

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1922

"I DIDN'T DO IT."

The budget debate in the House of Commons brought out some interesting revelations regarding the differences of opinion prevailing in the Liberal ranks. Premier King, when cornered by Mr. Meighen on his broken pre-election promises and the absolute abandonment of the 1919 platform. Usheepishly repeated the old chestnut that the 1919 platform was only a chart for the guidance of the party. To this Mr. Meighen crushingly replied.

"Can any one comprehend the mental constitution of a man who locks upon a specific pledge of this kind as a chart?" He added that ten of the articles were on the free list when the pledge was given and seven dutiable; now the Liberals have brought down their budget and seven are free and ten dutiable. Mr. Meighen declared that Mr. Fielding was a party to the 1919 platform and instead of implementing his promise by legislation he did the very opposite.

Mr. Fielding immediately rose and said that he had never voted for the tariff resolutions of the 1919 convention and never supported them, to which Mr. Meighen again retorted that this was the first time he (Mr. Fielding) had informed the country of the fact. Mr. Fielding feebly replied that this was the first time it had been announced that he was a party to the 1919 convention. Again the rapturist of the Opposition leader came down: "The Finance Minister," he said, "should make his position very clear and definite; there might be other members of the government who consider they were not parties to it. Possibly the Prime Minister does not think he was a party to it; also the Minister of Justice, yet they had adopted the Liberal platform and the vote; they had taken the people in camp." "Are they there by just right, or are they there by usurpation?" asked Mr. Meighen. To this Premier King replied, "they are here by the will of the people." Mr. Meighen retorted, "by the will of a deceived people and that the minority."

It had not been expected that the Honourable W. S. Fielding, once a strong pillar in the Liberalism of the old school would have resorted to so dispicable a defence as to deny being a party to a convention at which he was a leading figure and a probability for the leadership. It was a lame defence for a Finance Minister, a slap in the face to the whole Liberal party whose "unanimous" platform was acclaimed all over Canada as the acme of united Liberal wisdom.

New Brunswick is at present in the throes of a by-election campaign and the vacancies in the provincial legislature will be filled in a few days. What is the Bell government doing about filling the five vacancies in our legislature which should have been filled before last session? The interval between seeding and haymaking and harvest would have been an ideal time but the opportunity was let slip. The next opportunity will be between harvest and potato digging and marketing but there are as yet no evidences of preparation and the government organs are as silent as oysters on the subject. There is no doubt that if, by any act of neglect or stupidity as was the case last year when the elections should have been held, the Bell government can stave off the elections until after next session they will do it.

The Conservative candidates are all in the field ready to test the issue; not a Liberal candidate has yet so far as we know, either offered his services or been asked to risk it. This is significant in itself, significant of the hopelessness of Liberalism here and also as showing the evident intention of the government to shirk the issue if possible. This latter must be averted at any cost. The vacancies in the legislature must be filled before the next session, but, better still, the legislature should be dissolved and a general election be held. If it becomes necessary to call meetings throughout the province to demand the filling of the present vacancies it is quite possible that the demand will develop into one for a general election. This matter must not be lost sight of.

With peculiar persistency the press of Canada, with the exception of some of the die hard Liberals, are placing the emphasis on the breach of faith by the Liberal party rather than on the direct burden of taxation imposed and the camouflaging of the tariff. Even the die-hards, such as the Toronto Globe, make but a feeble attempt at justifying the course pursued by the Liberal leaders in winning the election. They declare shamefacedly that the situation was a difficult one and that in any case the government were going in the direction they had promised although they were unable to go far! The fact is that they did not "go" at all, that instead of even starting in the direction they promised they turned and went the other way. By a camouflage movement in tariff adjustments they made it possible to lessen the tariff taxation by a million dollars provided we imported the goods which we shall not, but in doing even this they added \$35,000,000 direct to our taxation by the increased sales tax.

The increased taxation however is not as serious a matter to Canadians as is the fact that a once reputable party should so far demean itself as to make promises which it never intended to fulfil and by so doing deceive the people into electing them. La Minerve of Montreal discussing this question, after referring to the pre-election promises of Mr. King, says:—"The Liberal party has since been called to power, and it laughs at its promises. Its solemnly contracted engagements are treated as so many scraps of paper. The Budget speech of the Hon. Mr. Fielding is a condemnation of the programme of the Liberal party. King, Prime Minister, slaps the face of King, the leader of the Opposition. When preaching its programme of tariff reforms in 1919, the Liberal party must have been convinced that the reforms were favorable to the nation or were prejudicial to the national interests. If they judged them to be contrary to the public interests, why did the party declare solemnly that they would be put into operation. If they estimate they would be favorable to the nation, then why have the reforms now been set on one side? Has the party modified its views? If so, then what are we to think of its pretended administrative perspicacity?"

SLAPS HIS OWN FACE

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FAIRPLAY

There is a great deal of nonsense about Spring shooting. Some seem to think that a bird shot in the Fall will arise phoenix-like and be ready to lay and hatch again in the Spring! A bird shot in the Fall or Winter lessens the next year's breeders just as much as one shot in April. There is this much in favor of Spring shooting, when you kill a bird you get something for your trouble. Birds, nature intends that the birds should mature. We are taught to abhor waste. Why should hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of food that cost us nothing be wasted? There is an excuse for killing domestic animals before they are full grown, because they have to be fed. The wild game grow and fatten without cost to anyone. Why not let them mature? They fatten on the grasses and sprouts of the south, and come north when they are in good condition as nature requires them to be. It seems to me that the law should be amended so as to allow both Canadians and Americans to take a reasonable number of the birds when they are grown and in good condition.

There is no getting over the fact that we have not got fair play in this matter. Our members at Ottawa should take the matter up and impress upon the powers that be the necessity of making a more satisfactory arrangement. I am, sir, etc.

FORGET-ME-NOT

When the flowers so beautiful The Father gave a name, Back came a little blue eyed one (All timely it came) And standing at his Father's feet And gazing in His face, It said, in low and trembling tones "Dear God, the name Thou gavest me, Alas! I have forgot!" Kindly the Father looked him down And said: "Forget Me Not."

A GARDEN

A garden is a human thing— See how its we hands are cling! Its blossoms toss and tease you, its vines run Laughing to meet the sun, Griefs cannot cling; the joys their solace lend To one who has a garden for a friend.

A CLOCK OF FLOWERS KEEPS TIME AT SHOW

LONDON, June 7.—A floral clock, keeping Greenwich time will be an attractive feature of this year's Royal Horticultural Society's show. The clock, designed by James Carter and Co., the royal seedsmen, will be sunk in the centre of a floral garden. Its golden hands, mounted on a dial of violas thirteen feet across and the figures indicated by other flowers. A surrounding board flagged path will enable visitors to watch the passing of time.

NOT TOO LATE

It is not yet too late to undo the effects of the neglect of attending to the smoothing of the roads when it should have been done, in the early spring. After any one of the heavy rains, such as we have had recently, the

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by its correspondents.

Migratory Birds Act

Sir,—Our sportsmen are not complaining against the Migratory Birds Law, without a good reason. Canadians are not allowed to shoot geese or brant when they are mature, and in good condition. We are allowed to take them, only in the Autumn. The young birds are then but three or four months old, and are poor eating indeed. By the middle of December they are fairly good, but then the season is closed to us. Now, the main part of the southern flight does not alight in Canada. It passes over our boundary into the States. Why not allow Canadians to shoot until the natural season is over? Even with this privilege, I doubt if one bird would be shot for every hundred that are taken by the Americans during winter and spring. The Americans are allowed to shoot during winter and up to March 10. The birds are then in prime condition, and weigh from eight to twelve pounds. In the Autumn when we are allowed to shoot, the young birds weigh but five or six pounds, and even less. Is that fair treatment? These birds are one of our natural resources, yet the benefits are practically excluded from the benefits thereof.

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Happenings Of The Week

APPLE BLOSSOM DAYS

Apple-blossom days are here, apple blossom days All the woods are misted green through the smoke-sweet haze, Willows bending by the brook, birches on the hill, And catkins alders blowing where the blackbirds trill.

All the little ribboned roads are roofed with pearl and rose, Puffs of petal-sweetness drift where the wind blows; Gray boughs brooding overhead, sungold stealing through, And apple-blossoms sleeping on the soft Spring blue

Apple-blossom days are here, glad and piercing sweet, All the world's gypsy-heart fared on wistful feet. Every road's a golden trail, sweet with bloom and fern, And love has set his camp-fire by the far green turn.

Several motor parties from this province are enjoying apple blossom Sunday in the Annapolis Valley, which takes place tomorrow, while others are leaving this week on a tour through Nova Scotia.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bentley and party left last week for the Annapolis Valley on a short holiday.

The fifty-seventh birthday of His Majesty King George the Fifth was observed fittingly and enjoyably on Saturday afternoon when, at the invitation of their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Byng of Vimy, nearly one thousand guests attended the garden party held at Rideau Hall. Lord and Lady Byng were charming in their hospitality, and after the formal receptions were completed they proceeded to the lawn for the remainder of the afternoon, and many of the guests enjoyed a chat. Their Excellencies were attended by all the members of their staff, the guests being announced by Major Vanier, D. S. O., and Captain Erskine, Major Willis O'Connor, Major Hodgson and Captain Jolliffe were also present. At the tea hour, refreshments were served from long tables arranged in the blue room and in the ball room. Crimson, pink and white carnations had been used to adorn the rooms and tables. Lady Byng was gowned in black lace in most becoming style. She wore a black lace cape lined throughout with tulle and her black lace and maline hat was trimmed with roses. She carried a black satin sunshade adorned with a long white tassel. Among those in attendance were Sir Louis and Lady Davies and several other Islanders.

The sympathy of all will go out to Mrs. Jaynes and family of Newton, Mass., on the death of Rev. Dr. Jaynes which occurred at Boston on Wednesday while coming to their summer home at Keppoch.

Miss Alice Harrison of Moncton was among the welcome visitors here this week. Rev. Canon Scott of Quebec whose interesting story of the war is being finished in today's Guardian, arrived in London this week with Mrs. Scott. They are on their way to visit the war zone. Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Sharp had as their guest this week Mr. Beverly Sharp of Sussex. The dignity of an Earl of the United Kingdom with the hereditary title of the Earl of Ypres has been conferred by King George upon Field Marshal Viscount French. Sport shoes in New York have taken to brilliant colorings and red green or blue is combined with white to match one's costume. The heels are low, of course, and repeat the color note of straps, toes or saddles. Dr. Notting and bride are expected home tonight from their wedding trip to Halifax. Picnics, bathing and fishing parties are being widely indulged in this week, the ideal weather, and wonderful moonlight nights proving too tempting to remain in doors. Senator McLean of Souris has returned to Ottawa and will be there for the remainder of the session. Chief Justice Mathieson is in Montreal this week attending the Navy League Convention. Miss Eileen Longworth is being

welcomed home from McGill University.

At the meeting of the Golf Club this week it was decided to enlarge the Club House. Certainly it would be hard to find more delightful surroundings and with an enlarged Club House ample accommodation will be afforded to the numerous visitors who will arrive here this summer. This afternoon the President's prize, first competition, men's singles handicap, medal play will take place, the tea hostesses being Mrs. A. W. Weeks, Mrs. C. H. B. Longworth, Mrs. T. G. Taylor, and Mrs. Miller.

Mrs. B. C. Prowse has gone to Ottawa to join Senator Prowse. Some of the newest gowns for evening and for dinner wear are absolutely untrimmed save for a belt of beads or flowers. Frequently these come in vivid shades of American beauty, green or pure white but more often in black.

Miss Constance Warburton who spent a few days in Montreal last week has left for Alberta, where she will spend two months en route to the coast. While in Montreal she was the guest of Mrs. Edward Waterston, Clarke avenue, Westmount.

The national chapter L. O. D. E. faced an election this year as the result of Miss Arnold's announcement that she could not stand for a third term. The election of officers at Vancouver this week resulted as follows: President, Mrs. H. E. Doolittle, Toronto; First Vice-President, Mrs. H. F. Burkholder, Hamilton; Second Vice-President, Miss Helen Holstad, Toronto; Third Vice-President, Mrs. A. U. Dupencier, Vancouver; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. Ryrie, Toronto; Fifth Vice-President, Mrs. Fitzrandolph, New Brunswick; Sixth Vice-President, Mrs. J. D. Hay; Secretary, Miss McLellan, Toronto; Treasurer, Mrs. Warren Daring, Toronto; Echoes Secretary Mrs. Baker, Toronto; Standard-Bearer, Mrs. McClymont, Mrs. Malcolmson, St. Cathrines.

Miss Ethel Messervy has returned home after having spent a delightful two weeks at a house party held at Mr. P. S. Cotes' summer residence on Lake Erie.

The marriage takes place in Sussex on June 28th of Miss Marjorie Roach, niece of Mr. G. A. Sharp, of this city to Dr. E. T. Kennedy. Miss Roach, who has visited here several times, is being liberally showered by her numerous friends among whom she is a great favorite.

Miss Ethel Bagnall's numerous friends here will regret to learn that she is a patient in the Water Street General Hospital in Ottawa.

For the first time in modern history the newly married daughter of the King entertained her parents to a dinner and dance in her London home. Saturday was Princess Mary's first appearance as a hostess. With the King and Queen as the principal guests, the gathering at Chesterfield House was one of the most brilliant that has ever taken place in London. Everybody who was anybody in Mayfair was among the 150 guests. Among those invited were many of Princess Mary's girl friends. After dinner there was a dance, which was kept up until the small hours of the morning and there was no more energetic dancer than Princess Mary herself.

The Tennis Tea this afternoon was served by Mrs. D. Riley, Mrs. (Dr.) Crocker and Miss L. Reddin.

"The Haberdashery" Some Startling Values for Friday and Saturday 15 Men's Blue Serge Suits, new stock, worth \$22.50. Friday and Saturday \$15.00 14 Young Men's Suits, smartly cut, just one or two of a kind. Worth up to \$30.00. Friday and Saturday \$17.50 12 Men's Fine Blue Serge Suits, extra quality. Regular \$38.00. Friday and Saturday \$22.50 8 Spring Overcoats, mostly tweeds. Regular \$25.00. Friday and Saturday \$12.50 15 Men's Tweed Raincoats, good patterns, regular \$25.00 value. Friday and Saturday \$12.00 Men's Blue and White Stripe Overalls, extra quality. Friday and Saturday \$1.50 pair Men's Fine Shirts mostly stripes. Sizes 14 to 16 1-2. Friday and Saturday 85c Men's Work Shirts 10 dozen men's work shirts. Special 85c Friday and Saturday. Men's Black Hose. 4 pairs men's Black Hose Friday and Saturday \$1.00 Men's Plain Blue Overalls, good heavy quality. Special Friday and Saturday \$1.50 pair Boys Black Hose. Boys long black school hose. Regular 60c value. Friday and Saturday 39c pair Henderson & Cudmore 101 Grafton Street

Notes By The Way

Hon. F. J. Nash, editor of The Patriot, is enjoying a pleasant summer outing in Nova Scotia, and has had an interview with the Halifax Chronicle, the report of which makes interesting reading. "Our province seems set apart from the troubles which infest the mainland," he says, and goes on to tell that we are free from strikes, unemployment, bread lines and soup kitchens. Moreover, the editor finds that the Island is "a wealthy little country, exceedingly prosperous, and all things considered it is the lightest taxed country in any portion of the civilized world."

We are led to infer that in the editor's opinion the cappy conditions described are due to the fact that "fortunate," as he puts it, the Bell government, of which he is a member came into power in 1915. It is not at all remarkable that a member of a government should speak well of it. In fact instances to the contrary are rare. Therefore we may briefly examine some of the claims above set forth. Admitting that we have a country wealthy in soil and climate and that it is as prosperous as other lands, now? And if it were so, is the fact due to the Bell government?

That our Island province a few years ago was the lightest taxed among civilized countries is true and was then a fact to be proud of. That it is so today must be questioned. It must be questioned because the Bell government in three years past has increased the taxes three-fold. What province levies a poll tax? We know of none. Such a tax was never dreamed of here in all our provincial history until it was laid on by the Bell Government. It would seem that under these circumstances and in these days when poll taxes are being collected with vigor and by force of arms any boast of light taxation should be left to some other than a member of the government.

Very properly, and with as much fairness as could be expected, the interview takes notice of the appalling decrease of the Island's population from a maximum of 109,678 in 1891 to 88,616 by the latest census. The facts not stated in the interview and obviously intended to be kept out of sight, are that in 1891 a Liberal government came into power in this province and retained power for 20 years until 1911. A Liberal government came into power at Ottawa in 1896 and remained in power 15 years, until 1911. In those 20 years, 1891-1911 this province lost 15,350 of its actual population besides at least \$0.000 more of the natural increase by the excess of births over deaths

face them squarely. Population has been lost, is being lost and ought to be increased. Taxation has been enormously increased and ought to be diminished. High taxation, to which the Bell Government is committed, tends to increase the exodus, thus going from bad to worse. Not even in the emergency of by-elections, which they fear to face, have the Bell government ventured to abate one jot or tittle of the taxes they have laid upon our diminishing population. The only remedy in sight, the only possible chance of a turn of the tide in favor of the province and its people is to turn the deceivers out of power.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS ALL KIDNEY DISEASE RHEUMATISM BRIGHT'S DISEASE DIABETES BACKACHE 1087 THE PROPHETIC INSURED THE RIGHT SORT OF PROTECTIVE ROOFING FOR YOUR BANK BALANCE IS FIRE INSURANCE A stream of water from the fireman's hose does not protect your home as well as our insurance protects your finances. We will carefully explain to you the policy you need, if you will call. Hyndman & Co. Ltd The Oldest Insurance Agency in Prince Edward Island