

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

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Whoever is afraid of submitting any question, civil or religious to the test of free discussion, is more in love with his own opinion than with the Truth.—WATSON.

Thursday, January 14, 1932

RECIPROCITY AGAIN

We have a letter before us from Emanuel Celler, member of the House of Representatives for the 10th District of New York State, and enclosing letters addressed to President Hoover of the United States and Hon. R. B. Bennett, Premier of Canada. It is a communication on reciprocity, and reading between the lines we can see it either as political propaganda for the coming presidential election in the United States, or the wall of United States business interests who miss more than they wish to acknowledge, the falling off of trade between Canada and the United States. The letter to Hon. R. B. Bennett concludes with the statement: "May I, therefore, cherish the hope, as an humble American citizen, that negotiations may be set afoot to the end that Canadian-American reciprocity will soon become fait accompli?"

There is one thing to the letter that is usually missing in communications of this kind—frankness. Mr. Celler admits that "trade relations between the United States and Canada have reached a critical stage" and says there are only two alternatives: "either higher tariffs and less trade, or lower tariffs, by reciprocity or otherwise, and more trade."

No one need be misled by any of Mr. Celler's statements. He, or no one else in the United States who are in authority, are concerned with the loss of trade as it affects Canada. If Canada were the only one suffering, we should not have received any such letter. The United States is out for the United States. As a nation it has proven times without number in the past ten years or more, that the rest of the world can go hang, so long as the hanging does not inconvenience the United States. When the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill was passed the United States did not consult Canada. If the high tariff imposed by this bill is working detrimentally for the States, let them take it off. Let them take it off on the chance that the Canadian government, which raised the Canadian tariff for the protection of the Canadian manufacturer and agriculturist, will lower the present tariffs when they receive proof that the United States is really sincere. Apparently, however, they do not care to take any chances. They, themselves, upset the trade relations between Canada and their own country; surely, then, it is their place to rectify matters if they wish a change. They raised their tariffs without Canada's consent; let them lower them the same way. This seems fair enough to us.

Mr. Celler's letter deals with the tariff situation back as far as the Civil War, down through the following decades to the Dunning Budget, and then on to the later tariffs of Premier Bennett, which, he says, "was directly aimed against American goods." What would he have? Does Mr. Celler think for one minute that when his country placed sky-high tariffs on Canadian goods that Canadians lacked the gumption to look after themselves? Surely he does not think the Dunning and Bennett tariffs were "retaliatory" tariffs only! They were tariffs forced on this country by the Hawley-Smoot bill in the United States. If they have backed off on their principals, why blame Canada? It would be expecting too much to ask that in the face of the Hawley-Smoot tariff, Canadians would leave their tariffs stationary or revise them downward.

There is only one answer to Mr. Celler's communication. It is not reciprocity that is bothering him so much as the loss of the trade of what the United States now admits was her best customer, and the average American manufacturer will stand for almost anything rather than the loss of a dollar. We can see in this letter, or think we can, American politics. We do not know if Mr. Celler is Republican or Democrat, but Canadians cannot allow themselves to get mixed up in the 1932 presidential election, even if their role is nothing more than being the cat's paw to pull the chestnuts out of the political fire.

It is a well known fact that a good share of the present business depression in the States is being attributed to the Hawley-Smoot tariff and the Republican party. If Mr. Celler is a Republican he may be seeking to remove one of the big difficulties to the return of this party next Fall; if a Democrat he is but advancing

the interests of the Democratic party. Our line of reasoning may be all wrong, but this reciprocity guff smells fishy to us, coming as it does only a few months before the presidential election. But Mr. Celler's idea is a good one—for him—providing he can get it to work.

Business conditions in the United States are the worst in many years, and nothing would suit the American manufacturers better than to have the Canadian market opened to them, hence this belated cry for reciprocity—an agreement that would continue in force just so long as it suited the United States.

Since the enactment of the Hawley-Smoot tariff and the so-called "retaliatory" tariffs of Mr. Dunning and Mr. Bennett, 125 branch American factories have been established in Canada. This on the word of E. W. Beatty, the President of the C.P.R., and whose word is authentic. These factories have located in Canada for two reasons—to cater to the Canadian market, and to secure the preferential tariffs for their products with other countries which are not now enjoyed by American firms. This shows that the United States, with its big stick methods, has been given the shoulder by more countries than Canada. Trade relations formerly enjoyed by the States throughout the world are no more, and although pointed to by many as a self-contained country which could live alone in spite of the rest of us, a little over a year's trial has shown the futility of such an idea. Germany previous to 1914 was the coming commercial nation, and ruined herself by declaring war against civilization. The United States, with her dictatorial attitude, practically ostracized herself, and it will take many years for her to recover. Her plan of the survival of the fittest has somehow gone askew.

Canadians are not favorable to high tariffs. This country believes in living and let live, but Canada was simply forced to higher tariffs by the actions of the United States. These higher tariffs and the looking about for other markets were the birth of the Empire trade idea, and so successful has this become, despite the world-wide depression, there is little chance of going back to old conditions.

Generally speaking, Canada is well satisfied with her financial position, compared with other countries, and while prosperity is not in evidence in as great a degree as we would like, we believe our higher tariffs and Empire trade is responsible for our present enviable position. The tariff has certainly saved the Canadian markets for Canadians, the Empire, and other preferred countries, and if the United States is not satisfied we are afraid she will have to do the same as Canada—go out and look for that which she lost through her own stupidity. She it was who kicked us out of her market, and an analysis of conditions convinces us it was about the best thing that could have happened to us—it convinced us we can do very well, thank you, without the American market. The tariff controversy between Canada and the United States might be compared to a game of checkers. Messrs. Smoot, Hawley & Company moved first, then Mr. Dunning and Mr. Bennett. It is now up to the States to move again.

PREACHING VS PRACTICE

The world is calling for economy. Along about the first of the year it called a little louder in the inaugural speeches of the various mayors, in their addresses to the councils which they were the head.

Economy is a good thing, but, like Mark Twain's weather, "everybody is talking about it, but nobody does anything."

We have often wondered if the world really wants economy, after all. A newspaper dispatch from Detroit the other day would convince one it does not. An inventor there has built an autogiro which can land on the roof of an office building, and he "can see no reason why the autogiro could not be used for commuters' use." There's the rub. We preach economy in one breath and advocate extravagance with the next. Where is the economy in a man using a \$2,000 car or autogiro for transportation from his home in the suburbs to his daily office work in the city? Where is the economy in tying up this amount of money for his own convenience, and then giving opinions on how to save money?

Unless a man has really more money than he needs, or uses an automobile (or autogiro) in his business, we can see no economy in running the machine to work when he could get the same service on a street car. True, there is more comfort in your own car, but it is economy we want, not comfort. It may be more comfortable to use the private vehicle, but the street car is not too bad—if we wish to economize.

There are a lot of people who will take their cars to business at a cost of a couple of dollars, and then complain about a seven-cent street-car fare.

About the only good thing we can see about economy is that it at least gives us something to talk about. None of us practice it.

A FAIR EXCHANGE

The London, England, *Morning Post* suggests in an editorial that in return for the preferential tariffs granted them, the Empire Dominions repay the British Isles by offering to absorb the surplus population of the United Kingdom. We might do worse.

If Canada and other outlying members of the Empire are to remain wholly British, it seems reasonable to assume we shall have to receive more British immigrants. While there is no immediate danger of breaking away from things British at present, it is impossible to predict what may happen a hundred years from now if we continue to allow immigrants of foreign extraction to populate our waste places. The country certainly will not be as wholly British as it is today.

While there is considerable unemployment in Canada today, there may be something in the argument of the *Post* that Canada cannot hope for prosperity until our population reaches the 15,000,000 mark at least, and that much of our present unemployment may be the result of too small a population.

There can be no objection to British immigrants coming to Canada. We would welcome them. But they will have to be the right kind if they are to get along with us and we with them. There is no room in Canada for immigrants who will not work. We have plenty of this kind now, and, added to those of our native population who have the hook-worm, we are quite well supplied without importing any more.

We would not say that immigrants to our shores should be skilled artisans in any field, but we should demand that they be ambitious, willing to work, anxious to learn the ways of the country, which are not the same as they are "over 'ome", and determined to make the best of what comes before them.

The best of our population came from the British Isles. They hewed homes for themselves out of the wilderness and left us a wonderful heritage. They made good. In the case of a "swap" of Canadian products for United Kingdom manhood, Canada should demand the same as the old land insists upon in our products—quality.

We acknowledge the receipt of the Province of Quebec's 1932 calendar, sent us with the compliments of the Hon. Athanase David, Provincial Secretary.

Don't worry too much about the warm weather. It is unseasonable, or course, but it will take a chill some of these days and we shall have frost and snow aplenty.

The *Fisheries News Bulletin* says there were more lobsters caught in 1931 than in any other year since 1917. This being leap year, 1932 should hang up a new record if the girls do their stuff.

Mayor Stewart of Toronto "Strikes Economy Note" at inaugural meeting of city council, says a heading in the *Mail and Empire*. B-sharp, we suppose.

It seems more like April than January. But wait until that big blizzard now raging in the West reaches Ontario. Then it will be overcoats, overshoes, mufflers, and an additional supply of wood or coal.

Editor D. McKenzie of the *Paisley Advocate* will have the sympathy of fellow publishers in the death of his wife last Thursday. The late Mrs. McKenzie was 60 years of age and had been ill for some time.

Mr. Mackenzie King says that Liberalism is behind the C.N.R. "to keep it independent". But isn't that the cause of a lot of the trouble with our two major railways now? They have been too independent in the past, and in the meantime, the trucks have stolen a lot of the business.

Way to Succeed
Early to work and late to return has bought many a man an eight-cylinder sedan, while others "never had a chance".—*Fort Arthur News-Chronicle*.

Billing But Little Cooing
In four weeks, of only 14 working days, members of the United States Congress have introduced 9,000 bills. And with all this billing there has been mighty little cooing judging from the tone of the debates.—*Brantford Expositor*.

As to Hoes
The Niagara-on-the-Lake fire chief wants some new hose. Some which was secured in 1891 gave out at a recent fire. His request seems reasonable; we can't even wear our own hose for 40 years.—*St. Catharines Standard*.

In Manchuria
It isn't war that is going on in Manchuria—just a little game of shooting with loaded guns when the members of the League of Nations are not watching. The wily Japs are gradually crowding the almond-eyed Chinks back a little further.—*Chesley Enterprise*.

Industrial Progress
A political speaker recently gave an estimated total of new branch industries in Canada and has been challenged by an Ontario newspaper to give particulars. But E. W. Beatty reports that since August, 1930, British and United States companies have organized or are organizing 125 branch factories in this country. It is not likely the president of the C. P. E. is relying upon hearsay.—*Woodstock Sentinel-Review*.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

"Ten Dollars and Costs"

Some of the newspapers of Ontario are referring to the police court judgments of "ten dollars and costs" and wondering how the costs are incurred. Inasmuch as the old fee system is pretty well abolished, why not wipe out the costs? These may or may not be a bad thing but the one in trouble requires to pay them, if not going to jail. It might be well for the courts to throw a little light upon them. District and police magistrates are paid a salary, while provincial and town policemen are similarly treated financially. Those "costs" may be defensible but the public should know what they are, why they should be. If they are for writing of documents or the serving of paper, salaries should take care of that.—*Renfrew Mercury*.

Taking Failure to Heart

Do not take a failure to heart if it is due to circumstances over which you have no control. If you have failed because you are lazy or careless, or because you have attempted something too big for you, then you should do some very serious thinking. It would be a pity if you were not a little uncomfortable, for that would show you had not taken your lesson to heart.

If, however, you have done your best, then failure is only a temporary result. Do not let it spoil your appetite. You should be able to laugh at a good story, in spite of it. You should wake in the morning with a smile and go singing to your work. For a man who is doing his best has not really failed, and though unfavorable circumstances may obscure his victory for a time in the end the world will know what his brave heart has known all along that he is unbeaten.—*Mount Forest Confederate*.

Still in the Dark

"The wind bloweth where it listeth and ye hear the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth," said a wise teacher long ago. And we haven't learned our lesson yet. A wave of fear and depression sweeps around the earth and we feel the squeeze thereof, but there has not risen the wise gazabo to tell us what was the cause or from whence comes the cure. While yet governments strive in vain to balance budgets, and relief commissions ladle out provender to hungry thousands, the rustle of favoring breeze is observed, and we look up to the dawn of a new era; wheat jumps twenty cents in price, industry's wheels speed up, confidence and courage revive, builders conceive more daring enterprises and gamblers swarm the stock exchanges. So wags the world for another decade, and we don't know any more about the why and wherefore than did the gaping listeners of two thousand years ago who pleaded "Give us a sign."

Why Local Paper is Continued

Newspaper subscribers often wonder why a publisher keeps on sending a paper when the subscription has expired. When a subscription is paid to a certain time, and time expires and the paper is stopped it looks as if the editor doubted the integrity of the subscriber, and nine cases out of ten the subscriber will give the editor a calling down for insinuating that his credit was no good. Rather than cast any reflection against a neighbor's honesty to pay a small debt it has been customary for newspapers to continue sending the papers after the time has expired. The city weeklies and dailies do not generally follow this rule as their subscribers are at a distance and they do not know their financial standing. One should deem it an honor to know that his credit is not doubted when the publisher continues to send the paper. Should the subscriber desire to have his paper discontinued he should inform the publisher and remit to date, if any is owing.—*Clifford Express*.

Don't Touch

Advice to those who arrive at the scene of an accident in the future, where life has been lost or serious bodily harm has been done, would seem to be to leave everything alone until the coroner has completed his investigations, and allows the wreckage to be removed.

For at the last session of the legislature the coroner's act was so amended that the coroner can take charge of all wreckage in such an accident and place a guard there to prevent persons from disturbing such wreckage until such investigations as he deems necessary have been made.

Not only has this clause been inserted, but section 12 of the act has been amended to provide for a penalty to all

those who move any of the wreckage or anything connected therewith, for any other purpose than that of saving life or relieving human suffering. In cases where this section has been broken unwittingly there is a fine of not less than \$25 and not more than \$100 and where it appears that the offence was committed wilfully and with the intention of making away with or destroying evidence, the penalty shall be imprisonment for not more than six months.—*Orillia News-Letter*.

Funny, Isn't It?

On Tuesday afternoon a woman who has been a valued subscriber to *The Sun* for many years, called us up on the phone and stated that she wanted her subscription cancelled. We cannot possibly take any objection to that, for if a person does not want to take our paper that's entirely their own business, but we always like to know the reason why they are quitting. It may suggest to us ways and means of improving *The Sun* and we are always pleased to receive suggestions that may make this journal more newsworthy and brighter. She said she had no complaint about the paper, but she didn't feel like taking it any longer. So far so good. But less than two weeks ago her son went to Guelph, got fresh somewhere, was pulled in by the police and was handed out a 30-day sentence in jail or a fine. He paid the fine. That item would have made great reading for our town subscribers, but, out of respect for the youth's parents, we suppressed the story. Was the mother angry because we did so? We hardly think she was, but it is only one instance in a thousand that town editors are up against. Should we be cold-blooded and publish the news regardless of the effect it would have on the parents and families of their sons and daughters who get into a jam? In a small community like Orangeville every week one of more of our good friends comes to us and asks as a personal favor to them that such and such an item be kept out of the paper. Here, where everybody knows everybody else, it is pretty hard not to refuse such a request. But we are getting fed up on this kind of stuff, for the beneficiaries never once, so far as we can recollect, have shown any appreciation of our obligation. Candidly, we feel that we will not be a "good scout" any longer. Those whom we oblige seldom show any appreciation of our good nature. Often we declare that from this date henceforth that we will be cold-blooded and publish the news regardless of the consequences and just as often does our blood get warm—and history repeats itself. So, what's the use?—*Orangeville Sun*.

January Clearing Bargains

- Sweater Wool, all shades, 1 oz. ball10c
- Wheeling Yarn, lb.59c
- 15c Stamped Goods
- Buffet Sets
- Centre Pieces
- Table Runners
- Cushion Tops
- 15c each
- Stationery Specials
- Fold over Tablet25c
- 2 pkgs. Envelopes to match15c
-55c
-36c
- Wood Clothes Pins, doz15c
- See our special 97 piece dinner sets at\$17.50
- Special—23-piece Tea Set at \$1.98
- Infant's Delight, 4 cakes25c

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