

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Maj. A. A. Barrett, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1920.

MR. KING'S AMENDMENT.

The Liberal press, that is, the part of it that still holds aloof from the Union Government, has been capitalizing a threat made by Mr. McKenzie King as to what he would do to Canada if his amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne should be voted down. In that amendment he wanted a general election and the members of the House, who do not appear to have as much reverence for Mr. King as those at a greater distance have, are having some fun over it.

Mr. Herbert M. Mowatt, M. P. for Parkdale, Ont., gave him some plain facts after he had delivered himself of his famous amendment. Among other things, Mr. Mowatt said:

"I want to point out to him (Mr. McKenzie King) that he is not prepared for an election. If he will go to the province from which he comes and will consult the party leaders there, he will be told straight that he is not prepared for an election. When my hon. friend says that he wants an election, does he mean that he is prepared for an election in the constituency of North York, where he has been invited to become a candidate instead of in his temporary sanctuary in Prince Edward Island? If that is what he means, then I tell him that if he expects to be elected there he never was more mistaken in his life"....

The amendment was voted on at 2.30 yesterday morning and the alleged "weakness" of the Union Government was exemplified when the amendment was defeated by a vote of 112 to 78, a government majority of 34. It is now up to Mr. McKenzie King to carry out his threat to "stir up" the country and "demand" a general election. What would happen Mr. King and his little group if such an election were held may be inferred from the support he is receiving in the House of Commons. Of course no one expected his amendment to carry. It was a clear case of bluff and the House "called" his bluff. The stability of the Union Government is becoming more and more evident as the proceedings in the Commons continue.

THE PORK QUESTION.

One effect of the high cost of feed was observed in the market here on Tuesday, which was a fairly large one; this was the unusual number of undersized pork carcasses offered for sale. It would appear that many farmers consider it more profitable to sell the hogs in an unfinished condition rather than feed them to a proper finish with grain and potatoes at present prices. It was estimated that fifty percent of the hogs offered on Tuesday were undersized, most of them ranging from 75 to 110 pounds. Hogs of this size are of no use to the packers and can be disposed of only to the butcher trade at home and in the neighboring cities. The latter are already glutted with hogs of the same kind and at least one shipment of some twenty carcasses has been returned to Charlottetown from a Nova Scotia city.

The price paid Tuesday for good, well finished hogs weighing from 120 to 200 pounds, was 22 1/2 cents. Hogs under this weight are worth very much less than this to the packers who, as already stated, can only dispose of them to the local trade.

While undoubtedly the profitableness of feeding grain and roots at present prices sufficiently long to bring the hogs to the market weight, may well be doubted, it is certain that marketing them at 75 to 100 pounds is not a profitable business. The future of the hog business must be considered and unless we place on the market the best quality and the necessary weights we are undermining our future hog market. It is possible that the high prices obtained for pork may have tempted many to feed more hogs than they had feed for. In this case it would be best to feed only a few to a finish and let the others grow on cheaper rations or dispose of them alive to those who have the means to feed to a proper finish.

The high prices received for grain and roots this season emphasizes the necessity of careful grading. The unmarketable culls from an ordinary crop of potatoes make up a very considerable quantity and with care would go a long way in fattening hogs. The grain question is a more difficult one. Oats at a dollar a bushel, will, we admit, be fed very grudgingly to a hog and he would be but little more welcome to wheat or barley, but the fact remains that it will not pay to market unfinished hogs.

THAT NO TRADE FREE TRADE PUZZLE

Present day Liberalism is of a somewhat nebulous character and difficult to define. D. D. McKenzie, who was for a time leader of the party and who more than once led the party on very thin ice, has again, during the present session, shocked the orthodox free trade Liberals by declaring he would not trade five cents worth with a country that will not recognize the Canadian dollar. Just why the new Liberals want to reduce the tariff on American goods if they are going to stop all trade with that country is not clear to the ordinary citizen.

CURRENT COMMENT

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The Pioneer is the personal organ of Premier Bell. The Patriot is the provincial organ of the Liberal party. They have taken to lecture and admonish each other, and the show is interesting. The Patriot took the political craft "Falconwood," with the whole Government on board, into a dangerous whirlpool in deep waters. To make matters worse, it commenced to rock the boat until even the dull judgment of those on board commenced to see visions of political perdition. They gave the order to desist, and the fiery boat rocker at once became docile and as quiet as a lamb.

But it appears this docility and humiliation did not fully satisfy Premier Bell, so the organ of his inspiration drives the nail home further in a kind of curtain lecture both pointed and pronounced. It was more than even the meek editor of the Patriot could stand. He kicked over the traces, broke away from the tether and with a commendable spurt of independence, proceeded to trim the pet organ of his Premier. And to do him credit, he performed the operation in first class style. It imparts this lesson to the Premier not to goad his bodyguard to desperation, and that the dog whose bark has no effect upon well armed opponents, is dangerous when it turns to snap at and bite the hand of the master who wields his cruel whip.

It is generally conceded that the economic question is to take first place in Canadian politics, and the tariff issue to be again fought out at the polls. True to her ideals of national independence there is little reason to doubt that the verdict rendered in 1878 and repeated at every election up to 1891 will again be the overwhelming decision of the people when the appeal is made. Revision and changes in rates of duties made necessary to keep in touch with altered conditions will of course be demanded and conceded. It is most reasonable to expect that the great industrial interests of Canada, which includes practically the whole agricultural class, wheat growers, in two western provinces excepted, will never commit national suicide by handing over our valuable resources to the mercantile domination of the United States.

With this before them the Conservatives of Toronto are getting busy with a view of revivifying the "old party" and getting ready for the big fight on the tariff issue at the next election. At a meeting of the North Toronto Association held in Masonic Hall these matters were discussed in a preliminary

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

MORE TRUTH THAN POETRY

(By James J. Montague)

UP AND UP AND UP

(A Cost of Living Ballad.)

Smith put all his cash in a nice corner lot And joyfully said to his wife, That when they'd erected a neat little cot They'd surely be happy for life; But the glow they felt when the house was complete Endured but a shadowy minute, For the Browns built a house half a block up the street With three baths and a sun parlor in it.

So Smith on the Building and Loan made a raid And put up a house that threw Brown's in the shade. When Smith, in his silver, would jog into town, He thrilled with a justified pride As he drew up his car at the mansion of Brown.

And asked him to go for a ride, But the joy that he felt swiftly vanished away, As he stood by his white garden gate, Regarding the world with contentment one day, Brown drove up a brand-new Twin Eight.

So Smith right away had to work out a plan To purchase on credit—a Twin-Eight Sedan.

The Smiths had a cook whom they proudly displayed Whenever the Browns came to call. It pleased Mrs. Smith to refer to "my maid," For the Browns had no servant at all.

But the joy fades away as the months speed around, The Smiths were soon plunged in despair, For when at the Browns they took dinner, they found A cook and two second girls there. Now they've written an ad, which I'm quoting herewith: "Wanted—Butler and Footman—Apply to J. Smith."

way, and a large representative meeting ordered to be called for the purpose of preparation and organization. This suggests something in our own province. Reverses of the past have been due more to late and imperfect organization than to defect of policy or inefficient Government. Last provincial election exemplified this very clearly. What about organizing Conservatives here and getting ready for the field when the time comes?

The Liberal organ affects concern over the excellent address of the Rev. Dr. McLellan being dragged through political mire. Such anxiety is needless. There is no "mire" in the Guardian grounds, and we do not parade these things through the Patriot's reserves. We might suggest that the Reverend Doctors' able review of our educational needs, and his timely advice as to the needed remedies, must pass through political waters, must become the subject of debate in parliament and in public in order to accomplish the mission for which it was designed. It is an address however which will stand the acid test of Guardian, Patriot and legislature, and after passing through waters whether foul or clean it will emerge the brighter after purifying the stream of politics and cleansing the atmosphere in its course.

Germans Recovering In South America

German business organization in South America is rapidly working back into a position of activity in every market there, according to Frederick Todd, who has made first-hand observations in Buenos Ayres, Rio de Janeiro and other cities in the southern continent, and whose report is vouchered for by the National City Bank of New York, through publication in its official paper, The Americas. Mr. Todd says that the most convincing demonstration that the German commercial interests have some sort of cohesive "system" in South America was given right after the armistice, when the merchandising situation in practically all markets there went into chaos because of the panicky belief that prices would drop in the face of enormous deliveries from the United States, Great Britain and the rest of the world. The Germans geliberately helped propagate the panicky wave of cancellation of orders and refusals to take goods on delivery, and then, in all South American markets, bought in immense quantities of this merchandise—principally American and British—on credit at low prices. These goods are now being marketed, says Mr. Todd, by the German houses at a good profit and at prices far below those asked in the United States.

Sudden German Influx

Mr. Todd quotes a prominent merchant of Asuncion, Paraguay, as saying that the German houses there had more English and American goods than anybody else, and it was a mystery how the goods had been obtained. "In August," says Mr. Todd, "the German banks in Brazil, which had been shut down during the war because Brazil was a belligerent, were permitted to re-open. They opened their doors at once, some establishing themselves in more commodious buildings, which they had secured during their enforced inactivity. Among Brazilian business men there was a distinct feeling of welcome for the Germans. A shipment of German commercial men arrived at Rio in May. The ship had come from Holland. They were well-dressed, prosperous-looking men, some with their families. The word was circulated quickly that many Germans in the party were manufacturers come to Brazil to start anew with industries there. Brazil is keen for manufacturing industry of all kinds. Manufacture is spontaneously springing up everywhere. There is hardly a Brazilian country town in the States of Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais that has not some manufacturing organization. The factories range from small concerns manufacturing some new food product, which is packed in small cartons and shipped off to market, to the grouped cheese establishments of Minas, and on to the knitting mills, weaving establishments and factories for making electric goods, such as are found in the town of Julz da Flora, 170 miles out from Rio de Janeiro, on the railroad to Bello Horizonte.

Lower Price Propaganda

"It provided an atmosphere of welcome for the German commercial men. They got into touch with Brazilian merchants at once. Their advent on the streets of Rio and Sao Paulo brought a buzz of talk. The American and the English representatives were greatly concerned. After a few weeks the

Others' View Points

THE DRAWBACKS OF LONGEVITY

(The Outlook)

Extreme longevity has its drawbacks. An English paper reminds us of this fact by quoting the story of Janos Merges, a Hungarian, who, at the age of eighty-four, was arrested for attempting suicide by jumping off a bridge at Budapest into Danube. This, however, was not the case of extreme longevity referred to. Janos, in explanation of his attempt to end his life, explained that he was the sole support of his father and mother, and that the burden of caring for them was becoming too great for him. They were aged 115 and 110, respectively, he stated. The story goes that the statement proved to be true and that a public subscription for the three was started, which placed them above want.

SOME ROUGH ONES FOR DAD

(The Outlook)

"Do you believe in education?" "Do you believe that it takes brains and training to teach?" "Do you expect in your own business to buy brains and training without paying adequately for them?" "What are you going to do about the miserable salaries your own town pays its teachers?" "Or don't you care whether the teachers who teach your children have brains and training or not?" These questions are asked by the Outlook.

A NATIONAL LOSS TO MUSIC

(Brooklyn Eagle)

Ingratitude, they name is musician, might well be the reflection of Major Henry L. Higginson if he had lived to see some 90 per cent of the members of his orchestra joining the Musicians' Union and latter began to hear from Brazilian customers to the effect that the Germans were not actually selling their goods. They were making, so far as could be learned, only tentative negotiations, asking in general terms for renewal of business at such time as Germany could get its industries started and delivered. They were with one voice, however, talking about lower prices. They talked this one point so incessantly that even the Brazilian expressed themselves as mystified on the purposes of the peculiar campaign. They and the Americans concluded that the Germans figured on so thoroughly propagating the belief in lower prices to come as to hold off business as long as possible, indefinitely, with a kind of speculative hope of getting back before the real buying set in.

Refusing Deliveries

"In Rio, Montevideo, Buenos Ayres and other South American cities only some persistent propaganda like this was required to precipitate a wave of cancellation and repudiation of orders. They would have come in some degree, in any event, probably. The importing merchants had orders for goods outstanding that were several times what they could receive and pay for. During the war-time control, when they could get, here and there, only an occasional delayed shipment, they had placed orders in all directions, with the purpose of getting what they could. Now, with a sudden armistice, all the goods they had ordered seemed coming at once. All didn't really come, but with the prospect of prices dropping, there was the temptation to refuse deliveries.

Sacrificed at Auction

"And vast quantities of goods were sold at auction or at private sale. The highly speculative character of merchandising in every line of product in several South American centres would make it possible for any well-organized scheme of fomenting panic, and taking advantage of it, to be carried out much more readily than in such a market as London or New York. Some of the most experienced and shrewd business men of Montevideo and Buenos Ayres say that they have no doubt that a strong central organization handled at least the buying side of a big movement during the panic after the armistice, and they have records to show that large amounts of nonaccepted goods went into German hands. It was not long before the recovery in merchandise markets set in. The importing houses found that labor troubles, lack of shipping and so prevented American and European producers from making any such deliveries as had been anticipated. Prices rose again. The goods that figured in the great overturn of rejected merchandise right after the armistice have been marketed at profitable figures."

threatening to set up an orchestra of their own if the trustees of his organization refuse to concede the union terms. It is greatly to be hoped, however, that the quarrel will not disrupt the band or lower the quality of its playing, as would almost certainly be the case of the men should break away into a union organization of their own. The New York Philharmonic was until a few years ago a commonwealth body which selected its own players and divided its profits among them. So long as that system lasted its playing lacked finish and distinction, largely because the men would not drop old members when their bow arms grew stiff or their lips flabby, and would not limit men from taking outside engagements which interfered with rehearsals. With the establishment of autocracy and with the Pulitzer bequests to sustain it the work of the band has greatly improved. If the Boston orchestra should become co-operative in its management the change would bring a national loss in our musical standards.

MOTHER OF 27 AT 38

(London Express)

The old woman of nursery fame who lived in a shoe must look to her laurels. She has a rival. Frau Navoczy is her name, and she lives in a three-roomed apartment in the east-end of Berlin no fewer than twenty-one children.

Frau Navoczy, who is of Polish origin, is a young looking woman of thirty-eight. "Yes," she said, when I called on her. "I am the mother of Berlin's largest family. I don't look it? Well, I think being always surrounded by children keeps one young. You see, my eldest are only sixteen."

"Are?" said I, not understanding. "Triplets," replied the lady; "my family comprises three sets of triplets and four sets of twins. Then I have four others alike, but I have unfortunately lost six. Otherwise my family would number twenty-seven. Come and see how we live."

Frau Navoczy led me to two adjoining rooms which are arranged as dormitories. In one of them six beds, with scarlet coverlets are ranged along the walls. Three children sleep in each. The last twins, lusty infants of two years, have a cot in their parents' room, where the Benjamin of the family, aged four months, also lies in a cradle.

"But how on earth do you all manage to exist?" I asked. "My husband has good work, and allows me 200 marks a week (£10 at pre-war rates); five of the children also work and are able to contribute something, while quite a number of people who are interested in my little family are very kind in sending me useful things.

"Thank heaven my children are healthy. I must admit that it is sometimes hard to feed the whole circle. My husband can eat the week's ration of potatoes at one meal, and that means buying a lot at fancy prices. Meat? We have a nice stew on Sundays regularly."

I remarked how pleasant it must be to see the whole family sitting down to its Sunday meal. Frau Navoczy laughed. "Don't you picture us all sitting round the table," she said. "No; we eat in three parties. We used to take some of all ages in each party, but we found that a mischievous triplet or twin would sometimes secure two dinners at the expense of one of his brothers or sisters, so now we sit down by ages. But they do eat a lot."

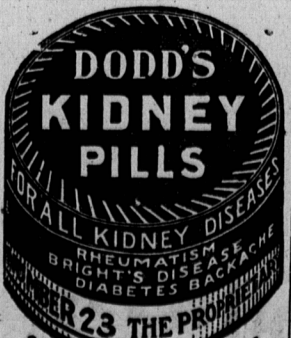
The rooms were spotlessly clean, and the nine children whom I saw during my visit all looked well kept.

"Some people," said Frau Navoczy, as I took my leave, "express their sympathy with me. But they can keep their sympathy. They simply don't understand. I love all my children, and wouldn't be without a single one of them. They are good children, and I love them all alike, from the oldest to the youngest."

IT GOT THE AXE, TOO

(Albany Journal)

The rattle of the axe, which was found apparently frozen, by a kindhearted farmer who placed it under his coat to warm it, bit him when the warmth of his body had revived it, typifies the Reds in the United States.



Smallpox and Board of Health

Sir,—As a resident I would like to know where our provincial health officer is or if we have one. We have had in this vicinity for some time past, what three doctors pronounce smallpox, especially in Morrell village where there has been a number of families down with the disease. Those people who have it in mild form are allowed to roam around at large, as though nothing was wrong with them, frequenting stores and all public places. I understand our doctors have notified our provincial health officer at Charlottetown but he has taken no steps whatever to have the public protected. We have had one family near Bristol who have been afflicted with the disease. This house has been flagged. But not so with Morrell. Now Sir is it any wonder I would ask have we a Provincial health officer or a board of health. If we have please wake them up. Thanking you for your valuable space.

I am Sir, etc. RESIDENT BRISTOL

ANOTHER JUMP IN PRICE OF SOFT COAL

TORONTO, March 9.—Soft coal is going up in price, according to a warning issue today by H. A. Harrington, fuel administrator for Ontario. An increase in price, in keeping with increased wage allowance, is inevitable, Mr. Harrington states. The fuel administrator says:

"The docks at the lake heads are depleted and a steady flow of coal will be necessary to supply the present demands and provide storage supplies for next winter."

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