

REJUVENATION OF HON. GEORGE EULAS FOSTER, THE BUTTERFLY OF THE EMPIRE

Tramping is No Hardship With Him and It is Nothing For Him to
Save the Empire Three Days a Week or Oftener if Necessary—
Tory Lords and Lordlings in England First Viewed
Him With Suspicion But Finally Accepted Him
as the White Overseas Hope—Of to Australia
to See the Home-Made Navy

Ottawa, January 25th, 1913.

George Eulas Foster sits in his cushioned chair in the house of Commons. A smile lights up his long straight face and it flames like a maple bush at sunset. He has a Bill in charge. The Opposition hangers and heckles but he will not be drawn. He snuffs a red pencil, chews his gawee, shoots out his long prehensile tongue ever and anon and licks his ears but he does not smile. He absolutely refuses to lose his temper. He is at peace with his fellow men, Grit and Tory. He is enjoying himself in his old age.

Old, Who said old? In the bright lexicon of the press for North Toronto there is no such word as old. He is a young man again, a mellow young man wise with the experience of sixty five years. He never intends to be old. He has discovered Ponce de Leon's secret—which was a very simple secret after all—how to dodge the Canadian winter. As a Member of the Dominion's Royal Commission and Minister of Trade and Commerce for Canada, George Foster is the Butterfly of Empire. He flits where he will. He chases the sun round the world. The British Empire has kindly arranged that the sun never sets. There is always a place where George Foster can warm his foot. He goes East and becomes days younger; he goes West and becomes days older; what he loses by going West he can always catch up by going East again. In this way he defies time and remains stationary. Rudyard Kipling invented a man who swung his hammock at the equator and fooled the Grim Reaper that way. But Foster's scheme is better. It gives him change of scene and air and precludes monotony. Mark my words George Foster will never grow old as long as the Borden Government is in office to pay for the miracle. What you are looking at now is the Rejuvenation of George Foster. It has what happened to Faust better forty ways.

GRAT RECORD AS A TRAMP

Foster was always an arrant gipsy. He likes knocking about. Tramping is no hardship. At one time or another he has trudged the length and breadth of Eastern Canada looking for a constituency to elect him. He has never settled long in one place. Having no settled home is an old story with him. He is used to living in a knapsack, so to speak. Give him a tooth brush and a clean collar and an expense account and he doesn't ask for any more baggage. Now that things are coming softer does he yearn for a roof of his own? Not at all—a simple twenty-five dollar a day suite in the modest hotel is good enough for him. Now that danger's ended and Jordan passed does Foster settle down to a long well earned rest? Well, not for more than a month at a time. This is no footsore traveller but a lean, lank, heel-and-toe, kiln-dried Alf. Shrub who loves the game. Foster will hoof it across the continent in a Pullman at a minute's notice. Land or sea, it makes no difference. He peeps off the Atlantic Ocean in a cabin de luxe. He does not fear chilblains, blisters, stone bruises. When the road tells—his favorite road is the C. P. R. and its affiliated steamship lines—it is springtime in George Eulas Foster's heart and he must be off a-maving.

TRADE FOLLOWING FOSTER.

Foster is the first Minister of Trade and Commerce of the proper

build. He is trained to the minute. There is not a superfluous ounce of flesh on the man's body. He is as hard as nails, fit as a fiddle, right as rain. Always in condition. It is nothing for him to save the Empire three days a week, or oftener if necessary. He can tie knots with his teeth. The United States becomes the United Empire when Foster pulls the string. Trade used to follow the flag but it is supposed to follow Foster now. Foster is usually there ahead of it. Sometimes trade stays where it is and refuses to follow Foster back. Sometimes Foster gets away too quick for trade to keep up with him. But Foster can't afford to hang back. There are many places to visit. He realizes that he has a life work picking up enough trade in two million dollar crumbs from fragments of the British Empire to make up for the feast Canada lost by turning down Reciprocity with the United States.

CHIEF BAGMAN OF THE EMPIRE

All the same Foster makes business. He gets over the ground. Sir Richard God rest him—was no explorer. His gout wouldn't let him besides he was too busy writing a book of memoirs that stood Canada on her head. For a while Dr. Parkin made the running as the bagman of Empire but advancing years, the London fog, and the heavy food of the Mother Country closed in on Dr. Parkin and he lost his steam. We never hear a word from him. Now that the mill is turning out Rhodes scholars regularly Dr. Parkin's troubles are over and he is as silent as the British Museum or any other endowed institution. He was never in the same class as Foster anyway although he did come from the same Province. Little, old New Brunswick Parkin skipped about nimbly enough in his seven-league boots until he got what he wanted but very soon after that he complained of corns and quit. This leaves it all up to Foster and, to give him credit, he handles his globe-trotting job well.

SUSPECTED BY THE LORDLINGS

Not quite two months ago he was in London helping Bonar Law to save the Empire from the Asquith outfit if possible. At first the Tory lords and lordlings looked on Foster with suspicion. He didn't think anything at banquets, don't you know and fell down noticeably on that joy of living which is the long suit of the Unionist party. Also George Foster talked through his nose about the navy and the Tories got it into their heads that it was a nasal question rather than a naval one.

In short one of the cleverest Empire-savers in the business was in great danger of getting in wrong until Austen Chamberlain, gazing long and hard through his monocle made an astonishing discovery. "This Colonial Johnny" said Austen at the Junior Carlton "has brains and Heaven knows we need 'em." So they took George Foster up and having taken him up they took him round and had him unveil statues and make speeches that sounded as music in their ears. While the speeches were not as velvety as Arthur Balfour's they were voted just as good and once in a rapture, Austen Chamberlain exclaimed "Foster is a man who talks business like a statesman and statesmanship like a business man." Which was, quite true and all the Canadians who read it in the London papers were very proud of him.

THE WHITE OVERSEAS HOPE

After that George Foster was more than thick with that fine old feudal party which England is making haste to get rid of and the fine old feudal party then and there adopted him as their White Overseas Hope. The distinguished people whom A. K. Maclean refers to as "offensive intruders" people like the Hon. Walter Long and P. E. Smith and others crowded around him and said Canada could have anything in England that the Unionist party had left over from the Norman Conquest and the spoliation of the modasteries. Modestly enough Foster asked for a little preference in the British market. Bonar Law promised it quick as a flash in return for three breadnoughts and a few kind words. He said he would explain on the hustings that the breadnoughts were sent to the Un-

ionist party and not to the First Lord of the Admiralty as the Government might try to make out. Being in a lavish mood with things he did not have in his gift Bonar Law promised food taxes and a preference on Canadian wheat, but when this did not go down with the British people he took it back so that all Foster brought home to Canada was a good time and the glow of health.

It is understood, however, that Canada's textiles are to have a preference in the English market. In fact Canadian woollens are expected to drive British woollens out. What's more Canadian silk will be given every encouragement, the Unionist party being convinced that the mulberry tree and the silk worm ought to do well in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In short the English manufacturers are willing to give as good a preference to Canada as the Canadian manufacturers are willing to give to England. It is in this spirit of mutual self-sacrifice that the Empire is being built up.

DRINKING GINLESS COLLINS

Two months' ago, as I have said, George Foster was in London doing these great things for Canada. Six weeks from today he will be in Australia doing just as much for us there. He sails on February 10 and a month from that day we may picture him sitting on the verandah of the Union Club at Sydney looking out on Woolloomooloo Bay at the Australian navy riding at anchor. This Australian navy home-made, home-manned, home-maintained, and home-managed, is the kind of navy that George Foster doesn't want Canada to have I hope he looks at it long enough to change his mind and bring it back to where it was in 1909. The Minister of Trade and Commerce will be wearing a pith helmet and white ducks. As the flowers in Australia have no scent and the birds have no song George Foster will be drinking a Collins with no gin. Everything goes by contraries in Australia, the swans are black, the eagles white and George Foster might well develop into a real home ruler over there. The green sea dimples in the distance, the Pampas shines like a burnished shield, the cassowary and the wallaballa are chirping in the trees and George Foster, Empire Builder, is drinking his ginless Collins on the club verandah. Is the picture beautiful enough? I wonder, I admire, but I do not think he will not overdo it. Let him break journey at the Hawaiian Islands and twine the scarlet Hibiscus flowers in his hair.

THE WEST INDIES AGREEMENT.

Foster's summer work is represented by the West Indies trade agreement which is now going through its final stages in the House. This is not a real reciprocity treaty by which the two countries exchange products each with each which the other has not got as for example Canadian snowballs for Trinidad bananas but it is a colorable imitation. A whole lot of things come into Canada under a tariff preference and in return we send to the West Indies, soap, coffins and many other articles of use and beauty. George Foster expects to build up a roaring trade in Canadian soap and Canadian coffins if the niggers will wash and the white people will die fast enough in those spicy islands. Peanuts are to come into Canada at a greatly reduced duty which means that the baseball season will be a huge success. Baseball cannot be played without peanuts and the larger the bag the better the game. Great diamonds, slightly yellow in tinge, is most West Indies' diamonds, also get a preference and will hereafter vie with the rough diamonds that may be seen in many parts of Canada. Bread fruit in half.

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HIS BLADDER WAS TERRIBLY INFLAMED

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I heard of your GIN PILLS and decided to give them a trial at once. I sent my chum 60 miles to get them and I am pleased to inform you that in less than six hours, I felt relief.
In two days, the pain had left me entirely. I took about half a box and now I feel as well as ever and my kidneys are acting quite natural again."
SID CASTLEMAN.
GIN PILLS soothe the irritated bladder—heat the sick, weak, painful kidneys—and strengthen both these vital organs. Money back if they fail.
Send a box, 6 for \$2.50. Sample free if you write National Drug and Chemical Co., of Canada, Limited, Toronto. 139

Regularity

of the bowels is an absolute necessity for good health. Unless the waste matter from the food which collects there is got rid of at least once a day, it decays and poisons the whole body, causing biliousness, indigestion and sick headaches. Salts and other harsh mineral purgatives irritate the delicate lining of the bowels. Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills—entirely vegetable—regulate the bowels effectively without weakening, sickening or griping. Use

Dr. Morse's
Indian Root Pills

and whole loaves, bay leaves to crown R. B. Bennett, with arrowroot to nourish and sustain the Borden Government, vanilla beans to flavor Jam Atkins' speeches, coconuts for the cottagers in Muscocoa, Cossava and annatto are not what you think they sound like Italian tenors but they are, I understand, something good to eat. Jamaica rum will circulate more freely, also limes which are a prime element in the manufacture of gin rickeys. That a man of George Foster's cold-water principles should countenance the easier entrance of Jamaica's chief product is what you might call a rum go, but I suppose he is thankful to the Demon for giving him his first start in politics. A contingent advantage of the treaty with the West Indies is that it will increase the supply of colored students at Queen's College, Kingston. Altogether it is a neat little treaty and George Foster can say of it as Touchstone did of his Audrey. "A poor thing but mine own."

H. F. GADSBY.



should have rich, red blood and sturdy, healthy bodies to withstand cold rains, changing seasons and winter storms.

If your child is weary when rising—lacks energy and ambition—has no appetite or possibly sallow skin or a pinched face—it is for want of vital body-nourishment; this growing period demands special, concentrated, easily digested food for body-development—mental strain—physical changes.

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Why FORT GEORGE Will Command Trade of Central B. C. and the Peace River

1. Because Fort George will be the focussing point of every Railroad constructed into Central British Columbia

There is not a railroad, either chartered or building, within a radius of 150 miles from the junction of the Nechaco and Fraser Rivers, that will not run into Fort George. Railroad steel must be laid where engineers can get grades. Railroad builders cannot escape the facts of geography. The valleys of British Columbia centre at Fort George, as do the spokes of a wheel at its hub. Along these valleys the railroads must build, making Fort George THE RAILROAD HUB OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. In proof of these assertions, consider these facts:

The Grand Trunk Pacific tried to save mileage by cutting across from the Fraser to the junction of the Mud and Nechaco Rivers. The surveyors found it couldn't be done—they HAD to go through Fort George.

President Chamberlain has announced that the important northerly branch of the G. T. P. originally located from Hazelton is to be built from Fort George.

The B. C. Government has recognized the geographical facts, and announced that the present terminus of the Pacific and Northeastern Railway, to be completed within two years, is to be Fort George.

Eight other railways are chartered into Central British Columbia. Every one of them connects at Fort George. They run to every point of the compass. They tap the richest undeveloped region in Canada. The opening up of this natural wealth will upbuild Fort George. Read the list:

B. C. Fort George & Dawson R. R.	Canadian Northern Ry.
Pacific, Northern & American R. R.	Vancouver, Western & Yukon Ry.
Edmonton, Yukon & Pacific R. R.	Pacific & Hudson Bay Ry
Pacific & Peace River R. R.	Pine Pass Ry

2. Because Fort George is the centre of the finest system of Inland Commercial Waterways in British Columbia.

In point of mileage, these natural waterways exceed even those of the Southern British Columbia system. At the present time four steamers—the "B. X.," "Chilcotin," "Distributor" and "Conveyor"—are in regular commission. In two weeks a fifth—the "B. C. Express"—will also be running on regular schedule.

Eleven hundred miles of natural waterways are available in the Fort George country—the Upper and Middle Fraser, the Nechaco and the Stuart, with their connected lakes—Francois, Babine, Fraser, Stuart, etc.

Across a gentle rise, eight miles from the Fraser, at Summit Lake, access is given to another magnificent waterway system, connecting with the Peace River and its great connecting lakes.

As soon as rail freight is delivered at Fort George, the whole of this fine system of inland navigation will be put into use. At the present time steamers go from Fort George to Fraser Lake 120 miles; Fort George to Soda Creek, 165 miles; and Fort George to Tete Jaune Cache, 300 miles.

3. Because Fort George is the centre of a region of enormous and varied Natural Resources

The country of which Fort George is the centre has hundreds of thousands of acres of the finest mixed farming land.

Anthracite and bituminous coal, gold, silver, copper, lead iron and zinc are among its mineral riches.

Settlers and prospectors are coming into the country by hundreds, and will continue to do so in increasing numbers as rail transportation approaches, and the region's natural wealth becomes better known.

4. Because Fort George has no Commercial Competitor in its own territory.

Vancouver is 450 miles to the south, Prince Rupert 460 miles to the west, and Edmonton 320 miles to the east. Vancouver and Prince Rupert will be the tidewater bases for Fort George's distribution. To Fort George will come the products of the field, the forest and the mine from a radius of hundreds of miles. From it will be distributed the supplies to points as far south as 150 Mile House, to all points west except those in direct touch with the coast, to all north and northeast, and to the east as far as to the Yellowhead.

5. Because Fort George is the Natural Commercial Base for the Great Peace River Country.

Look at the facts—From Fort George to Dunvegan, in the Peace, is 320 miles. From Edmonton, Fort George's future rival for this business, the distance is 360 miles. Edmonton's supplies for the Peace River must be brought in by an all-rail haul from Port Arthur, 1560 miles, while those coming from the Pacific, through Fort George, will have less than half that rail haul. By distance and by location, Fort George is the natural supply base for the Peace River country. Furthermore, easy downhill grades, and half the rail haul distances, will inevitably bring the products of that rich district down to Pacific tidewater, and every exported hoof of cattle, and every bushel of grain, will go through Fort George.

John T. G. Carr

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