

THE DAILY MAIL

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1919

PROGRESS THE WATCHWORD

Sir Edmund Walker, President of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in his annual address to the stockholders of that great financial institution, said: "Progress appears to be the watchword in New Brunswick. The Department of Agriculture has the whole hearted support of the Government, and is giving the farmers of the province inspiring leadership. This is evidenced by a general increase in production, the amount of land cultivated in 1918 being 125,000 acres more than in 1917. Of this increase 33,000 acres were planted in oats, 34,000 acres (or 200 per cent increase) in wheat, and 13,000 acres in turnips and potatoes. The potato crop is estimated at 8,650,000 bushels, somewhat below the average, but 50 per cent. more than in 1917. The yield of hay was good and that of oats and wheat excellent, but of only fair quality owing to the bad weather which prevailed during harvesting. Reference was made in our report last year to the effort being made under government auspices to improve the quality and number of live stock. This policy has been continued, with specially good success in the case of sheep."

A GIFTED STATESMAN DEAD.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is dead. Canada's premier statesman and silver-tongued orator is no more. As in the case of ex-Premier Roosevelt, the great American who died a few weeks ago, the dread summons came with little warning and has greatly shocked the entire country. The veteran statesman was stricken with paralysis on Sunday evening while preparing to attend divine service, and at 2.30 o'clock on Monday afternoon his soul took its flight. His death is a great loss to the Liberal party, to Canada and to the British Empire, and will be sincerely mourned by all classes of the population.

Although he had passed beyond the allotted span of man, Sir Wilfrid's death comes at a time when Canada can ill afford to lose his valuable services. The golden days of peace have come after the most terrible war in the history of the world. The Canadian army which fought so nobly for the cause of liberty on the battlefields of Europe is being demobilized; the great work of reconstruction has already begun, and there never was a time when the exercise of statesmanship in the broadest and best sense is so urgently needed. Sir Wilfrid's wonderful breadth of vision, his great knowledge of public affairs, his ripe experience, his superb moral courage and matchless eloquence would have made his services of incalculable benefit to the country during the period of reconstruction. He would have assisted in the solution of the great problems which now confront Canada, and he would have also assisted in preserving for the people, by legislation, the glorious principles of freedom and democracy for which our soldiers fought and died on the field of battle. But alas! he has gone from us; his life-work is ended and the millions of Canadians who so proudly followed his "white plume" must find another leader to take up the sacred standard which has been laid down unsullied by the aged chieftain who has so long borne it.

Born in the little village of St. Lin, Quebec, seventy-seven years ago, of humble parentage, Sir Wilfrid, by the exercise of his wonderful talents, rose to the highest position within the gift of his fellow countrymen. At the age of thirty he was elected to the Quebec Legislature and three years later became a member of the Dominion Parliament. Defeated in Drummond-Arthabaska in the general election of 1878, he was returned for Quebec East and continued to represent that constituency up to the time of his death. In 1877 he entered the Liberal cabinet of Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, but resigned on the defeat of the ministry at the polls the following year. In 1887 he was chosen leader of the Liberal party and in 1896, following a great victory at the polls, he was called to the Premiership of Canada, and succeeded in forming what is now generally conceded to have been the strongest cabinet which Canada ever possessed. For the long period of fifteen years and three months, Sir Wilfrid held the office of prime minister, and even political opponents will now admit that he gave the country wise, efficient and progressive government. Under his superb leadership Canada discarded her swaddling clothes and became a nation within the British Empire—and, to borrow an old time Tory phrase, called forth the wonder and admiration of the world. The very highest ideals of Canadian public life were exemplified in the great and worthy leader who has just closed his earthly career.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was not only the greatest statesman of his time in Canada, but as a parliamentarian and orator he had no superior in the English speaking world. Of charming personality, always graceful, courteous and chivalrous, he was the idol of his followers, and enjoyed the respect of political opponents, many of whom cheerfully bore testimony to his wonderful ability and strength of character. As he often said himself, he belonged to the old school of English Liberalism and right nobly did he uphold the great principles enunciated by such men as Cobden, Bright and Gladstone.

No public man in the history of Canada worked harder than Sir Wilfrid to reconcile and promote harmony between the two great races which inhabit the northern half of this continent. This was his pillar of cloud by day and his pillar of fire by night. His high and honorable motives were often misinterpreted by his opponents; he was charged in Quebec with being too British, while in Ontario the cry was raised against him that he was too French. While opponents in Canada charged him with being anti-imperialistic, the newspapers of the mother country did not hesitate to pronounce him to be "the greatest statesman of Greater Britain."

It may be said of Sir Wilfrid that he died in harness. Almost up to his last moments he had been busily preparing for the important work which must engage the attention of parliament at the coming session. The country received the benefit of his invaluable services right up to the last.

The old chieftain passes out of the world with a clean and honorable record just as the government of which he was so long the head went out of office in the year 1911.

During his long public career he was true to his country and its best interests. His public and private life were above reproach; he gave his life for his country and his country was his love.

The greatest Canadian and an outstanding figure in the public life of the British Empire passes out in the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. History will do him justice and future generations will bless and honor his memory. The mention of his name and his great and exalted service to Canada will ever stir as a trumpet the hearts of his grateful fellow countrymen.

"The 19th Century was the century of the United States; the 20th Century belongs to Canada."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

"I do not hesitate to say that under reciprocity trade will flow from Canada to the United States like water through a mill race."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

What is one man's automobile is another man's juggernaut.

Love is a great help to the girl who wants to make herself miserable.

A man is always "trying to start something." A woman doesn't have to; it's already started.

Fully two-thirds of a woman's troubles result from reasoning with her heart instead of her head.

The delay in announcing most engagements is not caused by a girl's slowness to realize a man wants to marry her, but by the amount of time it takes her to make him realize it.

Personally, we have travelled a hundred miles west and fully as far east, but never have we encountered a man manicurist.

We hate to talk about folks and further increase international complications, but this Captain Out-Yi, who was detailed from the Jap army as attaché with the British headquarters, has a name that looks a lot more like a dog that's been stepped on.

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LOCAL NEWS

More Arrivals

Mr. and Mrs. James Kylie and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Peppers of Barker's Point are being congratulated upon the arrival of baby girls at their homes recently.

Theft Case Dismissed.

A returned soldier was brought before Police Magistrate Limerick this morning charged with theft. As sufficient evidence could not be obtained the case was dismissed.

Late James Shortill

The funeral of the late James Shortill took place this morning at nine o'clock. Service was held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Devon, at 11 o'clock by Rev. Father Murphy. Interment was made at Sunny Bank Cemetery.

Forbes-Lipsett

St. John, N. B.—A quiet wedding took place at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Rev. H. C. Fraser 64 Coburg street, on Feb. 5 when Alexander Forbes, of South Devon was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Lipsett of Fredericton. The bride was becomingly attired in a navy blue costume with purple hat.

Will Hold Dollar Day

A meeting of the advertising committee of the Fredericton Retail Merchants Association was held this morning at the City Hall. It has been decided to hold a Dollar Day on Tuesday February 25th. Special arrangements have been made with the railroad authorities to accommodate the buyers and trains will be held over till later hours than usual.

Confined to Bed With Illness

Mr. James S. Fairley the well known lumberman of Boiestown is confined to the home of Dr. W. H. Irvine on Carleton Street. Although not seriously ill Mr. Fairley will be unable to be about for some time. His two daughters from Montreal and his son have been visiting him. One daughter Evelyn, who is a trained nurse is still in the city taking care of her father.

Death at Lincoln

Mrs. Amanda Smith wife of Mr. Ludlow Smith died last evening at her home in Lincoln after a brief illness with heart disease. The deceased was in her fifty seventh year. She is survived by her husband and one daughter Mrs. A. C. Young at home. She also is survived by five brothers Samuel Hodgson of Minneapolis, Jabez Hodgson of New Maryland, William Hodgson of Doak, Melvin Hodgson of Marysville and Ludlow Hodgson of McAdam also by two sisters Mrs. Alex. Mout of Rusiagornish and Mrs. Harvey Nason of Waasis. The funeral will take place Thursday afternoon leaving the house at one o'clock. Service will be conducted at the Baptist church at Rusiagornish by Rev. Mr. Foster and Rev. Mr. Carpenter.

BERLIN MAY HAVE A STRIKE

Berlin, Feb. 17—(By the A. P.)—The Soldiers' councils representing the whole Ruhr industrial trades threaten to call a general strike on Tuesday if the government does not accede to the demands of the councils formulated at a conference held at Essen. The trouble is due primarily to the action of the general in command of the seventh army corps is dissolving the corps soldiers' council at Munster because of the councils anti-government attitude.

ADMIRER SIR WILFRID

Victoria, Feb. 17—Hon. W. C. Bowser, leader of the conservative, opposition in the legislature pays the following tribute to Sir Wilfrid Laurier: "No political belief of mine could divert me from my unbounded admiration for Sir Wilfrid. He was a great Canadian, a man of fearless action, a statesman of tremendous attainments, and one whose passing creates in the ranks of Canada's foremost public men a gap that will be very difficult to fill."

Nothing makes a man feel so good and noble and superior as to go to church and listen to a long and denunciatory sermon on vanity, folly and depravity of the feminine fashions.

As a general thing, when a man calls the doctor "Doc" it's a sign he doesn't expect to need him any time soon.

A MOST FASCINATING STORY

Is one found in "Arabian Nights" entitled "Aladdin's Lamp." But no more "local" interest has centred round this story than has been shown in stories we have told in reference to

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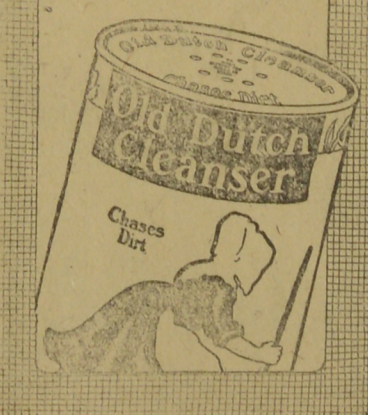
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