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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

MONDAY, JULY 19, 1920.

THE FOX INDUSTRY.

Not since silver fox breeding began in this province has as much enthusiasm been aroused or as much real business interest taken in the industry as during the past few weeks. The inspiration for this enthusiasm and this interest was the educative campaign conducted by Hon. A. E. Arsenault who has been entrusted with the organization here of the Silver Fox Fur Selling Association.

Heretofore the fox business in this province has been a sort of mining proposition. Many have been digging, investing their money, speculating; some struck it rich; others received little for their digging. The whole principle was wrong; it was not business. The interests of all fox men were identical but all were working separately, some winning, some holding their own, some losing. Similar results had been experienced in other lines of business, in diamond mining, in orange growing, in apple and other fruit growing, until some one discovered that by co-ordinating their efforts, by co-operating in production, in marketing, in publicity, the business collectively and individually would be improved and each individual benefitted. This co-ordination and co-operation have been put into effect with amazing results.

The purpose of the present campaign is to apply this method to the fox industry which if properly guarded and guided, offers greater prospects probably than any other industry in the world today. The Silver Fox Fur Selling Association aims to feed the market judiciously to prevent congestion and consequent low prices; to encourage by publicity the wearing of furs and consequently to maintain a steady demand for the most beautiful of all furs; feed and care scientifically for foxes and encourage the breeding of the best strains. This can be done only by co-operation, such co-operation as is proposed by the Silver Fox Fur Selling Association.

It will cost something, but it will be worth the investment; foxmen who have faith in the industry who have faith in business principles, who have faith in intelligent and properly directed co-operation will not hesitate to contribute towards the inauguration of a system which has demonstrated its advantages in other lines and which is bound to succeed in the fox industry if given an opportunity. This opportunity is now available and we trust our foxmen will exemplify their faith in the industry by helping generously in putting the industry upon a solid and proved foundation.

LIABILITY FOR TAXES.

Whether knowingly or otherwise the Patriot in its article in Friday's issue on "The Liability for Taxes" entirely evaded the point at issue. The point raised by the Guardian was that if the schedule demanded by section 9 of the 1911 act to be filed in the office of the Provincial Treasurer "on or before the 15th day of September in each year," was not so filed in the year 1919 there is no provision for the collection of that year's tax.

The Patriot quotes section 37 of the Act 1911 to show that "notwithstanding anything in this Act" notices may be served upon persons who had not been notified previously and the taxes collected from them, but it does not mention the very important fact that the Act of 1911 was repealed by that of 1920, section 214, which makes the reservation that "nothing contained in this act shall affect the liability of the several companies & individuals * * * or any of them for the rates, taxes and penalties imposed by the said Acts or any of them and WHICH HAVE ACCRUED DUE BEFORE THE SECOND DAY OF JANUARY A. D. 1920." The point here is that if the schedule, whose preparation and filing was mandatory, was not filed, the tax for 1919 did not "accrue due before the second day of January, 1920."

We are not pressing this matter for controversy; the question has been raised and it will no doubt eventually be settled by legal process. In the meantime newspaper controversy will not settle it; it is up to the government to clear the point.

THE NEW DANGER FROM RUSSIA.

Russia's latest successes against Poland are rapidly creating a new danger to Europe and the world. This new threat is military and much more formidable than any agitation the Bolsheviki are capable of carrying on outside of Red Russia. The plain truth of the matter is that Russia has become unified under the Reds, and today has perhaps the largest and most dangerous army in Europe. It is a victorious army, having cleared Soviet Russia of all enemies, and is now on the offensive in a drive that menaces Poland's very existence.—The Brooklyn Eagle.

PRaise FROM QUEBEC

The choice of the Hon. Arthur Meighen as Prime Minister seems to us in the circumstances to be most practicable. Representing the West, he will exercise a certain influence on the representation of that part of the Dominion: As a man of initiative and a good debater, we believe he is strong and capable enough to direct the ministerial ship into a safe harbor.—Le Pays.

CURRENT COMMENT

It has been asserted, and apparently upon substantial grounds, that Canada has a supply, not only of bituminous but also of anthracite coal, ample to meet every requirement of the Dominion, and if desired sufficient also for export. While this is so, consumers have been frequently up against hardships, and industry seriously threatened, because of our present dependence upon the United States and outside countries for our fuel supplies. This subject has been one of more or less agitation for a considerable time back, and why it has not received more general attention is difficult to understand. If we have extensive coal deposits, as an item of private speculation, at present prices and keen demand, it should surely be remunerative; and if not by private enterprise, then as a matter of public policy and national necessity, it should be taken in hand and a vigorous development provided for under government direction. It is a matter in which the whole people are interested. The government is only the implement and expression of the people, and if these most in interest will get earnestly behind the project there will be no doubt as to the government acting. But the press and the people must get busy and press their demands.

A short time ago the Chicago Tribune was philosophizing upon the question of nationhood within the nation, as applied in the connection of Great Britain with her colonies. There was this tone in its comment that "Canada, Australia, South Africa, etc., may, if they see fit, disassociate themselves and become nations entirely independent," and then with a little gravity it wisely adds, "which they will not do." They have correctly stated the case. These younger nations are in almost every sense independent, not even tributary, apart from the tribute of affectionate loyalty, to the Mother land. Gently the Tribune suggests that "Economic impulses and factors may prevail over traditions and nationalistic inclinations," and that "with fundamental institutions in common with economic gains to be found in union," "Canada some day may join the United States."

And its dream is even wider than this, for it extends its ambition by "a sensible Mexican policy to the Tropics," as well as, by the absorption of Canada, "to the Arctic." From the American view point the reasoning can neither be ridiculed or blamed. They do not understand the nature of the ties which binds us to the mother land, nor are they conscious of the growing strength of influence, which, instead of loosening the hold, is drawing us closer together and more firmly cementing us into an indissoluble union. Some day in the distant future, when this country develops in trade, population and wealth, as is her destiny, it might be that England would deem it expedient to transfer the seat of government from London to Ottawa, Toronto or Winnipeg, and thus make Canada the centre of the Empire. There are senses however in which the United States and Canada are being drawn together in closer union than before. There is not that feeling of jealousy which existed and was evident in congressional and parliamentary debates at the time when the McKinley tariff bill became law. By that act Canada was in many respects in an hour

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of weakness thrown upon her own resources, but bravely she faced adverse conditions, overcame difficulties, and moved into grooves of self dependence, which became her making as a nation.

Those old time jealousies have passed and gone. Canadians and Americans alike, more surely than ever, realize that this is their continent: theirs to live in in the closest of neighborly friendship; theirs to develop up to social, moral and commercial greatness. Our aims, ambitions and interests are common and the closer we get together to bring these into fruition the greater will be our joint advantages. It may have been an outcome of the Great War, or it may have been produced by other considerations, but however brought about: there is a warmer feeling between the people of the United States and Canada today than ever before, and this friendship continues to grow stronger as the days pass by. We shortly expect to have a direct representative at Washington, from which we reasonably expect a closer working together of the two governments in overcoming the difficulties and problems which are ever present for solution.

In the session of the House, of 1919, the Hon. J. H. Bell was likened to Rip Van Winkle, after his sleep of twenty years. Mr. Bell accepted the situation with a good humor, conscious no doubt that the point was well taken, and then proceeded to relate some of the wonders that he discovered after his awakening. One of these, to use his own language, was, "When I came back I found a gentleman disqualifying by reason of a contract, trusting himself into this House." The alleged contract was in connection with a gift of \$60,000 to \$80,000 to the province. Now since that date our Rip Van Winkle has had another ten months snooze, and to find something closer resembling the "disqualification" than the one to which he then took exception. It was in the form of a member of the legislature, a supporter of the Government becoming surety on a Government contract. What has our R.V.W. to say to this?

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potentialities in a recently discovered mine of wealth in the muschel mud deposits of Richmond Bay. There was some apparent difficulty in reaching this mine, but to the fertile brain of the then Leader of the opposition, these little things were trifling in character. It was only the matter of building a short railway of a few miles at an imperceptible cost of about \$30,000 per mile.

But to get this railway; there comes the rub, and here hangs a tale. Soberly he declared that the Government, and especially the leader of the Government had abandoned all intention of doing anything for the farmers of Richmond Bay." It was then that he prescribed his quack cure in these words—"I want the people to know that if they wanted to get mud from the Bay it would be when the Liberals got into power." In his opinion, "No policy was greater than the raising of mud from Richmond Bay," and this great "it" would "compel the Dominion Government to build the railway." The people have purchased the Bell panacea; they have placed him in power, where he has been located for ten months. What kind of a railway have they got and how are they enjoying the mud-raising picnic so solemnly promised by the Liberal?

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