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DR. ROSS'S NOMINATION SPEECH

Dr. Ross's speech at his nominating convention on Friday night was a splendid presentation of the case for the Conservatives, but there are many features of it which will not stand a careful examination. One of the first things Dr. Ross dealt with was the prosperity of the country. He deprecated reliance upon trade returns as sure indicators of prosperity. Nevertheless, the trade returns of a country are regarded as a pretty accurate barometer of conditions and have been used time and time again by the Conservative party when they were favorable to that party. Trade returns mean one of two things, either that the country is prosperous or that it is not prosperous. As stated in The British Whig on Saturday last, there has been a constant improvement in trade returns since 1921, until a total of \$3,161,000,000 was reached in 1925, which, in itself, was an increase of \$295,000,000 over 1924.

The indications that business is better are amply borne out by facts in our own city of Kingston. A year ago the Canadian Locomotive Works was practically closed up. To-day it is employing about 500 men. The reason for this is that owing to improved trade conditions, the rolling stock of the railways is wearing out and it has to be replenished with new. Dr. Ross further states that we are not prosperous unless the population increases. Such an argument, of course, is rather a fallacious one, but even accepting Dr. Ross's statement, we find that so far as Kingston is concerned the assessor reports so recently as last Saturday that he has completed his work and is convinced that the population of Kingston for 1926 will show an increase. He further finds that 70 per cent. of the vacant houses found in 1925 are now occupied. To this might be added the fact that a great many new houses are going up in Kingston at the present time, five fine homes being erected on Albert street within two blocks.

The argument of the Conservative candidate that the Liberals were responsible for supply not being voted will not have much weight with those who have followed the proceedings of the House of Commons for the past six months. Every effort of the Liberals to proceed quickly with the work of the session was obstructed by the Conservatives. Had they been allowed to proceed in the regular and orderly way, with the business of the session after once Parliament had decided who should carry on, supply would have been voted months ago.

It is quite evident that an attempt is going to be made by the Conservatives to make the Customs probe the issue in the coming election. Those who read Hon. George Bovin's manly and straightforward statement in yesterday's British Whig will realize that the government, when it discovered what was going on, was just as anxious as anyone else to see that everything was cleaned up. The customs investigation is now in the hands of a competent judge. It is out of the hands of Parliament. The important thing which the people have to decide for themselves before they vote in the coming election is whether they want a government to continue in power which has consistently tried to legislate in the in-

terests of all the people or whether they want to put into power Mr. Melghen, who is committed to a high tariff policy which is bound to raise the cost of living. The campaign is only just starting. During the coming weeks the issues will be properly presented before the electors and it is hoped that everyone will be able to cast an intelligent vote on election day.

HOW SCARCITY OF POWER AFFECTS EASTERN ONTARIO BUSINESS.

People who are not conversant with the facts have little idea how seriously the shortage of power in Eastern Ontario affects business in this section. A traveler for large electric baking ovens was in Kingston last week, and was discussing the power situation with The British Whig. He told The Whig that he was completely shut out of the market between Oshawa and Ottawa because of the shortage of power. Not only is there a serious shortage of power but a very serious discrepancy in the cost of power.

The businessman referred to said that one oven which they manufactured could be operated in Toronto, Hamilton and other Western Ontario cities for \$25 per month. The same oven operated between Oshawa and Ottawa, he said, would cost from \$100 to \$150 per month. He instanced a case in one Eastern Ontario town where he was endeavoring to install an electric oven. The Hydro Commission did not refuse the application but they made the rate prohibitive. They set a rate of \$12 per K.W.H. which would equal about \$200 per month. This same oven costs to operate in Hamilton and Toronto \$50 per month.

The Eastern Ontario Chamber of Commerce is on the right track in regard to this matter. It is not a political question, but a business one, Eastern Ontario is not getting a fair deal in regard to power, and the executive of the E.O.C.C. should accept no excuses or evasions. We want to be put on an equal basis with Western Ontario, and nothing short of that will satisfy us.

LESSONS FOR THE ELECTORS.

The lesson for the electors is to restore the Mackenzie King Government with a good working majority and allow it to finish its work. Ontario can do it, by returning a fair number of Liberal members, in conjunction with the gains that are likely to be made in the west. The smallness of the Ontario Liberal contingent in the last Parliament was due, contends the London Advertiser, to a humbugging campaign in regard to the tariff. Blue rule was talked in spite of reviving prosperity and the impression was given that there would be extensive tariff increases if the Conservatives were returned to power. But when the Robb budget was presented, the Conservative party in the House was afraid to oppose it except in the most gingerly way. The campaign of 1925 cannot be repeated. Liberal candidates in Ontario, as elsewhere will be able to present a splendid programme.

On the constitutional question their position is sound and will arouse the enthusiasm of all true Canadians and of all newcomers who value their old British freedom. The tariff policy of the King Government and its railway policy have produced most gratifying results. The taxpayers' burdens have been reduced. The financial position of the country is improving. Trade is increasing by leaps and bounds. The National Railways are on a sound footing. The revenues are increasing and expenses are declining. It is time for Ontario to get into line with the rest of Canada.

ADVERTISING THE ROADS.

Pennsylvania is not only spending millions of dollars for improved highways but is advertising them as well. When new through routes are opened, booklets are issued from the state highway department for free distribution, telling of the route through which the roads pass, something of the historical background, and recommending spots of scenic beauty. It is an excellent idea. The observing tourist wants to know something about the country through which he passes, something besides the conditions of the roads and the hotel rates.

What Pennsylvania is doing is advertising in an effort to get more people to travel over her roads. It is as legitimate as a railroad advertising its route. Canadians might follow along the same line. Tourists read extensively. Germans are invited to eat rye bread, and save the money spent for wheat, etc. There is almost enough rye grown in the Republic to meet the needs of the people. Last year Germany imported no less than 3,700,000,000 marks worth of cereals and agricultural produce, of which 300,000,000 marks was for wheat and wheat flour alone.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

BY W. L. GORDON
WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "he brought it to a final completion." "Final" is tautologous. "Completion" means final.
OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: blessed. Pronounce the adjective blessed, the participle blest.
OFTEN MISPELLED: metropolis.
SYNONYMS: fact, reality, truth, actuality, certainty.
WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: HOMAGE; reverential regard or worship. "His manner expressed more than that general devotion homage which youth pays to beauty."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Earl of Pembroke has gone broke. What's in a name?

Walking is becoming a lost art, but not to Orangemen on the Twelfth.

And now a golf widower with \$50,000 a year is seeking a divorce because his wife neglected him for the links. Marriage links snapped we suppose.

Lady Dorothy Mills, returning from an exploration tour of the cannibalistic regions of Liberia, reports that the men of the tribes do not consider the women "sweet enough to eat."

Synthetic rubber seems to be assured, because those in a position to know what they are talking about say that a big battle is impending between plantation rubber and the synthetic stuff.

Wages are about forty per cent. higher in England than they were before the war and money buys approximately fifty per cent. less. Four pounds a week is a good wage for a clerk or shop assistant.

The total exports of wool from Canada in the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1926, amounted to 6,514,767 pounds, valued at \$2,342,887; practically the entire export clip went to the United States.

The lesson to be drawn from the terrible explosion in New Jersey is, according to the New York World, that no ammunition depots should be established in settled communities. But there is nothing like an explosion to unsettle a community.

Every U.S. tourist can take home with him \$100 in Canadian goods free of duty, provided, of course, he has the hundred bucks, says the Brockville Recorder and Times. This was the law last year but this year the United States has repealed it.

The Springfield, Mass., Republican says it is doubtful whether the United States and Canada will permit a power development that does not provide for navigation of the St. Lawrence by vessels of deeper draft than are at present able to operate in that stream. Well, wait and see!

In Wisconsin a controversy is going on to establish the home of the first man. Dean George L. Collie, of Beloit College, an anthropologist of fame, believes Africa was the habitat of the first man of the earth. His former pupil, Roy Chapman Andrews, a noted explorer, is convinced that man first lived in Asia. Time may decide the issue, for many persons are endeavoring to locate the evidence.

The New Outlook, organ of the United Church of Canada, presents the taking of an occasional vacation as a duty, rather than a privilege. "A man owes it to his work" it says, "to take a real rest from it once in a while. No matter how much he may love his work, and no matter what enthusiasm he may put into it from day to day, he will get stale on it if he keeps at it without interruption year in and year out." There is a great deal to be said in support of that argument.

QUEER QUIRKS OF NATURE

Some of the moths we see about our homes are moths from other lands which have been brought here in the past, finding our country quite congenial, have made themselves at home and multiplied. Thus in certain portions of our eastern states, especially in the vicinity of New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Boston, there is found a large and handsome oriental moth known as the cynthia. The cynthia is much like the native caterpillar in its markings, but it is olive green in color and its wings are narrower. In certain provinces of China this moth is domesticated as a source of silk, and it was to try it out as a silk producer that it was first brought to this country in 1861. The cynthia is much like the native, and appears again in smaller numbers in the autumn. Of two-hundred and fifty cocoons taken from a tree in Washington last October, fifty had recently hatched and some of the moths were still about. This would indicate that about one-fifth of the moths hatch in the autumn while four-fifths sleep till spring. The autumn moths all die with the coming of the cold, and their eggs die also. The caterpillar of this moth feeds almost exclusively on alantissus trees. The cocoon is small for such a large moth. It is spun between two or three leaflets of the food plant, and from it a heavy band of silk runs up the stem of the leaflet and along the middle of the compound leaf to the twig to which it is attached. Sometimes several cocoons will have a common stem, and sometimes two or three cocoons are spun together in a mass in such a way that the escape of only one of the moths is possible.

The Who Who Cabinet

(London Advertiser)
When a somewhat undistinguished British Cabinet was formed in the second quarter of the nineteenth century a list of the names was read to the Duke of Wellington, who was then hard of hearing. "Who? Who?" repeatedly asked the Duke. The story spread, and that Ministry became known all over the kingdom as the Who Who Cabinet.

When the personnel of the Melghen Cabinet was announced even Conservatives who have a close acquaintance with their own party repeated the query of the Duke of Wellington. "Who is Black?" "Who is Jones?" "Who is MacDonald?" "Who is Chaplin?" "Who is Morand?" "Who is Ryckman?" And so on. An interrogation point overhangs the combination. It is a Cabinet for local election purposes, not for national business.

Quebec Viewpoint

La Patrie seeks to analyze the reasons which have prompted the Prime Minister to leave Quebec representation in his new Cabinet incomplete.

"Why has the choice of other ministers from Quebec been deferred? We are convinced that it is not because the Prime Minister intends to give to our province less than its normal representation. We believe Mr. Melghen purposes to treat Quebec generously—such a purpose will best accord with the interests of his party. Naturally, the Prime Minister wants to be maintained in power as the outcome of the general elections, and consequently he will need to accomplish a new and powerful effort in order to gain adherents in this province. That is why we take it for granted that Mr. Melghen is serious and sincere in his expressed intention to give Quebec more Ministers than those already named. If they have not yet been chosen, it is no doubt due to the difficulty of choice in consequence of particular conditions existing here."

News and Views.

Another Vicious Circle
Wabash Plaindealer: Rags make money; paper makes money; money makes riches; riches make banks; banks make loans; loans make poverty; poverty makes rags, and then you start all over again.

Chicago's Short-Sighted Policy.
Detroit Free Press: Even Chicago may be sorry after a while if its plot finally succeeds. For though Chicago considers itself a railroad center rather than a port, it is, after all, situated on one of the great lakes and anything that hurts lake commerce will injure it in the end.

Soft-Bellied Humanitarians.
Cincinnati Times-Star: It has been left to eight congressmen in an Illinois State institution which bears the measly-mouthed designation of "hospital" to hand a jolt to half-witted humanitarianism. They sallied out one night in a state-owned automobile, and robbed a bank of \$15,000. The cashier, followed their trail and lost it at the farm. They were safe inside. So was the loot. "We never thought," says the cashier, "to look inside the honor farm for bank robbers."

Anthracite Coal

We strongly advise and urge consumers to try in as much anthracite coal this summer as they can take. The mines have thus far accumulated very little coal above ground. The docks at the head of the lakes were bare of coal at the opening of navigation. The Montreal market will be obliged to fall back upon American Anthracite owing to the strike of British Coal Miners. It is not likely that there will be any surplus of Anthracite. By laying in your coal now you will materially assist dealers in getting ready for the fall and winter trade.

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Bowmanville	2.22	Colborne (f)	6.08
Port Hope	2.53	Cobourg	6.25
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