

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1924

WHERE WILL IT END?

While Premier King and the Liberal press are boasting like fevered maniacs that Canada, under the skilful guidance of the Liberal government is growing better and better every day, the accountants of that government are grinding out their monthly accounts at Ottawa and flatly contradicting all the boasting. The statement for July issued by the Department of Finance shows that the orgy of extravagance is still in progress and this in the face of rapidly decreasing revenue. For the four months ending July 31st, the revenue fell off by \$13,458,399 as compared with the same period last year. The expenditure was \$7,704,322 greater than for the same four months last year. This means that the government is \$21,162,721 in the hole as compared with its record last year. It means also that instead of the surplus estimated by the Robb budget the government will have a deficit for the year of \$63,000,000. The national debt, instead of being decreased month by month is increasing month by month. For the month of July last the National debt increase \$1,539,438 as compared with a decrease of \$5,765,962 in July 1923.

These are the revelations of the Finance Department, bad enough in themselves but not the worst that is happening in Canada. Much more serious than the reckless financing and the reckless waste is the campaign of deliberate falsification carried on by Premier King and by the Liberal press. For some weeks past the Liberal press featured a statement said to have been made by the General Manager of the Massey Harris Company to the effect that the company had been benefitted by the Robb tariff. Premier King repeated the statement at Markham, Ontario the other day. In the Toronto Globe of August 19 the General Manager of the Massey Harris Company, Mr. T. Bradshaw, in a letter over his own signature flatly contradicts Premier King's statement and adds: "In respect to the statement (made by Mr. King) that farmers were buying more readily and confidently the very reverse of this is the fact. At no time in the history of the Massey Harris Company have purchasers of implements by the Canadian farmers been at such a low ebb and this condition is not peculiar to the company but is the experience of all implement concerns in this country."

What hope is there for Canada—whose Prime Minister will deliberately misrepresent in order to help maintain his political position? What hope is there for Canada while its party newspapers carry on a propaganda of deliberate falsehood and misrepresentation in the hope of thus keeping its party in power regardless of the country's well being.

To the letter of Mr. Bradshaw, above referred to, the Globe adds this significant footnote: "The Globe's report was made by a stenographic reporter and is, we believe accurate" signed, "Ed. Globe," thus clearing its own skirts and placing the full responsibility upon Mr. King.

Will Premier King retract and apologize for his misrepresentation? Will the Liberal newspapers which featured this alleged statement of the manager of the Massey Harris Company admit they were misinformed and that instead of the betterment they attributed to the Robb tariff there has been a

veritable paralysis of Canadian industry because of it? Will Premier King accept Mr. Meighen's challenge to come to his office and see for himself a list of 2000 factories in Canada closed and proof of the banishment of 300,000 Canadian workmen by the Robb tariff? Not they; they will go on misrepresenting—the facts, go on in the hope of still deluding the people and vilifying as "calamity howlers" those who draw attention to conditions as they are.

LOSING AN OPPORTUNITY

Elsewhere in this issue a visitor to the city gives his views on the possibilities of trade between this island and Newfoundland. Industrial centres are growing in the Ancient Colony where thousands of men and women are being employed; towns are being built which will require large and increasing quantities of such supplies as we produce abundantly in this province and for which we are always looking for markets. What are we doing to get this trade?

Our Canadian Merchant Marine tied up at the wharves in part of the way harbors and we have no ships to carry our products to this nearby market. Norwegian and other foreign ships are carrying supplies from other provinces and other countries, many of them purchased in this province and resold at a profit to Newfoundland. Why could we not sell direct to Newfoundland instead of through middlemen elsewhere?

Looking at the situation as it is, it would appear that a little well directed enterprise on our part might easily provide a steamer to ply between this province and some of our nearby markets, including those now opening in Newfoundland. Trade with the latter country is bound to increase in volume. This trade will not drift in our direction nor will it wait until a steamer or steamers happen to call here and take a load of our produce. It will come our way if we go after it, provide our own means of carrying it and we can hold it if we get it. This is a matter for our merchants to look into. It is not to our credit that we are wholly dependent upon others for our means of freight transport.

SERVING THE CAUSE

In retiring from the contest in St. Antoine constituency, Mr. Leslie G. Bell has served the cause of protection, his action being due to a desire not to divide forces to the gain of the enemy. Mr. Bell was the nominee of the younger element in the Conservative party who paid him the tribute of selection as their candidate by a large majority at a convention of party delegates, and during recent weeks he and his friends have done spade work in the constituency which should be fruitful of protectionist votes on September 2nd. Mr. Bell has youth, ardor, ambition and political convictions, all very desirable qualifications in an aspirant for place in public life. He lacked, however, experience, and labored under the disadvantage of being an unknown man to the electors at large. He will, it is understood, in company with his friends, turn all his force to the support of Mr. Birks, the act of a loyal party man who places the cause above personal ambition or the behest of enthusiastic supporters. They also serve who stand aside and wait.—Montreal Gazette.

Notes By The Way

Right Honorable Arthur Meighen at Stratford touched upon many phases of the King Government's maladministration, among which was the tariff. The tariff policy laid down in the Liberal platform of 1919 had of itself an unsettling effect upon industry. It caused alarm and distrust and made capital timid. Its full effect was not felt at first because it was not then applied and the country was in part reassured by Premier King's pledge that manufacturing industries should not suffer, and by Mr. Fielding's pronouncement in favor of a stable tariff as absolutely necessary to the welfare and prosperity of the Dominion.

Beginning with the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the last session these reviving hopes were shattered by the complete surrender of the Government to the Free Traders of the West, which was followed by the introduction of the Robb tariff with its ruinous provisions against a number of industries and which several ministers had asserted would be followed by further tariff reductions which would "sound the death-knell of protection in Canada." "What had been the effect of these threats and adverse measures upon Canadian industry, upon labor employment and production?"

Mr. Meighen did not mine matters. He presented a convincing array of facts and he gave his authorities and proofs. Is the country "on the high road to prosperity" as Premier King asserted the other day? "I hold in my office at Ottawa," said Mr. Meighen, "the list of over one thousand factories in Canada which have closed their doors since the advent of the King Government and I invite Mr. King to inspect the list. Today their doors are closed and their windows are boarded up because of the tariff policy which is a sample of what he says the people of Canada want."

In dealing with the army of 300,000 workers who have left the country under the King regime Mr. Meighen pointed out that comparatively few of these had gone away during the first year of its present term of power. Since then it has multiplied three times over! These are samples of the King Government policy. "I have the definite figures," said Mr. Meighen, "and I challenge any of the supporters of the King Government to contradict them, that since the advent of the new Administration, with its threats against the tariff there has passed to the United States an army of 300,000 Canadian workmen. Each of those workmen, according to the average earning capacity of 1921 had a financial potentiality of \$1,000, which means that an earning capacity of \$300,000,000 a year has passed from Canada to the United States."

A thousand factories closed and an army of workers gone, their homes desolated, what does that mean to the farmers of the country who had to supply them with food? Those farmers are thus deprived of a large share of their former valuable home market and are shut out of the market of the country whether these workers have gone. It was the policy of the King Government toward the tariff which brought about that situation and it is but one illustration of the results of his deceit and hoaxing.

The reduced tariff and the uncertainty as to the future have greatly diminished the production of Canadian factories, so much so that Sir Henry Thornton in accounting for the falling receipts of the National Railways takes notice of the great falling off in the manufactured products offered for transportation. Thus the loss from a reckless and misguided tariff policy falls like a blight upon employer and worker, upon field and factory, upon the productive energies of the people and also directly upon the receipts of the National Railways and the Dominion treasury. The total monetary loss is appalling and the loss of hundreds of thousands of people, the very life-blood of the country, is still the worst feature of the great disaster.

It is months since there were seats vacant in Parliament for West Hastings, Ont., and for Yale, B. C. It was but the other day that the death of Mr. Morrissey, the member for Northumberland, N. B., made a vacancy in that country yet the writ has been issued and the date fixed for the election there. Yale and Hastings are still on the waiting list. Decent practice and precedent require that bye-elections for vacant seats shall be held simultaneously, but the King government acts all wholesome precedents at defiance.

To prevent valuable vases and other ornaments from falling over easily, put a small quantity of sand in the bottom of a few pieces of lead.

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 of correspondents.

THE CHAIN STORE SYSTEM

Sh.—I am now going to write about "chain stores." You will not doubt ask what is a chain store? I will tell you. A chain store is a unit of many stores, or in other words a single link that goes to make up the whole chain. Now then, why do I write about chain stores at all? I will tell you. It is because I think some people will be interested in what I write. Of course, there are finished products among men, and they are the kind who are not willing to learn, they are generally hopeless. There are also finished products among women, and they, of course, cannot learn unless from a man, or rather, a woman, and what they learn there, do not do them any good; therefore, we will put them down as incurable. I will now begin to write about the chain store. I think you have one in Charlottetown, and it is one of the links in a great chain of stores. I will now tell you about chain grocery stores in Boston. I will mention a few of them and I will tell you that when I first came to Boston a green country boy believing that every man who stood on a street corner was a pickpocket, and that there was in every dark alleyway a big ugly Indian with a tomahawk ready to scalp me. When I look back now to my greenhorn days there were no chain grocery stores in Boston. Today we have several operating from different fountain heads. The largest of all the different groups we can safely say is the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company. I understand the originator of that great concern was a man from Augusta, Me., named John H. King. He opened his first store in New York City in 1859, selling teas and coffees only. He was shrewd and successful from the start, and as business grew with him he began to open up small stores from time to time until today the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. operates 10,300 small grocery stores throughout the United States, and all conducted on the cash and carry principle. I am told that in the last year their cash sales amounted to the staggering figure of \$302,000,000.00. They have about 3,000 stores scattered through the New England States and on top of that enormous amount of small chain grocery stores we also have other chain grocery stores, such as operating on the cash and carry system. Not one of them takes in a calf skin or a carcass of pork. They all want to see four dollars and nickles first.

We have the O'Keefe Company with 550 stores. We have the J. T. Connor Co. with 450 stores. The Ginter Co. with 300, and Kennedy's with about 80 stores. I have now mentioned four groups of stores outside of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. I am told now that these four groups are taking seriously to forming into one group, so you see their pulling power will be greater, and their efficiency will be of a higher order. It is just like if I was driving on my way to Savage Harbor or Muddy Creek, and saw a man having trouble pulling out a stump, I would jump out of my truck, and over the old hunk chain or pulling rope with Johnnie Little Angus and out comes the stump. I suppose Johnnie Little Angus would stay there all day, ripping and tearing, cursing and swearing, and if the wild pull with him did not do the job, I would mean by co-operation and efficiency. Just the very thing the big and brainy men of the country are doing. They help to get the ugly stumps out of the way so that they can make greater progress.

Now then, have you got your arm over the back of the chair and giving me a mental gaze across the Bay of Fundy? Supposing we say a little more on the chain grocery stores. These stores are very small and in many cases only one man or woman in them in connection with the cash register. They have one central supply house for each group that I have named, and the goods sent to each store is charged up at the selling price. I am sorry to say I can't tell you how often they take an inventory in these stores, but for the sake of making my story clear, let us say it is once per week. Now then, I told you they charged the goods up at the selling price, so you see that if there was \$1,000 charged up to the store in goods, and the inventory man came along and found \$400 worth of stock missing, you will readily see that the store manager would have to produce his \$400. And he generally produces the \$400. So you see again, there is very little room for losses by pilfering. You will not find any dead stock in those stores. You will not find stock that is petrified with age, as you will in many stores throughout your island.

I could go into many stores on your island and in a few minutes point out goods that are eating up interest and sending the owner back up to the wall. What would I do with such goods? I would say, get busy and sell them. You will always find women looking for bargains. As a matter of fact, if some of them are waiting now for the matrimonial door to open so they can get a bargain husband. The point I wish to make clear is this. It is better to take a small loss on some goods by selling them than to take a total loss by keeping them. Be careful how you buy and perhaps you won't have dead stock on hand, it is a good deal like a woman selecting a husband and when she has him selected and purchased and finds he ain't going to move, she is going

That Body of Yours TONSILS AND EXPOSURE

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I can remember quite distinctly talking to an old physician nearly twenty years ago, who he stated that he had been noticing the number of cases of rheumatism and heart disease, that followed simple cases of tonsillitis. These tonsil cases seemed to follow prolonged periods of over-eating and under exercise, so, over that he was at a loss to know whether the tonsils caused a poisoning of the system, or the tonsils just reflected the congested condition of the digestive tract. Further, one might be going along all right, feeling fine, eating well, and get his system partly clogged up, when along comes a spell of wet or cold weather, to which he inadvertently becomes exposed. Immediately he is on his back with a high temperature, bounding pulse, coated tongue, foul breath, and badly swollen, painful tonsils. Naturally the cold weather, or the dampness, is blamed for the tonsillitis, and for the rheumatism or heart disease that might follow. It would appear that this matter of the rheumatism and heart disease following tonsillitis, was being noticed by physicians everywhere for many years. These rheumatic cases have been cleared up by the removal of badly infected tonsils. You may have had repeated attacks of tonsillitis, and never had a touch of rheumatism. It may be that your resistive forces are such that they can attack the wader with such power, that he leaves no after effects. But there is just this point to remember. Some time you will be working hard mentally and physically, getting little rest and irregular meals, being in fact just a bit below par physically. You will then get well soaked in a rainstorm, perhaps have to sit or stand around in your wet garments, and in a day or two you have a tonsillitis that not only puts you down hard, but is followed by rheumatism or even heart trouble. My only suggestion is, that with bad tonsils you can't take the same chances with exposure and overwork, as the other fellow.

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Famous Pearl Necklace To Cross Atlantic

Pearls are tears, according to the poet, and undoubtedly the most famous and costly of them are Thiers'. The collection, which has become historic, was sold not long ago in Paris for the sum of \$658,244 and presently will cross the Atlantic to grace the neck of some lovely American woman, or perhaps the strong room of some unlovely collector. The necklace, composed of 145 rose colored pearls perfectly matched, which took a long lifetime to get together, was sold at auction before a distinguished company in the Louvre. There other famous sales had been held in the past, the last of them being in 1887 when the French crown jewels were disposed of by the thrifty Republic. There only remains the famous Regent diamond, and this too, will be disposed of some day when the French Government is particularly in need of funds and when Royalist sentiment appears to be particularly low. The necklace, which is made up of three strings joined by a ruby clasp, was first offered string by string, but the aggregate of the sums offered was not as great a sum as was offered when the necklace was again made one.

Great Increase in Value. It is difficult to say what the pearls are worth, apart from the story that goes with them. When they came into the possession of the Louvre in 1831 the Government appraisers set a value of \$5,000 up on them. It is known that M. Thiers and his wife spent the modest sum of 14,000 francs on some ninety or ninety-five of the pearls that made up the necklace, most of the others having been gifts from various distinguished persons who wished to show their regard for the brilliant French statesman. Report has it that one of the pearls was given M. Thiers by Queen Victoria, but there is no record of the fact. Undoubtedly he got a pearl or two from Russian royalty. Princes and Ambassadors learned that the shortest way to M. Thiers' favor was by the gift of a pearl for the famous necklace which had been laid down, as one might say by Thiers on the occasion of his marriage. He gave his wife, a child of fifteen, three pearls which he is supposed to have had from

she advertised the fact by a display over her door, a tribute which caused him mortification. To her restaurant came many of the leading politicians, most of them ignorant of the relationship of Mde. Thiers to the statesman, and they often discussed public affairs and indulged in gossip about the great. To their dismay they found that many of their conversations cropped up in the newspapers the next day, especially if they were of a kind that Thiers could not consider complimentary. Guizot sometimes turned up there. Once he was reproached with being a misanthrope, and said, according to the concealed reporter of such conversations: "But what can I do? In reality, I haven't the courage to be unpopular any more than other people (pause); but neither have I the courage to prance about my own drawing room as if I were on wires (pause); nor can I write on subjects with which I have no sympathy (pause); no knowledge (pause) and I should cut a sorry figure on horseback (pause); consequently people who, I am sure, wish me well but who will not come and see me at home (pause) because my wife does the cooking (pause), hold me up as a misanthrope, while I know I am nothing of the sort." The reference to the writer was meant, of course, for Thiers who, it might be said in the sprightly French way, plumed himself upon his pen, which, when he was a journalist had overthrown the dynasty of the Bourbon King Charles X. Thiers' house was destroyed in the Commune of 1871, but the pearls remained in his possession, and even after he died in 1877 his wife continued to add to the collection until she, too, passed away three years later. She left the necklace to the Louvre and other possessions to her sister Felice who renounced that bequest, but she perpetuated the pious labor of adding to the necklace and contributed thirty-nine pearls.

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Your Birthday. AUGUST 26.—You have good brain-power if you like to use it. You are usually dependable, trusted, and looked up to by your friends. You will be blessed with a great love, and will have a home that will be attractive and happy. Don't let a lonely center it. Your birthstone is the sardonyx, which means a happy married life. Your flower is the poppy. Your lucky colors are orange and red.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

THE WHISTLING LAD. He always whistled when he came home. He was such a merry little lad; He would say, he was Emperor of Rome, And sometimes he'd be Sir Galahad. But always he whistled and whistled away, Whether as knight or handi bold; And he'd follow "the road to Mandalay." And whistled the things he never told. And down through the years he whistled, till He heard a tune that was strange and new; A measure that came from over the hill. He listened—and whistled an answer true. I think God gave him a whistling heart, He never knew what he whistled for; His part in the game was a whistling part, And whistling he marched away to war. A whistling heart can know no fear; And over the leagues of crimsoned loam, That bounded for him the last frontier, I know he whistled as he went home. —Blanche E. H. Murison.

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