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THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 1, 1922

EDITORIAL

Preferential Trade With Jamaica

A proclamation presented at Ottawa last week provides that the preferential trade agreement between Canada and Jamaica shall come into force on and after June 1, 1922. This gives a preference of 50 per cent. except in the case of certain specified imports. It should encourage trade between Canada and this British Isle.

U. S. Bankers Want Closer Union with Canada

Our neighbors to the south are rapidly learning how good a neighbor Canada is becoming to be. Declaring that the United States and Canada "constitute the greatest geographical union of English speaking people in the world," the executive council of the American Bankers' Association, in a declaration of principles on business and legislative conditions made last week, urged a closer community of interest between these two countries.

"The Sun of Better Times Beginning to Shine"

This dominant note of optimism characterized the speech of Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, when introducing his budget last week. "The sun of better times is beginning to shine," he said, and added: "The worst of the commerical and industrial depression is, I believe, over. I do not look for any rapid restoration to prosperity, but I believe that from this time forward, there will be quiet, steady and substantial improvement." If this spirit is imbibed generally by the people of Canada, the "sun of better times" will soon be shining in real earnest."

The Budget of 1922,

Hon. Mr. Fielding, the Minister of Finance of the Dominion Government, brought down his budget on Tuesday. In it he reduces the tariff, gives Britain preference and aims to reduce the cost of living. In general the effect of the new taxation is to increase the duties on luxuries and reduce them upon necessaries. And if the reduction is not as great as might be desired, the cause is to be sought in the imperative need for revenue. The new tariff is, to a greater extent than its predecessors, a revenue tariff. As the finances of the country improve, it is reasonable to expect that further reductions will be made in the duties on articles of prime necessity or productive use.

Hal B. Donly's Worthy Successors

In coming into possession of the Simcoe Reformer this week P. J. Pearce and his two sons, of the Waterford Star, have acquired one of the finest weekly newspaper properties in Canada, and a prestige of invaluable worth. Norfolk County, and the Province at large, will miss the facile and fearless pen of Hal B. Donly, but in Mr. Pearce he has a very worthy successor. Mr. Pearce is a born newspaper man. From the editorial standpoint he has won his spurs; in the mechanical department he is an expert; as a loyal supporter of his community's interests he has had a worthy career. In his splendid sons, with their educational and practical equipment, he will have strong support. The Simcoe Reformer will continue to lead Ontario's weekly press.

Great Britain's Greatest Prime Minister

Under whatever conditions of stress; under criticisms the most caustic and severe; under circumstances when the average statesman would quail in considering possible results to himself and his public reputation and position, Lloyd George, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, is invariably accorded the confidence, not only of the people at large, but of the great majority of the members of the British House of Commons, of which he is the honored leader. Once again, as he appeared in the House last Friday to render as Prime Minister an account of his stewardship at Genoa, and once again, after a precise and carefully-worded statement and an eloquent rebuttal of criticisms directed against him, he received the support of the House in what is considered the equivalent of another vote of confidence. For an hour and a half the Premier gave a calm exposition of the conference proceedings. He insisted that when the conference was opened Europe was threatened with a real war danger. "That is why we concluded the truce whereby thirty-four nations have solemnly undertaken not to be guilty of any act of aggression against their neighbors," said the Premier. "We hope it will prove to be a permanent peace pact." Lloyd George not only wields a mighty influence in his own empire; his influence is felt in masterly fashion in all the great international conferences of these history-making days.

Let Us Have Standard Time

The annual muddle over time continues. Some towns and cities in various parts of the country have adopted daylight saving time, others, and many of them, stand by standard time. Confusion and annoyance results to people going from towns in one system to towns where the other is in vogue. Some people are ready to advise the government to put an end to the unseemly mix-up by making it illegal to have any other than standard time.

Police Court Fines to Municipalities

Results of the recent delegation from Western Ontario, who asked the Minister of Justice to remedy a seeming injustice arising through the Province claiming police court fines, were seen when Sir Lomer Gouin introduced his bill to amend the criminal code. Among the changes proposed in the measure is a clause, which the minister explained, gives municipalities of Ontario the fines when they bear the expense of administering the law under which the fines are imposed, instead of paying them to the Province as at present.

The Utility of Hydro-Electric Power

Acton's importance as a manufacturing centre is well demonstrated in the amount of electric current now consumed, in comparison with that of some neighboring towns of similar population. Our consumption now reaches 300 horse power. That of Fergus is 185 horse power, and of Elora 107 horse power. The Hydro rates, which permit the free use of electric power for manufacturing purposes, is a wonderful benefit to the towns in the zone covered. It will yet be of equal benefit to the farming community in the same territory, advances being made rapidly now in that direction.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Star says Mr. Raney's five per cent. seems as unpopular to some people as his two per cent.

United States' freight rates are to be reduced by ten per cent. Canadian rates should promptly follow suit.

The Union Jack protects in Canada what the Stars and Stripes in the United States will not tolerate—race-track gambling.

It's rather remarkable how some people think the new tariff just the thing for the country, and others are sure it will ruin Canada.

Finance Minister Fielding surely ought to know his ground in the matter of making budgets. The one presented last week was his sixteenth.

A lot of people wail at the new cheque tax. But war taxes must be paid and those who handle big cheques are naturally expected to pay the larger share.

The Ontario Medical Association, if it has its own way will have an amendment made to the Ontario Temperance Act penalizing people who ask for a liquor prescription when they do not need it for medicine.

Now we know why all the useless talk has been indulged in the Legislature the present session, by the quartette of obstructionists. The length of the session means an additional indemnity of $600 to each member.

The significant statement is made that Rockwood, with its population of 500, is paying a less rate for its electric current than Toronto, with its hundreds of thousands of users of electrical energy paid before Hydro-Electric days.

Speed is now to be the order in the Legislature. Goodness knows it's time. The session would have been concludéd long ago if the Government had not been unfairly and needlessly harrassed whenever any measure was introduced.

The Social Service Council of Canada declares that race-track gambling on Canadian tracks is a national scandal. So it is. It is not permitted in the United States which border us. Why should our country tempt all the blacklegs from over there.

That was a happy and significant expression of Hon. E. C. Drury, Prime Minister, at the tree-planting ceremonies at Sharon on the Twenty-fourth: "We must know our past, to build up our future; we must build our nation on the past and into the future."

The liquor folks now think they have discovered a tecnicality by which they may upset the prohibition referendum. Let them try it. If they bother the people much more with their trivial objections they will rise up and clean out the whole nefarious liquor business, dispensaries, native wines and all.

They are having trouble over their money-making liquor in Quebec. Hon. J. L. Perron says elections may soon be held on the question of administration of the law. It seems as if the liquor business is getting into the hands of private parties who are making millions, instead of the Government. The whiskey business won't "stay put" anywhere.

"I have deemed it proper in this address to present very clearly what I regard as the gravity of the financial situation. I would not, however, have drawn the impression that I have a gloomy view of the future. The worst of the commercial and industrial depression is, I believe, over."—Hon. W. S. Fielding, who is called the "Finance Minister of Good Times."

A contemporary denounces the income tax as a tax on thrift and a blow at production. Admitted. Now let us hear what it proposes to take its place. The Government would be glad to do away with the income tax altogether, but the war debt and the cost of administration have to be met. Critics of the income tax are wasting time unless they know of something to take its place.—Kincardine Review.

HUMOR IN NAMES

The recent marriage of a couple whose respective names were Deer and Love does not create a record in curious coincidences in surnames.

Not long ago a case was reported in Ireland where a man named Scratch chose for his bride a girl named Alldays, while recently the Manchester newspapers announced the golden wedding of Bacon and Herring.

It was an equally curious coincidence that brought to the altar a couple named Billey and Woodhead. More recent unions were those of King and Cole, Heaven and Troy, and Adam and Hamlet, while one can imagine the South of England clergyman's expression when he married Talke and Argue.

Some parents seem unable to resist the temptation to make jokes with the Christian names of their children. The birth registers testify to the existence of a Mineral Waters, a Frosty Winter and an Alfred Days Weeks. Again there is a Happy Jiggins, a Haystack Brown, an Anno Domini Davies, a Jolly Death, and an Ananias Culling.

To complete the list, the names registered in more recent years include Odious Heaton, Partridge Roast, One-Too-Many Johnson, Not-Wanted Smith and Noah's Ark Smith, Affability Box and Sardine Box, Chancery-Lane Illingworth, and River Jordan.

The playwright, H. J. Byron, once attended the wedding of a friend named Day, who was marrying a Miss Weeks. He handed them the following impromptu:

A Week is lost, a Day is gained,
But let us not complain!
There'll soon be little Days enough
To make a Week again.

PUNCH AND JUDY

Well, here we are, Judy!, Doesn't Thursday come round quickly! Have you got some good riddles in store for me this week?"

"Rather, Punch. I've got some real teasers!"

"So have I, Judy! Here's one to set the ball rolling! Do you know what smells most in a chemist's shop?"

"Why, your nose, of course, Punch! Now, just answer this:

"Why is the law cold?"

"Because it is justice (just ice.) Ha! I'll have you over my next one, Judy! What is that which was made to-day and used yesterday?"

"That is where I score again, Punch. The answer is a bed!"

"Good for you, Judy! but you will have to think hard over this one. Now listen.

"I went into a wood and got it,
I sat down and looked at it,
The more I looked the less I liked it,
I took it home because I could not help it!"

"That sounds odd, Punch! Just a moment—I know! It's a thorn! Bravo, me! See if you can guess this one, Punch. Which is the bigger, Mr. Bigger or Mr. Bigger's baby?"

"Why the baby is a little Bigger! Now Judy, tell me why a fishmonger is never generous?"

"Because his business makes him selfish! You see, you can't catch me, Punch. Which is the heavier, Punch, the full moon or the new moon?"

"Why, the full moon, of course!"

"Oh, no, Punch, the full moon is a great deal lighter than the new moon, isn't it?"

"Ha, ha! You are clever to-day, Judy."

DUNNING THE DEBTOR

During the early part of the last century there lived in England a constable named John Dun who was a very successful collector of debts. No job was too hard for him to tackle. Dun would prick the debtor's conscience, or shame him into payment in one way or another.

One of his pet schemes was to call upon the debtor twice, and on each of these first two visits he would wear his ordinary clothes. When, if the debt was still unpaid, Dun would dress in some extraordinary costume, a scarlet cloak, or a pair of green tights—in order to make himself as conspicuous as possible.

Thus attired, and ringing a bell, he would return a third time, and it was seldom that the debtor withstood more than one of these public announcements of his delinquency.

Because Constable Dun was so successful in the collection of debts, it became common in such cases to say, "You'll have to send Dun for your money," or "You'll have to Dun him to get it."

HABIT WAS TOO STRONG

The force of old associations, as Edward Fort learned one Sunday morning, is something against which to be on guard. After thirty years of service as a railroad man, chiefly in the capacity of conductor, Fort had retired and was spending his days quietly in his native town.

Just after he had taken his accustomed seat one morning in church, he was requested to perform the duty of an absent deacon, by assisting in taking up the collection. He was proceeding decorously along the aisle with the plate, when half-way down the aisle, he came to the Doolittle pew. On this morning Mrs. Doolittle's Uncle Henry, who happened to sit next the aisle, had dropped off into a pleasant little nap.

When Fort espied the old man he unconsciously doffed the demeanor suited to the place and became official. He tapped the sleeping man on the shoulder. "Ticket, please!" he demanded sharply and audibly.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE

The tendency is to talk loudly when excited. Most people seem to think they lend weight to what they have to say by raising their voice. As a matter of fact this procedure means a loss of force. To scream a statement is to rob it of dignity and impressiveness. If you shout a thing it is the shout that engrosses the attention, and anything logical and compelling in the statement itself is lost sight of. Orators of the type of Wendell Phillips knew that the low voice, with its implication of perfect mastery of the self, makes the deepest impression on an audience. Do not shout. Do not scream. Do not trust to your lungs to make your words compelling, instead of to your brains, for this is misplaced confidence.

GENTLEMEN ALL

A small boy, aged four, had just told his uncle that he had started on his school career.

"Indeed," said the uncle; "why, you must be the youngest there."

"Oh, no," answered the youngster in a very lofty manner, "there's an other gentleman who comes in a baby carriage.

THE THIRTEENTH EGG

One day during vacation Jean decided to make an angel food cake.

"I will come out and show you how," suggested mother helpfully.

"No, you won't," pouted Jean. "I guess I can read the recipe."

"Angel food cakes are hard to make," warned mother. But Jean took the cook book and shut herself away in the kitchen.

"Sugar—sifted. Flour—sifted—h'm," said Jean, measuring carefully. "Oven just right—paper in the bottom of the pan—now for the eggs. Thirteen of 'em. Goodness, that is lots of eggs. Beaten separately—good gracious, thirteen eggs beaten separately." Jean went to the cupboard and got down all the small bowls she could find. There were only twelve. She lined them up on the table and broke an egg into each, and then she began beating.

Whizz, whizz, whizz went the egg beater. Jean's arm began to weaken and egg beater to wobble, but she kept bravely on beating, beating, beating until all twelve eggs were whipped. The thirteenth egg still stood waiting on the table. Jean was puzzled. She went to the door of the sewing room and called, "Mother, what do you do with the thirteenth egg?"

"The thirteenth egg? What do you mean?" asked Mother.

"Why, yes," said Jean, "the cook book says you beat them separately, but we have only twelve little bowls."

"Separately, Jean? Why, that only means you beat the yolks separately from the whites, not each egg alone."

Jean sank into a chair and rubbed her tired arm. Then, after a pause, she said wearily, "I guess our family will have to live on omelet the rest of this week."

PRIME MINISTERS OF BRITAIN

How many could give right off the names of Great Britain's Prime Ministers in say the last two hundred years?

Well, in the two centuries from 1721 to the present year there have been thirty-six Prime Ministers of England.

Their names, arranged in the order of their first taking office, are: Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Wilmington, Henry Pelham, Duke of Newcastle, Duke of Devonshire, Earl of Bute, George Grenville, Marquise of Rockingham, Earl of Chatham, Duke of Grafton, Lord North, Earl of Shelbourne, Duke of Portland, William Pitt, Henry Addington, Lord Grenville, Spencer Percival, Earl of Liverpool, George Canning, Viscount Goderich, Duke of Wellington, Earl Grey, Viscount Melbourne, Sir Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, Earl of Derby, Earl of Aberdeen, Viscount Palmerston, Benjamin Disraeli, William Gladstone, Marquess of Salisbury, Earl of Rosebery, Arthur now Earl Balfour, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Henry Asquith and David Lloyd George.

CHINESE TRAFFIC RULES

As a means of preventing automobile accidents the Health Precautionary Association, an organization composed of leading Chinese of Shanghai, recently prepared a list of suggestions, among which are several of engaging novelty, as will be seen by the following: "All motor cars have rubber tired wheels and run without noise. It is too late to blow a horn when a car has already collided with a pedestrian. A car should have a very small bell attached to one of the front wheels and this bell should be kept ringing all the time, so that when pedestrians hear it they can get out of the way. This bell should be half of the size of a bicycle bell. Each car should have a speed limit, but the fire brigade, doctors and police motor cars should be exempted.

ANTIQUITY OF GENOA

According to tradition, Genoa was founded in the time of Abraham, by "Janus," first king of Italy, descendant of the "Giants," and great-grandson of Noah. As a matter of fact, its name is derived not from "Janus" but from the Latin "genu" (knee) owing to the shape of the coast, but its antiquity was conclusively proved in 1898 by the discovery of ancient vases of the Fifth Century before Christ, which, if not used by the contemporaries of Abraham, were at least of the same age as the Persian wars in Greece and the early Republic in Rome.

TWO HOLIDAYS CALLED FOR

Schoolmaster—"Why did you stay away from school, Willie?"

Willie—"Cos my mother broke her arm."

Schoolmaster—"But why did you stay away the second day?"

Willie—"Well, sir, she broke it in two places."

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