

# National Liberal and Conservative BULLETIN

NUMBER 12

OTTAWA, CANADA, JULY 30, 1921

VOLUME 1

## PHILOSOPHIC UTTERANCE OF J. J. MORRISON

Interviewed by the *Toronto Star* on the result of the Alberta Election, Mr. J. J. Morrison, who is now in a philosophic, not to say, oracular mood, attributed the Liberal debacle "to the rise of personal consciousness on the part of the people." What he means, of course, is an intensification of class-consciousness. He would have every class and group in the community on the sharp look-out for its selfish and private ends and array the whole country into warring camps. No doubt, this superficial view will go down with his following. It is an exact expression of the naked, narrow-minded and unpatriotic selfishness characteristic of the whole U.F.O. movement. He and Wood are at one. They would plunge the country into financial chaos to save a few dollars of duty on implements. It might not be a bad idea to abolish the duty on all they raise and allow the United States to flood our markets. Certainly, if the duty on what we manufacture be abolished (and this is what Wood and the rest of them are after) we shall need cheap food; so cheap, indeed, that every farmer in the country will be irretrievably ruined.

### Vociferous Shouting Ceases

But so far as J. J. Morrison is concerned, the days of vociferous shouting seem to be ended. At any rate, his claws seem to have been drawn. He now "roars you as gently as any sucking dove." The *Farmers' Sun* has fallen on days of "innocuous desuetude." The farmers of Alberta are to give that favored land "a dignified administration," patterned on that which at present obtains in the Queen's Park. (May God for bid!). We wish the honest but misguided zealots in Alberta well in their wild experiment, but we trust that they will avoid the incompetence, extravagance, inefficiency and unblushing favoritism which, in a little over a year, has reduced Ontario from a position of financial soundness to something very much like bankruptcy.

### Horizon Bounded by Wheat

Alberta has practically no manufacturing. Its horizon is bounded almost entirely by wheat. What J. J. Morrison did not say was this: Alberta has now a government absolutely controlled by a man up to his ears, not in the raising, but the exploitation of wheat; a man who a few years ago was a resident of Missouri; a man of the narrowest, dreariest type of mind, whose heredity is of an alien type and who apparently has not even a child's grasp of our inherited British ideals. Mr. Stewart, whose defeat is regrettable (the Province had always been Liberal) was, at any rate, a sound loyalist and gave a good administration; but Wood will combine the dictatorship of politics with the dictatorship of the U.F.A. Business and politics, henceforward, will be inseparable; they will in fact mean the same thing.

In effect, the U.F.A., a purely business organization which has virtually established a monopoly of the handling of wheat, now controls the government. It is accepted as a matter of course that this man Wood can take the Premiership of a Canadian Province himself or throw it to whom he will. For the time being, British institutions have ceased to exist in Alberta. This may seem to Mr. J. J. Morrison a truly happy and glorious situation of affairs, but when the full import of what it may mean to Canada is clearly grasped the Canadian people will take a hand and put an end to such madness. Meantime, why is Mr. J. J. Morrison playing his old sing-songs with a soft pedal? Can it be possible that he, too, is preparing to slip off the U.F.O. log and abandon the farmers as Drury has already done?

### The Farmer—First and Last

Plainly stated the creed of the organized farmers is that government must be for the farmers—regardless of the rights of the rest of the community. What other interpretation can be placed on the rule that no one but a farmer can belong to the farmer political organization.

We admit that the organized farmers cannot prevent the Reds from voting for them; but common sense and patriotism would seem to demand a public declaration by the farmer leaders that they have no sympathy with the Red movement. What sayest thou, Mr. Wood, formerly of Missouri, now political boss of Alberta?

According to the doctrines laid down by Mr. Wood, the farmer members of the Alberta Legislature are to be mere rubber stamps.

## "Farmer over all" is Slogan

### Wood-Crerar Forces Determined to Boss Canada

The results of the Medicine Hat and Provincial elections in Alberta should be viewed from the standpoint of their probable economic effects on the rest of Canada, rather than from the purely political aspect. The pronounced victories for the well-defined farmer class movement with the slogan "the farmer over all" are the most serious notes that have ever come out of the West, and, to say the least, they are profoundly disturbing to the manufacturing, commercial and financial interests of the East, to say nothing of similar interests in the West. There is little use trying to minimize the importance of the movement, or to deprecate its victories. The organized farmers of the West, led by Wood, the Missourian, with the Hon. Mr. Crerar trailing behind, are determined to boss Canada and make every other material interest in the Country subservient to farming. They are for themselves and themselves alone, and they refuse to allow anyone not a farmer to join with them. To state the plain truth these farmers have banded as a class to get favours for themselves at the expense of the rest of the community. They entirely disregard all the obligations of nation-sustaining and nation-building; they deliberately shut their eyes to the undoubted fact that to build up a nation there must be an abundance of diversified employment. Carried away with their selfishness and their lack of knowledge, they would ruthlessly upset the basis upon which our industrial development of

forty years, has been founded and make us hewers of wood and drawers of water to the United States. They would rather build up the manufacturing towns and cities of the United States, than Canadian towns and cities like Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Brantford, Galt, Windsor, London and other industrial centres in Canada. What matters it to them that exchange with the United States is ruining the Country? Apparently nothing. Argument seems to be wasted on them. They are so obsessed with their own virtues and theoretical ideas that they will not listen to the other side of the story. They seem to have deluded themselves with the idea that the business interests of the East are their enemies and that it is their duty to smash them.

Never was industrial, financial and commercial Canada in more serious jeopardy. Not one single interest is safe. The East largely financed the West, and now, the West would rend the East. Economic theorists who know only farming, and care for nothing else, dogmatically, and without any proper investigation, tell us that the fiscal system upon which the general prosperity of the Country has been built up, has been all wrong and that there must be a complete reversal of policy. Free trade is to be substituted for protection, which, in effect, means that United States workmen are to produce our necessities instead of Canadian workmen. The men who seriously think Canadian

manufacturers with their limited production in a restricted market could stand up under Free Trade, against the powerful, specialized and standardized industries of the United States, with their cheap production and enormous market, are in need of examination by an alienist. It is nothing short of madness to talk of Free Trade for Canada under such conditions of competition. It is likewise the height of absurdity to argue that we should confine ourselves, especially at this stage in our history and development, mainly to farming pursuits. There is only one true development for the Country—industry and agriculture. must go hand in hand, as it has done for the last half century. It would be fatal to turn the hands of the clock back now at the dictation of a class group who openly proclaim their selfishness. We cannot do it and maintain our nationality; we cannot do it and make progress; we cannot do it and keep our young people with us. Our whole future is dependent upon providing the utmost possible amount of labour in all spheres of human activity.

The organized farmers have set the Western heather on fire, and it is squarely up to the rest of the community to put out the conflagration and thereby save themselves and their Country from bankruptcy. In the face of the situation and in times like these, to play the game of party politics is to be a traitor to one's country.

## TEARING DOWN THE PILLARS OF THE TEMPLE

Samson, we are told, in the narrative in the Old Testament, came to grief through the wiles of Delilah. His great strength, which might have been used for the upbuilding of Israel, was frittered away to gratify a senseless impulse of revenge. "Force devoid of judgement sinks beneath its own weight," Horace assures us in one of his glorious odes. The moral is "Stick to race and the inherited way of doing things." What may be good, e.g., for Britain may not be good for Canada, and what may prove a benefit for the Far West farmers of America may prove suicide for our Canadian yeomen. Beware Delilah! Beware of changing sound constitutional practices for the Referendum and Recall and similar nonsense. Delilah in these days is political novelty, and she is exacting a terrible toll of blood and misery and tears at this hour all over the world, and her end is death and dishonor. To her, and those who follow in the harlots' train, national solidarity, even-handed justice, peace, prosperity and happiness have no meaning. In the end, Samson swayed by blind and irrational revenge tore down the pillars of the Temple and destroyed himself.

### Our National Credit Would be Shaken

The farmers of Canada have an interest in all that goes to make up Canada—its banks, its insurance companies, its railways, its towns, its manufacturing, its mines, its fisheries and its forests. Canada is the beautiful temple of their dreams. Here their children will live and die, and the most of those children will go to our towns and cities for education and a livelihood. Where else can the most of them go? Let our cities and towns decay; and what opening will there be for the surplus population of the country? Free Trade or an approach to Free Trade would destroy our glorious towns overnight, and with them would go the prosperity of the whole countryside. Farms could not be given away; credit would be denied; our national credit would be shaken and we would all be reduced to penury.

### A Marvellous Half Century

The Literary Digest for July 23, in an article entitled "Canada's Marvellous Half Century," prints some startling statistics. In 1867 Canada had a population of 3,000,000; in 1921 of over 9,000,000. Railways then totalled 2,288 miles; in 1921 they were 40,000 miles. Banks 243; now 4,500. Live stock 3,800,000; now 15,517,000. Manufacturing investments \$78,000,000 as compared with \$3,034,301,000. Exports, in that far-off time, were \$52,701,000, as against \$1,287,000,000, with exports of \$67,000,000 and imports of \$1,064,000,000.

There stands the Temple built to its present dimensions by a wise policy of Protection. Is our agricultural Samson, egged on by stupid Philistines and lured to destruction by the Delilah of Universal Free Trade about to tear down its pillars and involve the whole country including themselves in Common Ruin? We do not believe it.

### Woman Editor Speaks

Miss E. Cora Hind, Commercial Editor of the *Manitoba Free Press*, wrote the following among other statements regarding the result of the Alberta provincial election:

"The Alberta election was not a surprise to those who have recently been in the province. It is the strongest bid for purely class government which has as yet been made in Canada and the results will be watched very with keen interest. Those who have followed the workings of the organized farmers in the province will be specially keen to see what they will do in regard to their own industry. As an organization they have never done anything to promote better agriculture. Their time has been taken up in demanding this, that and the other extreme forms of legislation which they fancy would improve their position and get them bigger pay for their produce, but the improving of farming as an industry has not interested them in the least."

If the Ontario Farmer-Labor Government keep on borrowing at the awful rate they have been doing, the province will have to buy a Russian printing press.

## NOTES AND COMMENT

The Slogan for all Canadians should be PATRONIZE CANADIAN WORKMEN"

The complex political situation in Canada is largely due to the fact that most people are standing on their heads, not their feet.

"What's the use," said Mr. Brewster Biggs, "of being Minister of Roads, if I cannot have a road of my own?"

Drury and Biggs are Princes—at spending other people's money.

The financial antics of the Drury-Government constitute an exemplification of the old adage "Put a poor man on horseback, and he will ride to the devil."

When one contrasts the "Holi than thou" professions of the U.F.O with the wild extravagance of the Drury Government, it is to laugh and also cry.

"Ill fares the Province to hastening ills a prey, where misfits like 'Brewster' Biggs are allowed full sway."

MacKenzie King is par excellence the soap box orator of Canada.

After the United States Tariff Bill passed Congress, Mr. Fordney gave out a statement in which he said inter alia:

"The way to revive and build up a healthy foreign trade is to revive and build up industry on which commerce is dependent. To invite imports of competitive products as a means of correcting existing difficulties is suicidal fallacy."

We commend these words to the Hon. Mr. Crerar and Dr. Michael Clark.

The motion picture industry is one of the sickest in the world today. That is a good sign. It is an indication that the people are realizing that play must be secondary to work.

From one end of the country to the other municipal money by-laws are being steadily turned down by the rate-payers. This is another evidence of the return of sane thinking.

If they are well advised, the business men of the country should be up and doing to counteract the well organized farmer movement. Only by standing and working together can they prevent ruin to their interests.

Considering the undoubted fact that at least 75% of all the produce of Canadian farms is consumed by the people living in Canadian towns and cities, does it not seem stupid to advocate free trade or lower tariff policies which would, without question, seriously interfere with the means of livelihood of these town and city people—very many of whom, by the way, were raised on the farm. The organized farmer attitude seems particularly unsound—to say nothing worse—in view of the United States prohibitive tariff which makes the Canadian farmers more dependent now than ever on the home market.

We repeat and shall continue to repeat that if the farmer policy of free trade were put in operation the purchasing power in the United States of the Canadian dollar bill would be reduced to 50 or 60 cents—which would mean penury if not ruin to all of us.

The Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux is a quick-change political artist. When a question arose in Parliament last session in regard to his sitting for two constituencies he resented the decision of the Government to appoint a Parliamentary Committee to investigate the subject. He wanted a Royal Commission appointed. And now he objects to the appointment of a Royal Commission to investigate his charges in regard to the Supreme Court's award of \$60,000 to the Park St. Charles Company. He wants a Parliamentary Committee—verb sap!

We sometimes wonder if Mr. MacKenzie King smiles inwardly when he delivers himself of his florid rhetoric about usurpation or whether he really means what he says. If the former there is some hope for him; if the latter, he is hopeless.

If MacKenzie King had a proper appreciation of the seriousness of the national situation he ought to be bold enough to place before the people a definite, clean-cut policy which they could understand and weigh in the balance against the Government policy, but he prefers instead to smother them with rhetoric, and that is the real reason why the people do not take him seriously.

Harding, the President of the United States, specifically pledged himself to protect the U.S. farmer and he has fulfilled his pledge. Crerar, the leader of the Western Farmer movement says, "Never mind a little thing like that. Put me in power and I will make Harding stultify himself by abandoning his policy." Will Mr. Crerar forgive us if we say he is guilty of "a nebulous and colossal assumption."

## PRESS OPINIONS

The Moose Jaw Evening Times (Conservative Section), (July 20)—"The triumph of the United Farmers of Alberta with the principles on which the organization is based is nothing less than a menace to the constitutional foundation of representative government."

The Edmonton Bulletin (July 19) speaking of the good work done by the Stewart Government says:—"Honest, stable and progressive administration is sufficiently rare in the world just now that Alberta can ill afford to dispense with such a government on a battle cry that has for its foundation the setting of class against class."

The Toronto Daily Star (July 22)—"Unless the United Farmers can enlarge their platform to take in people of the towns and cities, or unless unaided, they maintain an administration that is eminently fair to the urban dweller, the people of the larger centres are sure to join in creating an anti-farmer organization."

## REBUKE TO "LITTLE CANADIANS."

Premier Meighen challenges the admiration of not only his own countrymen but of the English-speaking people throughout the world. As a rule, United States newspapers pay little attention to Canadian politics, but the personality and career of Canada's present Prime Minister has excited their interest and attention. In a recent editorial entitled "Canada for the Canadians," the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* says:

"Premier Meighen is more jealous of Canadian rights and more aggressive in promoting an autonomous Canadian status than any leader in the Dominion, and, for that matter, any other British dependency, has ever been." Other American observers have been struck no less than the *Globe-Democrat* by the Canadianism of Mr. Meighen, a Canadianism in no way inconsistent with loyalty to the Empire. They point out that Canada has been the main direction to the course of the present Imperial Conference.

This properly rebukes the "little Canadians" who at the last session of Parliament tried to discredit Mr. Meighen by having the House resolve what he must say and do at the Imperial Conference.

The best panacea for the restoration of prosperity in Canada is for everybody to work like blazes.