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A FLAG WAVING CAMPAIGN.

The Montreal Gazette seems determined that the coming election campaign shall be one of the old flag-waving variety. A few days ago its leading editorial was headed "Under Which Flag." Kingstonians will remember that these identical words were hurled at Mr. Mackenzie King while he was speaking in the Grand Opera House last October. They will remember, too, his noble and patriotic reply to the heckler. In its issue of Thursday, July 15th, The Montreal Gazette heads its leading editorial "The Coming Election," and it says:

It augurs well for the future of Canada that the Conservative party enters the election campaign with a strong Government and a strong platform. The Ministry which Mr. Meighen has just formed at Ottawa will stand for well-defined principles, for principles with which the people of Canada are thoroughly familiar, and in which they trust. The Conservative party stands to-day, as it has always done, for tariff stability, for industrial and social progress, for the development of Canadian resources in the interests of Canada; and it stands, as it has always done, for the flag under which the Dominion came into being and has prospered. This ought to have some meaning for the Canadian people, and it does mean something to them. They showed it in 1911, when much the same danger confronted them as confronts them now, and they showed it last October by a vote which could not be mistaken. They saw the fruit of their effort taken from them, by means which they resented then and have since condoned, and they cannot do other than welcome the opportunity now being afforded them to repeat and emphasize their mandate.

The Gazette makes certain statements which cannot be backed up by facts. It is endeavoring, of course, by veiled inuendo to convince people that the Liberal party has not stood for tariff stability, for industrial and social progress, and for the flag under which the Dominion came into being and has prospered. A little further on it continues:

Nor has their anxious appreciation of these things been altered or modified by the ex-Premier's attempt to find shelter in a new issue; on the contrary, they see in Mr. William Lyon Mackenzie King's attack upon the constitutional connection between this country and the Motherland, the bold expression of an attitude with which they had already become unfavorably familiar, an attitude by no means inconsistent with the policy pursued by the King Government toward Canadian workmen and Canadian industry.

Come now, let us reason together. Let us examine things as they really are and see how the Liberal party compares with that great party which the Gazette follows but fails to help very much.

The Gazette tells us that the Conservative party enters the campaign with a strong government and a strong platform. With that statement we are not going to quarrel. If The Montreal Gazette is satisfied to call a government, with only one minister in it from the province of Quebec, a strong government, why it's all right with us. If The Gazette is prepared to swallow such a bitter pill and still look pleasant, we don't want to spoil its fun, even if that one lone minister is the protegee of Lord Atholstan and The Montreal Star. But when it talks about industrial and social progress and the development of Canada, we take issue with its statements, and when it starts to wave the flag, and try to put Mr. Mackenzie King in a wrong light with the Canadian public, we feel called upon to remind it of a few things which it would, perhaps, like to forget.

Let us deal with the flag first, and Mr. King's attitude regarding the constitutional connection between this country and the Motherland with which The Gazette claims, the people have "already become unfavorably familiar." Mr. King stands, as he has always stood, for a strong British connection. He honors, as does every Liberal, the grand old Union Jack. But Mr. King has too much love and respect for it, to drag it through the dirt of a political campaign. Mr. King very properly takes the attitude that Canada is a self-governing nation within the Empire, and as such is entitled to be governed by the representatives of the people. In a word he stands for responsible government.

While discussing the matter of "the flag under which the Dominion came into being and has prospered" let us not forget that it is the selfsame flag through which Mr. Blondin, a member of Mr. Meighen's former government, wanted to shoot holes. Let us not forget, too, when we are discussing loyalty, that Mr. E. L. Patenaude, minister of justice in Mr. Meighen's new government and the only Quebec minister, while a member of the Borden government during the war, supported the motion declaring "that the people's welfare called upon us to put a stop to the sending of troops to the front." He also stated so recently as the last Federal campaign, "I am not ready to admit that when Britain is at war, Canada is necessarily at war." And we must not forget that Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen recently approved of Mr. Patenaude in his Montreal speech and stated that he (Mr. Patenaude) during the election campaign was preaching true Conservatives doctrine.

Then we have our friend Mr. Meighen, and his famous Hamilton speech in which he completely swallowed his patriotic ebullition of 1922, when he shouted "Ready, aye, ready," and advocated that before Canada again sent troops to take part in the defence of the Empire, we should have a general election. Is this the sort of super-loyalty that The Montreal Gazette loves. Or is it just determined to try to discredit Mackenzie King, irrespective of facts.

With regard to industrial progress, the Liberal party has a record to be proud of. Everyone knows of the progress made in Canada from 1896 to 1911. Everyone knows, who has followed trade returns, that there has been a constant improvement since 1921, until a total of $2,161,000,000 was reached in 1925, which was an increase of $295,000,000 over 1924. Canada has flourished under the Mackenzie King government as never before. Despite the flag-waving of the Tory press, the Liberals are certain to be returned to power again in September and they will continue the good work that has been temporarily interrupted.

DO WE WANT VAMPS IN MOVIES?

We are to have a new vamp to exercise a triumphant reign upon the screen. But do we need a vamp anyway? Are the pictures depicted through this creature worthy of the intelligence of the age. The Montreal Star, in discussing the issue, very clearly sets out that "when one thinks of the possibilities that lie ready to the producers' hand, it seems little short of criminal negligence that all should be passed by in favor of a melodramatic creation that is neither human nor devilish—just a coarse combination of the two."

Those who supply the bulk of the films on this continent, the paper continues, have got no farther away from their original crude ideas of life than a child's hand can span. It might reasonably have been expected with the tremendous advance made in the technical side of the movies, the incredible progress in protographic art and in mass illusion, the producers would have marched some distance along the road of progress in regard to the stories they tell on the screen. But it is the same old hectic, unnatural, mechanical stuff, week after week, turned out along the same old unreal lines and deal with the same emotionally impossible types.

The best they can do, it seems, is a new type of vamp. The old type was bad enough. Any type is unpleasant.

WE ARE A QUEER RACE.

The human race is still apprehensive and timid about dangers that it learned to fear in childhood. Many are afraid of snakes. They read with horror that 20,000 natives die of snakebite in India yearly. And they are glad they do not live in India. But 22,500 were killed by automobiles in this country in 1925, remarks the Albany, N.Y., News. The automobile is controlled by human beings. The snake can't be controlled or regulated.

BIBLE THOUGHT

GOD'S LEADERSHIP—Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice, and ye shall serve Him, and cleave unto Him.—Deut. 13:4.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

BY W. L. GORDON

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "the business was bound to fail." Say "destined to fail."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: carbine. Pronounce the i as in "time."

OFTEN MISSPELLED: Poughkeepsie.

SYNONYMS: battle, fight, combat, conflict, encounter, engagement, skirmish, bout, contest.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. To-day's word: AVERT; to turn aside or away; to prevent. "Follow these instructions and all danger can be averted."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A dead stop before you reach the crossing will prevent a dead stop on the crossing.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture looks for a continuance of good prices for hogs at least a year.

A theory propounded by an English newspaper, that a new ice age is about to begin will be gratifying to no one except possibly the coal man.

A good harvest in the west will enable the entire Dominion to make enormous strides forward in the recovery of abounding national prosperity.

The Toronto Mail and Empire points out why certain ex-ministers should not be candidates for re-election. It should send a marked copy to DeWitt Fister and W. F. Garland.

A policeman flashed a light in a sleeping man's face, and the latter cried: "You fool." the first words he had uttered in ten years. Now he is talking excitedly to make up for his long respite.

On this page today we publish a short sketch of the new Minister of Justice in the Meighen administration. It is interesting reading, and bears out the truth of the old saying that "Politics makes strange bedfellows."

A dear old couple were caught spoofing and spooning in a Hamilton park, and a heartless magistrate fined them. "Let love abound" was not the motto observed by the court.

How can we help the street railway to keep going? By patronizing it, and by getting the neighbors to ride on its cars. Loyalty to Kingston's institutions demand this. "We never miss the water till the well runs dry."

If there be a wholesale cleaning out of the returning officers appointed by the King Government, it will be evidence that the spoils system still has powerful supporters in the Conservative parts, is a candid opinion from the Hamilton Herald.

A special correspondent of an eastern paper, describing agricultural conditions on the prairies, says the farmers work fourteen hours a day during eight months of the year. Deducting hours for sleep and meals little time is left for golf or picture shows.

In discussing the right of a Canadian prime minister to a dissolution when he asks for it, Chester W. New, professor of history in McMaster University, Toronto, states emphatically that if Lord Byng had followed the British practice, he would have granted dissolution to Mr. King.

A Cambridge, Mass., man was told that soaking his feet in gasoline would cure his rheumatism. He tried it and to while away the time he lighted a cigarette. His next stop was at the hospital with badly blistered feet. He isn't sure yet whether his rheumatism is cured or not.

Every Liberal in the Dominion has a duty to perform in seeking to win in the coming election. The crisis is on. To win every elector must be aroused to perform the obligations the franchise confers on him. The Liberals can stress this idea and Liberalism will prevail and government for the people, and not for the classes, will be again established.

A SUNDAY THOUGHT.

Twelve Things to Remember.

1. The value of time.
2. The success of perseverance.
3. The pleasure of working.
4. The dignity of simplicity.
5. The worth of character.
6. The power of kindness.
7. The influence of example.
8. The obligation of duty.
9. The wisdom of economy.
10. The virtue of patience.
11. The improvement of talent.
12. The joy of originating.

THE TOWN WATCHMAN

The wise municipal council will always levy a sufficient tax rate to finance the needs of the year. It does not pay to stint; better fix the rate so there will be a little surplus. The Watchman knows that some municipal legislators take the view that when there is a lot of money voted, there will be a tendency to spend it all no matter whether it is needed or not. But this should not be.

The Kingston baseball club is not the only organization that has suffered through lack of public patronage this year. The jail up on West street has also been very poorly patronized this season. There are so few prisoners incarcerated that the chores can hardly be given attention. However, there have been other occasions on which the turnkeys have had to turn in and cut the grass and shovel the snow at the court house.

Having heard the condition of the street railway company, it is up to the people to patronize the street cars and help increase their revenue. No one wants the cars to stop running, but there is grave danger of that happening. Street railways as well as steam railways have been given a rude jolt by the motor cars.

It appears strange to see a notice in the post office telling tourists from other countries that they must use Canadian postage stamps for cards and letters mailed on this side. Yet there are many people stupid enough to place American stamps on their mail when they visit Canadian towns and cities. No, Canada is not a part of the United States, although we are cousins.

When nearly two-thirds of Kingston's taxes are paid in over two months before they are actually due, the majority of the people here must be in very fair circumstances. This city loses next to nothing of its taxes and it stands at the top of the cities of Canada in that respect.

Another of Kingston's oldest business houses is the Prevost—clothing store on Brock street. This business has been in the same family since it was established over half a century ago. In the old days, it furnished all the French-Canadian raftsmen who used to be employed at Garden Island, and it did a big trade in that quarter alone. Prevost's is still going, the son succeeding the father, and doing a thriving business.

It is good to again see on the Upper St. Lawrence tugs almost daily towing grain-laden barges from Kingston to Montreal. The old days have been revived by the James Richardson forwarding company, whose Kingston elevator is busy again receiving grain from the west and shipping it into river barges to the metropolis. We may never again see timber barges operating on the Upper St. Lawrence, but it is at least good to see grain once more being carried in large quantities from this port eastward.

Some one has said that the glory of the Thousand Islands has departed, but that idea is wrong. The glory of the islands can never fade, even if they no longer are the mecca of the thousands that used to summer upon them. The automobile has caused a depleted summer population among the island resorts, but their glory remains. There is really more activity among the islands on the Canadian side, and our portion of the Thousand Islands is by long odds the most beautiful.

Hard Luck.

"What are you crying for, my lad?"

"Cause father's invented a soap substitute an' every time a customer comes in I get washed as an advertisement."—Dry Goods Economist.

Proof.

Firsts Knut: Can you keep a secret?

Second Ditto: I'll say so. We were engaged two weeks before I knew anything about it.—Answers, London.

The Vagabond's Plea.

Magistrate (to tramp charged with begging): Three days' imprisonment on bread and water. Take him away!

Tramp: Make the living a trifle richer, yer worship, and I'll stay a week.—Answers, London.

A Hot One.

Woman (buying a thermometer): Please set it up to 65, because that's what the doctor says I'm to keep the room at.—Tit-Bits, London.

Patenaude's Volte Face Justifies Quebec's Doubts

(Toronto Star)

There will be tongues wagging in Quebec today. Esioff L. Patenaude has entered the Meighen cabinet.

That is as great a surprise as if the Soviet of all the Russias were to restore the monarchy, or Henry Ford were to give all his fortune to President Coolidge and the Republican party.

It is black turning white, the sun setting in the east, the hare running with the hounds. It is the man consenting who swore he would never consent. It is turncoat politics.

He was the Andy Gump of the last election. He wore no man's collar, no party's livery. Over and over again he said solemnly and publicly, "I am in every way free. I am free from Mr. Meighen even as I am free from Mr. King." His campaign slogan was "country before party," not "portfolio before principles."

HON. E. L. PATENAUDE

Well might some of his Nationalist confreres of 1911 parody Browning "Just for a hand out from Meighen he left us, just for a riband to stick in his coat."

Has Done it Before.

It is the young electors of Quebec who, remembering October, 1925, will get the most shock out of Mr. Patenaude's circus feat. Old timers who remember 1911 and October, 1915 will not be so surprised at Mr. Patenaude's political loop the loop.

His history has repeated itself. He was an anti-navy man in 1910. He was a nationalist in 1911 and was "neither for Borden nor for Laurier" as in 1925 he was "neither for King nor for Meighen." Yet on October the 6th, 1916, he was sworn in as minister of inland revenue in the Borden cabinet.

A Montreal critic last October called him a political chameleon. In 1917 he was one of the famous nine who supported the Barrette motion that "the people's welfare calls upon us to put a stop immediately to the sending of troops to the front." On June 10th he resigned after informing Sir Robert Borden by letter that he could not support the proposed conscription bill. Later he moved that it be given a six months' hoist.

He bolted public life as well as the Conservative party and did not emerge from retirement until 1923, when he was elected for Jacques Cartier and opposed Taschereau in the Quebec house. He himself declared at Lachine during the federal campaign that he was dragged from the provincial to the federal arena by "the people's cry of distress," but it was rumored that the agonizing people of Canada spoke through the soft and persuasive lips of the Hon. Robert Rogers. It is known that he hesitated long and coyly and that he made his own terms with Lord Atholstan and St. James street.

Sphinx Without Secret.

In the campaign the role he played was that of a sphinx without a secret to those who recalled 1911, 1916 and 1917. But like the sphinx he had been long covered by the sands of oblivion and the new generation of Quebec voters could not penetrate his mask and unravel his mystery. In brief he kept the whole province guessing and the cleverest of his opponents could not extract from him that secret of a Meighen affiliation which he has only now revealed by accepting a Meighen portfolio.

Now that he is a member of the government it is of interest to recall his public policies as proposed by him last October. They were summarized by the Canadian Press as follows:

As to personal status in politics "I am free in every way, as free from Meighen as I am of King."

As to Imperialism: "I am attached to those who favor British bonds within the empire, but Canadian interests must be dominant in Canada. We must orient ourselves towards the most complete autonomy."

As to what he termed "military imperialism," he said: "I am not ready to admit that when Britain is at war Canada should necessarily go to war."

And then he showed where and from whom Mr. Meighen got his Hamilton speech: "No definite decision should be taken toward pulling Canada into warfare whether it be a matter of finance or of blood, without an appeal to the people." Mr. Meighen has grappled him to his soul and cabinet with hoops of Hamilton steel.

Would Sell C.N.R.

Having no prophetic knowledge of this year's record earnings of both railways he spoke of "the mad race of disastrous competition between the two companies." He ridiculed "the false pride of having a national railway." He declared that he would sell the National Railways if necessary to free the shoulders of our people from the load that is crushing them."

Something like this was the railway policy of St. James Street.

To give Mr. Patenaude credit, in entering the Meighen cabinet, he is violating no literal and public pledge. He never said that he would not enter the cabinet. He only said he was "as free of Meighen as of King."

It was only those who had the Rosetta stone of his political past who could decipher the worse than Runic enigma of the sphinx and say as confidently as Mr. Taschereau; "Patenaude is practising subterfuge. He is not a sincere man. Once before he deserted Quebec to go to Ottawa. There he pretended to incarnate the Canadian race, but he abandoned his post. He came back to the legislature in 1923, but he has been useful neither to his race nor to his province. He is body and soul for Meighen."

His decision to enter the cabinet must be a surprise to Henri Bourassa, for Mr. Bourassa said last January when asked if the votes for Patenaude were votes for Meighen: "Poor Patenaude is dead. He has now no political future in Quebec."

Surprise to Himself.

Mr. Patenaude's decision must be a surprise to Mr. Patenaude himself, for he said to The Star the day after the last election when asked if he would like to go through it all again. "I do not think so. I am not enamored of politics. They impose a severe strain on a man who likes to be sincere and honest. And, after all, the public is not grateful."

But the person most surprised by Mr. Patenaude's back flip into Mr. Lapointe's chair of justice must be the editor of the Montreal Star. On September 23rd last year," indignantly denying Mr. Cardin's charge that Patenaude was a Meighen man, he wrote: "When Patenaude says that he is 'independent of Meighen' he is either telling the truth or he is a hypocrite. If he is a hypocrite, if he is a Meighen man at heart, how does this gay deceiver intend to do it without Quebec finding it out?"

And the Montreal Star added: "Whatever his desires, Patenaude simply dare not do it. If he is elected as a Quebec leader 'independent of Meighen' he must remain so. He must prove his sincerity after the elections."

Oil and Vinegar.

Mr. Patenaude is a tall, athletic handsome man, a real Adonis, though not in the first bloom of youth, for he is 50 years of age. He is the soul of gentleness and courtesy. During the last campaign all his opponents congratulated him on his personal grace and charm. He lost his election with the politeness and good humor of the French at Fontenoy. In temperament he is as unlike Mr. Meighen as oil is unlike vinegar. His wit is kindly, not caustic. He is a lover of flowers and landscape and the president of a beautiful golf club at Laval sur Lac looking out on the blue St. Lawrence and the bluer Laurentians.

But it would appear that no kind of club can get him out of what Quebec will call a bad political "lie," in the Meighen bunker. It will take super persuasiveness to persuade Quebec that he is still "as free of Meighen as of King."

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