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OYSTER AREA LEASES

A great ado is being made in the Summerside Liberal press about the alleged injustice in leasing of oyster beds in Richmond Bay and other areas by the Federal Government. In an article entitled "Robbing the Fishermen" the statement is made that in leasing these beds the Conservatives are "running true to form;" that the fisheries of the Province are public property and no Government has the right "to permit one man to use them and to another say nay."

It is rather surprising that this objection was not raised by our Summerside contemporary at the time the agreement was signed between the Saunders Government in this Province and the Mackenzie King Government at Ottawa. That agreement, which is dated Feb. 27, 1928, and which bears the signatures "P. J. Arthur Cardin, Minister of Marine and Fisheries," and "Albert E. Saunders, Premier of Prince Edward Island," gave full authority to the Federal Government to lease oyster areas for a term of ten years for production and cultivation purposes. The leases under such grants "to have exclusive right to the oysters or other molluscs produced or found within the limits of their respective leases." The Government of Canada undertook to furnish to the Provincial Government annually the names and addresses of the persons or corporations to whom leases were granted. It further agreed, pending the leasing of any oyster areas, to make a survey of the location, area, extent and condition of such areas. This survey having been completed, the Dominion Government, in accordance with the terms of the agreement entered into by the Saunders and Mackenzie King Governments, is now proceeding to lease the areas.

Moreover, under the Mackenzie King administration the services of an oyster farmer from Rhode Island, Mr. D. R. Dodge, were secured for the seasons of 1928 and 1929, Mr. Dodge's duty being to look into the growing and cultivation of oysters in the Malpeque area with a view to demonstrating the feasibility of private cultivation. Mr. Dodge was succeeded by Mr. A. W. H. Needler, of the Dominion Biological Board, who established a substation of the Board and submitted a detailed report of his investigations. In his report Mr. Needler recommended that "the only feasible means of making those who reap the profit do the work of cultivation seems to be the leasing of areas to private individuals for use for oyster culture. This has been the most successful method elsewhere of building up the industry."

In view of these facts, it is somewhat astonishing to find a local Liberal newspaper damning the scheme as constituting "robbery of the fishermen! If there be any discrimination under the terms of the agreement, surely the responsibility should be placed where it belongs.

It will be recalled that at the 1928 session of the Legislature much credit was taken by the members and supporters of the Saunders Government for having put through the agreement whereby the Federal Government acquired its right to lease the oyster areas. For failing to do so while in power, the preceding Stewart Government was severely criticised, not only by Mr. Saunders and his followers, but by Mr. A. E. MacLean, M. P., whom Mr. Saunders specifically mentioned as having urged the Stewart Government to sign the agreement. The attitude taken by Hon. J. D. Stewart was precisely in line with the objection now raised in the Liberal press. In a speech in the Legis-

ture on April 11, 1928, Mr. Stewart stated:

"Under the agreement the Federal Government could lease the oyster areas to whom they wished, and we felt that before that agreement was signed the interests of our people in that respect required to be safeguarded."

Doubtless, had the Stewart Government been returned in 1927, means would have been found of meeting Mr. Stewart's objection without interfering with the development of the industry. But that point was never raised by the Saunders Government, nor has it since been raised until a few days ago, when the Summerside Liberal press made the discovery, and paraded it under the heading: "Robbing the Fishermen."

Our Liberal contemporary would have done well to have acquainted itself with these facts before launching its belated condemnation of an agreement which, rightly or wrongly, was negotiated by its own party politicians.

DOLLAR WHEAT LIKELY

Wheat prices continue to increase. A level of eighty cents a bushel is in sight and it is predicted that the price will go to \$1.00 within the next few days. Wheat prices have jumped more than 20 cents since the first week in October, with corresponding increases in other grain products, and it is estimated in a news despatch from Chicago that the value of the farmers' holdings has been increased in the last month by \$375,000,000.

The immediate reason for this price increase is a sudden realization by wheat purchasers that grain bins abroad contain barely a four weeks' supply, and that with the new crop from Australia and Argentina not available until January, they must look to Canada and the United States. Russia, which was selling heavily in European markets months ago, has suddenly found its great wheat crop far short, and is now buying back its contracts, forcing the countries which had relied on this source to seek their wheat on this continent.

This, unquestionably, is the best thing that has happened to Canada within a year. Apart from its direct benefit to the wheat farmers it will have enormous effect in stimulating railway business. All signs, indeed, point at last to a real turning of the tide, and six months may well see this country far back on the road to normalcy and prosperity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canada's unfavorable trade balance has been reduced by nearly 50 per cent. in the first nine months of the present calendar year. This is further evidence of the turn of the tide.

"We have received," says the Toronto Mail and Empire, "a wildly abusive letter from a correspondent, who says that our report of Mr. Mackenzie King's speech at London must have been prepared by cub reporters who did not understand what the Opposition leader was driving at. As a matter of fact, our report of the speech in question was furnished to us in advance through the Canadian Press by Mr. Mackenzie King himself."

Mr. Lloyd George, on behalf of the British Liberal party, held the biggest campaign fund in the Old Country. In consequence of the general election just over, the British Liberal party in the new Parliament numbers five members—one of these members being Lloyd George himself, another is his son, and a third his daughter Megan. So, comments the Ottawa Journal, the new House of Commons numbering 615, the British Empire seems to have escaped for the moment from the danger of the money power.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The well-to-do classes in Great Britain have joined with millions of wage-earners in rebuking the Socialist wasters and in giving the patriotic leaders from three parties who form the National Government an overwhelming mandate for the nation's salvation. And they will see that these leaders carry out their pledges.

Britain unquestionably, will benefit from the verdict of the recent General Election and from it may come things which will rebuild the whole fabric of Empire trade, write a new chapter in the economic relations of the British Commonwealth of Nations. So far as Canada is concerned, she may abide the consequences with confidence. It is not the task of Canadians to interfere in British domestic politics, or to take sides with British parties, or to tell the British people what they ought to do. Yet Canadians must believe that this British decision may mean, has meant, much of good for this country, and certain it is that, irrespective of our own political differences, Canada will stand prepared to extend the hand of fellowship and co-operation to the Mother Country, to gladly consider any offer which may be made to increase commerce among the British peoples, and to build up, politically and economically, that mighty world agency which is the heritage of our breed.

The one thing necessary if Great Britain is to utilize to the full her great assets in the home and the Empire markets is that she should through the wise use of a tariff provide her manufacturers with stable markets at home and in the Empire. There is no antithesis between a policy designed to develop trade in the home and Empire markets and the maintenance of a great trade with the foreign world.

No eclipse in a matter of political importance was as sudden and as complete as that which attended Mahatma Gandhi in England when the general election campaign which terminated on Tuesday last, got under way. The Mahatma oozed out of the country on the start of his return voyage to India. Against the excitement of the election none of the publicity stunts which were put on for his benefit, attracted any great amount of attention. His stay in Britain closed with even his goat from which he derived the rations of milk served to him so ostentatiously during the sittings of the Round Table Conference, more in the limelight than was the owner. The animal won a prize in a stock-show. Incidentally the decisive result of the election which was held in Great Britain can have cold comfort for Gandhi and the agitators who have been making trouble in India for British officials and for the British people. (Exchange.)

We learn alone. No one can give us any instruction that can make of us a genius. It is something that comes to us out of the unknown and usually comes to us in our moments of solitude. The great ideas that have transformed the world have been brought forth in solitude. They are the thoughts that appeal to the man himself individually, and do not come from the opinion of others. That perhaps is why the best reform is always the reform of one's self and why we always look upon uplift with suspicion. The best improvement of any man is always a growth of what is in him, a development of his own life. Even if he gets help from the outside, it is valuable only when he makes it his own. The best education is a development of this inner force and the best educators are those who see the force and assist one to bring it forth. This explains perhaps why so much is lost upon certain people. They get plenty of food mentally, but they are unable to assimilate it.

All the Government measures in the world cannot create prosperity. They can clear the channels. But in the end the manufacturer, the worker, the wholesaler and the retailer must carry the responsibility on their shoulders. Leave government to the Government. They are quite adequate to the present emergency. As for the rest of us, let us get on with our jobs—and begin today.

The revolt of the moderate element inside the Congress, and also of the shopkeepers, can be seen in a hundred little items which appear in the press or come to one's knowledge in everyday life. Many who joined the Congress about two years ago are now



That Body of Hours

By James W. Barlow, M.D.

TRENCH MOUTH

One of the mouth conditions that became very common during the war is what is known as trench mouth.

Formerly it was called Vincent's infection and was usually treated by a throat specialist, but now it is a condition seen so frequently by dentists that the dental profession really treats the majority of cases. The acute condition is very painful as the gums bleed frequently, and the odor from it is quite noticeable.

Prof. Leroy L. Hartman, Columbia University, tells us that the consequences may be very serious if not given attention. The chronic condition which is very common is not so painful, the main symptoms being occasional bleeding of the gums together with a bad taste. Of course a bad taste in the mouth can come from constipation, and slight bleeding of the gums from pyorrhea, but in any case bleeding and a bad taste should mean a visit to the dentist or doctor for an examination.

In the severe cases, competent treatment should be immediately sought.

Prof. Hartman tells us that the chronic cases can be cleared up by using a fresh solution of peroxide of hydrogen diluted one half, as a mouth wash, for a period of one minute four or five times a day.

A dentist should be consulted always who can investigate the amount of destruction present, and prevent any further damage.

The laps of gum covering the wisdom teeth as they are coming through, are usually the first part of the mouth to be affected.

Now when we remember that this infection can actually destroy the soft tissues of the mouth if left untreated, it would seem very unwise to neglect treatment.

Further, even after the dentist has arrested the progress of trench mouth, it is absolutely necessary that the patient carry out the dentist's instructions thereafter if the condition is to be kept under control.

In addition to the treatment mentioned above, your dentist will be able to recommend mouth washes and tooth cleansers that will be equally effective.

Don't neglect trench mouth.



INTERLUDE

October's end! I leave my door ajar, Across the hearth I draw her chair up near— One would be weary who had come from far— From very far—to visit with me here.

They are not strange, these footfalls in the night, But are as once familiar melody; When first I heard them I rose and made a light And looked abroad, but no one could I see.

They are not strange, those footfalls faint and slow: They are as echoes memory has stirred Of song remembered that love did bestow. Heard once and then—forever after heard.

They echo in the beats of my own heart, Those measured footfalls down years long and long, For from those loved we do not really part— It is but as an interlude in song. . .

—F. L. Montgomery, in New York

Liberal Press Comment On King's Leadership

(The Sydney Post)

Did Mr. King's Beauharnois speech at the recent Liberal convention in London, Ontario, sound the ending of his career as the leader of his party? A considerable section of the press holds that it did, including several of the most influential Liberal papers in the Dominion.

The Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, a stalwart Liberal journal, owned by the Sifton interests, calls for a national Liberal convention, and says:

"Many problems of policy and organization confront the Liberal party. Not the least of these is that of raising funds. They must be met and overcome. Twice within recent months, the Star-Phoenix has suggested that a national Liberal convention be called to review the political situation in the light of new conditions. It suggests again to the party leaders that such a course is necessary in order that organization may be perfected, that appropriate policies may be evolved, that its leaders may be freed of the difficulties due to lack of funds and that the party may climb vigorously to the heights above the 'valley of humiliation.'"

The Manitoba Free Press, the most influential Liberal newspaper in Western Canada, charges Mr. King with "a mistake of the first magnitude" in revamping the Beauharnois scandal, and assails both the Liberal leader and the Government of which he was Prime Minister for fastening such a stigma on Canadian Liberalism. It says:

"A strong case can be made out against the wisdom of the Dominion Government's decision in March, 1929, to give its consent to the diversion of water necessary to enable the Beauharnois enterprise to proceed, on the ground that it meant a surrender of Dominion rights, and the prejudicing of the interests of the seaway as a whole. Those responsible would probably best serve their political interests if they would admit the slander and plead extenuating circumstances. The decision was a political one, due to a feeling that it would not be politically safe for the Dominion Government to stand out against the pressure that was being applied but, after dismissing entirely every suggestion of a corrupt bargain, the fact remains that in yielding, the Dominion Government made a mistake of the first magnitude. The King Government must bear the responsibility of having made possible the Beauharnois development, with everything that has flowed from it, by its action of March, 1929."

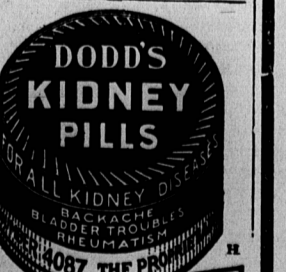
Still another Western Liberal newspaper, the Vancouver Sun, utters equally strong condemnation of Mr. King's conduct, and suggests that his London speech was his political "swan song." To quote from its comment:

"Just when most Liberals were thinking the worst of that inquiry and its disclosures had been forgotten, to have their leader lacerate the sore is deemed inexcusable, and some go so far as to say that it may prove the 'swan song' of his leadership."

"There certainly will be a loud clamor from Liberals throughout the country over this ineptitude Liberals declare there are many deeds of the present Government which could be aired and with profit to the Opposition, but to harp upon what most people are trying to forget, they argue, indicates that the leader is out of touch with current political dolings."

The Toronto Globe, the Toronto Star, and the Montreal Herald—all outstanding Liberal journals,—have criticized Mr. King's London speech with equal candor, if in less withering terms. The question is whether a party leader can maintain his position with the ablest and most influential of his party newspapers arrayed so solidly against him. The conviction spreads that the Liberal party will soon pass under new leadership.

When the Beauharnois report was



Bad Blood

before Parliament, Mr. King let slip the one chance he had to detach himself from the scandal and vindicate his political honor by denouncing those who were responsible for it. Instead of doing so, he adopted the infatuated course of attempting to defend a transaction every member of the Convention had condemned. At London he again sought to condone the deal by the most pitiful example of special pleading and hair-splitting to which any responsible Canadian leader had ever descended. Naturally the reaction of the Liberal press has been an indignant repudiation of this petty quibbling, and a revolt against Mr. King's leadership which is not likely to subside till he changes his attitude or resigns his office.

DIMMING THE STARS

(New York Times)

Our solar system is virtually the centre of the visible universe—a vast lens-shaped aggregation of stars. Look toward the edge of the lens and the starlight that reaches the eye must be dimmed by passing through the cloud just as the sun is dimmed at the horizon because of the greater volume of atmosphere which its rays must pierce. Professor Carpenter studied starlight along several lines of sight and found new evidence of an intervening cloud. Thus a nebula near the Milky Way which he saw with light that passed through the maximum amount of dimming medium proved to be fainter than one of the same size and theoretical brightness along a line of sight less obscured. The difference in brightness sometimes amounted to 40 per cent, according to a statement of his made before the American Astronomical Society.

This tenuous cloud has the property of dimming blue light more than red—over a distance of 8,000 light years twice as much. Is the redness of some distant stars thus to be explained rather than according to Einsteinian principles? And would blue ones be still bluer were it not for the thin absorbing cloud? The question of stellar distances is thus raised. It has been assumed in general that the bright stars are the nearest. But if stars are brighter than they seem to be what becomes of our measurements? The millions of light years with which astronomers have been dealing since the large reflecting telescopes were first trained on the heavens may need correction, and many a theory of the dimensions of the visible universe may be rudely upset in the process.

THEY LOAFED AND SO WERE CAUGHT

(Canadian Press)

MONTREAL, Que., Nov. 5.—The arrest of two boys, aged 18 and 20 years, on charges of loitering, recently solved a series of burglaries that have been perplexing Outremont police for some time.

Their practice was to enter houses in which bridge games were in progress and to rifle purses and clothing deposited in rear rooms. They led police to two houses they had entered shortly before their arrest.

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