

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1887) 50.00 per year (delivered) in advance
5.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and 60.00 to U. S. A.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1921

THE LEADERS COMING

This evening Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King, leader of the Liberal party, will address two meetings in Charlottetown, one in the Prince Edward Theatre, the other in the Market Hall. Mr. King, as the accredited leader of the Liberal party and as a leading public speaker will be heartily welcomed to the city both by political friends and opponents. His name and his reported utterances on the vital questions now before the people of Canada will no doubt attract large audiences and we bespeak for him, and he will undoubtedly receive, an attentive hearing. There are differences of opinion as to his attitude on the trade question; it is to be hoped that his visit will remove all uncertainty on this matter. Mr. King will be accompanied by leading Liberals from the Upper Provinces.

On Monday the Right Honorable Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister of Canada, will address meetings at Georgetown at one o'clock, one in the Town Hall, one in the Rink in the evening he will address two meetings in Charlottetown, in Market Hall and in the Prince Edward Theatre, both meetings beginning at 8 o'clock and each to be addressed by other leading Conservative cabinet ministers. The Prime Minister also, we feel assured, will be attentively listened to by men and women of both parties, as he discusses the public questions of the day. The pending election is perhaps the most vitally important election since Confederation as it involves the question whether or not the whole fiscal policy of the dominion is to be reversed, whether or not the policy which has made Canada what it is today, industrially and commercially, is to be substituted by a new and untried policy.

Every elector who realizes his responsibility in the exercise of his franchise should make it his business to ascertain at first hand the respective leaders' stand on these vital questions and there can be no better means of ascertaining this than by hearing what the leaders have to say. The electors want to know and they have a right to know the respective leaders' views and they will be in a position to judge for themselves whether these views are expressed with a view to enlightening or to misleading the people.

The meetings tonight and on Monday night will be held simultaneously in both halls and the leaders will give an hour to each meeting, the rest of the time being taken up by leading men of the respective parties.

The Prime Minister will address a meeting in Summerside on Tuesday at 1 p. m.

CAUSE OF BUSINESS UNREST

There is no doubt that a large proportion of the present industrial and commercial unrest in Canada is due to the tariff revision and free trade propaganda of the Liberal and Agrarian groups. The possibility of a radical change in the tariff, the possibility of having the product of United States factories dumped into Canada free or almost free of duty has caused a shortening up of Canadian output, a culling down of employment and a reduction in wages. There can be no doubt of this; the fact is evident; our large industrial concerns are extremely sensitive to market change and to the probability of changes. The manufacturer, with millions involved in his business, looks very carefully into the future and estimates very carefully the market prospects. If there are rocks ahead, if there are uncertainties, such uncertainties as would naturally follow tariff changes, he prudently shortens sail; he cuts down expenses, manufactures as little as possible, and discharges all the hands that can

be spared or, as has occurred in many cases, closes down his works. This has already resulted in the discharge of thousands of employees and the uncertainty will continue as long as the tariff question hangs in the air as at present.

Nothing could have been more calamitous to Canada during its period of reconstruction and while still staggering under the burden consequent upon the war, than the thrusting of this tariff question into the midst of the existing difficulties, and nothing will re-establish confidence and place our industries and our commerce on a firm basis except the assurance that no radical tariff changes are to be made. The Liberal and Agrarian cry for radical tariff changes were thrust by designing politicians and speculators into the prevailing unrest in the hope of making political capital out of it. The result is as it is, two groups sailing on an "uncharted sea" and unrest and uncertainty demoralizing the trade and industry of the whole country. A straight declaration from the leaders of the two drifting groups would settle the matter. The government policy is clearly defined and unmistakable; let us know what there is on the other side. In this province the Patriot, the Liberal organ, gives one policy, Mr. MacKenzie King, the leader of the Liberal party gives another. What course are the people to follow?

ANOTHER SOMERSAULT

The Patriot is incorrigible. No sooner are its props knocked from under it at one point than it hops on to another. In its yesterday's issue after practically admitting that the Laurier tariff was more than double that of the present government it recites the Liberal platform of 1919 which, it claims, pledges the Liberal party to the admission into Canada of all agricultural implements free of duty. The Patriot does not appreciate the humor of the situation, in that while it quotes their Ottawa platform the Guardian's editorial of yesterday morning quoted the MacKenzie King platform which is an entirely different structure.

In Sydney and in Quebec and all manufacturing centres, Mr. MacKenzie King and his colleagues declared absolutely and unconditionally in favor of the Laurier tariff policy. Every child in the land, including the Patriot, knows that the Laurier tariff was the highest that Canada ever had, was higher than it is today on an all round average and, on agricultural implements particularly, it was more than double the present rate. How is the Patriot going to squirm out of this hole? It would appear as if the Patriot was trying to start a little party with a policy of its own.

RIP VAN WINKLE STIRS

The Patriot, which evidently has been asleep on the "uncharted sea" was startled into momentary wakefulness by the advertisement in yesterday's Guardian (it appears again in today's issue) announcing the "Great National Liberal and Conservative Demonstrations" to be addressed by Premier Meighen and others in this province on Monday and Tuesday next. The Patriot wants to know "if this is an error" and "if The Guardian wants to convey the impression that Liberals are uniting with Meighen in a great demonstration."

For the information of our newly awakened contemporary we have only to say that these demonstrations are organized by the National Liberal and Conservative party under the name officially adopted by the combined coalition Liberals and Conservatives at their meeting at Ottawa in June, 1920.

Current Comment

To the Hon. Mackenzie King who is about to enlighten the people of this province as to his purposes if he should entrust him with their affairs of government, we would offer some advice and suggestion. At the outset it would be well to acquaint him of the fact that he will not be talking to back woods ignorance, but to people who are not so gullible as he thinks, or appears to think, some of his audiences are. They are, on the contrary intelligent and quick to perceive, and will require something more than his customary platitudes to convince them that he is the political wonder that he will try to make them believe that he is. Since his appointment to the leadership of his party he has held a seat in parliament by the grace of the people of our own Prince County. It will of course be his first duty to give an account of his individual stewardship, and disclose to his constituency the marvels that he has worked out on their behalf. And if, as most Islanders are thoroughly convinced, he can only show that he has been a total failure there, by what species of logic he is going to make good if entrusted with greater responsibilities. He that is faithless in little will be faithless in much.

In imitation he will no doubt try to hang his political reputation on the Laurier rack. But here we might suggest that Sir Wilfrid made several political visits to this province, on which occasions the standing grievance of our people, the all absorbing question of winter communication, was laid before him, and which always before elections was to receive his earliest consideration, but always to be forgotten until the opening up of the next contest. It is noticeable that Hon. Mr. Fielding is not to accompany him, perhaps suspicious that he might be asked to explain that attempt to buy off this province of their claims for non-fulfillment of the terms of union, with a paltry subsidy increase of \$30,000. In striking contrast to this we would point out to him, that on the eve of the 1911 election the Hon. Robert Borden promised attention and an early solution of the problem as soon as he attained power and in less than three months after at almost the first meeting of his cabinet the question was taken up, the news flashed over the wires that his promise was to be implemented by the construction of the car ferry which is now of a common knowledge, and an accomplished fact.

Then there are two promises which Mr. King is making, according to the constituency he speaks to, and both are absolutely hostile to each other and one or the other impossible of fulfillment. At Sydney both he and Mr. Fielding declared for the Laurier tariff. At a later meeting in another place he contended for an all around

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

THE UNSHED TEAR
I sing to the song that was never sung,
I sing to the race that was never won,
I sing to the hope, the hope that fled,
I sing with a sob to the tear unshed:

"We, too, would sing a joyous song
To brighten dreary rounds of life
Yet we die with the song unsung;
Who can sing in the hopeless strife
Of daily toil that strives and sweats
In stuffy shops where engines hum?
None could hear us above this hell,
So we die with the song unshined."

"We have fought in the gloomy night
A losing and an uphill fight.
Yes, we have raced, and never won
Battled and strained with frenzied might
To gain the beckoning, gleaming goal
Steered our souls for the last long mile,
Saw the end of a gnawing pain,
Then missed, and lost, and forced
ed a smile!"

"We have seen the glorious sun,
Fresh in the power of mighty sway,
Gild the mountains in flashing gold,
Smile at the dawn of waking day;
Have seen the sombre, threatening clouds
Dimming the orb of glowing red,
Watching the embers all but dead
We sang the song of hope that fled."

"Yet still we fight, and fight, and fight,
A losing battle in the night;
Still we grin, forever we'll grin
Forever strive, never give in,
Still if we fight through weary miles
Until there dawns the Day of Days
We'll hear the 'Well done!' spoken clear,
And reap rewards for the unshed tear."

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.

POLL TAX

Sir, The present government, as all are aware, imposed a poll tax of three dollars on all persons between the ages of twenty-one and sixty-five, in both city and country. The public accounts for 1920 show that about seven hundred and fifty persons in Charlottetown paid this tax. This is less than one half of those liable, but the government is evidently afraid to enforce the Act, as no steps have been taken to compel the others to pay. They are, however, again passing around the hat in the hope that those who paid their tax for 1920 will chip up another three dollars for 1921. We surely have an able and just government.

Come all you foolish fellows
Who done the Grits so well,
Dig down into your pockets
And help the revenue swell.

For we will want a lot of dough
To pay to those we fool,
And give a bonus to our friends
Who are of late quite cool.

What matter though on half don't pay
We cannot press them sore,
For if we did, you know quite well,
They'd vote for us no more.

So we will have to let them know
That if for us they vote,
The fact that they've not paid their tax
We'll sure forget to note.

I am, Sir, etc.
TAXPAYER.

tariff revision downward. His Party Organ in this province, the Patriot declares that the Liberal Party is PLEDGED to admit farming implements and machinery into the province free of duty. Now which of these three pegs will Mr. King hang his hat upon, when addressing our people? Will he hang to the Laurier tariff, which he clung to at Sydney, AND INCREASE THE PRESENT duties on seed drills up to 20 per cent, on weedeaters to 20 per cent, on manure spreaders 20 per cent, on harrows 20 per cent, on separators 25 per cent, on windmills 20 per cent, on fanners 20 per cent, and so on throughout the whole agricultural list, or is he "PLEDGED" as the Patriot declares, "TO THE ADMISSION OF SUCH IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY, INTO THIS PROVINCE, FREE OF ALL DUTY." It is now up to Mr. King to declare to which of these policies he will adhere. His blanket promises "to do the best I can when I get there" is not fit pabulum for intelligent people and our Islanders are intelligent.

Then if he follows his routine as in other places he will have much to say upon the alleged waste and corrupt extravagance of the Government. Here too our people will ask for facts and not rhetorical platitudes and unfounded and empty statements. Mr. King is a member of parliament, and his colleagues, Fielding, Lemieux, McMaster, Lapointe, et al., have been from the first year of the Borden government. If there has been any extravagance or corruption within that time, every dollar of such for which they voted and to the appropriation of which they were parties, they themselves are accessories to whatever criminality there is, if any. Not one of these men have ever dared to raise their voice to declare that a single dollar out of the millions and billions spent in all departments during the war, was IMPROPERLY OR DISHONESTLY SPENT. There was one exception to this. Mr. Lemieux charged that \$60,000 being voted to pay off a judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada was used for the Yamaska election. A Royal Commission of Judges, was appointed to investigate, and Mr. Lemieux sent his lawyer to the court to get him out of his difficulty, and refused to appear himself. It will be up to Mr. King when he repeats these empty charges to declare specifically to a single dollar and then to show cause why he and his party failed to object to them BUT VOTED FOR and supported them in their passage through parliament.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY Beer & Weeks FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

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Large size—full weight—made of soft pure wool, wonderful value at per pair \$7.50

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Bought in large quantities—direct from the biggest mills—for spot cash—fresh and spotless.

Our prices are now very little higher than before the war.

Another Big Value!

Large size—good weight white wool blankets made of fine soft wool with a little cotton—wonderful value per pair \$5.00

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Wonderful values in these real Scotch Blankets—made of the finest wool—beautifully finished—now about half last year's price—per pair from \$10.25

Wadded Comforts \$2.89

Remarkable good value these wadded comforts—well made—well filled—nice coverings.

Down Comforts \$10. to \$40.

From England's best makers—rich color combinations—really beautiful goods and much lower in price.

CROCHET SPREADS—Best quality, large size.

Friday Special \$5.35

TOWELING—English honeycomb cotton

Friday per yard 10c

FLANNELETTE BLANKETS—Soft and fleecy

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BLANKETS—All wool blankets, good size and weight.

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ALL LINEN glass towel superior quality.

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GREY COTTON—One thousand yards—extra heavy. Special Friday yard

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59c

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32c

69c yd. Reg. \$1.10 69c yd. Reg. \$1.10

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In dark green or cream—mounted on strong spring roller—complete with brackets. Size 3 ft. by 6 ft. long.

Only a few left—on sale Friday for the last time—size 3x4 yds. \$16.25—3x3 1/2 yds. \$14.25—3 x 3 yds. \$12.25—2 1/4 x 3 yds. \$10.25

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- Iron beds—floor samples \$7.25 to \$22.00 Less 20 per cent.
- Baby Carriages—floor samples \$37.50 to \$85. Less 25 p. c.
- 3 Drawer Dressers with mirror. Special \$16.90
- Upholstered Reed Rockers. Special at \$15.90
- Chesterfields and Davenport at special prices.
- 5 piece Parlor Suites Mahogany finish from \$49.00

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