THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1921

LOOKING FORWARD

Regarding the outlook for the year 1921, Sir Frederic Williams-Taylor, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, said:

"Since August, 1914 the world has travelled far along the road to ruin. We may be thankful that the waste and destruction ended before the point of utter exaustion was reached. Canada has not escaped, but we are still a virile people in a goodly land. There is no reason for dismay over our national outlook, but there is every reason for sober thought while we take stock of our resources and of our prospects. We must bear in mind there is no royal road to the stable conditions of former years, no magic by which we can restore the wealth that has been lost or wipe out the debts incurred. There is nothing for it but to repair the damage, retrench and confidently work out our salvation.

"Nothing for it but to repair the damage retrench and confidently work out our salvation.' Truer words were never spoken. The damage has been done. Canada and the rest of the civilized world have experienced what the man experiences whose dwelling and barns have been all but destroyed and who has nothing left but his farm and his ability to work. If he is a man, with a man's pluck he will at once go to work, "repair the damage, retrench and work out his salvation."

This is being done more or less successfully by the nations that suffered. Canada is doing it; we as a province, are doing it. Some of us are in a hurry about it, trying to find a "royal road", a "magic" by which we can overcome the low prices for our produce, the high prices for the necessaries of life; trying to extort from the man we sell to, trying to defraud the man we buy from. It cannot be done sucessfully. We may squeeze our victim today; he will squeeze us tomorrow and we end up where we began. In buying or selling prices must be adjusted to the selling and buying capacity of those with whom we deal and that capacity cannot be sretched without breaking. If we demand more for our produce or our wares than they are worth in the market, we simply choke off the sale; if we refuse to buy what we require, hoping to get it cheaper later on we are simply piling up difficulties to be overcome later on.

We are to retrench, not penuriously or to the injury of others ,not in extravagant buying or in indiscriminate selling Business as usual, giving value for value and demanding the same in return; honestly earning our wage and honestly paying for the labor we employ are the rungs of the ladder upon which, as individuals or as a province, we shall climb to the prosperity that is awaiting us if we choose to aspire to it. There is no royal road to prosperity or to success.

COMING DOWN

On every hand one hears of prices coming down wages coming down, the cost of living coming down and along with it the complaint that the cost of living is not coming down as fast as it should.

In referring to the cost of living we are, perhaps unconsciously, comparing conditions today with those previous to 1914. It would be a sorry day for this province if the cost of living should ever come down to what it was before the war. Compare the prices of farm produce today for example, with those of former days and the problem will solve itself. Prices have fallen but they have fallen from the high points of the abnormal war years; they have not fallen to their previous level and it is fortunate they have not.

Wages have come down only in those centres where industry is congested, where factories were overstocked because of the abnormal production of war years. We have no such conditions here and although we have set up a continuous wail about the absence of industries, the very fact that they are absent is one of our principal sources of stability today.

Prices of merchandise have come down; our advertisements give ample proof of this. Our merchants had stocked up with goods purchased under war conditions and at war prices. They must get clear of them and they are doing so in many cases at a loss, in all cases they are sacrificing their profits. What is to happen when the goods now on hand are sold out? The factories have slowed up to such an extent that even now many lines of goods are not available. The next thing we know we shall be up against another scarcity and high prices.

Let us not build too much on prices coming down. Our merchants know what reduction they can make without becoming bankrupt; they must clear out their present stocks and they are doing it at as great a sacrifice as they can stand. To avert hard times and unemployment we must be prepared to share each others losses and in doing this we must buy what we need and sell what we can at the prevailing prices. There can be no extortion without monoply and we have no monopolies in this province.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The old saying "as the days begin to lengthen the cold begins to strengthen" is yet to be verified and we may look for a drop in the mercury. The days are lengthening and the cold will doubtless come. In the meantime the coal bin has been mercifully treated so far for which let us be sincerely grateful.

CURRENT COMMENT

When our friend the Patriot gets into a tight corner it has always to hand three distinct resorts for refuge. These are, "The Blue Sky," "The Beautiful and Festive Season," and "The Bell Manifesto." All these are of about equal value in argument, and invariably have little bearing upon the questions under discussion. Neither the "blue sky" nor the excellent weather was in any way responsible for the deceptions practiced upon the people, while the influence of the "Festive" was only moderately formidable. The Manifesto was so slightly in evidence during the contest as to have been almost a negligible quantity. It seems now to have been a kind of an advance contrivance prepared as a medium of escape from prospective and expected difficulties. At least our evening friend is trying to crawl behind its frail defenses, and it boldly challenges the "Guardian to show WHERE THE BELL GOVERNMENT MADE FALSE PROMISES OR WHERE THEY HAVE BROKEN ANY PROMISES! In the MANIFESTO there was NO MENTION OF REDUCING TAXATION AND WE DEFY THE GUARDIAN TO PROVE THAT THIS IS NOT SO."

What the Manifest did not say was about as inocuous as a vote getter during the election as it now is as a defense to their false record. But as the Patriot is apparently willing to pin its faith to this precious document we propose to confront our friend with some of the things that it did say. And, lest the Liberal organ might repudiate this as it does every other of its party pledges, we may say our reference will be to what purports to be the Bell Manifesto, published in the Patriot of JULY 18th,. 1919. The first nine clauses, with their various sub-sections constituting about two thirds of the confused mass, was devoted to petty bickerings and faultfindings against the late Government. It is true that most of these were far fetched and mostly devoid of truth but that made no difference to these adventurers so long as it would help to gain their ends. Truth then as now was to the Bell combination a foreign element.

Its first scent was around the subject of pre-election promises, but true to record they made their charges without being able to point to a solitary promise that the Conservative Government had not fulfilled. No. 2, was that the "Claims" had not been pressed at Ottawa. Every person knows how false this charge was, and that the only strong presentation of these claims ever made on behalf of the province was made by the Mathieson Government. No. 3, was a growl that the Government was conducted by Order in Council. This phrase they had borrowed from their Ottawa friends, they didn't know just what it meant, nor could they see where it could be made to apply to Island politics, but it looked high-sounding, so they stuck it in their Manifesto. No. 4 was applied to Agriculture, No. 5 to Roads and Bridges and No. 6 to Education, all filled with their characteristic whine that none of these services were fully up to those high ideals which would exclude them from Opposition criticism and Bell combination complaints.

No. 7 consisted of a bitter tirade against the Returned Soldiers' Land Settlement policy, which was destined to bankrupt the province. It was in brief its first show of the cloven foot against our overseas boys. Last, but not least important was No. 9. This was subdivided charging all kinds of things in connection with Prohibition and most laughably that "THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS DID NOT SET FORTH THE TRUE CONDITION OF OUR FINANCES." It had also a wonderful story to tell of all the good things the Conservatives should have done with THAT ENORMOUS $200,000 increase of revenue. It was amply large to have paid the teachers a living wage and have some to spare. It was apparently in the opinion of that Manifesto a horn of plenty sufficient to meet every emergency, to pave our roadways with adamant and adorn our public institutions with saphire and gold. It was because of this plentitude of unusable cash that they opposed the $75,000 tax to pay the teachers, and voted against the little $25,000 War and Health Tax.

After getting off this long chapter of growling and lamentation, this marvelous manifesto proceeds to do some promising. Concluding that in a document of such importance the people would look for something more than empty snarling, it says,—"But BESIDES CRITICISING THEIR OPPONENTS, the Liberal Party may be expected to indicate SOME OF THE PROPOSED STEPS THEY INTEND TO TAKE." We trust the Patriot which seems to be totally ignorant of what that Manifesto contains, will make a note of these things. Promise No. 1, is especially to the point, in that it is a direct and pointed answer to its challenge. It was that the Liberals "Having administered the affairs of the country with efficiency and economy for twenty years, that NOW WITH $200,000 MORE AT THEIR DISPOSAL THEY COULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO EXERCISE THE SAME ECONOMY." If that did not mean an absolute and direct promise to run the country ON THEIR FORMER REVENUE, PLUS THIS INCREASE, then we fail, and we believe the country have failed to understand the meaning of His Majesty's English.

Thus the first promise of the famous—or rather infamous Manifesto is broken; no, not merely broken BUT SMASHED TO ATOMS. Promise No. 2 had a variety of sub-promises. First, our "Claims" were to be "Formally presented and pressed." we presume at Ottawa. About a year and a half has passed since they came in power and Ottawa has apparently not even seen their shadow on this question. They made a side call at Halifax, upon an invitation from the Nova Scotia Government, and deposited our strong but special separate interest, to be manipulated as that province and New Brunswick may deem best in their own judgment and interest. Next to this the Promise was "A second Car Ferry to ply between Borden and Tormentine." And following this was the sub-Promise that "The whole of the P. E. Island Railway to be standardized." Thus all these solemn and sacred Promises of the Bell Government in that precious Manifesto to which the Patriot refers to so frequently and with such pretended pride, HAVE BEEN MOST RUTHLESSLY VIOLATED.

Next to this comes that famous guarantee given to our returned heroes of the war, that the, "Federal Government to be urged to extend assistance to Returned Soldier AS OUTLINED BY THE WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION." That related to the then demand for $2.000 per head of a special grant. So strongly did the Patriot and Liberal orators play upon this string that one Conservative speaker who voiced the truth of the situation was hounded in its columns and by Bell spouters all over the province. This was implemented by further Promises of preference in all Government employment, and upon this they received the Soldier vote. How many of these $2.000 cheques have the war-veterans received, or what is still greater treachery, how many Returned men have they preferred in the hundreds of positions they have bestowed? Could there be a more shameful disregard of sacred promise than this?

The last sub-Promise under this section was to give us representation on the National Railway Board and all the benefits to this Island which would accrue from such a concession. It was to give us fair play in freight rates, a more up-to-date carrying and passenger service and untold blessings to employees. What has become of this sacred assurance in this gospel according to the Patriot, the Bell Manifesto? Every Promise so far, yea every minute feature of a promise smashed to smithereens. But there is more to deal with in another issue.

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 expressed by its correspondents.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A TEST

Sir,—In the Patriot's spurious report of the indignation meeting held at Glen William in Dec. 20th. the following appeared: "The Conservatives were also disappointed that a well known Montague politician and his crowd were not present. The explanation was that their car had broken down on the way out, and great apologies were made on their behalf, etc." This crowd consisted of three prominent Liberals, all business men of Montague who had not only voted but worked to elect the present Government and their supporters and now make no secret of their disappointment and are waiting the opportunity to turn them out and the sooner they see it come about the better they like it. Montague, North and South, and the adjoining polls of Whim Road Cross and Victoria Cross were Liberal strongholds, and gave the present government a vote of two to one for their opponents, and now it would more than tax the strength of every car in King's County to convey all those who have changed their minds to a meeting at Glen William. If our representative or the Government organ thinks that this is not so let them call a meeting at any one of those places and put themselves right with their supporters. In view of their change of front after they had been elected it would only be a matter of courtesy to do so. Messrs. Bell, Lee, Crosby, Johnston or Summerside's fighting cock would receive an attentive hearing and positive proof whether or not all the indignation originates with the Guardian, disappointed office seekers and extreme tories.

I am, Sir, etc.,

MONTAGUE.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

BETWEEN OURSELVES

Never in my life, have I received so many Christmas greetings, and kind remembrances expressed in so many different ways, as recently.

The following original and beautiful poem from a gentle man we have all learned to love, is passed along as spiritual uplift to every reader of this little corner:

To W. S. Louson

THE EVERGREENS.

Of all the trees that court the breeze
I love the Evergreens,
The Pine and Spruce and Cedar trees
That glad our forest scenes.

Not naked, shivering in the wind
Like trees of verdure brief,
Their's is the constant summer mind,
Their's the unfading leaf.

They give us shade in summer day
Shelter from winter's blast;
They shall be green when we are gray,
Our youth and vigor pass'd.
Heaven grant to you and me, my friend,
Like them, a green old age.
A peaceful closing at the end.
Of Life's last written page:

An Evergreen to guard our dust.
A monumental tree
That tells of hope, of joy, of trust
And Immortality.

....—J. E. B. McCready.

Xmas 1920.

HEY! HEY! HEY!

Did You Hear About Paton's Fur Sales ?

Every Fur Piece Discounted ! 1-3 off Ladies' Furs !

FUR COATS

1 Seal Coat, Sable collar and cuffs, was $256.00 now 1-3 off
1 Seal Coat, Grey Opposum collar and cuffs, was $445.00,
1 Seal Coat, Sable collar and cuffs, was $257.00, now 1-3 off.
1 Seal Coat, plain, was $222.75 now 1-3 off.
1 Seal Coat, Sable collar and cuffs, was $330.00, now 1-3 off.
1 Seal Coat, plain, was $313.50, now 1-3 off.
2 Rat Coats, self collar and cuffs, was $313.50, now 1-3 off.
Sable Muff ....$91.25, now 1-3 off
Racoon Muff ....$64.50, now 1-3 off
Brown Lynx Muff ....$44.50, now 1-3 off
Sable Muff ....$93.00, now 1-3 off
Racoon Muff ....$64.50, now 1-3 off
Manchurian Wolf Muff ....$12.00, now 1-3 off
Black Fox Muff ....$59.75, now 1-3 off
Red Fox Muff ....$87.50, now 1-3 off
Black Seal Muff ....$40.00, now 1-3 off
Red Fox Muff ....$29.75, now 1-3 off
Racoon Muff ....$31.50, now 1-3 off
Sable Muff ....$93.00, now 1-3 off

NECK PIECES AND THROWS

Sable Neck Piece, $110.25, only 2 pieces left now 1-3 off
Beaver Neck Piece ....$67.25, now 1-3 off
Racoon Neck Piece ....$30.00, now 1-3 off
Brown Wolf Neck Piece ....$66.00, now 1-3 off
Beaver Cape ....$100.00, now 1-3 off
Taupe Wolf Neck Piece ....$25.00, now 1-3 off
Grey Manchurian Wolf ....$24.35, now 1-3 off
Natural Wolf Muff ....$24.00, now 1-3 off
Rat Muff ....$46.20, now 1-3 off
Natural Wolf Muff ....$25.00, now 1-3 off
Sable Muff ....$85.00, now 1-3 off
Racoon Muff ....$42.50, now 1-3 off
Racoon Muff ....$31.50, now 1-3 off
Black Wolf ....$59.00, now 1-3 off
Manturian Black Wolf Muff ....$19.75, now 1-3 off
Manturian Black Wolf Muff ....$12.75, now 1-3 off
Red Fox Muff ....$72.50, now 1-3 off
Sable Muff ....$85.00, now 1-3 off
Beaver Muff ....$72.50, now 1-3 off
Red Fox Muff ....$74.25, now 1-3 off
Australian Red Fox Neck Piece ....$40.50, now 1-3 off
Manchurian Wolf Neck Piece ....$21.00, now 1-3 off
Mole Skin Neck Piece $60.00, large size, now ...1-3 off
Manchurian Dog Neck Piece ....$14.50, now 1-3 off
Manchurian Wolf Neck Piece ....$24.00, now 1-3 off
Manchurian Dog Neck Piece ....$10.25, now 1-3 off
Manchurian Dog Neck Piece ....$18.50, now 1-3 off
Mink Neck Piece ....$15.75, now 1-3 off
Beaver Throw ....$132.00, now 1-3 off
Black Manturian Wolf Neck Piece, $18.75, 2 pieces,

LADIES' FUR COATS

1 Rat Coat, self collar and cuffs, was $330.00, now now 1-3 off.
2 Australian Beaver Coats, was $306.75, now 1-3 off
1 Pony Coat, self collar and cuffs, was $206.25, now 1-3 off.

1 Pony Coat, Beaver collar and cuffs, was $288.75, now 1-3 off.
1 Pony Coat, Racoon collar and cuffs, was $330.00, now 1-3 off.
1 Pony Coat, Grey Opposum collar and cuffs, was $280.50, nod 1-3 off.
1 Marmot Coat, self collar and cuffs, was $272.25, now 1-3 off.
1 Marmot Coat, Beaver collar and cuffs, was $330.00now 1-3 off.

PATONS LIMITED

WOMAN TELLS STRANGE STORY OF KILLING A MAN

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 5.—A woman giving the name of Lillian McGill, 29 years, today called at police headquarters and told a story of killing a man Sunday night, placing the body under the bed and forgetting about it until today when she started to sweep the room in a small hotel, and found the unclothed body of a man about 25 years old. In a written statement, according to the police, the woman admitting killing the man. She said she only knew him as "Frank" and that he told her he was employed in a saloon. Theyquarreled, she said, and he struck her, whereupon she procured a revolver from a dresser drawer, and shot him three times in the head.

She said she had been in a dazed condition for the past two days and insisted that she forgot the tragedy entirely until today.

SIR WM. PETERSON DIED IN LONDON

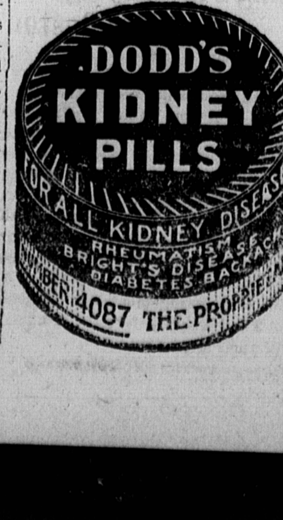
MONTREAL, Jan. 5.—Sir William Peterson, former Principal of McGill University, died today in London, England, according to news received here by private cable addressed to Dr. W. F. Hamilton of this city. The message signed by Lady Peterson, read:

"London:

"My husband died peacefully today."

It is almost two years since Sir William was stricken with paralysis at a meeting at Emmanuel Church where Sir Harry Lauder was to speak on January 12, 1919. This practically put an end to Sir William's public career. For some time afterwards he seemed to be in imminent danger, but eventually rallied to travel back to England where he spent the remainder of his days.

Sir William was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1856.



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