

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1920.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S DEFICIT.

Canadian provinces have not been strangers to deficits in the past few years. At the close of the last financial year the Province of Prince Edward Island squared accounts with a small deficit of between seven and eight thousand dollars and the Liberals held up their heads in holy horror at the alleged extravagance.

The other day the Liberal Government of New Brunswick squared its accounts with a deficit of \$327,686, and the Liberals of that province are now busily engaged in explaining how it happened. Unheard of cost of material and the necessity of having public works attended to regardless of the excessive cost of material and labor are given as explanations.

Taking the view of the Liberal press of New Brunswick which frankly "acknowledges the corn," one department exceeded its appropriation by \$53,346. The Moncton Transcript, one of the Liberal organs, explains that "New Brunswick is not the only province that has recently reported a deficit. British Columbia had a deficit of \$2,000,000 a short time ago and the prairie provinces have been running behind in current accounts."

In view of what has been transpiring in our sister provinces the small deficit incurred by the late Arsenault government is a mere bagatelle even when allowance is made for the insinuations of extravagance and waste.

CLASS PROPAGANDA.

A certain class of Liberals and Liberal newspapers has been working overtime in an endeavor to persuade the people of Canada that the Union Government is unpopular, inefficient and in fact all that a government should not be. This cry was heard during the war, when the government was doing everything humanly possible to enable Canada to carry its burden faithfully; was heard when Great Britain and our Allies were almost fulsome in their commendation of the manner in which the Canadian government was handling its war work.

Why this criticism and eternal misrepresentation? Is it in the interests of Canada or in those of office seekers? What is the distinctive policy of the Liberal faction that is making all the noise? Hon. Mr. MacKenzie King has toured the provinces in a campaign to besmirch the Union Government and to pave the way for his own and his party's election. What definite policy has he outlined? He has orated on the alleged evils of protection; he has spoken eloquently on free trade; he has drawn a line of demarcation between city and country; he has courted the farmers with promises of larger markets. What is his purpose with regard to the tariff? Is it his intention to flood the country with manufacturers from the United States and maintain exchange at the present discount rate? All these he has hinted at but he has never yet placed before his hearers or his readers any one platform plank that can be called definite.

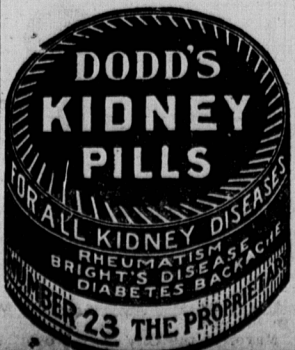
The propaganda carried on by this Liberal faction may conceivably succeed in setting class against class, may conceivably set farmers, laborers, returned soldiers, manufacturers in different classes, each opposed to the other, but what then?

Canada's problems today are as acute as when she with her Allies was fighting for her existence and it never was more necessary than it is today that the two great political parties should hold together. The Union Government is made up of the best elements in both parties and those who would put them asunder are no friends of Canada. The time may come when it will be expedient for both parties to go their separate ways but that time is not yet, not while the country is struggling with financial and economic problems upon the proper solution of which her future existence depends.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

By developing her peat industry Denmark was able in 1918 to diminish her foreign coal account by \$31,500,000. Prince Edward Island has large deposits of peat equal to any fuel in the world yet we are importing thousands of tons of coal yearly and impoverishing ourselves paying ten dollars and upwards a ton for it. Why cannot we economize in this line?

The ice in the straits this year is the heaviest known in many years yet the Car Ferry has made her regular trips two or three times daily. It requires a good ship and good management to accomplish this impossibility of a few years ago and we have both. Pessimists have been expecting a hold up for many days but so far there has



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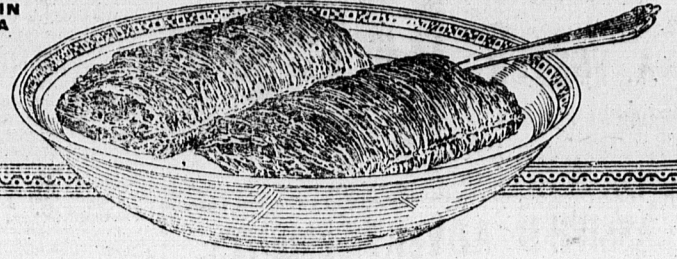
GIVE ME THE HAND

Give me the hand that is warm, kind, and ready; Give me the hand that is calm, true, and steady; Give me the hand that will never deceive me; Give me its grasp that I may believe thee; Soft is the palm of the delicate woman; Hard is the hand of the rough, sardly yeoman; Soft palm or hard hand, it matters not—never! Give me the grasp that is friendly forever. Give me the hand that is true as a brother; Give me the hand that has harmed not another; Give me the hand that has never foresworn it; Give me its grasp that I may adore it. Lovely the palm of the fair blue-veined maiden! Horny the hand of the workman o'er laden! Lovely or ugly it matters not—never! Give me the grasp that is friendly forever. Give me the grasp that is honest and hearty, Free as the breeze, and unshackled by party; Let friendship give me the grasps that became her,

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Close as the twine of the vines of the summer. Give me the hand that is true as a brother; Give me the hand that has wronged not another; Soft palm or hard hand, it matters not—never! Give me the hand that is friendly forever. A golden key unlocks many prison doors. Most women would rather be loved than trusted. —Goodwin Barnby.

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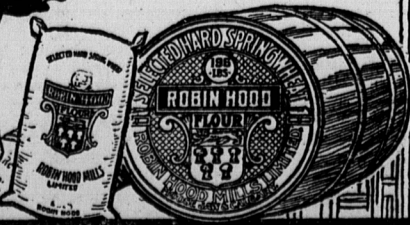


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