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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1912.

THE POLICY OF AN EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTION.

In commenting upon the subject of a contribution to strengthen the British Fleet at this time of emergency, Liberal organs are caught between two stools. They are loath on the one hand to support what it is believed will be the face of the strong feeling throughout the Dominion that Canada should at this crisis give prompt and substantial aid to Imperial Naval Defence, they are not in a position to oppose it. Under these circumstances Mr. Pugsley's organ, the Telegraph, has had recourse to a line of attack characteristic of a journal which in discussing Canadian politics was never known to do its opponents justice or give them fair play. By inference and innuendo in Saturday's issue, the Telegraph attempts to show that Hon. George E. Foster by a speech delivered on March 29, 1909, is opposed to an emergency contribution. It says:

"In order to keep the record straight, and also because the burning words of the Hon. George E. Foster make most interesting reading, let us consider the eloquent speech of that statesman against money contributions for Imperial naval defence, and in favor of the establishment of a Canadian navy. At the time both parties united in Parliament in passing the resolution upon which the Laurier naval policy was founded, Mr. Foster repudiated with considerable vigor and eloquence, the idea that Canada should pay Great Britain, instead of organizing and building a Canadian navy manned by Canadians, the ships to be built in this country."

Then follows a lengthy quotation from Mr. Foster's speech. The Telegraph's attempt to distort and misrepresent Mr. Foster's attitude is exposed and condemned in the first sentence quoted. Mr. Foster said:

"The first and greatest objection which I have to a FIXED money contribution, is that it bears the aspect of hiring somebody else to do what we ourselves ought to do."

The whole tenor of the extract from Mr. Foster's speech, which the Telegraph quotes, has reference to a FIXED money contribution from year to year. Mr. Foster further emphasized this point when he said, as quoted:

"Suppose you contribute this year your sum, and next year your equal sum, and thereafter year after year. After ten or twelve, or twenty, or thirty years, you will have paid out an immense amount of money."

The portion of Mr. Foster's speech which the Telegraph quotes, made no reference to an emergency contribution, yet Mr. Pugsley's organ hypocritically remarks: "It is well to have these words in mind now, when the question of a money contribution is to be revived." The Telegraph then proceeds grudgingly to make the following admission:

"It is true that Mr. Foster said he would support Sir Wilfrid Laurier in making some sort of emergency contribution at that time in 1909—if Sir Wilfrid was convinced that an emergency then existed."

It refrains from quoting Mr. Foster on this point for the obvious reason that the falsity of its argument would be exposed. Mr. Foster closed his speech with an eloquent appeal to Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the need of an emergency contribution. He said:

"Today, peril stands at the gateway. It is not for me to say how great it is, but I cannot brush it aside. Today it impresses itself upon the gravest statesmen of the Old Country; today it appeals to Australia until public subscriptions are taken and the Government is being implored to do even more than its settled policy to meet the emergency; today little New Zealand gives one Dreadnought and offers a second and today Canada faces that position of peril, that Imperial emergency. Let me say to my right hon. friend that if, after careful consideration, he proposes to this Parliament a means for meeting that emergency adequately, by the gift of Dreadnoughts or the gift of money, this side of the House will stand beside him in this vindicating Canada's honor, and strengthening the Empire's defence."

Mr. Foster made it clear that he was opposed to "fixed" contributions extending over a series of years. He was not opposed to an emergency contribution, if the situation demanded it. Mr. Borden also took this view in the same debate. In the resolution which Sir Wilfrid Laurier proposed, was the following clause:

"The House reaffirms the opinion repeatedly expressed by representatives of Canada, that under the present constitutional relations between the Mother Country and the self-governing Dominions, the payment of ANY STATED CONTRIBUTION to the Imperial Treasury for naval and military purposes would not so far as Canada is concerned, be a satisfactory solution of the question of defence."

Referring to this paragraph of Sir Wilfrid's resolution, Mr. Borden said:

"I would respectfully and very sincerely suggest to my Right Hon. Friend that, perhaps, that paragraph had better be omitted, and I will tell him why. In the first place it tells Great Britain, and the world, that this is an occasion when we should declare to all men what we are prepared to do. My Right Hon. Friend will not misunderstand me; I am as strong as he is in the assertion of the right of self-government which Canada enjoys. I believe that we enjoy our privileges not by grace but of right, and we enjoy them in the carrying out of the wisest statesmanship on the part of the Mother Country. But, it does not seem to me that there is any need of asserting now a more negative proposition such as is embodied in this paragraph. Again, it seems to me that this is a little inconsistent with the last paragraph of the resolution. The day might come—I do not know that it will come—the day might come; it might come tomorrow, it might come next week, it might come next month, WHEN THE ONLY THING WE COULD DO IN THE ABSENCE OF PREPARATION IN THIS COUNTRY, WOULD BE TO MAKE SOME KIND OF CONTRIBUTION. I do not know, and the Right Hon. the Prime Minister does not know, what events may point to. Prob-

ably he knows more than I do, and I am not asking him to disclose anything to this House which ought not to be disclosed, but would it not be wise to omit that paragraph altogether? I tell him that I and every man on this side of the House stand firmly for the principle that the rights of self-government which we now hold shall not, in any way, be detracted from in the slightest degree. But is there any need of inserting this somewhat negative proposition in a resolution which ought to go forth as a message not only to the people of the Empire, but to the people of the world?"

Sir Wilfrid Laurier agreed to certain changes in his resolution suggested by Mr. Borden, including a change in the clause which has been quoted. As adopted unanimously by the House of Commons, the clause reads as follows:

"The House is of the opinion that under the present constitutional relations between the Mother Country and the self-governing Dominions, the payment of REGULAR AND PERIODICAL CONTRIBUTIONS to the Imperial Treasury for naval and military purposes, would not, so far as Canada is concerned, be the most satisfactory solution of the question of defence."

The change in this clause was important. Instead of placing on record that the payment of "ANY" stated contributions to the Imperial Treasury would not be satisfactory to Canada, the words "regular and periodical contributions" were substituted. At the instance of Mr. Borden, strongly supported by Mr. Foster, the way was left clear and is still clear, for an emergency contribution.

The Telegraph remarks with apparent satisfaction, in conclusion:

"The importance of Mr. Foster's speech, which we quote, lies in his objection to a money contribution and his insistence upon the building up of a truly Canadian navy."

It is unnecessary to dwell here on the "truly Canadian navy" of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which the Telegraph goes on to infer "would now have been under construction had the Liberals remained in power." It was condemned in the report of Admiral Kingsmill on the ground that it would have been obsolete before completion. "In order to keep the record straight" and discount a flagrant misrepresentation of the facts, which was evidently the Telegraph's intention, The Standard has been compelled to refer to Mr. Foster's position, and to the subject of an emergency contribution at some length. From the tenor of Lord Roberts' recent speech and from other unmistakable signs, there can be no doubt that the strength of the British Navy should be increased. If the Government of the Dominion should present a recommendation that this course should be adopted by means of an emergency contribution, the resolution passed by the House on March 29, 1909, leaves the way open for the Government to receive the unanimous support of both parties.

THE WORK OF THE ARCHIVES.

The Archives were transferred by the Borden Government to the Department of Secretary of State, where this branch properly belongs. Just why it was ever kept by the old Government under the Minister of Agriculture was always a mystery, and its connection with farming was never explained. From what has been accomplished during the past year, it is evident that Dr. Roche, the Secretary of State, has personally interested himself in the work of the Archives and the collecting of valuable historical documents and manuscript. He found, it appears, that several years ago a manuscript commission was formed, consisting of members from various parts of Canada, to assist and advise the Minister and Dr. Doughty, the archivist. This commission had practically never been called together, and no use had been made of its services. The Minister re-organized the commission and added to it a number of well-known historical students.

The first meeting was called recently and a systematic campaign to gather early Canadian documents of interest to students was inaugurated. The commission also authorized the publication of a valuable volume of a thousand pages, containing the records of all early legislation in Western Canada. This promises to be the most valuable publication of an historical kind in Canada for years. Prof. Oliver, of Saskatchewan University, has been at work for two years collecting the records and he has discovered many documents which were long thought to have been lost. The commission also authorized the publication of a catalogue of all western documents, and another catalogue of the 10,000 maps in the Archives.

The work of this commission in collecting and arranging Canadian historical records, promises to be of great benefit in marking out the earlier stages of development in various parts of the Dominion.

Current Comment

Canadian Milling Manufacture,
(Moore Jaw News).

That it is advisable to grind at home the grain of this country, rather than ship it 1,000 miles or more over the mountains, is so obvious as to require but slight demonstration. In modern industrial life an tendency is to locate manufactures as near as possible to the sources of the raw materials which it is proposed to transform into the finished product. So in the United States the centre of the milling industry is located at Minneapolis, the heart of the grain-growing states. Because of this development across the bountiful headquarters of the Canadian milling industry must also gravitate to the centre of the Prairie Provinces.

Laurier's Failing Influence.

(London Free Press.)

Richelleux tells the story of the waning of the influence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The ex-premier made a personal appeal to the electors of this constituency, and the results of the voting yesterday show that he is less than one-half as strong as he was a year ago. That is, the vote for his candidate dwindled from 734 in 1911 to 301 in 1912. In 1906 this constituency elected a Liberal by a majority of 1,104, and in 1908 the majority decreased to 1,020. So that there has been an accentuated falling away from the influence of the late premier.

The Becker Trial.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

The end of the Becker trial will be a relief to most people. It has revealed a shocking state of affairs, while doing nothing particularly to mend them. It at least has opened the eyes of the people to the dangers of municipal misrule, and warned them against that civic indifference by reason which such deeds as the Rosenthal murder and gambling graft are made ultimately possible.

The Really Great Business Man.

(The New York Outlook.)

The really great business man has, as a rule, a vigorous body, an alert mind, and broad interests. He is never entirely a banker, a merchant, or an employer of men; he keeps a set of books with himself as well as with his partners and his customers, and he makes sure that he is prospering as well as his business.

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THE SACKVILLE NEWS LETTER

Dean Southwick Heard in Richard Third—Mayor Fawcett on Western Trip—A Plowing Competition.

Sackville, Oct. 25.—Fawcett Memorial Hall was the scene of a large and appreciative gathering among which Mount Allison students predominated on Tuesday evening, when Dean Southwick, of the Emerson School of Oratory, was heard in the thrilling tragedy, Shakespeare's Richard III. As in all his former appearances before a Sackville audience, the talented dean captivated his audience by his Helika rendering of this play. Mayor C. W. Fawcett left this week on a trip to Vancouver and other western cities. He was accompanied by Mrs. Fawcett.

His Lordship Bishop Richardson spent Sunday in this vicinity, preaching and administering Holy Communion at St. Mark's church and holding a confirmation service at St. Mark's church. Rev. James Allen, of Toronto, general superintendent of missions, was heard with interest in the Methodist and Baptist churches here, on Sunday. Alex. Ford, proprietor of Ford's hotel, whose sample rooms were burned in the recent fire, has awarded the contract for rebuilding to John Fillmore, who is to complete the building in four weeks. His barn will also be replaced this fall.

James Bulmer, of Winnipeg, is visiting at his old home in Aulais, on his return from a trip to Europe where he went for the benefit of his health.

An event of interest to the farming population was the plowing competition held recently under the auspices of the Botsford and Westmorland Agricultural Society on the farm of Thomas Blacklock, Shomogue. R. Robertson, of the Nappan experimental farm, was the judge, and gave much valuable information to the number of interested spectators present. There were about one dozen contestants, one of whom Charles Wells, of Port Elgin, plowed in a similar contest at the provincial exhibition held in Sackville some 40 years ago. Prize winners were: Albert Blacklock, 2nd; Charles Wells, 3rd; Albert Oates, 4th; John M. Simpson, 5th; W. H. Anderson. Prizes amounting in value to \$20 were donated by M. G. Siddall and McLeod and Spencer.

Mrs. S. Mahoney was called to St. John by the illness of her cousin, Miss Margaret Meahan. Mrs. William Walker, of Halifax, is the guest of her brother, Alastair Cameron.

Mrs. Silas James left on Friday for Lunenburg, N. S., where she will be the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Balnes, at the Methodist parsonage, New Germany.

Rev. S. Howard has been spending a few days in St. John. Miss Harriet S. Stewart returned on Monday from Toronto where she had been attending the annual meeting of the Women's Missionary Society.

G. H. McKenzie, of the Royal Bank is enjoying a few weeks' vacation at home. Mrs. William Read announces the engagement of her daughter, Mary, to Alexander C. Copp, of Port Elgin. The marriage will take place October 30th.

Miss Maud Mundle of Richbro to last night on the occasion of a reception for M. G. Siddall.

University class officers have been elected at Mount Allison for the coming year. Senior class: Pres., Orland Atkinson; vice-president, Miss Margaret Cah; sec., Alfred Murdoch; Junior: Pres., Harold Tomkinson; vice-president, Miss Vega Gronlund; sec., Walter Pickup. Sophomore: Pres., Morton Durant; vice-pres., Miss Mary Allison; sec., Harry Carlidge. Freshman: Pres., Charles Melcoin; vice-pres., Miss Maud Gough; Arthur Grey.

The Thanksgiving holidays began on Friday and many students left for their homes or to visit friends near Sackville. The Alpha Beta Society held a pleasant entertainment on Friday evening, the taking the form of a county fair in the Ladies' College gymnasium. Various amusements were indulged in and the proceeds amounted to \$70.

The Reading Circle were entertained on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Desbarres, about 35 members being present. Mrs. Hart was in charge. The subject for study this year is Dr. Hensland's new book, "China's New Day."

The annual harvest festival of St. Paul's church was held on Sunday evening. Grain, fruit and vegetables were lavishly used in decorating and the sermon and music were specially arranged. The offering was in aid of the widows' and orphans' fund.

The marriage of William Herbert Scott, son of Thomas Scott, and Miss Belle Walton, daughter of John Walton, all of Botsford, was solemnized at Port Elgin on Tuesday, Rev. J. H. Brownell officiating.

F. B. Black, M. P. P., has returned from an automobile trip to Boston. The death of R. Wilson Moore occurred at his home in Port Elgin on Tuesday after an illness of some months from tuberculosis. Deceased has resided in Winnipeg the past six years, but the last months of his life were spent at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred B. Moore, Port Elgin. Besides his parents he leaves a widow, formerly Dorothy Smith, daughter of the late Rev. R. Barry Smith, Moncton, two brothers and one sister. He was in his 32nd year and a young man of much promise. The funeral was held on Friday afternoon, service being conducted by Rev. J. K. Hudson and Rev. J. H. Brownell.

Guy Trenholm, aged 17, was accidentally shot by a shot gun in the hands of a younger brother on Tuesday. They are sons of John Trenholm, Port Elgin, and were gunning in the woods. The injuries were in his right and right hand. Forty-three shots were counted, some of which the attending physician was able to extract. Hopes for his recovery are entertained.

Mr. Fred Trenholm of Bayfield was also the victim of a serious accident this week by having his right hand caught in a gasoline thrasher. Dr. G. T. Allen, who was summoned, is in high hopes of saving the hand but

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will probably amputate the thumb and three fingers. A sad accident occurred at Amherst Point this week when Clarence Marks of Middle Sackville was seriously injured in the plaster quarries of that place. He was taken to Highland View Hospital, but passed away last night after much suffering. His remains were brought to his home here today. A widow and two children survive, also his mother. The bereaved family are deeply sympathized with by friends here. Abner Smith, who has been undergoing treatment in Montreal Hospital for some time, arrived home this week much improved in health.

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THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The United Presbyterian giving service will be held in the Presbyterian church, at 11 o'clock, when Rev. Vicar will deliver the sermon. Music has been prepared, and offering will be given to the Orphan Home.

The United Methodist thanksgiving service will be held in the Square Methodist church, at 11 o'clock this morning. Rev. J. ton will deliver the sermon.

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