

THE DAILY MAIL

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WANT CLEANER POLITICS.

"I believe that we have arrived at a time when the people of Canada want cleaner politics. I have never believed it necessary to be dishonest in public life, while being honest in private life. I believe the people of Canada are looking for better things, and are expecting service from the public men, men who occupy positions of trust in the different. And never in the history of Canada has there been a more opportune season than while this struggle is on. Let us have cleaner politics and more honest business in the conduct of our public affairs."—Premier Norris, of Manitoba, at London, Ont.

MESSAGE TO YOUNG MEN.

"After a long life I shall remind you that already many problems rise before you; problems of race division, problems of creed differences, problems of economic conflict, problems of national duty and national aspiration. Let me tell you that for the solution of these problems you have a safe guide, an unerring light, if you remember that faith is better than doubt, and love is better than hate.

"Banish doubt and hate from your life. Let your souls be ever open to the strong promptings of faith and the gentle influence of brotherly love. Be adamant against the haughty; be gentle and kind to the weak. Let your aim and your purpose, in good report or in ill, in victory or in defeat, be so to live, so to strive, so to serve as to do your part to raise the standard of life to higher and better spheres."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier at London, Ont.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

Agricultural expansion is recognized as a necessity of Canada's reorganization, when a vast burden of foreign debt must be provided for and a large force of men must be enlisted in productive industry. Mr. E. A. Lucas, of Vancouver, says the Toronto Globe, has worked out a plan, with careful elaboration, for a Dominion-wide system of rural credits. The object is to enable men willing to work to settle on the land with the assurance of a livelihood while their farms are being brought to fruition. The momentous importance of overcoming this initial difficulty is obvious. The plan outlined which cannot be published in full, is based on that which has been highly successful in New Zealand and Australia during the past twenty years. New Zealand, with \$65,000,000 loaned, has had only thirty-five foreclosures during eighteen years, a striking contrast with Saskatchewan's 1,723 foreclosures by private lenders during the fourteen months previous to the recent commission inquiry. The rate charged is one per cent. higher than the cost of the money borrowed abroad by the commission on bonds guaranteed by the government.

British Columbia has already adopted legislation providing for the inauguration of a policy on the same general financial basis. It provides for long-term loans for land purchase and permanent improvements, for short-term loans for improvements of a less permanent nature, and for season loans. Mr. Lucas suggests that each province adopt the British Columbia policy and appoint a commission, the provincial guarantees to be endorsed by the Dominion, and the bonds sold by the Finance Minister. The proceeds of each provincial issue would be turned over to the provincial loaning commission.

Where to draw the line between individual and collective effort must always be a difficult problem. Loans to individual farmers for specific purposes would not as severely test official rectitude as do such policies as the bonusing of privately owned railways or the encouraging of industrial corporations by tariffs. The farmer has been for years a heavy sufferer by the policy of aiding urban industries with import obstructions, and he is certainly entitled to any compensatory policy that can be adopted with reasonable safety.

Canadians should be able to elect men worthy of being trusted with such a policy. Mr. Lucas suggests a joint enquiry by provincial premiers and opposition leaders. When it comes to administration, full governmental responsibility with publicity and opposition criticism would probably be found safest.

The evil besetting every attempt at improvement—our indefensible land system—would certainly militate against this proposed reform. The possibility of governmental loans

would give value to large areas now unsaleable, and increase the value of much held awaiting customers. That would probably be like the match to the dry prairie, so easy are booms launched. If it started a boom it would make the second state of the intending farmer worse than the first. The ingrained absurdity of looking for something out of land other than the crop must first be eradicated. It would certainly be a mistake to loan public funds for the purchase of land from private or corporate owners. The mere prospect of such a policy would start a boom long before legislation could be made effective. From Nova Scotia to British Columbia the chief difficulty in the way of bringing land under cultivation is the cost of clearing it of title deeds.

Ald. Wilkinson has made the charge that short weight butter and stale eggs are being sold in the city market. The majority of the aldermen seemed to take the view that it was a matter outside of the scope of the Council. In this, perhaps, they were not altogether wrong. If stale eggs and short weight butter are being sold in the market from week to week, as alleged, then the chief of police has been neglecting one portion of his duty. If some rascally farmer tried to palm gold bricks off upon the public, the chief of police would round him up in no time. The rascals who would sell short-weight butter or bad eggs are deserving of no more consideration than the man who would palm off a gold brick upon the public.

As forecasted in yesterday's cables, Mr. Bonar Law has declined to undertake the formation of a cabinet in Great Britain, and Mr. David Lloyd George has accepted the task. Lloyd George is probably the most commanding figure in the public life in Great Britain, and if any man can harmonize the rival political factions in Great Britain he is the man for the job. His selection will meet with the hearty approval of the overseas dominions. The despatches intimate that he will have the hearty co-operation of Mr. Bonar Law.

Premier Borden, Mr. R. B. Bennett and Hon. E. L. Patenaude started their recruiting campaign at Montreal last night with a big meeting at the Monument Nationale. The despatches say that there were many interruptions, the audience making it rather warm for Patenaude and Bennett. Hon. T. C. Casgrain and Hon. C. J. Doherty were announced to speak, but owing to the temper of the audience decided not to face the music. The Borden government having forfeited the confidence of the people, it is scarcely to be expected that its members can arouse very much enthusiasm at a public meeting.

Poor old John Barleycorn has been getting hard knocks on all sides during the past year, and now the announcement is made that the French speaking province of Quebec is to put one over on him. The Liberal government of Sir Lomer Gouin will abolish the bar in May next, and substitute for it the Gothenburg cafe system of dealing with the liquor traffic.

Chicago bread is not legally standardized. This has been made eloquently clear by an investigation following the serious increase in the price of the one pound loaf. Sufficient evidence has been collected to show that bakers have for years been purveying bread considerably below the advertised and understood weight.

The butchers who do their selling in the city market appear to be doing their bit to help keep down the cost of living, and it is just as well perhaps that the city fathers decided to let them alone for the present at least.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE FOR PRIME MINISTER

London, Dec. 6.—David Lloyd George is officially announced, has consented to form a ministry in co-operation with Andrew Bonar Law.

The court circular tonight, announcing the political audiences and conferences at the palace today, adds:

"The King gave a further audience this evening to Mr. Bonar Law, who intimated that he was unable to form an administration. Thereupon the king summoned Mr. Lloyd George, who, at His Majesty's request, undertook to endeavor to form an administration."

The press association says it learns that on Mr. Bonar Law's advice King George asked Mr. Lloyd George to form a government, and that it understands, on good authority, that Lloyd George will endeavor to form a national ministry, without regard to party differences.



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"It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the wonderful benefits I have received from taking 'Fruit-a-lives'. For years, I was a dreadful sufferer from Constipation and Headaches, and I was miserable in every way. Nothing in the way of medicines seemed to help me. Then I finally tried 'Fruit-a-lives' and the effect was splendid. After taking one box, I feel like a new person, to have relief from those sickening Headaches".
Mrs. MARTHA DEWOLFE.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

HOW THE GERMANS BACKED CHARLEROI

Slaughter, Theft and Destruction Left Remnants of Population in a Pitiable State.

When the German army invaded the judicial district of Charleroi in Belgium, they killed 110 men, 9 women and 8 children; they wounded 34 men, 12 women and 5 children, and they caused the disappearance of 300 men, 250 women, 249 children and 65 entire families.

In addition they burned down 760 houses, pillaged or partially burned 2,221 others, and left more than 5,000 families without shelter. The total value to houses and property alone was 12,500,000 francs. In addition to that they made wholesale requisitions of the food and provisions of the people, and on the top of it obtained by threats of still further horrors an indemnity of 10,000,000 francs.

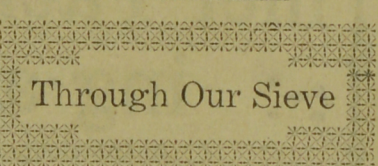
These facts are just one instance in a long list of the horrors of the Belgian invasion published by the British government from sworn statements supplied by the Belgian legation in London.

It is hard to realize the utter state of dependence on outside help to which the people of Belgium have been reduced. Facts like the above help to show the situation.

Self-sustaining communities have been utterly disorganized. Many of the men shot or carried away in imprisonment, houses burned, all food supplies stolen, and industries destroyed—these are the conditions which the Belgians are still facing.

It is to bring food and clothing to these people, now so pathetically destitute that the Belgian Relief Committee is redoubling its efforts. The need is greater than ever in Belgium, for the nearer the day of deliverance comes to these people the more do the Germans exhaust all the resources of the country.

The help of Canadians is earnestly sought through local committees, and subscriptions to these committees, or to the Central Belgian Committee, 59 St. Peter Street, Montreal, are welcome.



Christmas card! Buy early; mail early.

One it comes to starting something, just leave it to the bad egg.

Farmers are not so tall these days—that is if pulling their legs made them long.

Not one man in ten thousand ever gets a chance to look a gift horse in the mouth.

Very few men appreciate how much a woman appreciates real masculine appreciation.

Perhaps our city fathers never heard the sage advice: "When you have anything to tell an egg, break it gently."

How shall we punish the man who will dare to sell anything in the market at less than "prevailing" prices?

If a man makes cynical remarks about women, it's doughnuts to fudge that some one of them has been using him for a doormat.

When we hear of a farmer buying a gold brick for \$2500, gee, it's funny! But when he sells us half a dozen stale eggs for 25 cents—well!!

There's one thing we know about Lloyd George anyway and that is there seems to be one "T" too many in his name and it always looks backwards.

Too many girls regard marriage as a lark instead of a frantic leap in the dark.

Many a girl who knows that she is too good to wash dishes thinks her mother isn't.

John J. Weddall & Son

ARE DAILY RECEIVING

Seasonable and Appropriate Gifts for Christmas

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Ladies' Kid Gloves
Ladies' Angora Gloves
Ladies' Crepe Ties
Ladies' Net Ties
Ladies' Jaeger Spencer
Ladies' Silk Sweater
Ladies' Wool Sweater

Ladies' Fur Sett
Ladies' Silk Umbrellas
Ladies' Col'd Umbrellas
Shamrock Linens
Needle Cases
Boudoir Caps
Silk Dress Length
Silk Waist Length

Winter Coat
Winter Suit
Silk Underskirt
Silk Waist
Eider Down Kimona
Wool Filled Tack
Down Quilt
Crib Quilts

Any of these goods would make a very acceptable gift.

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