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Here and There

A party of 50 Australian boys will be the guests of the Exhibition at Toronto from August 30th to September 3rd. They are public school boys from all parts of Australia and their visit to Toronto will be made on their way home from the British Empire Exhibition.

British Columbia is now the third manufacturing province of Canada, with 2,673 manufacturing establishments, over 41,000 employees, invested capital amounting to nearly \$225,000,000 and a value of products of approximately \$260,000,000, according to Government statistics.

New Brunswick in 1923 produced more coal than at any other time in her history. The output for the year exceeded that of 1922 by more than 12,000 tons and amounted to 251,091 long tons. It is estimated that this industry creates a value of over \$1,100,000 annually, most of which goes out in supplies and wages for the benefit of the province.

What will probably be the last big round-up of horses in the West will take place shortly in the range country south-east of Calgary, Alberta, for the purpose of clearing the range of stray horses. The horses will be gathered in one central corral, where owners may claim their animals. It is anticipated that about 10,000 animals will be secured. The Department of Agriculture is supervising the arrangements.

Unstinted praise from prominent citizens and the press of Alberta is given the Canadian Pacific Railway in connection with the Company's recently announced branch line construction program, affecting the southern portion of the province. C. E. Mitchell, member of the Provincial Legislature for Bow Valley, describes the announcement as the most important made in many years.

"Perhaps the most noteworthy fact we discovered was the vastly improved psychology of the people west to that which existed a year ago," commented E. W. Beatty, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, on his return from a recent inspection of the Company's property. "They are full of hope and confidence and realize, as the east should realize, the tremendous benefit to the whole of Canada of a second consecutive large harvest."

The number of big industrial undertakings projected for immediate construction on the coast of British Columbia provides a striking indication of how that province is going ahead. A \$400,000 logging railway up the Skeena River Valley, a \$1,000,000 mill plant at Chemainus, a \$200,000 amusement centre at Victoria and a \$200,000 saw mill at Port Coquitlam, with about \$10,000,000 in power plants in the Seave Lake District are some of the more important and a host of smaller projects are also under way.

Practically all Canada's production of newsprint for export in March was absorbed by the United States. Of March shipments amounting to 127,583 tons valued at \$9,756,530, the United States received 126,348 tons, valued at \$9,617,823. The only other Canadian exports of newsprint of importance were 599 tons to South Africa and 1,037 tons to New Zealand. It is expected that April shipments will show an even greater proportion of consignments to the United States.

The concentration camp for emigrants to Canada and the United States maintained by the Canadian Pacific Railway and other steamship companies, is located at Southampton, England. It has an average daily attendance of 600 and, on some days, the number is about 1,000. Comfortable quarters and meals at moderate cost are provided and features of the camp are the special dining-room for Jewish passengers, the private shower baths, with towels and bathing gowns supplied and the individual rooms which are also available.

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— ON PARLIAMENT HILL —

By a Member of the Parliamentary Press Gallery

Ottawa, June 30.—Parliament heaved a sigh of relief when it had passed through the critical vote on the Church Union Bill—that in Committee upon the amendment by Brown of Lisgar, which clauses that had been placed therein by the Committee on Private Bills.

On the first day of the debate in the House there were all the factors that conduce to a full-dress performance—an issue of paramount importance, a full attendance of members, galleries thronged with visitors, an eagerly expected general toning up of the atmosphere that was exhilarating. So far, so good.

On the second day, the debate dragged. The House became wearied of endless re-iteration of arguments thrashed over a thousand times in Committee. Back benches were left to carry on what all recognized as a futile and time-wasting debate—"a maze of time-wasting debate—Parliament stalling off" on the part of the Government. As a member after member felt called upon to explain his position, the House yawned in boredom and the galleries became deserted. Cries of "Question! Question!" greeted each new speaker and it was with some reluctance that the members heard even the utterance of the Party leaders. "Let's get it over," was the attitude at midnight of the second day.

And they "got it over," by a majority, in Committee, of no fewer than 52. True it was that, after this vote, there remained other clauses for consideration in Committee, as well as third reading of the Bill itself—but no one worried on that score. The Brown amendment was generally recognized as the vital point at issue and its decisive adoption paved the way for a very expeditious consideration of the remainder of the Bill.

PORTER VERSUS MURDOCK

Canadians generally, irrespective of Party leanings, will not be misled by the bit of stage-play which had Friday last of the member for West Hastings, E. Guss Porter, following the action of the House in adopting the report of the Privileges and Elections Committee in the matter of his charges against Hon. James Murdock.

Mr. Porter's resignation was a part of the little drama from the moment of its inception, early in the Session. He was chosen to make the charges against Mr. Murdock chiefly for one reason. He came from "a safe seat," viewed from the standpoint of Toryism. The astute Chief of the Conservative Party made no mistake in selecting his champion; he picked a man who, he felt, could resign at any time and be reasonably certain of a re-election.

So, Mr. Porter resigns. He poses as a very brave man; an outraged citizen; a protagonist of purity who is shocked at the scandalous conduct of a minister of the Crown—and he appeals to his constituents for the vindication refused him by his colleagues in the House of Commons.

Mr. Porter has not after all, any such stupendous task in "establishing" what he chose to call the "facts" of his indictment namely that on a

certain day Mr. Murdock had withdrawn certain moneys from the Home Bank and had re-deposited them in another institution. Indeed, he had no task at all—for Mr. Murdock admitted all these things. With transparent honesty and simple frankness that astounded and confused his stand and voluntarily told what he admitted that his act had been one of sheer human impulse from which he could not dissociate himself and the consequences of which he was ready to accept. The decent honesty of the Minister was patent and just the majority of 110, the House applauded to the echo this tribute from his Leader.

The Honorable member who has made the charge against the Minister says that when the Minister of Labor talked with the Deputy Speaker in his office and was there told that the bank was about to fail, and acted on that knowledge, that of itself proves the charge. Will any honorable member say that we should make it an obligation upon members of the House and Ministers of the Crown that, with respect to their own private affairs, they are not to be permitted to exercise the same prudence or the same discretion that they would be expected to exercise as private individuals? A Minister of the Crown makes a good many sacrifices in the public interest that he may give his entire time and attention to public affairs. But I submit that it is going very far to suggest that a Minister of the Crown must not, in that capacity, exercise the same prudence with respect to his own property and his own family as he would be expected to exercise as a private individual.

PAST RECORD ILLUMINES PRESENT ATTACK

"What has been the record of the Minister of Labor? He started life with very little in the way of personal means, but by his industry, his integrity, and his honesty he won the confidence of his fellow workmen, not in tens or in hundreds, but in thousands over the whole of this continent. He was entrusted with part control of the trust funds of the great organization of railway trainmen of

which he was one of the honored officers and leaders. When, some few years ago, he entered the service of this country as a member of the Board of Commerce he drew a salary from the Government which meant a great deal to a man of his limited means. He resigned that office of emolument and refused to draw another dollar of salary when he found it impossible to discharge his duties in the interest of the public, because of the restrictions placed upon him. Hon. gentlemen opposite who wished Mr. Murdock at their bidding to occupy an office and draw a salary, but at the same time not carry out the duties of that office, or serve the public as his position demanded, now seek to drive him out of public life. Instead of attempting to drive Mr. Murdock out of private life, those who wish to see honest and fearless men in public life should do their utmost to retain Mr. Murdock in office."

THE TAXPAYERS PAY FOR MUD-SLINGING

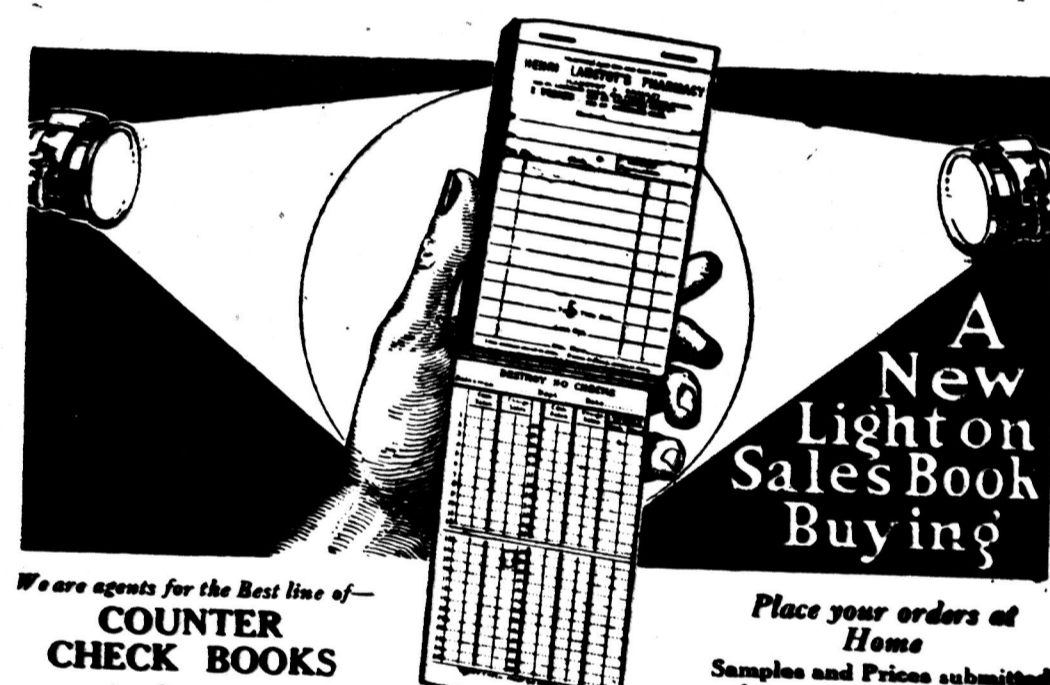
This bit of mud-slinging party politics took up a whole day of the Common's time this week and cost the taxpayers an additional sessional expense many times the four thousand dollars of personal savings which the Minister tried to safeguard and which he may now lose. In two and one-half years it has been the only near scandal charged against the present Government—a pretty fair record.

THE SENATE AND THE C.N.R.

The other, and from the National standpoint, the much more dangerous line of attack, from the Conservative camp is still proceeding via the Senate. The onslaught on the Canadian National Branch Lines Bills is being viciously pressed. An illuminating revelation came on Wednesday in the Senate Committee, dealing with the Branch Lines. Sir James Loughheed declared that he regretted the sponsoring in the Senate, under the late Administration, of the Bill to nationalize the railways. He intended, he said, to atone for that monumental mistake by letting no opportunity pass for limiting further expenditure on the Canadian National System which he considered unjustifiable. And Sir James with this clearly enunciated opposition to National ownership would in all probability be again Government leader in the Senate if Mr. Meighen ever comes back to power again.

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