocking the crossings. He explained that three drawbars pulling out of three different cars caused the delay, which, he admitted, was over an hour, but which, he said, could not be avoided. He stated, however, that the conductor was responsible; that he took orders from the conductor and could not move his engine unless signalled to do so. He was then allowed to go, subject to recall if the conductor tried to put the blame on him again.

The conductor, Thomas Volker, of Mimico, appeared this morning. He told a story exactly the same as the engineer's, but said that the train was unmanageable, and that the train was moved off the crossings as quickly as possible. He summoned a yard engine as soon as he discovered the broken drawbars.

"I have got to find out who was responsible for this blockade and whether the train was moved as expeditiously as possible," said the court. "I'll adjourn this case until Friday morning, and in the meantime want the yard master who was on duty on the morning when this offence occurred and the crew of the yard engine summoned to court."

Volker was allowed to go, but will be recalled if it is learned that he was responsible.

PROGRESSIVES OPPOSE ELECTRIFICATION PLAN

Several Members Express Themselves Strongly as Against the Idea.

Owing to the absence of the president and two or three members, the meeting of the London Progressives called for Friday night in the board of trade rooms was not held.

Six members waited patiently for nearly an hour for the meeting to open, but during that time a discussion on the merits and demerits of the electrification of the London and Port Stanley Railroad was going on. If the sentiment expressed by members outside the meeting is any criterion, a vote censuring the proposal to electrify the road would surely have been passed.

"They can't stuff those reports down my throat," said one of the members. "I am not an electrical engineer, neither am I fool enough to let a man like Mayor Graham dominate my mind. I don't know much about the reports," said another, "but I do know that Ald. Richter has examined them thoroughly and is not satisfied with them. That is enough for me."

"The studies these problems thoroughly before he takes any action, and what ever he says is good to me."

TRANSPARENT.
 (Toronto Star.)
 The Conservatives have nominated Mr. Glass in East Middlesex. We can see through that all right.

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