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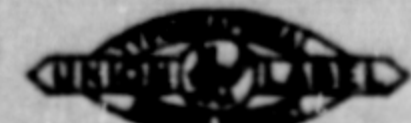
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"The newspaper, with the law, should assume the accused innocent until proven guilty; should be the friend, not the enemy of the general public; the defender, not the invader of private life and the assailant of personal character. It should be, as it were, a keeper of the public conscience."—Henry Watterson.

DAILY EDITION.



FRIDAY, JUNE 30

VITAL PROBLEMS THAT MUST BE FACED

When Dr. J. A. Macdonald of the Toronto Globe is announced to speak one looks for something worth while. Recently he addressed the Canadian Club in Toronto on the above topic and tendered a good deal of food for thought.

The best argument for restriction of immigration that we have heard was presented by Dr. Macdonald. The greatest danger in immigration, said the Doctor, was not ignorance or poverty, or physical disability. These might all be remedied. But immigrants belonging to races whose whole history was a contradiction of democracy, no matter what their intelligence or alertness, were a danger against which Canada's doors should be safely guarded; not because the labor market was congested, not because of any theory of "Canada for Canadians," not because Canadians boasted superiority to the Oriental or other races. The people of Canada dare not put up such bars; they would not be recognized in the judgment hall of the nations. But the supreme right of a self governing nation to protect the sources of its governmental authority and to maintain the foundations of its national life, was recognized in every civilization, and the exercise of that right was without offence to any civilized people.

But worse than the foreigner, in Dr. Macdonald's opinion, was the man who purchased his vote, and still one degree worse was the selfish man among intelligent and prosperous citizens whose attitude towards public policy was determined by what there might be in it of selfish gain for himself, or the superior person who talked about the best people but abstained from all share in political campaigns and denied all responsibility for the government of the city or the country.

Mr. Macdonald deplored the lack in the Canadian Government of a national ideal such as that of the Government of New Zealand, the objective of "giving every citizen adequate access to opportunity, and enabling all the people to enjoy the rewards of honest lives of useful service." In Canada, the Doctor intimated that the Government do not lead public opinion; they follow. They yield to clamor here and coercion there. They are subject to the strongest pressure and move along the lines of least resistance. That never makes for freedom and stability.

What is conserved for the people here is lost by giving away some franchise rights there. Education for useful service is thwarted by the access to opportunity being blocked by special privileges. Advantages which the God of Nations lavished without stint, in the soil, in the stream, in the mine, in the waterpower, in the forest, have been alienated from the people to make a few millionaires. The question which needs to be put to the men of wealth and which will be put in the new day of just dealing, is not, "how much money have you got?" but, "how did you get it?"

The problems that Dr. Macdonald propounded for the men of the Canadian Club of Toronto, might without alteration be applied to the men of the Canadian clubs of British Columbia.

CHING CHING BORDEN, THE CHINESE ECONOMIST

At last Mr. Borden has come to the final resort of the opponent of reciprocity. He has followed the example of Hon. George E. Foster and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, flung reason to the winds and made an unreasoned appeal to the electors at Edmonton. "This is as good a country as any. Let us do everything we can to build it up, instead of sending our products to the United States," are the words which were telegraphed all over the Dominion yesterday as a rallying call to the laggards.

Mr. Borden presents a spectacle of an economist clearly off his head. He would build up Canada by refusing to sell Canadian products to its neighbors. This is the limit of absurdity. It could only be paralleled by a tradesman deciding to build up his business by refusing to sell anything to his customers.

How would this advice of the Conservative leader work out for Prince Rupert. We have enormous fisheries at our doors, an industry that could give employment to fifty thousand men. The people of the United States want our fish to eat. They will give us money in return for it. The Liberal Government by its reciprocity proposals is seeking to have the cent a pound tax removed from fish, so as to open up the market in the United States to the British Columbian fisherman.

And Mr. Borden requests the fishermen of British Columbia to build up the country, by refusing to sell this fish to the United States. The same illustration can be applied to the lumber, the wheat and the fruit industries. If the Borden idea of economics is correct, Ungava and Mackenzie should be the best built up provinces of Canada, for they sell least to the United States.

It looks as if adversity or desperation had affected Mr. Borden's ability to discriminate between sense and nonsense.

A Letter from Far Away England

THE SINGLE TAX A SINGLE TAX

Liverpool, England.

June 10th, 1911

Sir,—Under the title, "The Single Tax and the Assessment" it was good to read the leader in the Prince Rupert Daily News of May 15th. In it the writer set out to explain the Single Tax. I am a single-taxer. I agree with every word save—that the writer did not explain the single tax.

While giving ink to this horrible impiety which would seem to imply that an editor is not infallible in his own newspaper, I am guarding my head with both hands, as well as may be, from the wrath

of heaven. And even then my courage would not be equal to the daring did I not know that the outraged editor of the News is some thousands of miles away. Let me explain:

The Single Tax means the abolition of all taxation upon the work of men's hands. It does not mean merely the removal of local taxation from buildings and other improvements but signifies much more.

The Single Tax is a single tax. Although all local taxation be levied upon the value of the land alone if national or state revenue is still raised upon other things that is not the Single Tax. A man is not a teetotaler who drinks whisky only at meals; he may eat most of the day. And so if local taxation only is levied on a just basis it will not be long till the children of privilege engineer many local charges on to the national revenue.

When a people does attain to the Single Tax there will be but one transaction so far as concerns the individual. The charge will be levied by each local authority upon the value of all land within its jurisdiction. Then in turn the local authorities will contribute to the state exchequer; and the assessment of a local authority will be simply the sum total of all assessments in its district. This means, in addition to the freeing of buildings, machinery, farm drainage and steading, mining plant, etc., from local charges, the abolition of all customs duties, all excise, all income taxation, all carriage licenses; of all taxation on railway tickets, on receipts and cheques; of all stamp duties on deeds, agreements, conveyancing of land and fixed property, etc. There would cease to be taxation on a man's petrol and a child's sugar stick.

If it is foolish to tax houses as they give shelter and their erection gives employment so must it be foolish to tax tea which comforts some people and employs others to handle it. If it is absurd to put local taxation on fixed machinery is it not equally absurd to put state taxation on cheques and deeds which are but part of the machinery of commerce?

Having thus proved that the Single Tax is a single tax it now remains to be shown that the Single Tax is really not a tax at all. This may be an Irishism but if any object on that account let him remember there is wit in Irishisms. The paradox is but a seeming one for when it is realised that the value of land is not produced by individuals as such but by the community as a whole then it is seen that to take this value—the whole of this value and nothing but this value—for both state and local purposes is not, properly speaking, taxation. It is a rent charge upon those people who are left in undisturbed possession of portions of a value which is entirely due to the presence of the population. The word "Tax" is used for convenience. The people can hardly resume their right at a stroke. It will be done gradually and the present systems of taxation abolished at the same rate. For this the existing machinery of the tax offices will be employed and so use of the term "Tax" is not only excusable, it can be justified, it is concise and readily conveys what is meant to an enquirer.

The Single Tax means privilege for none and equal opportunity for all.

Prince Rupert is to be congratulated as a local authority doing its share towards that ideal. And the Prince Rupert Daily News deserves the thanks of all true reformers for its endorsement of the policy.

In a further article, if I am allowed, I hope to give its readers some examples of the anomalies, amusing and serious they are spared, but which are rife in Great Britain under a system that taxes a man on his industry and improvements, overlooking him, however, if he keeps men idle by keeping idle land.

WILLIAM NOBLE
Hon. Secy of Land Values League

SEVEN LABOR DISPUTES ON

Seven Conciliation Boards Inquire into Disputes Between Companies and Employees—All Deal with Wages and Conditions of Employment.

At the present time seven boards of conciliation and investigation under the Industrial Disputes Act are in session in Canada, dealing with the following disputes:

Western Coal Operators' Association and employees, relative to conditions of employment of coal miners in fields of Alberta and British Columbia.

Great Northwestern Telegraph Company of Canada and telegraphers relative to wages, conditions of employment and alleged discrimination against certain employees, members of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America.

John Ritchie Co., Ltd., Wm. A. Marsh, Co., Ltd., Gate Bros. and J. M. Stobe, boot and shoe manufacturers of Quebec, and employees, relative to wages.

Hudson Bay Minings Co., Ltd., Gowganda, Ont., and employees, relative to wages and included charge for board.

Canadian Northern Coal and Ore Dock Co., Ltd., Port Arthur, and employees, relative to wages and alleged discrimination against members of union.

The cities of Port Arthur and Fort William and electrical workers relative to wages and hours.

The City of Edmonton, Alberta, and electrical workers, relative to wages and conditions of employment.

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