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LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 20.

THE LITTLE CANADIANS.

If two thousand years hence an archaeologist fishing about among the records of this present age should come on some fragmentary samples of our anti-reciprocist oratory and writing without the antidote, what would he naturally conclude? He would boast of being able to contribute to history the new knowledge that about the beginning of the 20th century the United States grew too populous and too rich to feed itself, and in the desperation of a starving, wild-eyed beast, turned to rend a thinly-populated but advancing neighbor, not, however, daring openly to crush the little creature but circumventing it by superior craft and pretended friendship. So many Canadians made so piteous an outcry that the archaeologist would wonder how a nation made up of such timid souls ever did make the step to freer trade relations with the dreaded neighbor, and climb the ladder to its 40th century puissance.

As a matter of fact, the United States, while seeking its own advantage, of course, is also for the first time in history disposed to be generous to this country. We have resented their encroachments, their poachings, their sharp tricks of the past, and now it is only fair to recognize their change of heart. One reason for past unkindnesses has been mere ignorance and indifference. Canada did not look very important to her great southern neighbor. It is, in fact, a gratifying recognition of our growing strength that the United States makes friendly advances.

But to hear Sir James Whitney and others, one would really imagine that the reciprocity agreement was an insult or criminal attack upon the Dominion. Instead of holding out the olive branch, the United States is represented as fitting a shirt of Nessus upon us. And the dreadful thing about it all is that they can put the shirt on any time they please, whether we like it or no; they can ruin us and the C. P. R. and England and Sir William Van Horne by just dropping their own tariff! It is as easy as dropping a hat, and our fate is in the Yankee hand! If the sword of Damocles so hangs over Canada, it is indeed a good thing that the Americans do love us better, that they are investing here millions of money, have great interests at stake in Canada, and do not wish to ruin such fair enterprises.

BRITAIN'S NAVAL PREPONDERANCE.

The British naval estimates of 1911 are a compromise. The whole body of professional militarists has been clamoring for an advance upon the programme of last year, while a powerful section of the Liberal party has been demanding a reduction. The Government has decided to repeat last year's programme of five Dreadnoughts at a cost of nearly $20,000,000 more, and will add 3,000 men to the navy.

In 1913 Great Britain will have 32 Dreadnoughts, exclusive of the two Australasian ships of that type, which will not be stationed in European waters. Germany will have at the same time 21 Dreadnoughts; the United States, 10; France, 8; Austria and Italy between them, less than 4. The British navy estimates therefore provide for a Dreadnought fleet almost as large as that of Germany, the United States, Italy and Austria combined. In pre-Dreadnoughts the British superiority is even greater. In addition Australia and Canada are building up local squadrons. In 1909 the official reason for laying down eight battleships was German acceleration, but it is now admitted that no acceleration took place. In 1910 five battleships were laid down on the ground that it was necessary to offset Austria and Italy, the allies of Germany. It happens that Germany, Austria and Italy have been so much slower in naval construction than the British Admiralty predicted that British supremacy has reached a point which ought to satisfy even the panic-mongers. This is the last year in which, under the German naval law, Germany lays down four battleships, next year her programme drops to two. "If our estimates," says the London Daily News, "are looked upon as provocative, a new German law will come almost certainly, and then the race to bankruptcy which might have ended this year will be continued indefinitely at an accelerated pace." The London Nation uses similar language. It says the Liberals cannot assent to the construction of five new Dreadnoughts without a specific promise of retrenchment in 1912 and 1913. It adds:

"No words can, indeed, leave on the uninstructed mind any adequate idea of the vast superiority of this country in naval personnel and training, in the speed and adaptability of the various types of vessel, in all the methods and conveniences for fighting, repairing and handling modern ships of war. The chances are that we have greatly exceeded a manageable number of well handled vessels.

"Let us, therefore, put off the whole panoply of foolish fears, and devote ourselves to the principles of naval administration on which the Liberal party have a right to insist."

These comments have some bearing upon the naval question in Canada. Messrs. Borden and Foster pleaded as an excuse for their change of front that a crisis had supervened which called for an immediate grant of money to Great Britain. As a matter of fact the panic was at its height when they declared for a Canadian built navy, and had passed away when they demanded an emergency contribution. There is no crisis today; Great Britain's margin of naval strength over any possible combination against her is overwhelming, and Sir Edward Grey's remarkable speech is an earnest of an understanding with Germany, which will bring the ruinous rivalry to an end.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC ELSEWHERE.

We in Western Ontario have heard little of hydro-electric development in other parts of the Province, yet thanks to the Dominion Government a number of eastern municipalities are getting cheap power without incurring financial obligations.

This policy has been worked out by the Minister of Railways and Canals, Hon. George Graham. The Government obtained control of the water powers along the Trent Valley Canal system, by undertaking to give the owners all the water power they had previously been using, at a rate of $2 per horsepower, with the right of selling the surplus at a price fixed by the Dominion railway commission. The owners combined to organize a transmission company, so that all the power would be distributed by one concern, to as great a distance as possible. Mr. Graham described the project as follows in a speech in the House of Commons:

"What is the result? That the power being distributed by that company today in Central Ontario, I believe, is the cheapest power for the miles of distribution that there is in Canada. That may be putting it strongly, but I believe it not too strongly. They are now distributing power in Belleville and Trenton, and they have made contracts with a large number of municipalities."

Mr. Haggart asked Mr. Graham whether, having provided cheap power for a particular locality, he should not, in principle, supply it to the whole Dominion. Mr. Graham made this significant reply:

"If it could be done, I would be glad to attempt to work out that problem, and if the House would let me, I am sure it could be solved, so that we could supply power east to Smith's Falls and Gananoque, and possibly Brockville. It is a subject that is worth looking into and discussing. * * * I believe it would be one of the best ways to assist the manufacturers and those needing any power if where we have power in sight, we should develop it and place the control of rates under the board of railway commissioners, so that our manufacturers will be able to compete with any people in the world."

The Dominion and Ontario Governments have co-operated in producing the results in Central Ontario, the Ontario Government having admitted that the Federal authorities had a right to control the water powers along a navigable waterway like the Trent River, which is under Dominion jurisdiction. No doubt the Dominion Government would gladly have co-operated with the Ontario Government in distributing Niagara power on a similar plan, under which the municipalities would have taken no risk.

Although there is plenty of water power, as Mr. Graham indicates, to supply all Ontario, or even all Canada, many municipalities in this Province will be deprived of it because they cannot afford to pay for it on the lands of the Niagara scheme. The only way in which the whole of Ontario will be served, and all municipalities will be treated alike, will be the public ownership of transmission lines, enabling power to be sold at one price. Then a community will not be penalized because it is small in numbers, or remote from the source of power. Such a policy would give a stimulus to the development of Ontario beyond anything which any other undertaking could approach.

The first woman member of the Norwegian Parliament has made her first speech. Probably it will not be her last, either.

The death of Joseph Tait, ex-M. P. P., of Toronto, removes a Liberal of the old school. He had much aptitude for public life, and was an effective platform speaker.

Lloyd George's throat complaint is said to be serious. The loss of his voice would be an irreparable loss to his party. Perhaps the most persuasive Liberal organ in Great Britain has been Lloyd George's organ of speech.

Mr. Magrath, Opposition M. P., of Medicine Hat, admits that he is receiving more letters from his constituents favorable to reciprocity than opposed to it, but he intends to vote against it. Mr. Magrath is to be commended for inviting defeat by obeying his own judgment; but his judgment in this case deserves to bring him defeat.

Hon. Robert Rogers says that not a seat in Manitoba could he won by a supporter of reciprocity. Nobody believes Mr. Rogers in Manitoba, and Mr. Rogers knows that nobody believes him. His untruth is for Ontario consumption, but it will not be swallowed by any Ontarioan with his eyes open. The prairie country is solidly for the agreement, and it is well for the Manitoba Government that reciprocity is not a provincial issue.

An interesting situation is developing at Ottawa. The Opposition has been obstructing the estimates evidently with the object of shelving reciprocity. It is said the Government will submit no longer and will attempt to force through supplies during the next two weeks, so as to clear the decks for reciprocity. The Opposition will be compelled to show its hand. If it intends to try to obstruct the reciprocity agreement and keep the Prime Minister from the Imperial Conference and the coronation, the sooner it is known the better.

VARYING ESTIMATES.

[Washington Star.]

"How fast can your motor car go?"

"All depends," replied Mr. Chuggins, gravely, "on who is timing it, my son or a policeman."

A COLD COMPARISON.

[Washington Star.]

"So you are going to give up poetry?"

"I am," replied the earnest youth. "I'm going to study medicine. A prescription commands enormously more respect than a poem."

THE STRAIGHT ROAD.

[Washington Star.]

Go ahead an' do your best,
Workin' while you kin,
Some day you will earn yuh rest,
An' pleasure will begin.

Kindnesses will come yuh way,
Sneers will gather thick
Some will chase you day by day,
An' some is bound to kick!

Jes be grateful foh yuh friends;
Do not dread yuh foes;
Travel till yuh journey ends,
A-wadin' whar yuh goes.

Luck was never all polite.
As yuh toil along
Some will say you is all right,
While some say you's all wrong.

ANXIOUS TO PLEASE.

[Washington Star.]

A young man was praising up his girl to his sister.

"She was asking me," he mentioned, "what color of hair I preferred."

But the sister, with a malicious sniff, remarked:

"How like her that is; always so anxious to please."

AMPLE MANDATE.

[The Farmers' Sun.]

Sir John Macdonald passed the C. P. R. contract and consulted the people afterward. Sir Wilfrid Laurier passed the naval bill and has not yet consulted the people. If it be conceded that a mandate of the people is necessary to pass reciprocity, there can be no doubt that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had, as Sir John Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper had, an ample and sufficient mandate to secure such a free exchange of natural products as that now in question.

RELATIONS WITH THE POLICE.

[Washington Star.]

"Were you ever arrested before?"

"No, judge," replied Plodding Pete; "not since me palmy days, when I was rich enough to own a swift automobile."

LORD ROBERTS' PRAYER.

[Hamilton Herald.]

Lord Roberts, going round the hospital wards after one of the engagements during the Boer war, as well as on his regular visitations, had always a kind word for the patients. Upon this particular occasion he saw one patient who was severely wounded, and asked the poor fellow, "Can I do anything for you, my man?" The answer came feebly: "No, sir." "Can I pray for you?" Lord Roberts asked. "Yes, sir," the soldier replied. Going down upon his knees, his lordship prayed: "O Lord, separate this man's soul from his body before his soul is separated from his body. Amen." At the conclusion there was not a dry eye in the hospital ward.

This pathetic story, which has not been published before, is authenticated by Major Campbell, Army Medical Corps, who was there at the time, and is sent us by our valued contributor, H. J. Oldham, Manchester.

T. B. MACAULAY ON RECIPROCITY

[Hamilton Times.]

T. B. Macaulay, of Montreal, head of the Sun Life, a shrewd and capable financier and economist, is a strong supporter of the reciprocity agreement. He has looked into it carefully and thinks it will be an excellent thing for Canada, and highly beneficial to the empire as a whole. But Mr. Macaulay does not place party politics before the good of his country. That makes a great difference.

DELEGATE OR REPRESENTATIVE.

[Edmund Burke.]

Certainly, gentlemen, it ought to be the happiness and glory of a representative to live in the closest union, the closest correspondence and the most unreserved communication with his constituents. Their wishes ought to have great weight with him; their opinions high respect; their business unremitted attention. It is his duty to sacrifice his repose, his pleasures, his satisfactions, to theirs, and, above all, ever and in all cases, to prefer their interest to his own. But his unbiased opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought not to sacrifice to you, to any man or any set of men living. Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.

My worthy colleague says his duty has been strongly marked by some authoritative instructions, mandates issued, which the member is bound blindly and implicitly to obey, to vote and to argue for, though contrary to the clearest convictions of his judgment and conscience—these are things utterly unknown to the laws of this land, and which arise from a fundamental mistake of the whole order and tenor of our constitution.

A RUB AT THE MAJOR

[St. Thomas Times, Conservative.]

We think that Major Thomas Beattie, M. P. for London, Ont., made rather an exhibition of himself in the House of Commons on Tuesday, when he close to make a violent personal attack upon Mr. W. F. Maclean, M. P. for South York. The people's chamber is not the place to exploit one's private vindictiveness, and whatever the failings or weaknesses of the member for South York may be, the House is not the place to refer to them. The Commons is a place for discussing measures, not men.

BETTER LEFT UNSAID.

[Illustrated Bits.]

She (at the masquerade): Do you think my costume becoming?

He (with enthusiasm): Yes, indeed, but you would be lovely in any disguise.

THE MANUFACTURERS AND RECIPROCITY.

[Ottawa Free Press.]

When the United States reciprocity negotiators came to Ottawa, the first thing they were told by Hon. Mr. Fielding was that this country would not consent to any agreement which would include manufactures. The Washington men did not, therefore deliver the message in favor of free trade in everything which President Taft says he instructed them to deliver.

The Dominion Government seems to have shown more consideration for the Canadian manufacturers than the Canadian manufacturers in their campaign against the reciprocity pact are now showing for the Government.

NOT BUILDING UP ONTARIO.

[Hamilton Times.]

A lot of Scotch farmers are coming to invest considerable money in Ontario farms. Perhaps when they come to read Sir James Whitney's speech showing how the country is to be ruined by reciprocity, they will change their minds. Some of Ontario's statesmen are mighty poor boosters of the Province. They would sacrifice it for an hour's petty political capital.

Unscrupulous Attacks Upon Mr. W. S. Calvert

[From the Ottawa Free Press.]

[From the Ottawa Free Press.]

The vicious and unwarranted attack made upon Mr. W. S. Calvert, formerly chief Liberal whip and now one of the transcontinental railway commissioners, by Mr. T. W. Crothers, Conservative member for West Elgin, is a sample of the low-down tactics which are, unfortunately, not infrequently resorted to by Conservative members of the House of Commons.

In order to bolster up a case for an the Farmers' Bank, Mr. Crothers, with the idea of showing that "something was being held back," revamped the story in distorted form of a purely ordinary business transaction which Mr. Calvert had with the said bank.

One day, about the time when the Farmers' Bank was seeking incorporation, Mr. Calvert received a letter from a firm of Toronto lawyers stating that Mr. W. R. Travers was coming to Ottawa, and expressing a desire that Mr. Calvert would introduce him to the Minister of Finance. Mr. Calvert, quite naturally, did so. He took no part in the interview; he was not concerned in it.

Years after, to be exact, in July, 1909, Mr. Calvert, in the ordinary course of business, obtained from the Farmers' Bank the sum of $3,000, and gave his demand note for that amount. Two weeks later Mr. Calvert paid back $750, but after another fortnight he obtained a loan of $200, making the balance owing on Aug. 9, 30 days after the original loan, $2,450. on Jan. 2 following he reduced his indebtedness by $1,000; on June 13 by investigation into the incorporation of another $1,000, and on Dec. 31 he paid the balance, and his notes were returned to him cancelled. Mr. Calvert has these notes in his possession—they were used by Mr. Carvell in the House last night—and they show that for the money received Mr. Calvert paid $135 interest, that the transaction was a perfectly legitimate and honest one, and just such as every bank in putting through by the thousand every day.

Now, Mr. Crothers knew all these facts; they were explained weeks ago, when the matter was first mentioned. If he has any business sense at all he must have known that there could be no relation between Mr. Calvert's introduction of Mr. Travers to Mr. Fielding and this loan made by the bank years afterwards. And yet, Mr. Crothers and Mr. Boyce were willing to so distort the facts as to lead the people of the country to believe that Mr. Calvert had been given "$3,000 or $5,000," for services rendered to the bank in obtaining incorporation.

It is such things as these that make politics detestable to clean-thinking men. It is such tricks as these that alienate the confidence of the people from the present Conservative Opposition in the House of Commons. Men like Crothers and Boyce do not represent the great Conservative party, a party of high ideals, but what do they care so long as they get their names in the paper and obtain a little cheap notoriety?

LISBON MONARCHISTS ARE AGAIN ACTIVE

Spending Lavishly to Arouse Dissatisfaction With Government.

[Canadian Press.]

Lisbon, March 20.—The monarchists, taking advantage of the divisions and antagonisms among the Republicans, are distributing money lavishly to spread dissatisfaction in the capital and throughout the provinces.

The Government's postponement of the elections for the fourth time, now until May 14, has made a disagreeable impression upon the public. The announced reason for this delay in submitting to the people the choice of a president and government, is that the clergy have undue anti-government influence in various northern districts, and there is need of more time to further the Republican campaign.

The British foreign office has informed the Portuguese Government that it will receive a representative of the republic quite unofficially, and will not recognize him in a diplomatic capacity.

It is on these conditions that Teixeira Gomez, the new envoy, goes to London.

NEW GOLD LEDGE STARTS STAMPEDE

Another Rich Find of Quartz in Wilds of Nevada.

Reno, Nev., March 20.—One of the greatest mining stampedes since the discovery of Tonopah and Goldfield, began here yesterday afternoon when a special train started out for Amadee, California, 80 miles north, on the line of the Nevada, California and Oregon Railroad, for the new gold quartz fields discovered on Friday.

The new camp is just across the California line in Washoe County, Nevada, on the Fort Sage Mountains. Six men ran on to quartz croppings sticking above the surface and extending for a great distance along a ridge and into the valley.

According to advices received here, an assay made at Susanville shows the ore to run as high as $20,000 to the ton.

The ledge is three feet wide and extends more than two miles.

A MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN

Canon Tucker Says as We Build in the West, So Shall We Reap.

At St. Paul's Cathedral yesterday morning, Canon Tucker spoke on mission work.

"The future of our country," he said, "depends on the West, and the future of the West depends on what we do now. We have a great, a wonderful opportunity, and as we build now so will the nation be in the next 25 years."

The men of St. Paul's are engaged this week in a great missionary campaign.

WEARING OUT BY HARD WORK

Liberal Leaders Aged by the Strenuous Life.

CHURCHILL GETTING BALD

Crewe Has Collapsed Under the Strain, and John Burns' Beard Is White.

London, March 20.—Britain's ministers are overworked. Since the Liberals came into power at the end of 1905 they have led strenuous lives, and this has turned the hair of the cabinet prematurely gray. It is matter of general comment that there is scarcely a member of it who has not aged more rapidly than the length of this service warrants.

Lord Crewe, secretary of state for India, and lord privy seal, is the latest victim of breakdown. He collapsed suddenly the other day, and will have to take several months' rest. He is only one of the prominent parliamentarians upon whom the strain of recent years has told.

Too Strenuous.

Three general elections in five years and four extra autumn sessions of Parliament, together with the preparation of a record number of bills, have produced a mass of administrative work which is proving too much for ministers and Opposition leaders alike. The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Conservative leader in the Upper House, is on the sick list, and so is Lord Onslow, chairman of committees, and deputy speaker of that assembly.

Mr. Balfour, Opposition leader in the House of Commons, has been the victim of several severe attacks of influenza. First Lord of the Admiralty McKenna and Walter Long, a Unionist ex-minister, have had to undergo operations for appendicitis. Mr. Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, has been ordered to take a rest for the second time since the new year, and Mr. Barnes, lately leader of the Labor party, is just recovering from a long illness.

John Burns' beard has become as white as snow. Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, and War Minister Haldane look very old and tired. Even the sprightly Winston Churchill, secretary of state for home affairs, who is not yet 37, has taken on the middle-aged look. He is rapidly getting bald and now uses spectacles occasionally. The Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, colonial secretary, who is married to the daughter of the late W. H. Burns, of New York, is now almost as weighty in demeanor as his father, the famous Sir William Harcourt, used to be at 60.

NO CONFESSION SAYS DR. SMITH

Toronto, March 20.—Dr. Bruce Smith in an interview here said that Edward Jarline had made no confession of the murder of Lizzie Anderson to him.

Provincial Inspector Greer also said that there had been no confession. Dr. Smith, who is inspector of prisons, was in Goderich Friday.

BRITISH OFFICERS ORDERED HOME

London, March 20.—All officers of the British army who are on furlough have been ordered to return to their commands at once. No explanation of this action was vouchsafed by the war office today, and as a result there was considerable excitement. The mobilization of American troops in Texas has caused widespread discussion here and the news that the English army is to be put in fighting trim has increased those. Several of the officers are now in the United States.

BROOM CORN STOCK GOES UP IN SMOKE

Charleston, Ill., March 20.—Practically the entire available supply of broom corn in the United States was destroyed by a fire which swept over eleven blocks and caused a loss estimated at $200,000. The fire was still burning early today, but was under control.

NOTED PAINTER DEAD

Ernest Crofts, Military Artist and Royal Academy Keeper, Passes.

London, March 20.—Ernest Crofts, painter and keeper of the Royal Academy, is dead.

Ernest Crofts was born in Yorkshire in 1847, and after completing his education at Rugby and Berlin, studied art in London and Dusseldorf. His first picture was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1874.

Among his paintings were "Napoleon at Ligny," "On the Morning of the Battle of Waterloo," "The Evening of the Battle of Waterloo," "Oliver Cromwell at Marston Moor," "Marlborough at Ramillies," "Execution of Charles I.," "Napoleon Leaving Moscow," "The Gunpowder Plot," and "Roundheads Victorious."

"PIMPLES"

Broke Out All Over Her Face.

Pimples are caused, almost entirely, by bad blood, and there is only one way to get rid of them, and that is to get at the seat of the trouble by using a good reliable blood purifying medicine.

Burdock Blood Bitters has been on the market for 35 years, and is one of the very best blood medicines procurable. After using it you will find that the pimples have disappeared, and you will have a beautiful clear complexion.

Mrs. Robert McNab, Badjeros, Ont., writes:—"I am greatly pleased to report the benefit I have derived from the use of Burdock Blood Bitters. About a year ago I became so weak and run down I could scarcely walk, and pimples broke out all over my face. I tried one thing after another, but nothing seemed to do me any good. I was advised by a lady friend to try B.B.B. and before I had used one bottle I felt it was doing me good so I used three bottles, and I am now well and strong, and the pimples have all disappeared."

Burdock Blood Bitters is manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Scores of Fishers Perish Off Banks of Newfoundland

One Hundred Vessels Wrecked, Sixty-Five of Them Total Losses—A Million Dollars Damage Done and 125 Persons Went to the Bottom.

[Canadian Press.]

Boston, March 20.—Fully 125 persons perished in accidents which befell New England, Canadian and Newfoundland vessels, or other craft which met with disaster in western upper North Atlantic waters during the fall and winter season now ending. It is impossible to announce the exact number of lives lost, as a missing Gloucester schooner, the Ella M. Goodwin, with her crew of ten men, may be yet afloat in northern ice fields, and as statistics of lost Newfoundland fishermen are incomplete. In all 100 vessels were aground, sunken, abandoned, burned or in collision during the past six months. Of the number 75 were schooners, 7 steamers, 7 barges, 3 barkentines, 2 barks, 2 brigantines, 2 tugs, one a $25,000 auxiliary steam yacht, and one a power boat.

65 Total Wrecks.

Sixty-five of the 100 were total wrecks. The loss of life on stranded vessels was greatest on the Newfoundland and Massachusetts coasts. The Maritime Provinces were remarkably free from fatalities, although many natives of that section of Canada were lost in wrecks elsewhere or perished on several craft long posted as missing. The combined financial loss is estimated at nearly $1,000,000.

NIAGARA FRUIT MEN FAVOR RECIPROCITY

Study of Question Has Caused Many to Change Their Views.

St. Catharines, March 19.—Since the organization in this city a few weeks ago of the indignant deputation of Niagara fruit-growers that went to Ottawa to protest against reciprocity some detailed study of the trade agreement has been made by interested persons in this vicinity, and as a result of such research opinion appears to have mellowed considerably. Out of twelve prominent fruit-growers in this district who were interviewed today by your representative five were in favor of the agreement and seven opposed it. But amongst the five persons who supported reciprocity were men who have lately investigated conditions in Buffalo and in other parts of New York State, and have found encouraging data to strengthen the cause of freer trade with the United States in natural products.

Contrary to the findings of the six delegates from the Niagara district, who were sent to obtain information from the fruit lands of the United States for the deputation that went to Ottawa, people here have found that prices of fruits and of good farms are not generally lower than they are in Canada. In fact, the principal objection that even the most vigorous opponent of reciprocity finds how is the presence in the tariff scheme of a duty on baskets, pumps and spraying materials which the fruit-grower on this side of the line must buy from the United States. He is not so sure about the new trade arrangement hurting his fruit business as he is about the unfairness of handicapping him in the commercial race with the American producer, by a levy on numerous little accessories.

Better Prices.

The gardeners of St. Catharines are convinced that reciprocity will be a wonderful help to them. Mr. Leonard Gray went to Buffalo three weeks ago to examine the markets for himself. And he now says: "So far as I am concerned, I hope reciprocity goes through tomorrow." Prices in Buffalo, Mr. Gray said, were better in nearly every line of vegetables and small fruits than at home. Vegetables were 50 per cent higher, while raspberries last year brought from 10 cents per box for Philadelphias to 18 cents per box for the Cuthbert variety. Strawberries and currants were also found to be in a better market than at his home town. Elberta and Crawford peaches taken from Niagara County, in New York State, the same kind as are grown on the Canadian side of the line, sold in Buffalo last year on an average of 55 cents to 85 cents per eleven-quart basket with patent cover. Carrots and parsnips in Buffalo were quoted at 40 to 50 cents per bushel, compared with 20 cents per bushel here. Onions brought $1.25 per bushel wholesale, as against 75 cents per bushel in this market.

"If I had access to the Buffalo market at the present time I could sell one hundred barrels of cabbage (two and a half dozen heads per barrel), while at the present I am unable to sell one hundred heads at home at the same figure."

Mr. J. J. Fee, another market gardener, thought reciprocity would benefit him. He deals in peaches and cherries, and grows tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage and onions; and reciprocity, in Mr. Fee's opinion, would insure a much larger and steadier market for those articles.

NO KISSING TAGS FOR GOTHAM BABES

Campaign Against Promiscuous Osculation for Children

[Canadian Press.]

New York, March 20.—According to the World, mothers who wish to follow the latest fad in the nursery must equip their children with printed labels bearing the words, "No me bese" (Do not kiss me.) The tags, specimens of which have just reached this country, are the result of an European campaign against the promiscuous kissing of children. The wording is in Spanish, because the idea is said to have originated with Queen Victoria of Spain.

On hygienic grounds, so the story goes, the queen directed that her three children should not be embraced by all and sundry court attendants who desired merely to show their loyalty.

RUSSIA WANTS CHINA TO BE MORE EXPLICIT

Pekin Will Be Asked to Explain Certain Minor Points.

[Canadian Press.]

St. Petersburg, March 20.—It is understood that the reply of the Chinese Government to the Russian ultimatum is considered satisfactory in essentials, but China will be asked to be more explicit in her explanations concerning certain minor points.

The latest advices from Peking made plain China's intention of agreeing to both points at issue with Russia. The foreign board stated that it was prepared to accept the establishment of Russian consulates in the places specified by Russia, and also to promise to take measures regarding Chinese monopolies in Mongolia which would permit Russian subjects freedom of trade in Chinese goods as well as in the goods of other countries.

OPPOSITION PLANS OBSTRUCTION CAMPAIGN

Will Attempt to Block Passage of Reciprocity Agreement.

Ottawa, March 20.—With the ending of the fiscal year less than two weeks away, and a very small percentage of supply for the coming year voted, despite the persistent efforts of the Government, and with the obvious obstruction of the Opposition, particularly during the past two weeks, it has been decided by the Government to devote most of the balance of the month to endeavoring to get supply, leaving the less urgent matter of passing the reciprocity proposals over until next month.

There is understood to be a disposition on the part of a section of the Opposition to embarrass the Government by holding up supply and compelling it to enter the fiscal year without funds voted to carry on the various services. Some of the Opposition members seem to think that this might be used as a lever to compel the Government to postpone the consideration of the reciprocity resolutions until next session, or to modify them considerably, or to compel a dissolution and election, by which they hope to take advantage of a snap verdict before the material benefits of the agreement could be made apparent to all by a few months of actual operation. Their is, however, divided counsels among them as to the wisdom of long-continued obstructive tactics, which would result in considerable inconvenience to the general public, and which the common sense of the electors could hardly indorse.

A Feeler.

The Government will be attempting to force supply during the next two weeks, compel the obstructionists to clearly show their hand, and in the event of a continuation of the present tactics and a refusal to pass an interim supply bill, if found necessary, it might be that an appeal to the country would be found necessary to solve the deadlock. The issue in that event would be clearly defined, and although it would be obviously unjust to the electors before another session, when the redistribution bill could be put through and the west given its proper representation in new members, the onus would be with the Opposition, and the Government would not fear the result.

It is probable that supply will be the first order of Government business for the next two weeks, with probably one day in each week given to the continuation of the debate on reciprocity. The developments of the two weeks, with the Government's determination to keep the House sitting late unless some progress is made, should serve to put the situation clearly before the people of Canada.

It may be noted that during the past two weeks the business of legislation and the voting of supplies has practically not been advanced a single step. It may also be asserted with assurance that the Government has no intention of either dropping or modifying its reciprocity proposals, and will use every endeavor to have them passed by the House as speedily as possible.

DROWNED BY A WHALE

Harpooner's Foot Caught in Rope, and He is Drawn Overboard.

[Canadian Press.]

Boston, March 20.—News of the death of First Mate Cruz, of the whaling schooner John Manta, has just reached here in advices from the Provincetown whaling fleet. Cruz, known as one of the most accurate harpoon throwers in the fleet, was drowned by a whale. He had just flung his iron into the side of a fine sperm whale, when, he inadvertently stepped in a bight of the line at his feet. Instantly he was whirled over the bow of the boat, and held securely by the constricting coils of the tautening line, was drawn to his death in the sea. His body was not recovered.

THE RISE OF FIFTH AVENUE

And the Location there of the Hotel St. Regis.

It needs but one glance at Fifth avenue, New York, from Thirty-fourth street northward, to assure anyone that this avenue is supplanting Broadway as the central thoroughfare of New York's traffic. New York is becoming in this district New York's main artery of trade and traffic. Farther north above Forty-second street—are the new social and theatrical centres, and here was located and erected—at Fifth avenue and Fifty-fifth street—the Hotel St. Regis, a hotel designed, built, furnished, equipped and maintained for patrons of refined and discriminating tastes. No feature that could improve or perfect any detail of its equipment or operation has been omitted. The St. Regis restaurant has no superior in all the world in quality of food, skill in preparation and perfection of service, while the charges are no higher than those of other first-class hotels. Transient guests coming to New York and stopping at the Hotel St. Regis will find accommodations of the very highest grade in every particular, and at standard rates. Single rooms are $3 and $4 a day; the same with private bath for $5 a day (or $6 for two people); while for a parlor, bedroom and private bath the rates are $12 a day and up.