

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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HOG INDUSTRY THREATENED.

Last week two carloads of American dressed hogs were sold in Halifax. Similar shipments had previously been received in Sydney. This pork is inferior in quality to the Canadian product, is sold in Canada as Canadian and thus not only lowers the price but depreciates the reputation of the Canadian product.

Live hogs were quoted in Chicago for the week ending February 1st at 83-4 cents to 101-4 cents. At the same time Toronto quoted 151-2 to 16 cents. With this difference in price it will be easily seen that American pork can be sent into Canada over the little tariff wall of three cents per pound and the difference in exchange and still leave a quite wide margin in favor of the American.

From every department in our political and commercial life we have been preaching the gospel of "Buy Canadian Goods" in order to correct the adverse rate of exchange. Our preaching will be in vain and our rate of exchange will remain against us as long as we permit the agricultural products of the United States to flood our markets. Dealers and packers, like every one else, will buy American products when they can make more money out of them than they can out of Canadian. We may talk patriotism and preach "Buy Canadian Goods," till we are hoarse but we cannot alter this condition until the height of our tariff wall will compensate for the difference between production and prices in the United States and production and prices in Canada. There are over one hundred and ten millions of them and only eight million of us and it is simply suicide for us to leave our market doors open to them to compete with us on equal terms. The three cents a pound duty on pork is no protection whatever as prices range today and as they will always range, for we can never compete with the corn fed and snake fed hogs of the United States.

A serious feature at present is that Great Britain in order to correct its exchange, has to a large extent discontinued buying from the United States. This, naturally, makes Canada the dumping ground for the United States. The price of pork has dropped off very considerably within the past year and there has been a further decline in the last few days, due to unequal and growing competition with American pork in our markets.

The Liberal free traders and anti-protectionists will have much to explain before they can explain to the farmers of Canada that there is no need here of protection.

POLITICAL ANTICS.

It is amusing to watch the jubilant antics of the MacKenzie King section of the Liberal party over the so-called Liberal victory in Kingsborough. That any one of the four candidates who were jointly opposing the government should succeed in polling more votes than their single opponent was a mathematical probability from the outset. The political significance of the outcome lies in the fact that the Conservative vote was overwhelmingly larger than the Liberal vote, but being divided between two, naturally it fell short of the number required for election. Had there been but one Conservative candidate the result would have been a very large Conservative majority. This is self evident.

Granting that Mr. Gordon's election was a Liberal victory, to what wing of the Liberal party is it to be credited? Mr. Gordon is a protectionist; the leader of the Liberal party, Mr. MacKenzie King is anti-protectionist, at least in certain localities. According to the platform adopted in August, 1919, by the Liberal Convention at Ottawa the policy of the Liberal party is the adoption of or a revision downward on practically everything that is dutiable today. How does the election of Mr. Gordon, with his views on the protection of industries and labor, chime in with the Liberal platform of 1919? If his election means anything it means an endorsement of Premier Meighen's policy of adequate protection for Canadian industries and Canadian labor.

Our Liberal friends are so elated over Mr. Gordon's election that they are now clamoring for a general election. Suppose their wish were granted, how much of the 1919 platform would they utilize? How much of Mr. MacKenzie King's policy? In a speech at Montreal a few days ago Premier Meighen made the following statement:

"If I could tell you what Mr. MacKenzie King's policy is today I would do so. Whether he is in favor of protection or whether he is not, I don't know and you don't know and I cannot hold out any hope that you ever will know, because you cannot try to find out any harder than I have tried. If you look at his speeches on this subject they mean anything you like to take from them that is to say, they mean nothing. If you look at the candidates he tries to elect, he is in favor of every policy under the sun. He supported a candidate in Yale who wanted protection on food-stuffs, he is supporting in Peterboro today a candidate who wants foodstuffs free and protection in everything else."

The government had no intention of calling a

THE PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by its correspondents.

THE OUTLOOK FOR 1921 FOR LOBSTER PACKERS

Sir—The lobster industry is without a doubt our greatest fish industry in this Province, and anything that will conserve it, should be welcomed by our people. At present it is in the greatest danger of being ruined owing to circumstances which war conditions have evolved, and perhaps a few observations from one who is interested, and has studied the conditions would not be out of order.

Canned lobster, for the past twenty years, has enjoyed a rising market, with one slight exception in 1908, until this year when serious losses have been sustained by the packers and the buyers. The reason for this seems to be about as follows: At the beginning of the 1920 season supplies were high priced, labour was at war prices, and as the season of 1919 saw the top notch price for canned lobsters, the packers thought they could afford to pay for supplies and labour at 1919 figures.

Up to 1919, all the countries at war were issuing bonds, borrowing from the people, and spending the money with a lavish hand, but when 1920 came no more money was borrowed, and there was no vast army of occupation in France to pay extravagant prices, and the money of the European countries was at such a discount that the sale of goods, especially luxuries, was practically prohibited.

At present, although the prices of many articles have declined, these prices have not declined proportionately. The prices of the essentials or necessities of life are practically as high as they were a year ago, while gasoline is 35 p. c. higher, so that lobsters cannot be packed for much less than last year, provided the same prices are paid to the fishermen and factory hands.

Last year, I venture to state that no one made any money in packing, that did not get \$35.00 per case for half-pound flats. Today, \$12.00 or \$15.00 is the best offer that can be obtained on a contract for next season's pack.

My suggestion is that the packers call a central meeting and study the situation, and if thought best a petition should be addressed to the Marine and Fisheries Department, asking that no lobsters be canned in the three lower Provinces for 1921.

Today, not more than 25 p. c. of the 1920 pack has reached the consumer, the balance is held either by the packer, the buyer or on the shelves of the retailer. The buyer must be protected so also the retailer, or if not he sustains a loss that makes him chary of the lobster business for years to come. If the 1921 pack is placed on an already overloaded market, disaster is sure to follow. Let buyers, packers, fishermen and all others interested, combine together and decide on what is best to be done. I am, Sir, etc.

KINGS COUNTY.

P. S. I might add further—that owing to the money situation in Europe our old standby market is literally "shot to pieces" and will be for many years to come. We have a Department of Trade and Commerce and it should be their place to look out new markets for just such goods as canned lobster. E. G. I venture the assertion that there are hundreds of towns and cities in the United States of 10,000 to 100,000 population that have never yet had one can of canned lobsters inside their city boundaries. K. C.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louison.

THE CURE FOR UNREST

(The "Christian Herald")

People who think deeply of the social and industrial unrest, which is spread abroad over the wide world, may well ask themselves if behind the discontent and the tumult of the contending forces there is not a reason and cause about which we hear or read little. More and more the fact is impressed upon our minds that the real cause of all the dispeace and unrest is that men and nations have forsaken the old and the sure ideas of all true happiness and contentment—that, in a word, they have forsaken Christ, who is the only Hope of humanity. Despite our profession of Christianity and all the uplifting influences which are at work, many men and women are steadily drifting away from the spiritual and moral standards which should govern the life and the conduct of individuals and of peoples. They care nothing for religion, being engrossed in self-seeking in business, in pleasure, in sport and in the thousand-and-one

general election until after the census and re-distribution. If challenged they may accept but in the meantime the policy of the Liberal party should be made clear and its relation to the 1919 platform explained, so that the Liberals themselves would know what they are voting for.

CURRENT COMMENT

Amongst enquiries in the Quebec Legislature was one concerning the cost of Spencerwood, the residence of the Lieutenant Governor. This increased from around \$59,000 in 1915 to \$72,000 in 1920. This is an item which we especially wish to call to the attention of Premier Bell and his colleagues, and also recommend it to the consideration of the House at its session next month. Ours is the only province in the Dominion sustaining the disgrace of inhospitality to the representative of our beloved King. We have no Government House, in the province, a condition of affairs which never existed here before, NOT UNTIL THE BELL INCOMPETENTS ASSUMED CONTROL. While our sister provinces maintain these on the most magnificent scale, in the case of Quebec at a cost of over seventy thousand dollars, this province closes the doors of their Government House which at the most extravagant figures would only cost us a few hundreds. We talk of ourselves as a province, and pretend to live up to the dignity of a self governing state, and yet to the outside world we have the picturesque appearance of a fishing bank, a ship without a rudder, a bird without a tail. It is to be hoped that the legislature will take this matter up and wipe out the disgrace.

The Western Grain Growers are beginning to hear the rumbling of the political thunder from the east, and are running to cover. At their annual convention, held at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, where over a thousand delegates were present, the question of the proposed "wheat pool" was brought prominently in the limelight. Anticipating this issue, the report of the Executive advised "CAUTION IN THE DISCUSSION," and urged the delegates "in dealing with the subject" to do so along "lines that may SEEM FEASIBLE AND COMMERCIAL SOUND." The Hon. T. A. Crerar, referred to "the Dominion wide comment which their provincial political organization had awakened, and of the many new problems in the broader field of Federal politics with which their association is now faced." Naturally the hot reception their drastic and selfish policies have received in eastern Canada is giving them food for reflection, and influenced them to the conclusion that they had better go slow if they want to put their act and dried programme through. The older provinces are fully aroused to the gravity of the situation and the western Grain Growers combine are becoming apprehensive of disaster to their cherished ideas.

Having first told us, some time ago, of their intention to gobble up the western resources, paid for with eastern money, and then to combat our equity for compensation, they now have a railway policy of peculiar similarity. The Hon. Mr. Crerar, at this convention, declared that—"This problem must be faced courageously AND HUNDREDS OF MILES OF TRACK WHICH WERE NOT PAYING THE CAPITAL OUTLAY, NOR EVEN THE OPERATING EXPENSES, MUST BE TORN UP." From the national standpoint it is the promise of a most far reaching disaster. This is his declared policy if he and his party attain to power. If he does what he here promises, it would mean the wiping out of half the railways in Canada, tearing them up and sending them to the junk heap. Take for instance the Prince Edward Island road. Its annual over \$100,000 short of paying running expenses. We handed over to the Dominion our customs and other revenues to meet this shortage, but according to Mr. Crerar's policy it must be torn up and sent to the scrap heap. What is true here is equally true in other part of Canada, yet this is the kind of political pabulum which is being dispensed to the west. In a country like ours, as yet unsettled, railways to open up the new areas must be run at a loss, but they cannot be dispensed with.

Things which don't really count. Preachers need to be inspired now with the Gospel message if men and women are to be quickened and renewed in life and character. Philosophy and morals about life are not enough. The personality of Christ and His power to build up a new manhood and a new womanhood must be presented to the people. Christ must be set forth as the Saviour, Deliverer, Illuminator, and Guide—the world's one Hope.

OXO CUBES advertisement with logo and text: Hot OXO, or better still an OXO Cube in a cupful of warm milk, is an ideal food for children. Milk with OXO can be assimilated more readily, and is a most nutritious and wholesome diet.

AGENTS WANTED

Men and women, not to canvass but to travel and appoint local representatives, \$1000 and expenses guaranteed first year, with good chance to make \$5,000 and expenses. State age and qualifications. Experience unnecessary. Wire to C. Dept. 8, Toronto.

Take Your Order For Printing TO The Central Job Printery 176 KENT STREET CHARLOTTETOWN, TELEPHONE 430-L

FEED advertisement with image of a person feeding a pig and text: Make good layers and setters of your hens. That's what our poultry food does, and you can easily prove it. Feed one group of hens on the kind you've been using. Then feed another group on ours. See the difference in eggs and chicks. This difference is real in dollars and cents.

Our Poultry Supplies

We sell "ROYAL PURPLE" Chick Feed and other POULTRY SUPPLIES also PLASTER ROULRY SUPPLIES. Are you using our SCRATCH FEED, the most economical FEED on the Market?

Call at our FEED STORE QUEEN STREET and prove our statements.

Carter & Co. Limited

Flour, Feeds and Seeds

A careful selection of every line of Jewelry marks our stock.

We will be pleased to have you call W. N. Tanton JEWELER

Take Your Order For Printing TO The Central Job Printery 176 KENT STREET CHARLOTTETOWN, TELEPHONE 430-L

Columbia Records

Columbia Dance Records are Incomparable

Just hear these: A3351 Two of the Season's biggest successes on one record—and Ted Lewis adds the jazz. It's a modest investment with a large return in fun and merriment:

Margie Fox-Trot, Ted Lewis' Jazz Band and Broadway Rose Fox-Trot, Ted Lewis' Jazz Band A-3351, \$1.00

- Feather Your Nest, and Grieving Fox-You—Medley Fox-Trots The Happy Six A-3346 \$1.00
Nightingale—Fox-Trot and Sweet Little Stranger—Fox-Trot Hickman Trio A-3335 \$1.00
Beautiful Annabell Lee—Waltz and Pussy Willow Waltzes—Princes' Dance Orchestra A-6175 \$1.65

Standard Models, Columbia Grafonola, \$37.50 to \$360 New Columbia Records out the 20th of each month COLUMBIA GRAPHOPHONE CO., Toronto 177



For Sale by A. E. TOOMBBS

187 Queen Street, Charlottetown

And even the Hon W. S. Fielding, the one man in the Liberal party whom we thought would be true to principle, has abandoned consistency to conform to the gyrations of his political leader, the Hon. MacKenzie King. Addressing the electors of West Peterboro he actually boasted of his party's shame and for the sake of the few party votes which he hoped to entrap he openly declared his duplicity. The Laurier party went to the people with a promise to remove "EVERY VESTIGE OF PROTECTION," but when they attained power they imposed the highest tariff ever known in the history of Canada. And now Mr. Fielding, from an election platform, declares—"Remember what happened after 1896. We did not hurt you then; we will not hurt you now. After 1896 we did not destroy your factories; you can trust us not to destroy them now. Free trade has never been in Canada, and never will. Such a policy would ruin our whole industrial fabric, AND THERE IS NO DANGER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY DOING THAT. What happened in 1896 would happen again today?"

What a vigorous, though uncouth, acuser of his party's pet folly the industrial voters, and to give to the Farmers the tariff reduction they are asking for IN ORDER TO FOOL THE FARMERS. And then he says "jump into the SAME BOAT." What does this mean? An open admission that the Farmers were once occupants of the Ottawa Liberal Conference, and are now invited to jump in



NAVY LEAGUE SCHOOL OF NAVIGATION CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. Chief Instructor, LT. COMMANDER W. G. LEWIN, R. N. R., late Instructor of Navigation, R. N. Barracks, Plymouth, England. This School is fully equipped with all the most modern and up-to-date instruments and books. For further particulars apply to N. M. Gillespie, Secretary, Navy League Charlottetown, P. E. I. Dec. 22—4 e d 1 m b.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS advertisement with circular logo and text: DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. BRIGHT'S DISEASE, GRAVEL, DIABETES, BACKACHE, 4087 THE PRO...

E. R. BROW advertisement with text: 146 Richmond St Charlottetown Fire, Life, Accident, Sickness and Plate Glass Insurance at Lowest rates. Good Strong, Stock Companies