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RICHIBUCTO, N. B. FEB. 21, 1901

A NEW DANGER.

As has been frequently pointed out the natural tendency of modern business is towards the division of labor and the concentration of capital. The result is not only the great combinations commonly known as trusts in all lines of manufacture, but the formation in the retail trade of the department store which embraces a dozen different lines of retail business. In the larger cities and even in the smaller towns in the United States and Canada one effect of this combination of many lines of business under one roof and with one expense of management, has been the crushing out of the smaller individual trader to a greater or lesser extent. But this natural movement of business is one of the results which was bound to follow the better railway, postal and telegraph communications of the country.

Another movement which is beset with danger both to the business community and the purchasers is a further extension of the idea. Of late it has been the custom in several lines of business to send salesmen into the country districts carrying the lines of goods for sale or in other words, bringing the store to the customer. One article in particular has been pushed on the country people in this way. We refer to the steel ranges. Salesmen from an upper Canadian concern have been canvassing the rural districts of the Maritime Provinces selling a range which could be purchased from a city dealer for say \$35.00, at from \$65.00 to \$70.00 according to the gullibility of the victim. The ranges were in many cases installed in the kitchen before the hypnotized farmer could protest. If the farmer happened to be at home he was given a clever exhibition of the range's qualities by an agent whose story was more remarkable for glibness than for veracity. If the farmer listened, nine times out of ten the range is sold and so is the farmer. He is led to believe that he can pay for the range as he pleases. All he has to do is to give a note which will be renewed ad infinitum, so the agent tells him. The range is installed and the promissory note at 3 months given with this renewal understanding. Of course at the end of the 3 months the note is due and payment is demanded. When the farmer remonstrates he finds that the note was transferred as soon as received and the holder of it claims, rightly or wrongly, to know nothing of any such renewal agreement. He therefore refuses to be bound by it and the note is oftentimes paid only at great sacrifice.

If this business had only been worked in one or two cases, it would not be worth referring to, but for the past three summers there have been thousands of farmers in the Maritime Provinces victimized in this shameless manner. The only way to prevent a continuance of it is by making the fact public in order to protect would-be victims.

PLENTY OF WORK.

Some of our contemporaries seem to run away with the idea that because the advent to power of liberalism and the liberal reform doctrines have so satisfactorily settled many of the burning questions which were agitating and alarming the people of Canada prior to 1896, that therefore the work of our liberal statesmen is ended.

The Montreal Witness in a thoughtful editorial gives utterance to the following view:—

"Rest and be thankful was the word of an English statesman when he found himself in the same position that Sir Wilfrid Laurier does to-day with all the burning questions dealt with, and when, being in power, and not in opposition, he had little ambition to do anything to disturb the smooth flow of the existing party prosperity. No doubt such a policy betokens prosperous times, but our own opinion is that when a Liberal party, that is to say a reform party, finds nothing to reform and turns conservative, it had better be preparing to return to the mother earth whence it came, there to gather new strength for new achievement. If all the reforms had been accomplished we might contemplate with reverence the weary Hercules resting on the mighty club with which he had fulfilled all the tasks which gave him immortality. It may be true that the country is for the moment satisfied. It is very prosperous, and in no humor to exact further reforms, economic or moral. But the trouble is that if a party is not busy completing its tasks, which are in the present case far from finished, 'Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do.' There are never wanting the parasites who regard a party as a thing to make use of for personal aggrandizement, and who are ceaselessly at work gnawing at its vitals till it becomes corrupt and offensive in all men's eyes."

The fallacy contained in the above statement is the implication that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues have finished their work, and can therefore with safety rest on their oars and enjoy their well-earned laurels. It is quite true as we have frequently maintained that very many of the reform planks contained in the Ottawa Convention platform have been successfully carried into effect. The Manitoba School Question which threatened the disruption of Confederation has been satisfactorily adjusted, and removed from the domain of federal politics, where it never should have been admitted. The trade policy of Canada has been settled to the satisfaction of nine-tenths of the electorate. The great transportation question has been given much attention, but it would be an optimistic liberal who would regard all as having been accomplished which can be done towards giving the Canadian people better transit facilities. The Senate has been revised by the hand of Providence but there yet remains the much needed work of making it a useful constituent part of the government.

As we pointed out in a former article, the victory at the polls last November has brought fresh responsibilities to the winning party. It devolves upon our leaders not to imitate the policy of laissez faire which characterized the last ten years of Conservative rule. Canada has had enough of her experience of living on a buried past. No political hobby will ever satisfy our people as the memory of the National Policy satisfied the Conservative majority, and formed their only excuse for existence from 1886 to 1896. Nor have we anything of the kind to fear. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the clever statesmen who form the present administration are not the kind of men to be content with the memory of past accomplishments. There remain problems as great for their successful solution as any

which they have so satisfactorily settled in the past four years. The present prosperity of Canada may have lulled the great body of the electorate into a satisfied slumber, but statesmen who have proved the right to the honorable term as the members of the Laurier Administration undoubtedly have, are able to look ahead to periods of depression and, so far as governmental action can prevent, to mitigate the national hardships of the time of need.

The great question of preferential trade within the Empire has been opened up by Canada's patriotic action in giving the other members of the Imperial circle the benefit of reduction in duties in the Canadian market. The wise minds which put into effect this splendid Imperial policy will not shrink at carrying it to its legitimate conclusion if need be. In the meantime Canada is prospering and gathering strength for future effort in whatever direction such effort is needed.

THE POINT OF VIEW.

(St. John Telegraph.)

As the old saying goes, it all depends whose ox is being gored. When a party is in opposition its members and the press who voice its policy look upon partisanship on the part of the government as an iniquitous exhibition of tyranny. They forget the old point of view from which this new iniquitous tyranny was then regarded as exemplifying the loyalty of the party to its workers for past party services. To particularize, any person with a sense of humor must have been impressed during the past four years with the intense longing exhibited by the Conservative party for a non-partisan administration of the public services. Such a person would, thanks to his sense of humor, have his amazement tempered by good natured mirth, at the anxiety now manifested to have the I. C. R. removed from the plane of party politics. Even Sir Charles Tupper's thunders of denunciation on account of I. C. R. dismissals real or fancied would rouse the hilarious part of one's nature, as he remembered the past.

We are and have been in favor of freedom of conscience and regard a public employe as much entitled to the liberty of the franchise as any other elector. And no one can honestly say that this important reform in Canada which allows the free exercise of the franchise to civil servants has ever received anything but support from the Liberal party. It was and ever has been a principle of Liberalism, and the party, both from 1874 to 1878 and from 1896 to the present, has held true to its belief in this vital principle. In fact the party leaders have been tolerant of treachery on the part of civil servants, and it was better so, for it has established on a firm foundation the liberty of the public employe to vote as he pleased so long as he does not become a politician, rather than a public servant.

But it was not ever thus with the Conservative party, nor if we can judge from the past would our opponents be so generous in their dealing with civil servants when they come to power again. The remembrance of the clean sweep which they made of Liberal appointees in 1878 would be revived by a repetition of the good old Conservative doctrine, "to the victors belong the spoils." Even ten years after the first lust for office had been satiated by the wholesale dismissal of Liberal office holders, there was still a clamor for the remnant. On February 23rd, 1887, just after the general elections in which Josiah Wood, Esq., now a member of the senate, had defeated Mr. H. R. Emmer-

son in the county of Westmorland, the Moncton Times contained the following enunciation of the Conservative doctrine:

"During the past month, while the campaign was in progress, several railway employes, mostly mechanics in the I. C. R. shops, have been attending Grit meetings, and it is known that they supported the defeated Grit candidate. The policy of the great Liberal-Conservative party is to be loyal to its friends and party workers, and in view of this fact, there is only one course open for the local committee on patronage to pursue, and that is to recommend to Mr. Wood the dismissal of all traitorous I. C. R. employes. Let their places be filled by local Conservative electors."

The Times in 1887 and the Times in 1901 do not share the same point of view on this important question. But that paper, in common with the other exponents of Conservative doctrine, has lulled itself into temporary forgetfulness of its political principles as expounded in the good old days when it was a power in the land.

A NATIONAL NUISANCE.

The last two sessions of the Dominion Parliament were largely spent by the conservative opposition in making campaign speeches and a reference to the Hansard of 1899 and 1900 bears out the idea that the people of Canada have no use for the political talking machine. The men who helped most largely to fill the pages of Hansard are no longer in a position to get free advertising, as the disgusted electorate relegated them to private life. This is true not only of the opposition, but of the talkative government member whom even the members of the administration were unable to control. The new members might do well to take this lesson to heart that the people of Canada have no sympathy with useless questions which take up the time of the House, and that the vengeance of the electorate is sure to fall on the talking machine who thinks to embarrass the work of the administration by blocking tactics in the form of useless speeches on every motion to adjourn. There has been some advocacy of the idea of introducing the closure to prevent this useless waste of time. This was introduced in the British House of Commons as the result of the blocking tactics of the Irish Home Rule party. We do not believe it is necessary in Canada, as our people have shown such a proper spirit of resentment against political nuisances who insist on thrusting themselves into prominence by lengthy speeches that the trouble is not apt to occur in the future.

The Laurier Administration are to be commended for their patience under great provocation in the past few years and can trust the people to leave at home the men who in annoying the government becomes a national nuisance. As a newspaper poet expresses it:

Good Lord, from evils fierce and dire
Save us each day: from fear and woe,
From wreck and flood, from storm and fire,
From sudden death, from secret foe,
From blighting rain and burning drouth,
And from the man who plays his mouth.
Amen!

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We give a handsome Watch with polished Nickel case, ornamented edge, hour, minute and second hands, keyless wind, American Lever Movement, forestal, legible, easy to read, and silver plated case, \$1.00 each. Mail this advertisement and we will send the same. Send then, return money and your Watch will be sent you, absolutely free. The Dix Co., Box 96 Toronto.

For Sale!
I offer for sale two lots, 72 and 73 in Galloway, Parish of Richibucto, known as the Lawson or McGachey lot.
Also, a lot containing 100 acres fronting on the Harley road, opposite Robert Baldwin, and known as the Stewart lot.
Also, a lot containing 50 acres on the north side of the Kouchibouguac River, second tier, known as the Maillet lot and formerly owned by Sylvester Maillet.
All persons are forbidden to trespass in any way on said lots.
Dated February 9, 1901.
J. D. PHINNEY.

NO MORE CHARTER MURDERS.

The railroads of the Northern Pacific States, the smelters there, the people there, want the Crow's Nest coal. The Crow's Nest Coal Company want to supply that market and to make a fortune out of it if they can. Why shouldn't they both be allowed to trade in this respect? Canadian mine owners, Canadian miners, Canadian manufacturers, merchants, farmers, will all benefit by such a mining industry. No class is so good a class of consumers as a mining population.

But the C. P. R. does not want an American road entering the Crow's Nest country. It fears a rival for its railway traffic, but it pretends that it fears a loss of business to Canada and Canadians. It professes the greatest dread that the Crow's Nest Coal Company will not be able to supply the British Columbia smelters with all the coal and coke they may require. The only way to secure this coal for the smelters, according to Mr. Shaughnessy, is to prevent a rival road being built leading south. Mr. Shaughnessy is also much concerned over the early exhaustion of the Crow's Nest coal areas. We may not have enough for ourselves!

All this nonsense is the height of bogus patriotism. The coal fields in the Crow's Nest area are almost unlimited. If the Crow's Nest Coal Company have got an undue share of them, or if they grabbed them without due payment therefor, or if they ought to pay a higher royalty on their output, all these are other questions. The way to do this is a law that will compel restitution, or a law increasing or creating new royalties, and The World has very strong views in this respect. But these are separate propositions. They do not affect the question of a railway charter.

If we have not enough of coal to supply our own requirements in British Columbia, or if the coal company gives a preference in any way to its United States customers, the only efficient check is in fiscal policy, not in railway policy. Give them the railway charter if it means spending money in Canada, giving work to Canadian miners, profits to Canadian capitalists, and a market for our business men and farmers. But if after the road is built the mining company do not do fairly by Canadians, put an export duty on their coal output.

And how in the name of all that is sensible can we expect anything but retaliation from the United States if we do what Mr. Shaughnessy wants us to do, namely, not to let the United States have our British Columbia coal, or only have it over the C. P. R.'s rails and at C. P. R. freight rates? The Americans could put an export duty on the coal that Ontario is now glad to get from across the lakes, and they could put a higher duty on the coal that we are only too anxious to send from Boston to Bape Breton.
No sensible man, whether a Maritime

STARVED

Slow growth of hair comes from lack of hair food. The hair has no life.

HAIR

It is starved. It keeps coming out, gets thinner and thinner, bald spots appear, then actual baldness.

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Ayer's Hair Vigor

It feeds the roots, stops starvation, and the hair grows thick and long. It cures dandruff also. Keep a bottle of it on your dressing table.

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NANCY J. MOUNTCASTLE,
July 23, 1898. Yonkers, N. Y.

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Boys' Coarse Boots, \$1.25 now 90cts.
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Reefers, \$4.50 now \$3.00.
Men's Underwear, \$2.00 now \$1.20 per set.
Men's Sateen Shirts, \$1.00 now 50cts.
Men's Woolen Shirts, \$1.50 now \$1.10.
Blankets, \$4.50 now \$3.00.
Table Cloths, \$1.25 now 75cts.
Factory Cotton, 3/4 cents per yard.
Bleached Cotton from 5 to 7 cents per yard.
Plaid, 6 cts. per yard and upwards.
Print, 5 and 9 cts. per yard.
Horse Rugs, \$1.60 now \$1.15.
Men's Pants, \$1.75 now \$1.25.
Men's Suits, \$8.00 now \$5.00.
Sleigh Robes, \$1.75 now \$1.25.
Women's sacks, \$1.75 and upwards.
Men's Gloves, 90cts. now 65cts. per pair.
Caps, 60cts. now 35cts.
Good Family Flour, \$4.25 now \$3.50 per bbl.
Gran. Sugar, 20 lbs. for \$1.00.
Brown Sugar, 22 lbs. for \$1.00.
Barley, 10 lbs. for 25cts.
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Porto Rico Molasses, 42cts. per gal.
Pickles, 10cts per bottle.
Tea, 15, 20, 25, and 30cts. per lb.
Butter, 20cts. per lb.
Flannelette, from 6cts. upwards.
Ker. Oil, 22cts. per gal.

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