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BE AT THE LIBERAL CON-
VENTION TONIGHT.

Every Liberal in the city is ex-
pected to attend the convention this
evening. Liberalism means liberal
treatment of the people, encourage-
ment to the workmen, business for
manufacturers, and cheap goods for
the consumers. The Liberals should
help to create these benefits by sup-
porting the nominee of the conven-
tion.

VERY POOR BUSINESS TO IN-
DULGE IN.

Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King has been
telling the people of Canada that the
present is a bad time for the cam-
paign of prejudice against the United
States which the leaders of the
Conservative party are seeking to
arouse. The Canadian hotels are
thronged with tourists who cherish
only the kindest of feelings towards
the people of the Dominion and who
are spending their money very freely
in all parts of our country. It would
be difficult to estimate what the
tourist trade alone means to the
present prosperity and future develop-
ment of our land.

The wholly unnecessary talk of
annexation and the contemptuous
terms in which many Conservatives
refer to the United States does not
foster goodwill. It breeds ill-will in
a variety of directions: it is a cheap
sort of business at best, and the party
driven to appeals of the kind cannot
wonder if its unpatriotic attitude is
getting in the minds and hearts of
the public a resentment which will
make itself felt in no uncertain
terms.

A GREAT CANADIAN INDUSTRY.

There is no duty on binder twine,
there has been no duty since 1906.
Is there any twine made in Canada?
Yes. Despite the increase in grain
production in Canada we are actu-
ally importing less twine to-day than
we did before the war. In the two
years 1913-1914 our total net im-
ports (gross imports less exports)
totalled 51,571,173 lbs. In the years
1925 and 1926 the net import was
\$1,308,273 lbs. As the import of the
fiscal year would cover the crop of
the previous calendar year we have
the following comparisons. In 1912-
1913, our total production of grain
(wheat and oats) was 1,250,000,000
bushels in 1924-1925 the total was
1,552,000,000 bushels. So you will
note that with a twenty per cent.
increase in production there is no in-
crease in the import of twine. Fur-
ther we have not mentioned the in-
creased production of barley and rye
in this period. Throw it in for good
measure—it amounts to about 80-
000,000 bushels. Meantime the
Bragford Cordage Company, one of
the largest plants in Canada reports
as follows: "We have been running
steadily ten hours a day—fifty-nine
hours a week throughout the year.
Despite the addition of the No. 3 mill
from which we are now obtaining
full production it has again been
found necessary to work overtime."
There you are—an industry under
free trade in a protectionist country
busy—and working overtime.

THE CITY OF DETROIT.

The city of Detroit, which by the
way was once a British possession,
now aspires to be known as a city
of art and culture, in addition to a

BIBLE THOUGHT
STRENGTH AND COUR-
AGE—"Be strong and
of a good courage, fear not, nor be
afraid. . . for the Lord thy God
will go with thee. He will not fail
thee, nor forsake thee." Deut. 31:6.

leader in automotive industry. An
article in the Free Press points out
that this great Michigan city of a
million and a half souls has splendid
libraries and an academy of art, be-
sides many educational institutions
and musical organizations. Ontar-
ians have been led to believe all these
years that Henry Ford, the leader of
the automotive industry in the Uni-
ted States, and Ty Cobb, the base-
ball king, were the two Detroit
giants, but the Michigan city has its
side of culture as well, although the
bulk of the people know little else
than the geography and history of
their own state and next to nothing
about what is going on in the great
world outside. One does not wonder
at this state of things after going
through the Detroit newspapers and
failing to find more than a column of
news regarding world events. The
Free Press is an exception in this
regard, for that newspaper (the oldest
and best in Detroit) a week ago
printed various Canadian despatches
in its regular city edition, and one
of these Canadian despatches had to
do with the new Canadian libraries
opened during the past year, King-
ston's being recorded among the
number.

Detroit has of late been termed
the most sinful city in the United
States, and attempts are being made
to cleanse it of its vice. But Detroit
is hardly that bad. There are thous-
ands of scarlet women on its streets
and in its apartments; but what
large city in the world is not thus
infested? Even our own "Toronto
the Good" has that evil. The other
day the Free Press recorded that the
number of women haled before
the city magistrate had fallen that
morning to five, which was regarded
as an evidence that the police broom
was showing its effect. But the social
evil cannot be cleaned up by the
methods of moral reformers and po-
lice. The women are merely moved
on to somewhere else. The root of
the evil remains. Before it can be
eradicated the natures of men and
women must change, political and
social systems must be totally re-
formed, and this can be done only
by following out the precepts laid
down by the lowly Nazarene.

SENDING THE BEST.

Canada has the opportunity to be-
come a great exporter of foodstuffs,
but the goods sent overseas must
establish and maintain a faultless
reputation for high quality. It may be
necessary to spend some time and
money to learn what the demand
calls for. That is the intelligent
method of going about the business
and it is sure to pay in the end, re-
marks the Sarnia Observer. Govern-
mental co-operation in these matters
cannot fail to be of immense benefit.

WHY CANADA IS BACK ON A
GOLD BASIS.

According to the U.S. Federal Re-
serve Bulletin, among the principal
factors facilitating Canada's return
to the gold standard have been the
growing favorable balance on external
trade account, together with a
decline in the net trade balance due
to the United States; the liquidation of
British indebtedness to Canada; the
restoration of the pound sterling and
other foreign currencies to a gold
basis; the resumption of cash or
short-term payments in international
trade; the complete funding of the
national debt, the major portion of
which is internal; the increasing
American and foreign investments in
Canada; the rise in other "invisible"
items in her balance of payments,
notably tourist expenditures; and
the continued expansion in the an-
nual gold production.

THE HORRID HAY FEVER.

This is the season for hay fever,
and a million or more residents of
Canada and the United States are
suffering from it. They are filling
the hay fever resorts all over the
continent. The northwest is a favor-
ite place for sufferers. New Hamp-
shire is another section free from
the malady and its towns will soon
be thronged. Pollen is now filling
the air and distress is everywhere.
The membrane irritation is very dis-
tinct and oppressive and those who
have not had the affliction have no
conception of its torment.

Thus far no specific for its cure
has been discovered. Physicians are
working to find something. They
have discovered treatments which
are beneficial in some cases, but they
have found no cure. Some day they
will discover the specific cure, just
as they have made other great dis-
coveries to relieve mankind.

The public has its responsibility
in the matter. It can relieve the
condition in a very appreciable way.
How? By cutting all weeds before
they go to seed. One city lot filled
with rag weed will cause distress to
hundreds of persons. This is no over-
statement of the case. Persons af-
flicted with the malady know.

It is not rag weed alone that
causes the distress. Dandruff from
horses affect many persons; the rust
from ripened corn affects others; the
perfume of roses affects others; and
so following down a long list. But
some day someone will discover a
cure.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Russia doesn't worry over debt
payment agreements.

Hull has given "the freedom of
the city" to all Ottawa Centenary
visitors. Huh!

An optimist, says a Detroit paper,
is a man who looks in the cup after
losing his golf ball.

Trains killed 42 people in Canada
during the month of July, many of
the victims being passengers in au-
tomobiles.

In New York a fellow has to be
well bred as well as well read. No
one can enter the public library there
in his shirt sleeves.

Mark the name of Beaverton on
the road map. It is one of the few
Canadian towns where the roads in
the town are better than the high-
ways leading to it.

The tourist business has assumed
such enormous proportions that all
communities that have anything to
offer visitors are justified in exerting
every effort to secure their share of
this industry.

A despatch says that the occupant
of St. James Palace is complaining
because his collars come back from
the laundry with the edges like saws.
The Prince has many worries like
the rest of us.

After looking at several pictures
of the girl who was chosen out of
454 Toronto entrants as the Queen
of Beauty, we would suggest that the
judges pay a visit to Kingston and
see a few real ones.

Mr. Robb said at Toronto that
\$30,000,000 had been saved to the
Canadian taxpayers this year as a re-
sult of his budget. Is not that some-
thing to be thankful for? And Mr.
Robb says there will be further tax
cuts if he and his colleagues are re-
turned.

If the highway department in
awarding contracts should specify
that the highway be kept open, the
contractors would find a way to meet
these specifications. But as long as
they can close traffic and compel de-
tours they will do so.

Rt. Hon. H. A. L. Fisher, former
President of the Board of Education
in the Lloyd George Government, and
a noted historian, blames "certain
armament firms" for a condition in
China that threatens the peace of the
world. Formerly peaceful, China is
now armed to the teeth.

The inmates of Portsmouth peni-
tentiary are building a new prison
for women, and, according to reports,
are making it extremely substantial.
Whether this is out of malice or in
recognition of women's newly acquir-
ed strength is not stated, comments
the Toronto Globe.

It is claimed for Canada that in
proportion to population it has more
golf courses than the United States.
The total here is 464, Ontario lead-
ing with 160 courses. A number of
new courses are being completed this
year in all of the provinces. The uni-
versal game is therefore well patron-
ized in the Dominion.

Remember the King government
has reduced the expenditures of gov-
ernment by \$108,000,000 annually,
has reduced the interest on the na-
tional debt by \$10,000,000 annually,
has reduced the sales tax all along
the line, has slashed the income tax,
and has restored two cent postage.
That's a record to be proud of. And
if Liberalism wins, more tax-reduc-
ing benefits will be made.

Quebec Viewpoint

Le Nouvelliste (Three Rivers),
on the subject of drowning acci-
dents says: "The public author-
ities ought to adopt some measure
which would bar people from bathing
in dangerous places. On their side
parents have a duty to fulfill. They
ought to keep constant watch upon
their children and never allow them
to go bathing unless accompanied by
a person who is competent to indi-
cate to the younger children the
places where there is danger and
keep them from going there."

La Presse is happy over the favor-
able position of Quebec.

"The conclusion to be drawn from
the facts and figures of the provin-
cial treasurer is self-evident. The
province of Quebec is in a position
which is without rival in the rest
of the Dominion. Fortunate, in-
deed, are the taxpayers of the good
province of Quebec. They ought to
appreciate, as is no more than pro-
per, the wise administrators who
have assured them of the present ad-
vantages, and who, for thirty years,
have worked unceasingly to elevate
financially the province from the rut
into which it had fallen, and who
have succeeded in placing the pro-
vince upon its present high pin-
nacle."

Franco-Italian treaty of amity calls
for commercial and military co-opera-
tion between the two countries.

Rum-Running Still Thrives

Charge That Hon. Mr. Stevens Has Failed to Keep His Promise to
Kill the Most Fertile Source of Smuggling.

Hon. W. E. Ramey, in the follow-
ing letter, addressed to the Editor of
The Mail and Empire, returns with
vigor to the discussion of smuggling
and its causes, and the attitude of
the present Government.

To the Editor of The Mail and
Empire: I hesitate less now than I
did on the last occasion to crave
your indulgence because Mr. Meigh-
en's share of responsibility for con-
ditions in the Customs Department
is even more apparent now than it
was then. I ventured to inquire of
whether Mr. Stevens was at that time
refusing clearances of whiskey smug-
gling craft. Your comment was that
my question was asked as if it
"were an awkward one" for the pre-
sent Government. It turns out to
have been an exceedingly awkward
one, because I learn that the busi-
ness of bootlegging the product of
Canadian distilleries to the United
States by gasoline-driven boats has
been going ahead under the Meighen
Government since the 1st of July
with a wide-open throat, just as it
did in 1920 and 1921 under the
Conservative Administration, and
just as it did from 1921 onward
under the Liberal Administration,
and that Mr. Stevens is granting
clearances today to the rum-running
in the same way that Mr. Whit-
more and Mr. Bureau did before
him. And not only so, but this
being done in the face of Mr. Stevens'
own public statements that the
rum-running was responsible for the
demoralization in the Customs De-
partment, and that as long as it is
allowed to continue "we can never re-
medy the conditions that have been
shown to exist in the Customs ser-
vice of Canada."

If you will make inquiries you will
discover that at Sandwich and Port
Dalhousie and Belleville the smug-
glers are reporting inward light, and
being cleared outward by Mr. Stevens'
officials, laden with Canadian
brands of whiskey and beer to be
landed somewhere on the other side
of the United States boundary or
perhaps somewhere in Ontario. And
what is there in August, 1926, to
prevent these international outlaws
from taking on return cargoes of de-
natured alcohol, or something else,
to be landed somewhere on this side
of the boundary line, just as they
did in Mr. Bureau's time?

In his Toronto speech on the 8th
of July, Mr. Stevens attributed the
origin of the trouble in the Depart-
ment of Customs to the association
of Customs officials with the men
who were marketing the output of
the Canadian distilleries and brew-
eries to the bootleggers of two coun-
tries. Now, of course, there was not
the least difficulty in putting an end
to that association. All that it was
necessary for Mr. Stevens to do was
to follow the suggestion of his own
committee by putting an end to the
granting of Government clearances
to the rum-running craft. And this is

just what Mr. Stevens promised in
his Toronto speech to do. Mr. Stevens
could have carried out his prom-
ise within a day, or, not to put
too fine a point on it, within, say a
week. He could have issued orders
that all exportation of intoxicating
liquor in future should be by one
of the international railways or by a re-
cognized ferry operating under the
eyes of the Customs officials of the
two countries. He could, for in-
stance, have recognized the ferries
between Sarnia and Port Huron, be-
tween Windsor and Detroit, between
Port Stanley and Cleveland, between
Toronto and Lewiston, between Co-
bourg and Charlotte, between Co-
bourg and Ogdensburg, and so on. And
that would have put an end practi-
cally to rum-running by boat. And
by putting an end to the rum-run-
ning he would, as he admitted in his
Toronto speech, have put an end to
the return cargoes by water.

Mr. Stevens promised his Toronto
hearers that he would put a stop to
the granting of bogus clearance pa-
pers, "without regard to the profit
to be derived therefrom by the Cana-
dian liquor exporters." This was bold
language. Needless to say, it did not
have the approval of the distillers
and brewers. They read it the next
day and then something happened. On
the 12th a delegation of liquor men
visited Ottawa and the purpose of the
visit, as explained to the newspaper
men, and reported in an Ottawa
despatch, was:

To find out the lay of the land so
far as the new Government is con-
cerned, and particularly with refer-
ence to the immediate intentions of
Hon. H. H. Stevens, Acting Minister
of Customs and Excise.

Mr. Stevens was a new hand, and
he had put his foot in it in his Tor-
onto speech. At all events, after the
visit of the delegation nothing hap-
pened to interfere with the profits
of Canadian liquor exporters on their
immense export business.

It is not publicly known what the
arguments were that were addressed
by the liquor men to Sir Henry Dray-
ton and Mr. Stevens, but, whatever
they were, they were obviously ef-
fective—so much so that a few days
later Gooderham & Worts stocks
jumped 15 points in one day. This
good fortune to Gooderham & Worts
shareholders, coming hard on the
rum-running of the issue of nine
shares of bonus stock per one, with
a prospect of profits of 120 per cent.
per annum on the original stock is-
sue (or 12 per cent. on the new), is
a straw indicating the confidence of
investors in Canadian distillery
stocks and in the permanency of the
rum-running of the issue of nine
shares of bonus stock per one.

I do not doubt for a moment the
sincerity of Mr. Stevens' promise on
the 8th of July that he would "never
allow the Customs Department to be

used as a medium for bootlegging li-
quor into the United States." But up
to today the distillers think they
know what the prospects of their
business are for the future.

You say in your letter of the 11th
that I speak "confidently but rashly
about campaign funds," and you ask
me what facts I can produce. Let me
refer you to the official report of the
proceedings of the Stevens investi-
gating committee of the 11th of
June. Mr. Nash, the auditor, was on
the witness stand. Mr. Nash was a
reluctant witness and the facts were
elicited by Mr. Kennedy, M.P., a
Peace River farmer, against the stren-
uous opposition of Mr. R. B. Ben-
nett, now Mr. Meighen's Minister of
Finance. Mr. Nash told the commit-
tee that he found "payments in all
distilleries of large, substantial
amounts of money, which we ques-
tioned the officials of the distillery
about." . . . These payments "did not
have to do with the business of the
distillery company." . . . "They did
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