

The Daily Mail

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LAURIER'S WORK GOES ON

One of the most striking tributes to the constructive work of the Laurier government as contrasted with the lack of initiative shown by the present administration was given this week with the announcement of the finding in the now famous United Shoe Machinery case. The Canadian law respecting combines, trusts and mergers has, on its first application, proven effective against one of the tightest monopolies the world has ever seen and one against which the laws of Great Britain, United States and Australia had proven ineffective.

There are many features which lend significance and importance to this case, not the least of which was the determined opposition made by this enormously wealthy trust. It is the first investigation held under the Combines Investigation Act, which was introduced by the Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King and enacted by the Laurier government in 1909. This act provides for a full investigation of large combines wherever there is prima facie ground for believing that such combines exist in restriction of trade or for undue enhancement of prices.

The United Shoe Machinery Trust has been before the courts of Great Britain, United States and Australia for some years without much result. In fact, the governments of these countries have passed legislation for the people's relief from the methods adopted by this great combine, but all have proven unsuccessful.

It has remained for this measure of the Laurier administration to demonstrate that a means can be found for dealing with such combines through government investigation under circumstances which cannot be reached by the ordinary courts.

The methods of the United Shoe Machinery Company were thoroughly sifted during the investigation and have become fairly familiar. Their system was to acquire the most valuable patents of the essential machinery used in making shoes and then not to sell this machinery but to lease it to boot and shoe manufacturers under stringent conditions, restricting manufacturers from using any machinery manufactured outside of their shops. Any shoe manufacturer breaking these conditions was practically driven out of business by the combine which in this way controlled all the best and most economical machinery and used this to monopolize the business.

Naturally a determined fight was made by the combine to defeat investigation of their methods. It was the first case under the Combine Investigation Act and they adopted every expedient which the most clever counsel could devise to prevent the investigation, even going so far as to attack the constitutionality of the law itself, and trying to prevent the minister of labor from appointing a Board of Investigation. Hon. MacKenzie King fought the trust at every stage on behalf of the people and eventually the test case as to the constitutionality of the act and its applicability to the trust itself was carried to the Privy Council with the result that the British law lords held that the Canadian minister of labor had full power to order an investigation and that the law he had fathered was perfectly constitutional and he was empowered to see that any such investigation was satisfactorily conducted, when the requirement of the act as to the prima facie existence of an illegal combine had been met.

The Privy Council having given its decision, the investigation committee composed of Judge Laurendeau and J. C. Walsh, with W. J. White, K.C., all of Montreal, got down to the business of investigation and carried on their work at all the large centres of the shoe trade. Now, after a most careful enquiry, two reports have been brought in, the majority report signed by the chairman of the board, Judge Laurendeau and Mr. J. C. White appointed as the representatives of the complainants is against

the company and finds that it comes within the remedial clause prescribed by the act, while a minority report is signed by Mr. W. J. White, K.C., the representative of the company. There is little doubt that as a result of the investigation the trust will be compelled to alter its methods for the benefit of the public. In fact, it is already intimated in the press that the company has expressed its willingness to do this forthwith.

In presenting the measure to parliament in 1910, the then minister of labor, Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King, mentioned that there were certain evils which might be more easily rectified through judicious publicity than by legal penalty, and that the act had been formed with this thing in view. The exposures of the company's methods under investigation show how well the act is devised toward this end.

The greatest problem of the present day is the increased cost of living, and it is generally believed that one of the most pernicious causes of the prevailing high prices is the artificial restraint of trade engineered by combines and monopolies. It is evident that the Canadian Combines Investigation Act is about the first really effective legal means yet devised to bring these combines to time. In having perfected so useful an instrument the Laurier government has rendered the people of Canada one of the greatest services which it is possible for any government to give the people—a service which will ultimately be felt in their pockets.

Canadian Courier:—"It is quite evident that the Liberal party is preparing for an early general election. The various Liberal organizations throughout the country from coast to coast are being placed on the strongest possible footing. New candidates are being sought in every province. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is going about stirring up enthusiasm, smoothing out disagreements, and patching up political difficulties. His enthusiasm is tremendous and he is successfully inoculating his party with the idea that he will soon be back in power. On the other hand the Conservatives are quiet and almost dumb. Mr. Borden is not able to speak and his followers must needs keep silent. Any activity on the part of the Conservative party in the direction of organization would be but confirmation of Sir Wilfrid's prediction that an appeal to the country is in sight.

The bye-election to fill the vacancy in the Municipal Council for the Parish of Douglas will be held on November 4th. The candidates are Mr. Elwood Burt, a prominent lumberman and mill owner of Burt's Corner and Mr. Jesse Merrithew, farmer of Keswick. Mr. Burt is new to municipal politics, but Mr. Merrithew has on several occasions aspired to a seat at the board without success.

Mr. Louis Coderre, M.P. for Hochelaga, has been sworn in as secretary of state in the Borden cabinet. Mr. L. T. Marchal was slated for the job but was turned down by the premier at the last moment. The new minister is a lawyer by profession and was first elected to parliament on Sept. 21, 1911.

SOUTHERN BISHOP IN CONFERENCE

Greenwood, S.C., Oct. 30—Practically all of the fourteen bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South have arrived here to attend their annual fall conference. The sessions will be held at Landor College, beginning tomorrow and continuing for several days. The conference will deal with numerous questions of interest and importance to the denomination.

BEARS CONTROL THE MARKET

New York, Oct. 30—The market opening was active and strong in response to improvement in market abroad, but stocks were supplied on strong spots and it was said selling was better than buying. The latter came in great part from shorts. Heavy volume of selling met with an opening advance gave market a reactionary tendency and at the end of first half hour the enthusiasm had evaporated. The belief prevailed in some quarters that large interests were distributing stocks. The speculative interests which tried to drive in shorts at opening never reached themselves and the effect was to give numbers of traders who had been hung up with stocks, the opportunity which they undertake commitments on short side. The rumors that peace measures were under consideration by Bikan States and the great powers were not widely credited and advance in markets abroad was believed to be based chiefly on arrangements to prevent trouble in connection with forthcoming settlement in Paris. It was asserted that the "lame ducks" would be cared for.

	Open	Noon
Copper.....	84	82½
Smelters.....	82½	81½
Atchafalca.....	108½	107½
C. P. R.....	260½	260
Great Northern.....	137½	137
Lehigh.....	174½	172½
Northern Pacific.....	124½	123½
Reading.....	170½	169½
Union Pacific.....	169½	168½
U. S. Steel.....	75½	74½

MONTREAL MORNING SALES.

Bank of Montreal, 1 @ 248.	
Cement, com., 125 @ 28½, 140 @ 28½.	
Textile, 25 @ 78½, 50 @ 78½.	
Montreal Power, 120 @ 229½, 20 @ 230, 35 @ 229½.	
N. S. Steel, 20 @ 87.	
C.P.R., 260 @ 260, 125 @ 269½, 75 @ 259½, 50 @ 259½, 100 @ 259½.	
U. S. Steel, 220 @ 59½, 25 @ 59½.	
Spanish River, 100 @ 43½.	
General Electric, 100 @ 117½, 10 @ 117½, 25 @ 117½.	
Ottawa River, 50 @ 168½.	
Shawinigan, 10 @ 138.	
Detroit, 15 @ 69½.	
Crown Reserve, 25 @ 350.	
Quebec Rails, 75 @ 12½.	
Canners, 30 @ 101.	
R. & O., 25 @ 111.	
Winnipeg Street, 25 @ 220.	
Windsor Hotel, 50 @ 108.	
Paint, pfd., 5 @ 100.	

NEW MINISTER

WAS SWORN IN

Ottawa, Oct. 29—At noon today His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, at his office in the east departmental block, administered the oath of office to Louis Coderre, member for Hochelaga, as secretary of state to succeed Hon. W. J. Roche. The administrative oath was also administered to Hon. Robert Rogers as minister of public works, in succession to Hon. F. D. Monk, and to Hon. W. J. Roche, as minister of the interior.

This completes the cabinet rearrangement made necessary by the resignation of Mr. Monk. The writ for the bye-election in Hochelaga division, Montreal, where Mr. Coderre will seek re-election, will be issued without delay, and the voting will be over before the House meets on November 21.

There is still speculation as to why L. T. Marchal at the last moment stood aside for Mr. Coderre, and two reasons are given and generally accepted.

The first is that objection was taken to Mr. Marchal entering the cabinet as a representative of the district of Montreal and representing Charlevoix, a constituency in the Quebec district, and the second that there was a fear that under such conditions Mr. Marchal might not be able to carry the constituency.

It is understood that Dr. Paquet, chief government whip for Quebec, has placed his resignation in the hands of Premier Borden.

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RETAIL

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SICK, SOUR STOMACH

Gently Cleanse and Regulate Your
Stomach, Liver and Bowels
While You Sleep

That awful sourness, belching of acid and foul gases; that pain in the pit of the stomach, the heartburn, nervousness, nausea, bloating after eating, feeling of fullness, dizziness and sick headache, means a disordered stomach, which cannot be regulated until you remove the cause. It isn't your stomach's fault. Your stomach is as good as any.

Try Cascarets; they immediately cleanse and regulate the stomach, remove the sour, undigested and fermenting food and foul gases; take the excess bile from the liver and carry off the constipated waste matter and poison from the intestines and bowels. Then your stomach trouble is ended. A Cascaret tonight will straighten you out by morning—a 10-cent box from any drug store will keep your stomach sweet; liver and bowels regular for months. Don't forget the children—their little insides need a good, gentle cleansing, too.

A machine is a contrivance for the application of power. The power of the people is to be applied to political ends, and we need machines to do it.

Machine politics are only practical politics, politics that get somewhere, politics that accomplish something.

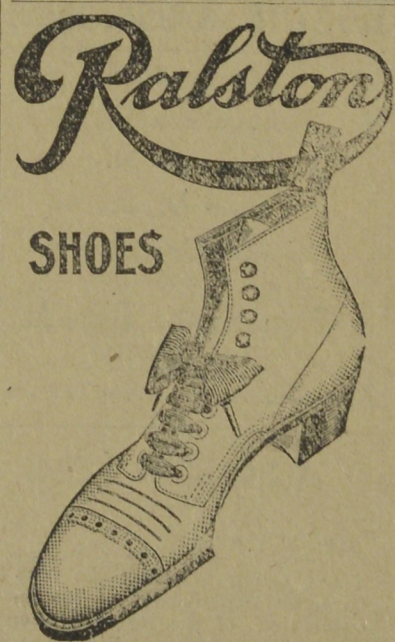
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