

HON. P. C. LARKIN ON CITIZENSHIP

Discusses Business Qualifications and Praises Federal Ministers.

Hon. P. C. Larkin, who leaves shortly to assume the office of Canadian high commissioner in London was tendered an appreciative banquet at the Ontario Club, Toronto, on Saturday evening. Two hundred representatives of the commercial, professional and political life of the country were in attendance. The main dining room of the club was profusely decorated with flowers. Sitting at the head table with the guest of the evening were Sir William Mulock, Geo. Wilkie, K. C., M. J. Haney, of

Oakville; C. M. Bowman, of Kitchener; Mayor Maguire, P. Wellington Hay, Liberal leader in Ontario; Hon. George P. Graham, federal Minister of Militia; Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, provincial leader of the Conservative party; Hon. W. C. Kennedy, federal Minister of Railways; Sir John Willison, Canon H. J. Cody, C. S. Blackwell, chairman of the Toronto General Hospital board; Senator Proudfoot, E. M. Gordon, M. P., Peterboro, and J. H. Spence, president of the club, who officiated as chairman. The new high commissioner appeared to be deeply touched by the tributes paid him during the evening, and expressed warm thanks when he rose to speak. He himself was one of the founders of the club, and was its second president. Generous mention had been made by some of the speakers to the liberal manner in which Mr. Larkin assisted the club in its early days, and his efforts, which had largely been responsible for the securing of the club's present commodious and well appointed quarters. "The gathering here of so many old friends to do me honor and show their approval will strengthen my hands to

justify, if possible, the action of the Prime Minister and his colleagues in conferring on me the office of high commissioner," said Mr. Larkin. He emphasized the fact that he had not sought the position, remarking "for I know of little in my career that leads to the belief that I can fill it with the distinction it deserves. However, the Prime Minister insisted, and so I am at the service of the country to give the best that is in me to forward its interests and to aid, I trust, in some slight measure in adding to the happiness of my countrymen."

Business Qualifications.

The belief is abroad that men who have proved their capacity as successful men in business are ideal for carrying on the affairs of the country, but I personally have my doubts. I have known many who were eminent as accumulators of wealth, who have had limited vision, and accepted no responsibility for, and took no interest in, the affairs of others, but confined themselves to their lone furrow. They ploughed that well, but had no eyes for the rest of the broad field, or the horizon beyond.

To go further afield than Canada, take the 15 years beginning from 1896 the great chief, the fine gentleman, the true patriot, who was at the head of the best Government that Canada ever enjoyed, was not what is recognized as a business man, and yet under him, with his broad vision, Canada enjoyed for 15 years a prosperity that was unique.

"My friend, Sir William Mulock, who is happily with us this evening, recognized as one of the finest public servants that any country ever had, was not a business man, and yet the department that he administered was noted for its perfection."

"The head of the present Government in England, with whatever faults he may have (for, like the rest of mankind, he is not faultless) saw the Empire through the greatest struggle of its existence, is not a business man."

"Broadly speaking, business qualifications are not acquired solely by buying and selling, but rather by hard, earnest, conscientious thought and deliberation, with vision thrown in."

"I had the pleasure a few days ago of spending some days in Ottawa on business with the different departments. I had the honor of having long talks with the prime minister, and very many of his colleagues, including that great public servant, the Hon. Mr. Fielding, who, I might point out, is not a business man in the general sense. I came away convinced that the country could not be in safer or better hands. The Hon. Mr. Kennedy had the appearance of being a very harassed man, the Hon. Mr. Graham looked very considerably overworked, and the Hon. Dr. Beland, while assuring me in his usual courteous way that he was not in a hurry, showed a desk that meant much work before him and probably late hours."

"Anyway, gentlemen, I came away convinced that these gentlemen, in offering their services to the country, place citizens under a very deep obligation, because, after all, what is the reward? The usual reward of a democracy, comes a slight difference, some fanciful cry set up, and we are ready to tear them down from their high place and accept no responsibility for their future."

"There is a moral responsibility on every man in this room who benefits from good government, and I wish I had the proverbial silver tongue to bring it home to every Canadian that what he should contribute towards good government is to offer to public men the use of his time and his means; to give them to understand that if they neglect their own interests in devoting themselves to public services that we who benefit by their labors are willing on our part to do everything that is possible with our time and purse to make their path easier."

The toast "The Guest" was proposed by Sir William Mulock and George Wilkie, K. C., who spoke on behalf of the club and its members.

Given Carte Blanche. Hon. George P. Graham expressed appreciation of the commendation that had been given the government's selection for the office of high commissioner. For the government, he was there to say that they had unbuckled every shackle that had ever been around the office of high commissioner. Mr. Larkin was to go to London and do just as he saw fit. The office had grown in importance, and it was but proper that Mr. Larkin should feel free to do just what his judgment dictated after he had been on the ground and made a survey of conditions. It was the speaker's opinion that Canada had an important place to fill in the commercial and financial rehabilitation of the world. Social unrest was another matter in which Canada should take a leading part. There was in some quarters a Canada spirit of intolerance, religious and racial, and these differences must be adjusted if Canada was to be a great nation. Most of these prejudices were created by a few busy-bodies on either side. These busy-bodies kept at flame the discord. To get concord, both east and west, between classes, and between religions, there must

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be tolerance and cooperation to avoid the cleavage. We must forget everything except that we are all Canadians. We cannot look for the welfare of ourselves, unless we consider the welfare of the others who go to make up the great Canadian people.

GYMNASIUM FOR GIRLS IN CLIFF STREET SCHOOL

Announcement of the early opening of the gymnasium for girls in the Cliff street school was made at the meeting of the St. John sub-division of the Catholic Women's League held yesterday afternoon in Rosary Hall. The league has undertaken supervision of the classes to be held in the gymnasium and W. E. Stirling, the physical director of the Y. M. C. A., was present at the meeting to speak of the opening of the gymnasium, of which he will have the direction. Mrs. D. P. Chisholm, the president, was in the chair and there was a large attendance of the members of the council. The girls' work committee reported that five sewing classes had been held in the last month and two social evenings had been enjoyed. One of the social evenings had taken the form of a sleigh drive to Brookville and a supper at Rosary Hall afterwards. The religious committee reported on visits to the patients in the East St. John and General Public hospitals. Reports were given by the social, educational and membership committees. The recent tea was announced to have realized more than \$400. The details of the gymnasium classes schedule were discussed and plans made for the programme.

Invitations were received to attend the international convention of Catholic women in Rome in May and the Eucharistic congress in Rome. Much gratification was expressed at the appointment of the president, Mrs. D. P. Chisholm, as the representative of New Brunswick on the film committee of the C. W. L. of Canada.

... IMPORTANT NOTICE ...

Free Demonstrations of Baking

under the auspices of the Educational Department of E. W. Gillett Co. Ltd., manufacturers of Magic Baking Powder, are soon to be given in the leading stores in St. John. These demonstrations will be conducted by practical and experienced Domestic Science experts. The ladies of St. John are cordially invited to attend these demonstrations, for the purpose of receiving instructions, counsel and advice on diatetic or household science problems.

Watch the papers for further announcements.

JAMAICA PASSES A PREFERENCE TARIFF

Kingston, Ja., March 7.—The legislative council today passed a tariff measure giving a preference of twenty-five per cent. on goods imported from Canada and Great Britain, and of fifty per cent. on empire-manufactured cotton piece goods.

USED FOOD GIFTS TO COVER SMUGGLING

Moscow, Feb. 11.—(A. P. by mail) Gifts of foodstuffs for the famine area were used by Lithuanians as a screen for a gigantic smuggling operation, according to statements of soviet officials, who are bitter in their denunciation of alleged illegal trade operations on the

part of all the three new Baltic states. Beneath the grain and flour the Lithuanians loaded into two cars for the famine area, soviet officials say they discovered large quantities of cocaine, spirits, saccharine, miscellaneous foodstuffs intended for sale and even railway implements not intended as gifts. Most of the smuggled supplies were of German origin.

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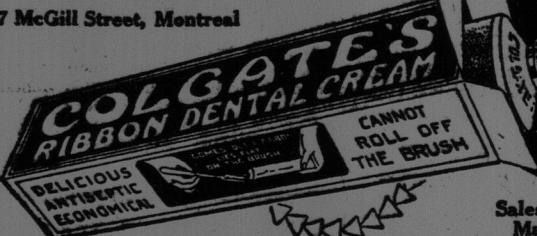
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MUTT AND JEFF—JEFF ALWAYS LOOKS ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THINGS

By "BUD" FISHER

