

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1867) \$6.00 per year (delivered) in advance \$5.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and \$6.00 to U. S. A.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1921

GLAD TO KNOW IT

Yesterday's Patriot reverts to its previous day's editorial on the Liberal tariff policy and mildly expresses surprise that The Guardian should advocate a "high protection policy." As neither The Guardian nor the Liberal Conservative party has ever advocated a "high protection policy" the Patriot's surprise is beside the mark. We wish, however, to congratulate the Patriot on its unequivocal stand on the tariff issue in its edition of Monday the 26th. It is, so far as we can learn, the only Liberal newspaper in Canada that has done so. The Liberals of Quebec have one policy, those of the west another and Mr MacKenzie King holds to the policy of the section of country in which he is expressing his "opinion." The only question now remaining to be settled is whether the Prince Edward Island candidates, if elected, are going to form a group of their own, individually or collectively. Anyway the Patriot has our thanks for letting us know where they stand. We shall now know how to deal with them when the campaign really opens.

FIELDING FORGETS

Under the caption "Fielding Forgets," the Montreal Daily Star thus deals with the hollow pretences of certain Liberals that the Fordney Tariff bill is the result of the defeat of the Reciprocity pact:

"Mr. Fielding, in addressing a Liberal campaign meeting in West Toronto last night, employed the following language:

The defeat of reciprocity was the greatest crime ever committed against the country. The cattle growers did not seem to realize what reciprocity meant until recently, when the Fordney bill was passed by the United States Congress. In reciprocity, cattle were on the free list. When Premier Meighen says the United States has raised a barrier against Canadian products he is wrong. Mr. Meighen and his party raised this barrier when they defeated reciprocity.

"Mr. Fielding has apparently forgotten the terms of the pact to which he put his name and which so aroused the patriotism of the Canadian people that they hurled him from office. He undoubtedly left the impression last evening on such of his auditors as shared his lack of memory that there was something in his reciprocity proposal of 1911 which would have prevented the adoption of the Fordney tariff.

"Of course, there was nothing of the sort. That was precisely one of the deadliest dangers of the proposed bargain. There was to be no treaty—not a line, not a syllable, not a signature. There was merely an exchange of letters. Indeed, the letter sent to the American Government by the then Canadian Government made it very explicit that there was to be no treaty. We quote:

"It is agreed that the desired changes shall not take the formal shape of a treaty but that the Governments of the two countries will use their utmost efforts to bring about such changes by concurrent legislation at Washington and Ottawa. . . . IT IS DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BIND FOR THE FUTURE THE ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS OR OF THE PARLIAMENT OF CANADA, BUT THAT EACH OF THESE AUTHORITIES SHALL BE ABSOLUTELY FREE TO MAKE ANY CHANGE OF TARIFF POLICY or of any other matter covered by the present arrangement that may be deemed expedient."

"Thus the American Congress would under this arrangement have been quite as free to adopt a Fordney tariff against imports from

Canada as it is today. No notice would have been required. No period of readjustment could have been demanded. The blow could have fallen over-night with the suddenness of the existing emergency tariff. Mr. Fielding had not erected the slightest defence against this always possible disaster.

"Why then does he think that, if Canada had been crazy enough to swallow his nostrum—which even so friendly and gentle a soul as the then President Tait said would make Canada "an adjunct of the United States"—the American Congress would have refrained from smiting us with the Fordney tariff? It could only have been on one ground; and that is that the "preparations to annex Canada"—vide, Speaker Champ Clark—were progressing so beautifully that it would be a shame to interrupt them.

It certainly could not be on the ground that the United States wanted our free cattle and our free wheat so much for purely material reasons that they would never dream of denying themselves the advantage of getting them. For they were enjoying precisely these advantages of free cattle and free wheat from Canada when this new republican Congress rushed through its emergency tariff cutting them off. They had, in a word, many of the material benefits of Fielding reciprocity; and they threw them away without a qualm.

"But if they had managed to get their grip on the prospective POLITICAL advantages—the advantages that would have menaced that "light and almost imperceptible tie" which binds us to the Mother Country (Taft)—then there might have been a different story. We could then possibly have kept the American market, of which Mr. Fielding thinks so much, by selling our soul for it—as Kipling so solemnly warned us not to do."

ATTENTION PUBLIC WORKS

The bridge or causeway adjacent to the Charlottetown Waterworks, the dangerous condition of which resulted last summer in a serious accident, is still the man trap it was then and nothing has been done to avert the danger to the travelling public. This danger has been frequently pointed out but the Department of Public Works is still busy with the "projects" the cost of which is liquidated by a forty per cent federal grant and sixty per cent borrowed money. Why not expend a little money in repairing roads and bridges that are positively dangerous even though it should mean a little expenditure from the increased taxes?

THE REAL ISSUE

"Balancing one group against another and merits against shortcomings we have no hesitation in saying that the destinies of this Dominion for the next few years will be safer in the hands of Mr. Meighen; that its permanent interests will be better served by him than by either of his rivals. That is the issue into which the election resolves itself: whether the affairs of Canada are to be administered by Mr. Meighen in accordance with a safe and stable programme; or by a Crerar-MacKenzie King combination, which can only result in class warfare, economic stagnation and general political chaos. Shuffle the cards as you will, no other alternative remains."—The Quebec Chronicle.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mr. MacKenzie King promises economy and lower taxation if he and his party are returned to power. Premier Bell, when seeking election, made exactly the same promise and Prince Edward Island farmers know to their cost what happened. Liberal promises have long been like the proverbial pie-crust—made to be broken.

Current Comment

Instances of variation are numerous with certain kinds of animals and politicians. The fox of fable it will be remembered made quite a number of attempts to reach the grapes and failed. He then returned to his lair with the sorrowing reflection, "grapes are sour, and aint fit food for foxes anyway." One noted vaudeville politician, familiarly passing by the name of Hon. Mackenzie King observed a bunch of his old time political bed-fellows gathered to gether in a kind of hostile field, calling themselves variously United Farmers, Grain Growers, Agrarians, Progressives, just according to the character of the place they were posing for votes. And Mr. King saw, or thought he saw an affinity in these in which he could make them the cats paws to pull his chestnuts out of the fire. There was this cohesion of thought strong with both of them, at least, that they both wanted to oust the Meighen Government, AND BOTH WERE HANKERING AFTER THE EMOLUMENTS OF OFFICE. And with this attraction as his trump card, he held out, so his own press has told us, the "olive branch" and piteously pleaded with them to come into an alliance against the Meighen people who won't get out to please us, AND IF YOU DON'T JOIN WITH US THEY CAN'T BE PUT OUT. The Grain Growers Party emphatically turned him down, and in language which could not be misunderstood, intimated that they would not be willing to spend their dying days in such questionable company.

And so like the other fox, Mr. Reynard King became philosophical. The political grapes in this case were exceedingly sour. They were not only unfit for Liberal foxes to eat, but there was an inherent poison within that makes them totally unfit for any other kind of political animal's digestion. He has become a convert to the philosophy that group government is unfit for any nation or country or people. He says: "if we are to avoid a repetition of the evils of indecision and compromise to which coalitions give rise, "necessary reforms" must be brought about by "a strong and united party which will FAVOR THE SPECIAL INTERESTS OF NONE but be broadly representative of the fundamental rights and common interests of all." The refusal of the Grain Growers party to enter into any coalition with Hon. Mr. King and his troupe has at least let this much light into his soul, and infused at least this modicum of common sense into his understanding. But it would have been vastly different if the Farmers had grasped the "olive branch" which he held out to them. In that case he would with unrestrained eloquence have found language and argument to glowingly describe the beauties of group and class government.

Dr. Michael Clarke, of Red Deer Alberta, seems to be slightly tattered with the same stick, with the comforting difference that he was born in England, is an Imperialist in his sympathies, and although badly tainted with the Western free trade notions he is nevertheless a true patriot and a conscientious lover of his country. At the formation of the Farmers, or Grain Growers Party, he was in a sense a charter member, and was foremost in their councils. But he was not long in learning the inward character of the movement, and it did not take long for their motives as he most plainly saw them, to become repulsive to his patriotic instincts as well as to his common sense. His letters to

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

THE THINGS YOU LEAVE UNDONE

It isn't the thing you do, dear, 't's the thing you leave undone That gives you a bit of heartache At the setting of the sun. The tender word forgotten, The letter you did not write, The flowers you did not send, dear, Are your haunting ghosts tonight.

The stone you might have lifted Out of a brother's way, The bit of a heartsome counsel You were hurried too much to say; The loving touch of the hand, dear, The gentle winning tone, Which you had no time or thought for.

With troubles enough of your own, For life is all too short, dear, And sorrow is all too great To suffer our slow compassion That tarries until too late; And it isn't the thing you do, dear, 't's the thing you leave undone Which gives you a bit of heart-ache At the setting of the sun.

Margaret Sangster.



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\$40 to \$50, suit value \$25.00.

Others' View Points

There's a Catch in It.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

New York has a public official who is still at work at the age of 92. He is feeling real smart and expects to live a few years more, and to remain a useful citizen. He says that the way to live long is to do in moderation any reasonable thing that one wants to do.

This is very encouraging. Most of us want to live to be 93 if we can be fit to hold a job at that age. In fact most of us are anxious to live to be 92, job or no job. The New York man's statement has cleared the way for us.

But, of course, there is a catch in it. He says any "reasonable" thing, and he says to do it in "moderation." When we find out what a reasonable thing is and what moderation is we shall be all set to beat the undertaker.

THE PEACE ARCH.

(Victoria Colonist)

The dedication of the peace arch which has been erected on the international boundary near Blaine is an event which is, rightly, attracting interest all over the continent. It is the expression, in the form of a memorial, of the thankfulness of the British and

proposed prostitution of the machinery and purposes of government, how can we, with different interests at stake, and truly national ideals before us, fail to observe and oppose such sordid motives?

American peoples that peace should have prevailed between them for so long. Its historical importance as a ceremony of topical interest is heightened by the fact that it should come so closely before the international conference on a reduction of armaments which is to be held at Washington in the near future. Its significance is further increased by the comradeship in arms bred between the two nations on the battlefields of France and in the mists of the North Sea.

The Veto Against the Mayflower.

(Boston Transcript)

It is unfortunate, in more ways than one, that any question should have arisen with respect to the eligibility of the Boston schooner Mayflower, entered to represent the United States in the international races for the North Atlantic fishermen's trophy. The veto against the entry of the Mayflower will be a keen disappointment to the crew and owners of the vessel, and their friends and well-wishers. It furthermore prevents the United States from being represented by a boat admittedly fast, one whose chances of taking the measure of any vessel in the American and Canadian fishing fleets seemed exceedingly bright. But the trustees of the fishermen's trophy have acted neither bravely nor blindly. They have tried to conform to the spirit underlying the terms of the trophy donation, and they have barred the Mayflower because many seafaring men have claimed she was primarily a racing yacht, and only secondarily a fisherman. Other seafaring men might challenge the grounds upon which these criticisms were made.

If a vast assortment of handsome styles of dresses, suits and Coats for stylish dressers, at a very modest price will attract discriminating buyers, we predict a very large attendance at this exhibit. Sale now on at wholesale price. Patons, Ltd.

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A thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER



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