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**WILL GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.**

It is expected that on Monday next the House of Commons will get down to business in real earnest. A great deal of time has been wasted deciding who had the majority in the House. That matter seems to be pretty definitely settled now, and for this session, at any rate, it is evident that the Liberals with the open aid of the Progressives are going to be able to function successfully.

There has been a good deal of criticism from the Conservative press in regard to the co-operation of the Progressives and Independents with the Liberals. We are told that twenty-six men are in power in Canada. Is it not always the case. If the Conservatives were to secure power by a majority of twenty-six, could it not be said with equal force that any twenty-six men in the party controlled the government of the country. Supposing Mr. Meighen had been elected to power by a majority of three in the House, would it not be equally as just to say that the country was being ruled by the Patenaude group?

The country has turned the corner. It is prospering. What it wants now is more of the sane and sound constructive policy that has brought order out of chaos during the past four years, and we fancy Mr. King will be able to continue the good work.

Everyone knows that the loss of Messrs. Graham, Low, Gordon and Murdoch was a blow to the government, but these blows come to all governments. With the coming of Mr. Dunning from the west and the reappearance of the Premier the Government ranks will be greatly strengthened, and should be able to hold their own against all attacks.

**WILL MAKE GOOD MINISTER.**

Mr. J. C. Elliott, the new Minister of Labor in the federal government, has been in Kingston a number of times, speaking at political and social gatherings, and always winning friends by his earnest helpful service. He has been in the political limelight for many years and chiefly in Western Ontario, one of the Middlesex riders regarding him as a successful lawyer, a man of experience, a genial companionable person and one of solid Liberal views. He was in the Ontario Legislature for several terms adding strength and enthusiasm to the Liberal ranks in the House. He was a hard worker, forceful in speech and eminently logical. After a vacation from politics, due to the Ferguson sweep, he is back in the federal house and has been chosen as Minister of Labor, a position he will acceptably fill. He will study the issues that will come before him, will delve deeply into labor conditions and it may be taken for granted that his governmental functioning will redound greatly to the benefit of Canada. In West Middlesex he is assured of re-election. Mr. Elliott's many Kingston friends congratulate him on his selection to a portfolio.

Hockey has won its place as one of the major sports in the northern sections of the United States. Next season it will have the call. Canadian players too will get the call for positions.

**BIBLE THOUGHT**

THIS POOR WIDOW hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury. For they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her own want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.—Mark 12:43, 44.

**SHIRKING RESPONSIBILITY.**

Shirking responsibility is one of the weaknesses in civic life in almost every community. Men will not do public service; they spend time in criticising those who give time and thought to betterments of things, in their community whereas if they turned in and helped in promoting schemes of advantage splendid work could be accomplished. In a few places there are evidences of excellent spirit and these places grow and develop. Why cannot this interest be shown in all our cities and towns? In many places the trying work of improving business and living conditions is borne by persons whose numbers can be counted on the fingers of any citizen. These public spirited individuals toil unceasingly to make the place they live in better and more progressive, but they are handicapped by general indifference. Frequently the worthy men who give time and thought despair of accomplishment and drop away with the idea firmly implanted in their minds, "What's the use of our wearying work in time and money when so many are slackers?" This is the feeling that comes over the advocates of measures for the public weal. Kingston has not caught the spirit of helpfulness and service that it should have. Many are selfish and self-centred and so matters lag. There are a big lot of proposals that never reach fruition and mainly because the citizens will not get behind the movements and consequently they pass into the discard. Such should not be. With an earnest, enthusiastic, courageous outlook Kingston could reach a position second to none in the province.

The citizen who is afraid to trust his own powers, who always shirks responsibility, will never make a dent on the world, will never get anywhere, will never have any influence or be of any account in his community. He will never be a full, complete man. His powers will remain forever undeveloped.

When will we awake to our responsibilities as citizens of no mean place?

**OUR TROUBLES ARE SMALL.**

We in Canada feel that we have tremendous and almost insurmountable problems to solve. There is at times a spirit of pessimism abroad. However, there are few countries in the world so happily situated as the Dominion and to most of them our problems look small, indeed, remarks the London Free Press. Even the United States, with its growing colored population and huge unassimilated alien people, has puzzling questions much more difficult than any which face Canada.

The statesmen of Great Britain are struggling with social, economic and industrial problems which make any Canadian troubles look very petty. There is not a European country which is not having difficulties which are gargantuan compared with any troubles of Canada.

South Africa might look like a favored country, far from the swelter of Europe, but with a negro population five to one of the whites, with an ever-increasing consciousness, with East Indians, who are aggressive for their rights, and with a poor white population, South African politics are one continual worry. Australia, likewise, is not without problems as perplexing as Canada.

The facts are that there is not a country in the world as well off, as happily situated, with as contented a people and with the average of wealth as evenly divided as the Dominion of Canada. There is nothing wrong with Canada and there is no need for pessimism.

**TRY ARBITRATION.**

Arbitration, either in the world court or some other international tribunal, should be used in the settlement of the dispute over the diversion of water from the great lakes into the Chicago drainage canal. This is the practical suggestion of the Winnipeg Free Press which points out that the United States has always advocated international arbitration and could scarcely refuse such a reasonable demand.

It is beginning to look as if this would be the only solution. It seems hopeless to look for any justice from the American Congress. As a matter of fact recently Chicago was given a permit to divert even more water than originally allowed. Protests to Washington are evidently of little avail. The only encouraging feature of the situation is that states bordering on the great lakes are becoming aroused and are backing Canada in its fight for justice.

**THE MAKING IN OUR HANDS.**

Col. W. J. Brown, of the Western Ontario University, asks Canadians not to think in United States terms. If people would only stop to consider the wonderful potential natural resources of Canada they would adopt a new attitude. The future of Canada, in spite of the present difficulties of our sectional troubles and geographical obstacles, is just whatever we wish to make it. The colonel has emphasized, in a few

sentences, the ambitions of every citizen to make Canada, a great country. Let us create the Canadian spirit and idealism.

**EDITORIAL NOTES.**

Can you beat this weather?  
A good mixer has a lot of friends when he has anything to mix.

Night they say in Italy, is that blessed time when Mussolini sleeps!  
The trouble with the Council of the League of Nations seems to be that it hasn't sufficient seating capacity.

The man who predicted a mild, open winter will soon be with us again, prophesying a wet, cold summer, or something like that.  
If King Alfonso flies to Mexico it will be as inspiring an adventure as when the Kaiser took that famous hop, step and a jump to Dobru.

The Canadian income tax is twice as heavy as the American, it is still less than a quarter of the British rate for moderate incomes.  
More than half of the creameries in the Dominion are situated in the Province of Quebec, and over half the cheese factories are in Ontario.

A sarcastic collegian declares that the resignation of a college president does not jar the students half as much as when the football coach quits!  
A great many furnacemen insist that ninety-five degrees is the ideal temperature for a day in March. The longer he stokes, the higher the windows go up.

The United States tariff commission is talking of advancing the tariff duty on butter to 12c a pound. Good enough to keep our Canadian product at home.  
The chief methods in vogue for "reducing" over-exercise, rolling machines, starvation diet, going without water and excessive use of thyroid, iodine and smoking—are certainly injurious.

Who would have thought that intensely Conservative organ, the Montreal Gazette would suggest, an Ontario election in June, "with the Hon. J. Barleycorn as Mr. Ferguson's running mate."  
The Acton Free Press gives this sage maxim: "Teach your dollars to have more cents." Good advice to those people who act in their expenditures as if there were really more than 100 cents in a dollar.

Editor Curran, of the Sault Ste. Marie Star, says the Algoma Steel Corporation is shipping about 750 tons of coke daily down around Toronto. This, he says, is an indication of how Canada is freeing herself from her dependence on hard coal.

**NO SPRING HOUSECLEANING.**

The annual spring upset can be entirely avoided by the housewife who plans her cleaning ahead of time. Tackling one room or thorough cleaning every week or so is considerably easier on the one who does the work as well as on the rest of the family. Cupboards and closets are not such serious problems if they are guarded against being catch-alls in hurried tidying-up, and rooms which are cleaned often are no great task to put in ship-shape order. When one room is done at a time, the house never looks bare for lack of curtains or cold for want of rugs. What little disturbance is necessary for particularly thorough cleaning can be done during the day while most of the family are out and things can be in order before they return. One of the greatest labor savers in house cleaning is a family trained to put things back where they belong. With such a family and regular light housecleaning, the baggage of the spring upheaval will disappear forever.

**News and Views.**

What's the Big Idea?  
Manitoba Free Press: Just how often does Mr. Meighen want to advertise to the public the fact that he and his party are in a minority in the House of Commons?  
Explained at Last.  
Orilla Packet: We understand now why General Prosperity was so lops in advancing. He was evidently outmaneuvered by General Smuggling.

Here's an Idea!  
Toronto Globe: The Statue of Liberty at New York will be provided with a wrist watch. Theatrical companies on the lookout for something new might adopt this idea.  
Sitting Up and Taking Notice.  
Detroit Free Press: A London, England, man who was told fifty years ago that he had only a fortnight to live has just died at the age of 102 years. What the doctor told him, however, must have taught him a powerful lesson.

**LOOKING AROUND**

Wolfe Island is beginning to realize that the dairy cow is the best thing for it to produce. It has always raised a big hay crop, but the market this winter has been poor. The islanders are shipping large quantities of calves across the border at Cape Vincent which is only a short distance across the channel, and it is apparent that there will be a cattle shortage.

The superintendent of the Kingston street railway asks greater cooperation on the part of motorists in order to avoid accidents on crossings. As in the case of railway trains, it is now recognized that it is the motor car which runs into the street car and not the street car into the automobile. The street car is now like Old Dobbin, as it goes little faster than the "old brown mare."

Well, we have had a fine discussion on the milk question and it is only through such discussions that we learn what is what.

Queen's University continues to win fame. Now the Ontario government has named a lake in the new gold district after Prof. E. L. Bruce who first drew attention to the fact that the Red-Lake district gave great promise for prospecting.

The printer's devil does not believe that a big-chested person should be able to sing any better than one with an average-sized chest. In support of his contention, he points to the canary which makes a terrific noise for such a little mite of a bird. Now what have you to say to that?

All his old friends are happy to know that Mr. John McKelvey, Kingston's oldest ex-mayor, who has been critically ill, is rallying and that his recovery is almost certain. Mr. McKelvey is one of Kingston's grand old men, and before he was taken with illness recently he was out and around although close to eighty-nine years. He was born here and has lived here all his life, so it is practically certain that he is the oldest living of the city's native born.

Some people down in Nova Scotia, and who should know better, talk of that province seceding from the Dominion. They cannot vote themselves out of the federal union of provinces, and they only talk nonsense when they shout secession.

Gay music was played as the body of a London shipbuilder was conveyed to the crematorium. Shipbuilders must be a merry lot to direct that lively waltzes should be played at the cremation instead of funeral dirges. This London man, Carlisle, does not appear to have taken death seriously at all. "Eat, drink and be merry," was surely his motto.

Now they are talking by telephone from this American continent to Great Britain. But you have to do your talking before supper time if you want to get your English friends before midnight. Thus the world is growing smaller and smaller.

**Quebec Viewpoint**

Le Droit takes a fling at its old enemy, the Orange Sentinel.  
"The Orange Sentinel of Toronto has been making revelations for several weeks past in regard to some thousands of acres of land that Orangemen have hitherto learned to consider as a promised land from which their confederates are to benefit. "Those lands are rich and fertile. French-Canadians have so far cast their eyes upon them, absolutely in vain. The land is not a "promised" one for them. French-Canadian influence is too strong already for its expansion to be encouraged. "Immigrants are needed to people these fertile spaces. Immigrants who will be both British and especially Protestant. Why?"

L'Evenement is concerned for the historic monuments of Quebec.  
"There are not ten churches whose construction dates from the time of the French that remain intact and in too many of those that remain to us the interior decorations have been changed to such an extent that nothing remains of their originality and real value. The historic and artistic losses thus sustained are irreparable. "And what we say of the churches is true of most of the historic monuments that time has more or less respected. Do you wish to form some exact idea of the situation? Very well, study the history of the fortifications of Quebec and see the condition in which they are to-day. Of the old fortifications built under the French domination and which sustained the sieges of 1759 and 1775, there remain only vestiges that can hardly be traced. For the fortifications restored by our old English Governors—they do not want for beauty—one would say that neither the authorities nor the population have any concern whatever."

Takes Time.  
Freshman: How long will I have to wait for a shave?  
Barber: Oh, about two years—Tiger.  
Up in Essex county between seven and eight millions are made yearly from tobacco leaf. Hon. Mr. Martin sees the British market available if the quality is increased. Less quantity and better quality is wanted.

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