

The Semi-Weekly Mail

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Fredricton, N. B. June 2, 1915



Recruits for 55th Regt.

The citizens of Fredericton are hereby notified that a public meeting will be held in the City Hall on WEDNESDAY EVENING.

JUNE 9TH, 1915, in the interests of recruiting for the 55th Regiment. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. Speakers: Rev. Dr. Campbell and Lieut. Col. Harrison.

The gallery to be reserved for ladies. Band in attendance.

M. MITCHELL,
Chairman of General Com.

PROFESSOR LEACOCK'S VIEWS

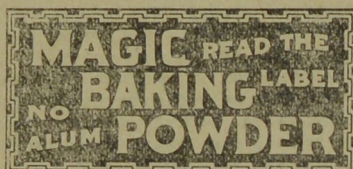
For years past there has been no more strenuous literary defender of tariffs than Professor Stephen Leacock, the humorist and economist of McGill University. During the election campaign of 1911 he was instant in season and out of season in his support of the Borden party the Anti-Reciprocity and of Protection generally. Apparently, however, he has become disgusted with the entire bunch and is now out against the mad Protectionism which has become rampant in the Tory party. It will be recalled that at the last session of Parliament, a Tory member while declaiming on the "Made in Canada Campaign," got off the following: "Let us be an independent industrial Canada! Let us feel and know that if the whole world were excluded, if there was a wall fifty feet high around Canada, we ourselves with our resources, our capabilities, our population, could go on and thrive, interchanging our products one with another and so securing a prosperity that would be tantamount to perfection and absolute balance." In other words, "let us sit down and swap jack-knives and become wealthy."

This silly outburst, has proved too much for Professor Leacock, and he thus comments in the last University Magazine: "In the palmy days of Chinese exclusion, when the Great Wall was built and trade with 'Foreign Devils' was prohibited on fear of death, the Emperor would probably have presented the author of this sentiment with a monkey-tail and three peacock feathers as a mark of intellectual distinction." And he proceeds:

"Preposterous though it is, it can be duplicated over and over again by a reference to the current columns of the press and the political speeches of the day. The streets of Montreal are placarded with a picture of a sorrow stricken workman and his fatigued wife brought to ruin by the folly of their fellow-citizens who will not buy the things they make. It is not stated what it is that they make. It is very probably boots. It is not stated either why it is that the people will not buy them. But one can easily guess. Up to the present, no one has yet drawn a set of pictures to represent the economic consequences that would follow if the Made-in-Canada movement obliterated foreign trade; the ruined home of the transport worker, whose job has ended when the ocean steamers abandoned the port of Montreal, or Halifax; the wholesale importer driven out of business by the prohibition of trade in English goods, his afflicted clerks clinging about his knees and asking vainly for a crust of bread; the Canadian farmers, or, no, let us say, the whole population from Winnipeg to the Rockies, sitting in rags and misery with a huge heap of unsold wheat beside them, which they cannot eat and which they must not sell. For it never occurs to the Made-in-Canada propagandist that if a country does not buy it cannot sell. Our exports are sold perhaps in the first instance for money, but sooner or later in the long run, goods are exchanged for goods. To go on forever sending out wheat and bringing in gold is an economic impossibility. Even in the Emperor King (Chinese 3rd Century B.C.) saw that. Show me a man who puts up a Made-in-Canada placard, and I will show you a man who hopes to increase his own private and personal profit, at your expense and mine, out of the movement. Protection to industry is one thing. We have it already. We are not preparing to change it. But when a manufacturer in an industry already protected to the extent of twenty, thirty or forty per cent. raises a clamour for the exclusion of foreign goods, the thing passes from protection to plunder. The proper answer to such a man is

to throw at his head a militia boot with a paper sole and a hole in the side."

This is a scathing and logical indictment of the Made-in-Canada movement and its backers. While the catchword is a patriotic one, the whole thing is simply a campaign for higher protective tariffs in other words, higher taxation upon the people in order to increase the dividends of the great "Interests" at a time when the nation is struggling in a great war for its very existence as part of the Empire. The logical conclusion would be the utter ruin of Canadian foreign commerce. That is, Canada would be doing to herself what Britain is doing to Germany in order to crush the latter country, and which Germany is making frantic efforts to do to Britain with the same object in view. Canadians are suffering all the protection they can stagger under at the present time, whether under the specious guise of "war taxes" or Made-in-Canada sacrifices. Made-in-Canada is a fine and acceptable phrase, but who and what are behind it demand investigation.



Most ridiculous of modern fallacies is the Tory doctrine that the people of a country can be made rich and prosperous by taxation. During the last session of Parliament the government made a horizontal increase of seven and one half per cent in the customs tariff. More revenue was needed to carry on the business of the country and this was given as an excuse for increasing the tariff. What has been the result. The cost of manufactured goods has been increased to the consumer while the customs returns for April and May show a falling off as compared with the corresponding months of last year. In other words the people are compelled to pay more for the necessities of life, but the money instead of going into the revenue goes into the pockets of manufacturers.

Ottawa despatches state that Hon. Mr. Hazen, who has been in the United States recuperating after a successful operation performed in a Montreal hospital, is back to work with his health restored. Some New Brunswick matters which have been hanging fire some time will no doubt, now engage the minister's attention. For instance, there is that threatened exchequer suit to recover public monies invested in the Southampton Railway. Surely Hon. Mr. Hazen will not allow an important matter of this kind to go over until after an election.

It is now nearly two months since the late deputy provincial treasurer passed away and still the government has not been able to agree on a successor. A do nothing government, to be sure.

If Mr. Gould is not allowed to finish his work the government should have the decency to refund to him that one hundred thousand dollars which he was compelled to contribute to the boodle fund in 1912.

It is stated on good authority that one of the four members of the York County patronage Committee is a citizen of St. John. Will wonders never cease.

If Premier Clarke could only muster up sufficient courage to say "yes" or "no" the Valley Railway problem would soon be solved.

ON THE SIDE

The Germans are admirably consistent in their use of the name of God for purposes of malediction. The latest is "Gott strafe Amerika." The only thing that does not seem to have occurred to them is to leave a little of the punishing Him who said "Vengeance is mine."

It is better not to love your neighbor with the affection that should belong to the family.

As a rule the hired girl knows a family skeleton when she sees one.

Even when we think so it is difficult for many of us to prove that the bacteriologist is a liar.

It is said that grafting operations have been extended to the pig swill department of the various training depots.

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CANADIAN BEEF CATTLE FOR OVERSEAS TRADE

(Toronto Globe).

This week between 500 and 600 weighty steers were sold for export overseas, the buyers being Corbett, Hall, Coughlin & Co. of Toronto.

The prices paid for the bulk of these animals ranged from \$8.25 to \$8.50. Further purchases will likely be made for overseas account next week.

The Canadian live stock trade is thus tasting anew the fruits of overseas export trade. The palmy days when Toronto commission men supplied Britain with much of her cattle requirements have for some time been days of history. The failure of the industry in Canada to keep well ahead of the increase in population coupled with the advent of Argentine cattle and meats on the British markets, edged this country out of profitable export trade that was known during the last quarter of the past century.

Now a change in events has taken place. The exigencies of the war have made it necessary for France, especially, to replenish sudden and serious depletion of stocks. While the source for which the beaves are destined is being withheld. It is known that French interests have been negotiating with Toronto firms, and an unofficial statement that they are going to France is probably correct. The statement was not denied by the local buyer of these export steers.

HEROIC STRUGGLE TO PERFORM DUTY

Montreal, June 7—Details of the heroic struggle of Major J. Mersereau, Hampton, N. B., to carry out his orders, though terribly wounded, reached his brother Captain H. C. Mersereau, commanding a field ambulance corps here. Major Mersereau, who was brigade major of a battalion, left in England when the contingent went to Flanders, secured his transfer. At the battle of Laue marck, Major Mersereau, with Major Kemmis Batty, Halifax, were given despatches to carry to the firing line. Both were injured by splinters from an explosive shell. Major Mersereau receiving a piece in the skull. He lay unconscious for several hours and then barely able to struggle along he delivered his messages. He again became insensible and remained so for ten days. He was ultimately found by his wife at Boulogne, who secured permission from Field Marshal French to search the hospitals and pluckily went through the danger zone.

The Major is blind and speaks only with difficulty, as a result of his injuries. Major Mersereau is a brother-in-law of Col. McLeod, M. P.

Anything But That

"Do you think that if I refuse him he will do something desperate?" "Nope; he'll probably live to be glad of it."

"Then I shall marry the truce!" —Houston Post.

Good Reason

Lover (passionately)—Sir, I love the very ground your daughter walks on!

Father (grimly)—No doubt you do—it's worth \$200 a front foot.—Town Topics.

Professional Jealously

Caller—Pardon me, sir, but is there another artist in this building?

Artist—There is not. There is, however, a man on the fourth floor who paints.—Philadelphia Ledger.



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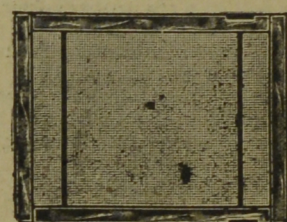
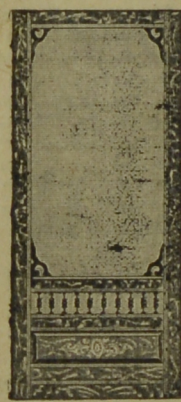
White Wash Silks, 250 yds, regular 90c quality, suitable for Ladies' Shirtwaists, Dresses, Underwear, etc. Sale Price . . . 49c.
36in. BLACK PAILLETTE SILK . . . 69c.
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Remember the Date--Wednesday, June 9th
at 9.30 a. m.

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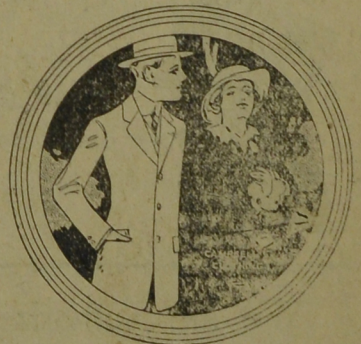
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