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Editor

DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1902.

IT WORKS BOTH WAYS.

When Mr. Hazen makes his appeal to Liberals to vote the local government out, on the ground that they are not bound by party reasons to continue their support to the administration, he evidently forgets that the same rule will apply to Conservatives and their support of the opposition.

In the last local election the Conservatives were commanded by the Moncton Convention to vote for Mr. Hazen and his friends; it was represented to them that their duty was to dismiss the Emerson government, and no doubt many good Conservatives who were in the habit of following the machine, obeyed orders, although they believed the government was well worthy of support. Mr. Chipman of St. Stephen, and Mr. Fowler of Sussex, were two examples of men who, up to the meeting of the Moncton Convention, were staunch supporters of the government in the legislature, but they were forced into opposition by the crack of the Conservative party whip, and the government no doubt regretted the fact of their defection. Now Mr. Hazen is preaching the doctrine that Liberals against whom he and his friends made their campaign in 1899, but who with the independent Conservatives, gave the government an overwhelming victory, are absolved from further supporting the government. Why? Because it pleases the opposition leaders who were beaten on the issues of the last campaign, the principal one of which was the desirability of running local elections on federal party lines, to completely change their base and to declare that after all the coalition principle is the best. Mr. Hazen and his friends could not win on the straight Conservative vs. Liberal lines, and now he makes a pitiful, humiliating appeal to Liberals to step in and help him secure office. Why Mr. Hazen all his life has opposed Liberalism with all the vigor at his command, and he has a great deal of assurance now to seek the use of the Liberal party to land him in office. And who is his chief colleague in this touching but ineffective appeal to Liberals. No less a personage than Mr. George MacInerney, a renegade Liberal but now one of the bitterest Conservatives in the public view.

It is amusing to hear the arguments of Conservative supporters of the opposition with regard to the position and attitude of the minister of railways towards the local government. They really have the assurance to urge that Mr. Blair's duty is to at least remain passive while Mr. Hazen and the Tory machine, as managed from the Sun office, proceed to attempt slaughter of the minister's friends of the local government. They pretend to think and have the nerve to urge that Mr. Blair has no interest in administration which includes some of the warmest supporters he has had since the day he entered public life, and they have persuaded themselves that it would really be an excellent thing for Mr. Blair and the Liberal party if the minister would just stand off and see Mr. Hazen and the Tory machine capture the offices and patronage of the local government. Well, perhaps Mr. Blair will assume this attitude when oranges grow on gooseberry bushes, but we advise Mr. Hazen and his supporters not to bank too extensively on Mr. Blair's passiveness when the sound of battle is heard in the constituencies, and his old friends and colleagues are appealing for a renewal of the people's confidences.

ONLY ONE OF THEM.

The Tory newspapers make a mistake in assuming that Mr. Tarte is the whole Liberal cabinet outfit. There is Sir Wilfrid Laurier for instance, and Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Fielding and Sir Wm. Mulock and Mr. Blair and Mr. Fisher and several other gentlemen who will have something to say when the question of tariff revision requires practical attention. Mr. Tarte is an industrious, progressive minister with ideas of his own on more public questions than the tariff, but there is a geometrical axiom that the whole is greater than its part, which applies to the cabinet in its relation to Mr. Tarte. We would advise our Conservative friends, and especially the manufacturers who are looking for a high tariff wall of protection, not to persuade themselves into believing that by dining and wining and flattering one minister they are going to secure their desires. The government can be trusted to pursue a policy on the tariff as on all other questions that will best serve the interests of Canada, but the manufacturers are not the only classes to be considered. The farmers form the largest and most important element of our population, and they are not carried away by the demand for higher protection. Adjustment of the tariff from time to time as new conditions arise, there will be no doubt, but the Liberal party has not arrived at the conclusion that the red parlor is to again dominate the public life of Canada and dictate the government's tariff policy. Mr. Tarte no doubt is thoroughly in earnest in his campaign for higher protection, but he has no authority from the cabinet to promise the manufacturers or anybody else changes in the tariff policy, which are usually indicated during the parliamentary session by the minister of finance, the gentleman charged specially with the duty.

THEIR CHANGED ATTITUDE.

Since Mr. Tarte commenced to make high protection speeches he has assumed the position of a hero in Conservative eyes. He is no longer called a traitor to British interests, an Empire smasher and a dangerous man. Even Dr. McLeod, who made a couple of anti-Tarte campaigns in York, doubtless now believes that the Minister of Public Works is an admirable Canadian and a true and loyal British subject. If Mr. Tarte cared for the job he could soon supplant Mr. Borden as leader of the Conservative party, and then all loyal and devoted Tories, including Dr. McLeod, would hasten to fall down and worship the new party chief. We do not know if Mr. Tarte is flattered by the change of Tory attitude towards him, but it is amusing to Liberals to observe how quickly the minister has changed in the Tory regard, from a desperate, dangerous, corrupt politician, to one whose counsel is worthy of the most sincere attention, and who is really about the only pebble on the Liberal beach.

A FOOLISH SUGGESTION.

Mr. Ford cables the New York Tribune that there is danger of the Australian commonwealth breaking up because Premier Philp of Queensland is displeased with federal legislation on the colored labor question which he claims will practically annihilate the sugar industry.

Mr. Philp will find that he cannot smash confederation. It was tried in Canada but did not succeed. The commonwealth and its government machinery is new, but the friction will soon disappear, and Premier Philp will wonder why he ever thought of secession. The policy of the British colonies is consolidation, not isolation, and the Australians were too slow in their conversion to the former condition.

Mr. Hough, whose interesting contribution on New Brunswick as a land of big game we have pleasure in publishing, is also a fiction writer of note, and his latest novel "A Mississippi Bubble," is one of the most popular works of the present time.

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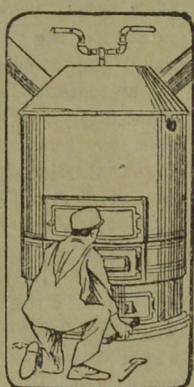
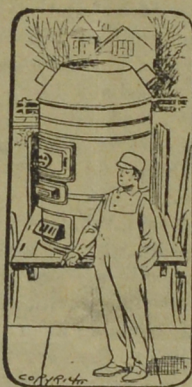
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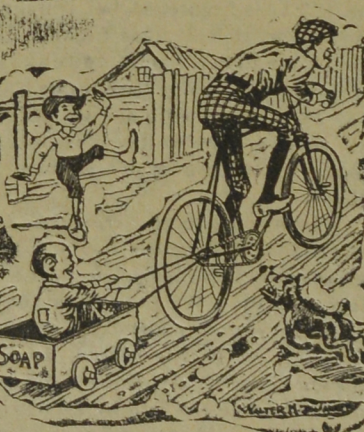
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