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FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1926

THE PRESENT DOLLAR

Grasping the present dollar regardless of future consequences is the curse of the present age. Young men have left good farms in this and other provinces of Canada to earn a daily wage which they may spend at will, rather than wait for a few weeks or a few months for a return for their produce. Had they remained on the farm and built it up they would have an assured competence and a substantial stake in the country. Choosing the daily wage and spending it as they go, they go on to the end of the journey and die paupers. This is no exaggeration and many sad instances of it will be remembered by many who read this.

"The present dollar" is the policy advocated by the Liberal candidates today in Prince Edward Island. It is not used anywhere so far as we can gather from our exchanges and it will not appeal to any thinking man or woman. The argument is that if we charge a protective duty on American products, manufactured or agricultural, the Canadian buyer will be obliged to pay approximately the amount of the duty in addition to the actual cost when he buys any article or commodity of Canadian production. It is not so. Neither Canadian manufacturers nor Canadian farmers take advantage of the duty on American importations. They set the price according to regular standards of cost of production, material and labor.

Granting that the Canadian product would cost more because of the duty on an American product of the same kind, if the American manufacturer and the American farmer can produce more cheaply than the Canadian manufacturer or the Canadian farmer, why not buy all our manufactured goods and all our agricultural products from the Americans? If the argument holds good in the case of any one commodity it must apply to all. If it pays better to buy one American carriage, or automobile or implement why not buy them all from the Americans?

What, in that case, would become of Canada? Where would our young men and young women find employment? The Liberal argument against protection is the argument of the "present dollar" man, the argument of the man who sees no farther than the dollar he has his hands on.

We are living beside the most highly protected country in the world, a country made rich by its policy of protecting its own industries, its own agriculture and its own people. It pays the highest wages of any country in the world because of its protection. The reason it does not charge us more for what we buy from it is that there is a small amount of competition in Canada. If that competition were removed and we were completely at the mercy of the United States, they would very soon raise their prices to the highest that they could get.

So long as Canada depends upon other countries to do for her what she should do for herself, so long will Canada be a struggling, starving country and her people must of necessity go where living wages are paid.

The Conservative policy is Canada for Canadians, a moderate protective duty on such products from foreign countries as enter into the competition with her own products. The cheap-jack policy of buying foreign made goods because they are a few cents or a few dollars cheaper than the Canadian is a policy of bankruptcy and stagnation, a policy that has no vision and no promise for future betterment. The man who believes in his country and has faith in it will buy Canadian goods

when he can get them and will not haggle about a few cents or a few dollars difference in price, knowing that the extra remains in his own country and is helping to provide employment and markets and prosperity for his own country.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The applause of the small boy is music and evidence of appreciation to the political orator but it is votes that count.

Mr. King has again suggested in one of his western speeches that when he is out of office an "usurper" is in office. He seems to believe in the Divine right of King.

The surest way to compel any Finance Minister to lower the income tax is, first, to compel all smugglers to pay Customs taxes and so collect a revenue for the Government which will enable it to lighten the levy on incomes.

Prince Edward Island had its best weather on and was on its best behaviour during the several visitations this summer. It is gratifying to know that our visitors, without exception, were pleased with their short sojourn here and that many of them hope to come again.

Are the men who made such a sorry mess of it during the past five years and those who helped to whitewash them worthy to be trusted again? Sinclair and Jenkins and McLean and Johnston say they are. What do the people think?

Wasn't it a darned shame to persuade James A. Fraser, an other respectable newspaper editor, in his 87th year to contest the County of Pictou rather than let it go by default to Col. Cantley? Wouldn't it have been more creditable to let it go?

The campaign in the different constituencies in the province is going on apace and the orators are orating, but the people who pay the taxes are doing their own thinking and wondering how much less the taxes would have been if there had been sufficient supervision over the Customs to prevent the smugglers and their official friends from getting those millions.

Hon. Mr. Dunning has written Mr. Hance Logan denying the accuracy of the report of his derogatory remarks concerning the Maritimes. On the other hand, the Canadian Press, which was responsible for the report, has issued a statement asserting its absolute accuracy notwithstanding anything that may be said to the contrary.

Had an officer in the Canadian Army during the war, finding himself in such a tight place that defeat or surrender was inevitable, sent a request to Lord Byng to relieve him of his commission in order to avoid the humiliation, what would Byng of Vimy have said to him? Just exactly what he said to Mr. Mackenzie King who, in similar plight made a similar request. And the officer wouldn't have raised a "constitutional" question about it either.

The way to avoid a lickin' is to run away when you see it coming. Mr. Mackenzie King did this in the House of Commons. He'll get his on the 14th September. We note that his principal supporters in the Maritimes have followed his example and have decided not to wait for the 14th September. E. M. Macdonald, Hance Logan, McGee of Westmoreland, Foster of St. John, have taken time by the forelock and have gone into voluntary retirement rather than face the electors.

Notes by the Way

To those thoughtful electors who would calmly consider the present political situation certain facts must be apparent. A major fact is that the election of last October was that it was the first time the King Government ever appealed to the country on its record as a Government. It had no record when the election of 1921 was held.

A second major fact is that in the October election the King Government was defeated. Who, can or will dispute that fact? No Government since Confederation had appealed to the Canadian electorate and had its Prime Minister and eight of his colleagues slaughtered at the polls. That was the unprecedented defeat of the King Government.

Mr. King and his Ministers, in defiance of all precedents, clung to office and power. They appealed to Parliament against the decision of the people! This was something unheard of in the history of the British Empire. There were but 100 Liberals in the new House of 245 members. But they got themselves propped up for some months by Progressive support and got majorities of one, three or five to enable them to hold on.

Under such conditions anything like stable or efficient administration of public affairs was impossible. Still they clung to power! Then came the shocking revelations before the Customs Committee and the report of that Committee—one of their own appointments—condemning them. Thus condemned by the people at the polls and by Parliament in which it could no longer command even a purchased majority, Premier King asked the Governor General to give him another dissolution of Parliament.

No constitutional Governor could or would have granted a request so manifestly absurd. Then Premier King resigned. There was nothing else that he could do. What was apparent as his duty immediately after the October election, and would have been a manful and honorable act had he then resigned, he was compelled to do at the close of the session when resignation had ceased to be a virtue.

As we have said, there has been no precedent for such sordid clinging to power as was shown by Premier King and his colleagues. Sir John Macdonald when faced with defeat in Parliament in 1873 resigned without conditions. Alexander Mackenzie, when his government was defeated in 1873 did not wait for the meeting of Parliament but promptly tendered his unconditional resignation. In 1896, when Sir Charles Tupper was Prime Minister and his government was defeated in the election of that year he followed the same course. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1911 and Premier Meighen in 1921 uncomplacently accepted their defeat and made way for their successors.

Such was the dignified, upright and honorable public course of Canadian statesmen in the past when they met with defeat. They did not whine or complain, or sordidly cling to office against the expressed wish of the people. Such a course would have been impossible to the Conservative or Liberal statesmen of the past. It is only in our day that the honorable examples and traditions of these statesmen have been set aside and replaced by the lower standard and model that has been conspicuously placed before our people.

We have a new Government now and we hope and trust it may bring back a higher standard in public life. We believe that our readers are conscious that during the past few years there has been a sad decline in the political life of Canada and that it is now a good time to return toward those "things that are true, honest, pure, just, lovely and of good report" which in former times adorned the highest stations in life. We shall not at once reach the goal, but we may at least make progress toward it.

A Government stable, honest and fair to all is promised by the new Conservative Administration. Behind that pledge we have Arthur Meighen and the able and upright public men whom he has already called to be his colleagues, men whose faith and whose promises are unshaken by dishonor. Stable Government Mr. Mackenzie King never did and never can give to Canada. As to his honesty, he permitted the treasury to be plundered of \$30,000,000 a year by

Mr. King And Mr. Boivin

Mr. Mackenzie King has made a political use of the death of Mr. Boivin which we think is illustrative of Mr. King's peculiar mentality. "He (Mr. Boivin) placed his life as a sacrifice on the altar of his country," declared Mr. King at Saskatoon, with a solemn quoting of Scripture, seeking to intimate, as the context shows, that Mr. Boivin was butchered by the Conservatives. It was like Mr. King. As a matter of fact the illness of Mr. Boivin was sudden, and of course not connected with anything that had happened in the political arena. Before the Liberal convention in Sherbrooke which indicated him to be in a vigorous fighting mood, and there was no question about his health.

Mr. King prefaced his wretched implication by a picture of Mr. Boivin as one desperately persecuted by his political opponents—a subject of "one of the most vicious attacks ever brought against the character of a public man." That is a large order, when one recalls that during many thousand years attacks have been made on millions of public men. It is a good sample of Mr. King's hyperbole. The direct criticism of Mr. Boivin in Parliament and the Press was limited practically to the cases of Moses Aziz and the barge Tremblay's liquor. There was nothing "vicious" about it, but just fair truth. We dislike to refer to this after Mr. Boivin's death, but Mr. King's course renders and was personally responsible for the sale of the Tremblay's liquor a great loss to the Government to parties who had strong Liberal influence behind them. These things were proper ground for Parliamentary attack.

Let us see how Mr. King disposed of the Aziz case. He told the Saskatoon meeting that Mr. Boivin, being appealed to in regard to Aziz when the latter was about to go to jail, consulted his deputy minister, being new to his department, and was told by the deputy that it would be a "perfectly right thing" to interfere—not, let us remember, that he should interfere, but that he had the power if he wanted to, and so Mr. Boivin decided to interfere "until he could take the matter up with the Member for that constituency." You would imagine there was nothing else to the case. Yet Mr. King suppressed the essential fact. He suppressed the fact that the appeal to Mr. Boivin of Mr. Robichaud, the Liberal member in question, called for help on the ground that Mr. Robichaud told him Aziz was of "the highest help" in elections. And here another election was on, and Aziz could help again—if he was not in jail! And Mr. Boivin acted! And Aziz stayed out of jail for three months, until Parliament met the following January and the Stevens investigation began.

We had better give Mr. Robichaud's complete letter to Mr. Boivin, as follows:

"Honorable and Dear Sir:—Will you please consult Hon. Mr. Lapointe about the proceedings instituted against Mr. A. M. Aziz, Caraque, for violation of the Revenue Act. I attach the greatest importance to this affair, since in the actual circumstances I need the help of all my friends.

"The Hon. Mr. Lapointe will give you all the necessary information. Mr. Aziz is of the highest help for us during this campaign, and we cannot do without his services."

Such was the essential fact—"highest help" in the campaign. Such the fact that Mr. King suppressed at Saskatoon. The very nature of the appeal that Mr. Robichaud made to Mr. Boivin was such that Mr. Boivin, if he acted in accordance with public principle, had never an excuse to ask a deputy minister's view as to whether he had power to act. Nor Mr. Mackenzie King an excuse to tell Saskatoon and the world now that Mr. Boivin acted with perfect good faith and good principle, and to describe proper criticism of such a course as "one of the most vicious attacks ever made upon the character of a public man."

One can hardly conclude comment upon this latest performance of Mr. King's without remembering some of the sentences in the open letter recently addressed to Mr. King by Hon. H. H. Stevens, who has been with Mr. King in Parliament for the past twenty years or so. For instance, these:—

"Thus having attempted to poison the public mind, and, in your own estimation safeguarded yourself from effective reply, you draw certain ludicrous comparisons. You have ever been an adept at evasion, equivocation and subterfuge. You never take a public stand on any clear, definite ground, but by using false statements and half-truths seek to prejudice your hearers, and by these circuitous methods secure for yourself access to office."

Surely it will be an unfortunate thing for this country if a man capable of such a thing as the Saskatoon speech of Mr. King becomes again Prime Minister. He is an accident in our national politics—a bad accident. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's favor started him. Quebec anger against conscription put him in the saddle after Sir Wilfrid's death. The country sized him up; and in the last general election, outside of returned to Parliament in the whole of the Dominion from Atlantic to Pacific—and some of these were from constituencies in which a strong French-Canadian vote existed. Then the accident of a Progressive party in the field, and their support of him for sectional reasons, enabled him to carry on a precarious Government for a few months more—and so gave him an opportunity to try to make a tool of the Governor-General. A bad accident in our public life indeed, this Mr. King. And if the coming election does not put an end to him, it will again be only because of the Progressives.

The Public Forum

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

LET MR. ROBB STATE THE FACTS.

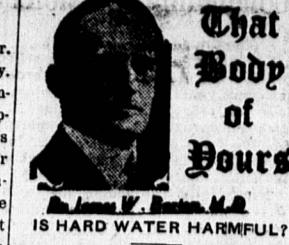
SIR.—When Mr. Robb speaks to smugglers (thieves and scoundrels). His Government's record during the past session was a march from scandal to scandal—always on the defensive, unable to legislate, to TAKE 2 NOTES BY THE WAY... toring, wobbling and finally making a most inglorious exit. What honest and intelligent elector, who is not party-mad wants them back?

Who wants more Senators like Bureau, more preventive officers like Bisalton, or more returning officers like Baldy Robb? If such there be let him vote to bring the old gang back again! Give them a coat of whitewash and let them do worse than they did before. But the country is not of that mind just now. The country will give the new Government a fair trial, which is what it asks for—a fair trial coupled with the warning that if they don't do better than their predecessor their reign will be short.

the electors of Charlottetown on August 18th, he will doubtless tell them all about the wonderful reduction in taxation he made in his last Budget, a reduction which, most people are convinced is more imaginary than real. He will not tell them, however, that Canada was the last country in the world to reduce its war taxes. He will not tell them that all other countries involved in the war began reducing war taxation more than three years ago. Neither greater reduction could have been, and how much sooner it could have been brought about, if the THIRTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS annually stolen from the public treasury by Customs smuggling could have been applied to a reduction of the tax burden.

While the people of Canada, including the farmers of P. E. Island, were working hard to pay the heavy war taxes the Hushion's, the Cooper's and the George's, as well as other friends of Mackenzie King and his Ministers were robbing the country of millions which could have been applied to lighten the load of the Canadian taxpayer. Yet the Patriot has the audacity to claim that the Customs evidence brought out by the Customs commission will convince every elector that never before has such debauchery been revealed in the public life of Canada. But Mr. Robb will not talk about these things; he will dwell on more pleasant topics. But the people will not forget.

I am, Sir, etc., TAXPAYER.



That Body of Yours

IS HARD WATER HARMFUL?

You have likely heard from time to time that hard water is bad for the system. Hard water, as you know, is water containing lime salts.

Now as most of us have to drink this kind of water, it is worth while to know whether hard water really is harmful. A research man set out some time ago to find out "the effect of hard water on the growth, appearance, and general well being."

He studied the effect of hard water as compared with the distilled water on white mice, white rats, young rabbits, dogs, calves, and chicks. This certainly gave a variety of animals, and offset the criticism that is sometimes made that white mice, for instance, react differently to certain substances than does a human being. But when the same results are secured on six different kinds of animals, then it can be considered as reasonably proven. And what were the results? This scientist made this complete statement. In no instance did animals on distilled water develop better than those on hard water, but the reverse was actually true under several conditions. Another condition that is blamed on hard water is the formation of stones in the kidneys. Experiments upon the same varieties of animals were carefully carried out. Here too we have the scientist's actual statement. "No evidence has therefore been found proving hard water to be a cause of the formation of stones in the kidney."

Now water is really a food entering into the composition of every food, as well as the tissues of the body. It forms the largest part of all the fluids in the body, moistens all the mucous surfaces of the body, prevents friction, enables the blood to be in a fluid state to be carried all over the body, promotes tissue change, removes wastes, distributes body heat, regulates body temperature, and so forth. Remember the uses of water to the system, and remembering also that hard water is not harmful, the extra glass or two of water between meals is a good habit. Most of us do not drink enough water. Don't forget also that water is a weight producer to the majority of individuals.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

August 13, 1926 SINCERE SERVICE—"Fear the Lord, and serve Him in sincerity and in truth." Jos. 24:14.

FAME? DUTY!

Men give their lives to some great cause. 'Tis charity or science, say; They teach us and they make our laws. Until the nation's tribute pay, And say, "This man—unknown, some time, His upward way was hard to climb. By great endeavors he reached fame."

Daily Lessons In English

By W. L. Gordon

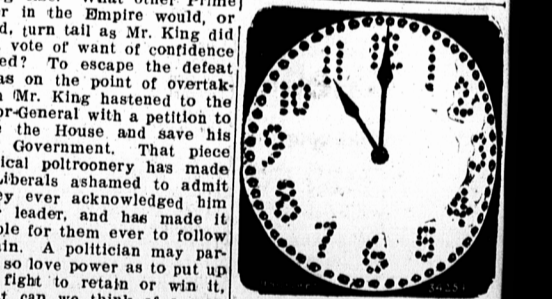
WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: "Say 'I was angry with a person.'" OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: Pronounce the o as in "son," not as in "home." OFTEN MISPELLED: chap-eron; not aural e. SYNONYMS: disease, sickness, ailment, affection, disorder, complaint, malady, indisposition, infirmity. WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering: PROFFER: to offer for acceptance. "She declined the proffered compliment."

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Political Poltroonery Whatever he may be to his own henchman, a shirker can never be a hero to the public whose favor he seeks. The longer ex-Premier King figures in their eyes, the more does he impress his fellow-citizens by his lack of courage. He will take no hazards, even for power, the object he craves more than anything else. What other Prime Minister in the Empire would, or ever did, turn tail as Mr. King did when a vote of confidence was impended? To escape the defeat that was on the point of overtaking him Mr. King hastened to the Governor-General with a petition to dissolve the House and save his domed Government. That piece of political poltroonery has made many Liberals ashamed to admit that they ever acknowledged him as their leader, and has made it impossible for them ever to follow him again. A politician may parade a stout figure to retain or win it, but what can we think of a man whose love of power moves him to abuse himself? The man who so cravenly ran away from the fight in which he was being worsted in the House was capable of the unheroic poltroonery of asking the Governor-General to take sides with him and use the power of dissolution to overwhelm the House in the act of meeting out retributive justice upon him and his fellow Ministers. Nobody would have dreamt that the Governor-General would be asked to take so partisan an attitude. He was not of Mr. King's party, and no hardihood of King's could succeed in betraying His Excellency into a position of antagonism to the House of Commons in behalf of any party leader in whatever plight. Mr. King's flight to the Governor-General to have the axe of dissolution piled on the House before the House's axe should fall on the Cabinet was to no purpose. His advice was not accepted but his resignation was, and the House passed upon him, and his Government the vote of censure he sought to avert by the intervention of the representative of the Crown. There was still a chance for Mr. King to pull himself together, and to show that, mean though his behaviour had been, he was yet some remnant of manliness. He was out, his party opponent was in, and now for a brave fight to recapture office. But Mr. King had no stomach for a fair fight with his adversary. Instead of taking a stand on some proposed principle of policy and the rules of party competition, Mr. King again shirks the front, and instead of striking at Mr. Meighen, the antagonist ready to cope with him, he attacks the Governor-General, whose lips are sealed and whose hands are tied. That course is as foolish as it is



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The Great Conservative Wave Will Engulf the Grits on Sept. 14th