

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N.B., February 20, 1912

THE COST OF LIVING

The Liberals claimed that Reciprocity would reduce the cost of living. The Tories replied that the only way to keep the cost down was by defeating Reciprocity. Reciprocity was defeated, yet here is the report from the Tory Government regarding the cost of living:

The Department of Labour's price record for January shows the general price level the highest known probably within the present generation, certainly since the early eighties. Since the middle of June last a pronounced and continuous upward movement has been in progress and though there was a short breathing spell in December, January now shows the highest level of all. The Department's index number which is based on the observation of fluctuations in 261 commodities selected for their representative marketable character rose to the 131.0 in January, that is 31 per cent higher in that month than was the average for the decade for 1890-1899 which is taken by the departments as the standard of comparison in constructing its number. Compared with prices in 1897 the lowest year in the past quarter century, prices are now at least 45 per cent higher. The recent rise is particularly serious from the cost of living standpoint in as much as it is due to industrial expansion having enhanced the price of materials, while the reported shortage in the world's crop has produced a like effect on the price of foodstuffs.

Had reciprocity carried the farmers of York and Sunbury would not today be peddling their hay about the country for \$7 and \$8 per ton. Instead of shipping potatoes to Ontario and making money for the railways, they would be forwarding them to Boston and would not only derive a larger profit but would affect a saving for the consumer as a result of the shorter haul. New Brunswick gained nothing by the defeat of reciprocity.

ONE FOR MR. COPP

The Canadian Courier, a non-political paper, pays the following tribute to Mr. A. B. Copp, M. P. P. the new leader of the opposition in the Local Legislature.

"A few weeks ago there was a large convention of New Brunswick Liberals in St. John. Hon. C. W. Robinson reluctantly told the assembly that his pressing private affairs made it desirable that he should retire from the Liberal van. His mantle, he handed to the eloquent young fighter from Westmorland County, Arthur Bliss Copp, M. P. P., gathered the folds about himself. He was acclaimed leader amid huzzas.

"Mr. Copp has been worthy of a big job for some time. He has been long recognized as among the first lances in opposition to the Government now headed by Premier Fleming. Copp has a way of saying things which 'gets to you.' On the stump with his coat off, he is a whole battery of oratory. He speaks to the people in the language and wit of the lumbermen, millmen and farmers of the province. He has an honest, homespun face, which never needs a dress rehearsal to wreath its rotundity into a smile. Tall, he looks down at you from his broad shoulders and subtly suggests inherent strength. He moves as if he meant business.

"Mr. Copp is young; forty-one. He has lived all his life in New Brunswick. Professionally he is a lawyer; Copp and McCord, Sackville. He is a farmer's son; educated at Mount Allison, and the law schools of Dalhousie and Harvard. Since 1901 he has been a member of the Legislature.

The Fredericton Gleaner, the organ of "Lieutenant Colonel the Honorable H. F. McLeod" and other flag-flapping Tory politicians refers to Major General W. D. Otter, the distinguished Commander of the Canadian militia as "Mr. W. D. Otter of Ottawa" That is certainly going some.

Two members of the Fleming government were at Ottawa last week negotiating with the Dominion government for the lease of the St. John Valley Railway. While progress has been reported in the negotiations there is every reason to believe that the members of the delegation came away none too well satisfied with the treatment accorded them. Indeed it is said that they are experiencing great difficulty in convincing Premier Borden and his colleagues that they should do as much for the province in connection with the Valley Railway as the late government was willing to do. It will be necessary for members of the local government to make several more junketing expeditions to the capital before a bargain is concluded.

Speaking on the tariff bill in the House of Commons a few days ago, Mr. Hugh Guthrie handed out some plain truths when he said:

"There are two things which always call for enthusiastic plaudits from the Government benches, the mergers and trusts and protection. Either of them can always get cheers—cheers; Highest protection—loud and prolonged cheers; Combines, trusts and mergers—tumultuous cheers. There was not much united cheering when the Ne Temere decree was before the House; there has not been the approach to a cheer over the naval policy or lack of it, but when it comes to protection and trusts, Ames and Meighan are cheered to the echo and I am almost prevented from speaking. The situation is illuminating and interesting."

It is understood that three of the local members for York petitioned the Chief Commissioner of Public Works recently to have the Fredericton highway bridge opened for traffic but the bars have not yet been taken down. It is not customary to close steel bridges during the winter months and there is no valid reason why this particular structure built at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars should be closed to the public at the present time.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier the great chieftain of the Liberal party journeyed to South Renfrew yesterday and delivered two slashing speeches on behalf of the candidature of Hon. Geo. P. Graham. He was accorded a rousing reception.

In Parliament yesterday Premier Borden intimated that the Ne Temere decree would be submitted to the courts in the course of a few days. No doubt the premier's Ontario supporters are becoming impatient.

Thursday is polling day in South Renfrew, Ont. If there is any sense of fair play among the electors of that riding, Hon. George P. Graham, the Liberal candidate, should win by a large majority.

It hardly seems to be in good taste for a member of the senate to protest against old age pensions.

SMUGGLING CHINAMEN OVER THE BORDER

Niagara Falls, N.Y., Feb. 20—Secret service men are investigating the smuggling of another bunch of Chinamen across the border on Saturday night. Five of them it is alleged, were taken from Toronto and Hamilton, kept on the Canadian side for a couple of days and then quietly brought across to this side, put into trunks and checked through to New York. Officers at work on the case say that one of the supposed members of the gang has fled from the Falls. The head of the organization is said to be a Toronto man, and a white woman who comes from Hamilton and who has been very active around the Falls and Buffalo, is supposed to have a hand in the smuggling.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION WANTED

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115—Feb. 22.

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116—Feb. 24.



LONE ROBBER MADE A HAUL

(Continued from page one.)

it is believed took to the mountains.

Wheeling, Va., Feb. 20—Some of the frightened trainmen recovered their senses and endeavored to quiet the passengers, who were in an uproar, while others sought in the darkness for the bandit, but he had disappeared, leaving nothing but a vague description by which the railroad officials might hope to find him. The man worked through the car quickly but with what appeared to the passengers who took time enough to observe him, without haste. He had fired his revolver when he approached them, but he relieved them as quickly as he did the men and gave no heed to their condition.

He gave no evidence of being disturbed by the panic in the rear, and collected valuables and money with care.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 20—A man giving the name of F. A. Backer, was arrested near Altamont, Va., early today in connection with the robbery of the Pullman car passengers on the New York and St. Louis express of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad last night.

The man had \$133.37 in money, four watches said to correspond with those taken from passengers, and two revolvers. He was lodged in jail at Keyser, Va.

The suspect claimed that another man gave him the money and other valuables found on him.

Opera House - Fri., Feb. 23rd - Opera House

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112—Feb. 23

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THE STANDARD AGENCY

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THE "BEVERLY" HAT

"Beverly," and the Beverly hat and veil will be the attraction at the City Opera House Friday evening, when Miss Eleanor Woodruff former leading lady with Nat Goodwin and Cyril Scott in the "Prince Chap" will be seen in the title role of Beverly Calhoun.

It is a low crown hat of heavy white beaver with a broad flat brim. Around the edge about an inch and a quarter wide a band of pale blue velvet, and cleverly draped over the

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crown so that it falls down over the sides is a beautiful silk veil in pale blue, the whole forming a creation, that though simple is more than beautiful.

Hon. W. P. Jones of Woodstock is at the Queen.

Messrs. John Russell, T. Williams W. Reid, and S. King of Moncton, arrived here by I. C. R. today.

Mr. J. Fraser Gregory of St. John is in the city on business.

His Honor Judge White is at the Queen.