

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE SALE OF PRINCIPLE.

Mr. MacKenzie King congratulated Mr. Gordon the winning candidate in the West Peterborough election on his election and in doing so added "We may now look forward with confidence to the triumph of Liberal principles at the general election."

What Liberal principles were involved in this election? Mr. Gordon the winning candidate publicly declared himself a protectionist. The Ottawa platform adopted by the Liberal convention which appointed Mr. MacKenzie King as federal leader, contains the following plank:

"That to these ends wheat, wheat flour and all products of wheat, the principal articles of food, farm implements and machinery, and repair parts thereof, lumber, oils, fishermen's equipment, fertilizers, raw materials wearing apparel, footwear and other articles of general consumption "should be free from customs duties" and "a revision of the tariff downward" on a long list of other articles."

In order that this platform should not meet the same fate as the platform on which the Liberal party came into power in 1896, and to insure the carrying out of the new platform the following rider was attached:

"That the Liberal party hereby pledges itself to implement by legislation the provisions of this resolution when returned to power."

Has Mr. Gordon signed this pledge? Has Mr. King abandoned it? What particular Liberal principles are expected to predominate at the forthcoming election.

In the Peterboro election there were five candidates, one Liberal, two Conservative, one Farmer and one Labour. The Liberal vote fell far short of the Conservative vote and in the split up the Liberal candidate won out. There was but one straight government candidate, one against four and one of the four won out as was generally expected. As to the division of votes between Liberalism and Conservatism, the former were overwhelmingly defeated.

A significant feature of the election was the fact that four of the candidates were protectionists. Even the Liberal candidate, Mr. Gordon, who supported the Liberal tariff policy at its adoption at the National Convention in August 1919 preached the doctrine of protection to Canadian industry and labor.

The "Liberal Principles which Mr. MacKenzie King hopes to see triumph at the next general election are therefore very elastic, as elastic as Mr. MacKenzie King's own policy which is adapted to the political latitude in which it is expounded. The only noteworthy fact in connection with the Peterboro election is that the government candidate polled an overwhelming majority over the candidates opposing the government.

SIGNAL HONOUR AND CREDIT.

Fiftieth anniversaries are rare, sadly rare in the brief allotted span of "three score years and ten" which even a small minority attain to. When they occur accompanied with an honorable record, the love of friends, the esteem of acquaintances and the consciousness of having rendered useful service to one's fellows, they are sacred.

Such a privilege was accorded Mr. Donald Nicholson M. P., as recorded in our yesterday morning's issue, when his brethren of St. Lawrence Lodge, I. O. O. F. assembled to do him honour and to bestow upon him the Veteran's jewel in commemoration of the completion of his fifty years of continuous membership in that society. It was no mere ornamental ceremony; there was a proud record to look back upon and to comment upon in complementary terms; before many of the members were born Mr. Nicholson was a member and a pillar of the organization, a membership and support which he continued faithfully for fifty years, for a period exceeding the average life. And he was not only a useful and honored member of this fraternity, he was a citizen without reproach, a man who had earned his day and generation leaving foot prints worthy of following and monuments in things accomplished which would perpetuate his memory. Many of these were cited by his brethren in their congratulatory address; his services as a City Councillor; the Victoria Park Roadway which he initiated; his parliamentary record, his success as a business man, his public spirited interest in the welfare of the city and province and Dominion—all a splendid record to look back upon and for his friends to feel proud of.

The incident was an epoch in Mr. Nicholson's life and one that even with his modesty he may well feel proud of, but only an incident. His record is not

yet to be written and we trust the writing thereof is still far in the future but we feel assured that when it is complete and the story of his life written it will be one that his friends may still read with pride and gratitude.

With his many friends we congratulate Mr. Nicholson on the well merited honor conferred upon him by his brethren and wish him many more years of usefulness in the Lodge and city and province which he has served so well and so faithfully.

CURRENT COMMENT

If the Bell Government's policy in the matter of country road management is similar to their neglect of things right under their noses in the city, the people in the country have our sincere sympathy. In the City of Charlottetown the traffic is large, and the City and Dominion Governments look carefully after the traffic conditions at their own doors. But the back yard and the front door alike of the Bell combination is the picture of Peter Tumbledown in laziness and the slovenly householder in appearance. That portion of Queen Square held by the provincial government is the disgrace spot of the city. The portion owned by the Dominion Government, around the Post Office has cleanly shovelled paths, while the approaches to the Court House and Colonial Building is a snow-shoers paradise, and a limb breaker for ordinary pedestrians. Here are situated two important public buildings and four churches with their schools and the bank and Y. M. C. A., to reach which the public have to wade through snow banks or travel over herring-back ice hills and hollows to reach their destination. While taxing the city away up in the thousands and they refuse to employ some poor man a few days to shovel a pathway or break the roads to the tax office, or to chop the ice from their own door steps.

Appropos of the suggestion of Premier Bell's retirement Miss Goslip is getting a word in that did not strike us when writing on the subject before. She is saying some kindly things about the Hon. P. J. Nash that are surely worth repeating. She admits the situation to be some what strained behind the scenes, and that there is a couple whose retirement would not produce many laments amongst the rank and file of the party; and it is here that she puts in a very forcible plea for the Hon. Mr. Nash as being properly in line for the Premiership. From the standpoint of correct politics, who amongst them has as strong a claim? When all the present leaders were attending to their private affairs in their law offices and on the farms Mr. Nash was instant and insistent, in season and out of season fighting the party battles, often against great odds and always in the forefront taking the hard blows which fell mercilessly upon him. Even in that time of national stress when the fate of the world hung as upon a thread, with his own son at the greatest danger point at one time a prisoner to Germany, and the country calling for help, he sacrificed his personal feelings and stood by his party at a time when these now in the seats of the exalted were cold in their country's need.

How frequently too has he taken up his pen in defensive warfare on

Daily Selections Guardian Readers Furnished by W. S. Louison.

ALL THINGS ARE PASSING

Let nothing disturb thee. Nothing fright thee. All things are passing—God never changes.

—LONGFELLOW

MY JOB

I haven't got to make over the universe; I've only got to do my own small job, and to look up of ten at the trees and hills and the sky and be friendly with all men.

DAVID GRAYSON

AS TO LOOKS

by John Kendrick Bangs

Some folks in looks take so much pride They don't think much on what's inside.

Well, as for me, I know my face Can never be made a thing of grace. And so I rather think I'll see How I can fix 'em inside o' me. So folks'll say, "He looks like sin. But ain't he beautiful within!"

"HANG TO YOUR GRIT

Don't give up hoping when the ship goes down. Grab a spar or something—just refuse to drown. Don't think you are dying just because you're hit. Smile in face of anger and hang to your grit.

Folks die too easy—they sort of fade away; Make a little error and give up in dismay. Kind of man that's needed is the man of ready wit. To laugh at pain and trouble and keep up his grit.

LOUIS E. THAYER

behalf of the Bell Government whose blunders and hypocrisies were beyond defense? When there wasn't a man jack of them able to offer an excuse for their conduct, and unwilling to make amends for their wrong doing, who alone but Mr. Nash had they to stand between them and the indignant public to throw oil upon the troubled waters and to try and appease the wrath of the people? When there was no possibility of substantial argument on their behalf, and when in the holes into which the Government were cramped and pinching them to the sore, it was the Patriot that improvised every show of camouflage for defense, and created the clouds of the political atmosphere in attempts to shield them from their pursuers. How long would they have lived and would there be a Bell Government existent today if it were not for the resistance, the only resistance they had, in the labors of the editor member—Mr. Nash? For over forty years he has been steadily at the anvil working hard, and often effectively, to weld the party together to save them from dissolution.

And all this occurred when those who are now enjoying the big emoluments were enjoying the quiet of private and business life, un concerned as to whether the party went to hades or the other place. And now that they have shown their gross incapacity for government, who amongst their number is best qualified to drag them out of the quick sands of their own creation? Mr. Nash is the only genuine properly appreciated and loyal party man politician in their ranks. He has political, but no personal enemies. With his sunny smile, his genial hand-shake and his marvelous faculty for discovering where best to throw the oil to quell the raging tempests he can better than any of them soothe even where he fails to convince. That he may not succeed in reconstructing the wrecked ship is quite probable, her hull, rudder and fittings are in a deplorable shape. But that he will outclass present incumbents is beyond question.

The Government have sampled crowd pie but up to the present have not expressed any opinion as to the agreeableness of the flavor. Whether it is because of their natural tendency to neglect everything, or anticipating some further samplings when the legislative meets, they are deferring their judgment as to the taste, is uncertain. The Prince of Wales College pie was somewhat large in size and being of an educational character, and six months in a hot oven, it would naturally be dry and not too inviting to dunces who do not take kindly to well deserved and much needed lessons. Those to be served when the House meets may be of smaller size, probably patties for individual plates, AND PERHAPS MORE JUICY. It is not generally considered the most appetizing but for a feast, but it has always been credited with a high medicinal value, a powerful corrective of a disordered system, and absolutely necessary in extreme cases of stubbornness and bombastic self-importance.

The Examiner has been doing some figuring in connection with the doubling up TAXATIONS of the doubling up TAXATIONS of the Bell Government, and if it is expert enough in multiplication, without subtraction or abstraction it may be successful, but it has got into a deep subject. Computing from the wording of the taxation act it has estimated two taxes to be collected from the unfortunate tax payer within the short period of six months. But the Bell Government must never be judged or estimated on the basis of statutes, or distance or laws, written or unwritten. They are a law to themselves, and can only be correctly measured by their conduct and actions. "By the courtesy of" or other mandate of any or all of them the written laws must stand aside. Perhaps it was charity on the part of the

I wish I could discover Perpetual Motion when I'm eating Post Toasties - says Bobby Superior Corn Flakes

Health and Fry's Fry's Pure Breakfast Cocoa

Examiner, or a desire to let them down easy, but "two taxes collected within six months" is altogether too modest to meet the situation, and altogether too limited to cover the real facts of the case.

The subject is too big to dispose of in a single issue, but summarized the facts are—the Government in order to create a false balance against the Arsenault Government carried over the 1919 taxes into 1920; in 1920 they imposed their own exorbitant assessments, and by lobbying and dilly-dallying these became payable practically in December; the 2nd of November was fixed as the decisive day for collecting the unpaid 1919 income tax, therefore INSTEAD OF TWO TAX COLLECTIONS WITHIN SIX MONTHS AS COMPLAINED OF BY THE EXAMINER THERE WERE THREE TAX COLLECTIONS, 1919, 1920 AND 1921 ALL MADE PAYABLE WITHIN THE THREE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND JANUARY. We suggest to our contemporary in future not to be carried away by the Bell Government who books but to look behind and get at the actual facts if it wants to present the real truth to the people.

\$60,000 Subscription To Mount Allison

HALIFAX, Feb. 8.—A subscription of \$60,000 by S. M. Brookfield of Halifax for the University of Mount Allison was announced at a meeting last night of local workers. The campaign on behalf of the College begins today.

Geddes Talks To Premier About Canada's Minister

LONDON, Feb. 8.—It is understood that Sir Auckland Geddes has discussed with Premier Lloyd George the question of the diplomatic or semi-diplomatic relations to be established between Ottawa and Washington. It is probable that an official statement will be issued.

Japan Must Not Be Irritated STOCKHOLM, Feb. 8.—Addressing the Moscow Soviet recently the war Minister Trotsky argued that

nothing must be done to irritate Japan, says a Washington dispatch. Japanese Neutrality German sympathy, he declared, were necessary and altogether too limited to cover the real facts of the case.

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