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OUR EXPORT TRADE AND RECIPROCITY.

How will the exports of Canadian wheat through this port be affected by Reciprocity with the United States, is a question worth serious consideration at the present time, and its importance is by no means lessened by the recent statement of Mr. Pugsley in advocating the Taft-Fielding pact at Andover. The burden of Mr. Pugsley's plea for Reciprocity is that without it the Western farmer will have no market for his wheat and that "unless he can get larger markets there will be a set back in the prosperity of the West that will be a great misfortune for the whole of Canada." The West is expected to raise two hundred million bushels this year and Mr. Pugsley advances the argument that because England imported only 163,000,000 bushels from the Argentine, India, Russia and Canada, a new outlet must be found or blue ruin faces the farmer. If we are to believe Mr. Pugsley the exportation of wheat has reached its limit. All his glowing panegyrics in former speeches predicting that the golden grain from the West would flow through the port of St. John in an ever increasing stream must go for nothing.

There are ninety million people in Europe today who have to rely for their daily bread entirely on imported wheat, and Canada through her own ports is dealing directly with this market, including Great Britain, which, with a population of 45,000,000 only raises enough wheat for five millions. The Times, which came to Mr. Pugsley's rescue, was forced to admit that its friend and benefactor was talking rubbish when he said this market was exhausted. "There is still room for a great expansion of Canada's exports of grain to Britain," is its unwilling comment—an admission which effectively cuts the ground from under Mr. Pugsley's argument.

It is very evident from the line Mr. Pugsley adopted when he started to talk Reciprocity to the people of New Brunswick, having the position of St. John as the Winter Port of Canada in mind, that he realized some excuse had to be found to justify the diversion of the wheat crop southwards which will be the direct result of the Taft-Fielding Agreement. His choice of an argument that England cannot accommodate more wheat than she is taking now is entirely unworthy of a politician of his ingenuity and resource. It is palpably ridiculous.

In dealing with the question of Reciprocity, the benefit or loss to the country as a whole must be considered. If the Western farmer receives 85 cents a bushel for his wheat, and it costs 15 cents a bushel to bring the wheat to St. John, or any other Canadian port on the seaboard, for shipment to Liverpool, that means that $1 per bushel is distributed throughout Western and Eastern Canada. If, on the other hand, the Western farmer, as he will under the agreement, sends his wheat directly South, at least 10 cents on the bushel is earned on this wheat in the United States.

Western wheat transported through Canadian channels means railway earnings, inland navigation, elevators and export cargoes from Canadian ports—a matter in which St. John is vitally interested. There is this further fact to be considered. If the wheat comes East and is ground in Canadian mills, employment is found for our own people and the by-products give the dairy farmer feed at low prices. Shipped South, Canadian wheat would be exported from the United States either as wheat or flour, the Canadian farmer would reap no advantage from the superior quality of his wheat, and the mills at Minneapolis and other milling centres across the border would have the benefit of the by-products. The loss to St. John's export trade under Reciprocity is abundantly clear and every other Canadian interest that now handles Canadian produce en route to Canadian ports must also suffer.

And let there be no mistake about the fact that our neighbors to the South are fully alive to the situation. At the wide end of the funnel of United States export business, the Northwestern Miller, a great trade organ published at Minneapolis, watches events. It speaks with vast knowledge and unquestioned authority when it voices a desire to prevent the further growth of the milling and exporting industry in Canada:—

"The disposition of Canada's surplus is a question "upon the answer to which depends the future, not only "of the milling interests of the (American) Northwest, "but indeed of the United States. Should this surplus "be shipped abroad, it must inevitably mean the de"struction of the American export trade, the shifting of "the American milling centre, the gradual decline of "the American milling interest to a comparatively unim"portant place in the list of large American industries. "The Miller who is able to grind this enormous "(Canadian) crop will be the miller of the future, and "where he is, there will be the great mills of the "world. The future of American milling with free Cana"dian wheat secured is a grand one. With this enormous "crop flowing into the mills and elevators of the States, "a splendid tide of prosperity would follow in its wake. "The mills of America would go forward on their de"veloping course, new mills would be built, and cap"acities enlarged. New markets abroad would be con"quered."

It is these "new mills" in the United States and these "new markets abroad" to be conquered and supplied through ports other than our own, that Mr. Pugsley advocates when he comes to us as an apostle of Reciprocity. What the ports of New York, Boston and Portland will gain, St. John will lose. There is no burking the issue.

WHAT STRAWBERRY GROWERS MAY EXPECT.

The Fruit Grower, published at Grimsby, Ont., says enough evidence has been forthcoming in the strawberry season of this year to prove that Reciprocity will ruin strawberry growing in Canada. It points out that in anticipation of Reciprocity, American shippers have been over-running the Canadian market in different lines, one of these being strawberries. At the beginning of the Canadian season, Ontario shippers found competing with them in the larger city market carload lots of United States strawberries. The price at Montreal at the outset was four and five cents a box, the result being that instead of the shipper getting a good price as usual, he got the lowest price of the season. The Fruit Grower asks:

"If a few carloads of American berries, which pay "a duty coming in simultaneously with the Canadian "strawberries, forced prices down to four and five cents "a box, what would be the result if there were no duty "at all and the Canadian market was left entirely at "the mercy of the Americans?"

The same authority states that strawberries are not the only Canadian farm product to have suffered in price lately. Butter, eggs and lambs have also dropped in prices, it says, not because there was much of these products placed on the market by Canadian farmers, and not because the demand for these products was any less, but because more American products have been shipped over the border during the past five months in these lines than has been the case in any of the same five months in any year for the past decade.

The Fruit Grower thus comments further upon the situation: "This proves that the American shippers "are alive to the situation and are hard after the Cana"dian market, and are not willing to wait until Recipro"city passes in order to capture it. They have already "started to ship across the line, even if to do so they "have to pay a high duty. Farmers, who actually be"lieved that Reciprocity would benefit the prices for their "butter, eggs, lambs and strawberries, have found out "by actual experience that the American products coming "in and paying the duty have already lowered the prices "of these articles in the Canadian markets, and it is "beginning to dawn upon them that if the Canadian mar"kets can be injured under tariff, that it would be utter"ly ruined under Reciprocity."

The report that United States commission men were in Canada seeking to purchase strawberries is characterized as a scheme intended to deceive the Canadians into acceptance of Reciprocity.

BANKING PROGRESS.

In the "National Issue" recently published by the Toronto News it is established that in a given term of years the aggregate bank clearings of the Dominion have increased six times while the foreign trade has only trebled. Records of bank clearings were not kept in 1878. Halifax was the first city to establish a clearing house. That was in 1887. Montreal followed in 1889, Toronto and Hamilton in 1891, and other cities in later years. In the past ten years alone the aggregate clearings for the leading centres of the Dominion have expanded remarkably, as the following figures show:

Total clearings 1901: $1,871,061,725
Total clearings 1910: $6,153,701,587

Nothing is more indicative of Canadian progress than the development and consolidation of the national banking system. In 1878 the chartered banks numbered 27. Today 26 are actually in operation, the diminished number despite the launching of new institutions being partly due to suspensions and partly to a process of amalgamation that has steadily gone on. A comparison of their financial standing then and now is instructive. The figures given below, by the News, show the combined strength of all the Canadian banks thirty-three years ago and today. The statistics are taken from the Government bank statement. A note circulation of $21,000,000 in 1878 has grown to a volume of nearly $80,000,000. Deposits of less than $72,000,000 have increased to nearly $900,000,000. In 1878 the banks had $129,000,000 loaned. Today they have nearly $900,000,000 out on loan.

The exact figures are:

Item.	1878.	1911.
Paid up capital	$ 64,257,010	$ 100,451,997
Authorized capital	72,766,666	159,266,666
*Reserve	.....	85,566,633
Note circulation	21,455,641	79,927,785
Deposits	71,900,195	888,081,734
Total liabilities	95,641,008	1,024,214,806
Call loans	12,158,288	144,552,738
Current loans	117,556,319	726,934,002
Total assets	175,473,086	1,221,704,694
Proportion of liabilities to assets	54.50 p.c.	83.86 p.c.

*Banks made no return as to reserves till 1883.

As the Dominion develops the banks push their services to every part of the country and particularly to the newly settled areas of the West. The following table shows the number of branches in operation on February 28, 1911:—

In Canada	2,406
Ontario	993
Quebec	365
Nova Scotia	112
New Brunswick	73
Prince Edward Island	15
Manitoba	188
Alberta	192
Saskatchewan	284
British Columbia	180
Yukon	3
N. W. T.	1
In Newfoundland	10
Elsewhere	50
Total	2,466

In April, 1908, there were only 1,843 branches in Canada, 5 in Newfoundland and 43 elsewhere—a total of 1,891. Twenty-two of these were in the West Indies.

Current Comment

(Bangor News.)

That story of a bogus "French duke" working the worldly-wise mayor and city government of wise old Boston for municipal joy rides and other entertainment, in addition to beating a big Boston hotel out of a considerable amount of money reminds one of another large American city, whose enthusiastic board of aldermen fairly thrust the keys of the municipality upon Dr. Cook. Verily, not all the pikers are in small cities or country towns.

(Clinton News-Record.)

The drovers—which included at least one from Clinton—who had cattle on the Toronto market on Monday, had to compete with stock from the United States, several carloads from Michigan being on sale. This competition has set our drover athinking, and as the result he is not so confident as he was a month ago that Reciprocity would be an unmixed blessing for the farmers of Ontario.

(New Haven Journal-Courier.)

A cable from London speaking of Yale's Jack Hammond, the special ambassador to King George's Coronation, says that the King has shown him marked attention and as for the King's aunt she "showed Mr. Hammond attention of the most pronounced manner." Steady, Jack, my boy.

(Bangor News.)

A Philadelphia woman wants a divorce because her husband threw a clock at her. Gallant men everywhere will agree that that is no way to bring a lady to time.

(Ottawa Journal.)

Newspapers are making much ado about a Chicago man who got married without knowing what he was doing. But what's new about that?

CARDINAL RAMPOLLA, WHO WILLLIKELY BE THE NEXT POPE.

CLOSING EXERCISES OF FLORENCEVILLE SCHOOL

Excellent Program on Thursday Night Last — Practical Address to Scholars by Hon. J. K. Flemming.

Florenceville, July 1.—The closing exercises of the Florenceville Consolidated School took place Thursday evening. The large assembly hall was decorated in yellow and blue, the colors of the school and was completely filled, even the corridors being thronged with visitors.

The Florenceville Cadet Band under the leadership of H. G. Thompson, furnished excellent music.

The following programme was given:

Chorus—"'Tis Canada for me."
Devotional Exercises.
Piano solo—"Nocturne," (Chopin) Miss Alvaretta H. Estabrooks.
Essay—"The Origin and Growth of English Drama," Miss Willa E. Hunter.
Vocal Selection—Miss Eva M. Smith.
Recitation—"The Clown's Baby," Miss Ruth H. Smalley.
Chorus—"Where the Sugar Maples Grow."
Address to Graduates—Hon. Mr. Flemming.
Vocal solo—"The Shoogy Shoo," Miss Hazel B. McCain.
Essay—"Agriculture and some of its Problems," Miss Alice S. Lockhart.
Chorus—"Eventide."
Essay—"Reciprocity—Pro and Con," Charles N. Chapman.
Instrumental Solo—(Paderewski) Miss A. H. Estabrooks.
Essay—"Lest We Forget," Prin. R. L. Simms.
Valedictory—Miss Jennie M. Chapman.
Address—Hon. J. K. Flemming.
God Save the King.

Hon. J. K. Flemming, provincial secretary, was warmly welcomed. He spoke of agriculture in connection with the schools and commended the policy adopted at the F. C. S. of holding agricultural meetings when the farmers are brought in sympathy with the work of school gardens. He gave words of counsel and cheer to the graduates, remarking that success comes through honesty, sobriety and industry.

Other speeches were made by Wilbur A. Taylor, secretary of school board, and Councillor Wm. Tompkins, one of the trustees.

Rev. D. Fiske praised the scholars for the essays, saying this was new at the school.

Principal Simms reviewed the year's progress, thanked the people for the hearty support given him, although his policy in sports was drastic, yet he had acted with motives of duty as a representative of true education. He spoke to those leaving, reminding them that the true education should aim at building character based upon those principles taught by the only right example of teaching the One Who was the perfect example.

Principal Simms will remain for another year with increased salary, and the outlook for the school is cheering.

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CENSUS TAKING IS TROUBLESOME JOB

Enumerators Encounter Many Obstacles and Work is Not Being Completed as Soon as Had Been Hoped.

Although it was expected that the census enumerators would complete their work in a month, the commissioner for the St. John district, Geo. K. Berton stated last evening that they were hardly three-quarters through in this city. Owing to the great number of questions which are asked, the work of the enumerators is much heavier than in previous census-takings, and notwithstanding that they have an inducement to hurry up the work in the fact that they are paid on the basis of the number of names reported, they are somewhat behind expectations.

Much delay has been caused by the fact that the enumerators have to make many calls to secure all the information needed. To get a valuation of a house occupied by tenants they have to hunt up the landlord who refers them, sometimes to his agents who, in turn, refer them back to the landlord; and as many of the parties who possess the information necessary are living in the country the enumerator generally earns his money before he gets an answer to all the questions.

Among the foreign population the the troubles of the enumerators are many and varied. Sometimes the foreigners do not understand English and usually they pretend an inability to give the information desired. Another source of trouble is the fact that many people object to answering the questions which pry so closely into their personal or business affairs, making it necessary for the census men to carry on a long argument and finally resort to threats of prosecution in order to do their work. No prosecutions have been made in this district, but the occasions on which threats of imposing the fine of $100 have been made have been quite numerous.

The commissioner hopes that by the end of the week the work of the enumerators here will be practically completed, and that a few days later he will be able to forward the returns to Ottawa.

JEMSEG NEWS.

Jemseg, Jan. 29.—Rev. G. E. Tobin and Mrs. Tobin accompanied by Mr. Tobin's mother, went to St. John today on the steamer May Queen.

Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Titus are spending a few days with friends in Houlton, Me.

Mrs. S. Young is having repairs made to her house.

The strawberry crop is a failure this year owing to the dry weather.

Great Show at Nickel.

An unusually fine programme will be offered Nickel patrons today. Gertrude and Harry Dudley, who commence this engagement today are certain to create a sensation. This is a genuine Keith musical attraction introducing the latest songs and selections from musical comedies. The orchestra will co-operate with some lively numbers and Marie Hogan will sing a new picture song. The photoplays are "In Time for Press," a thrilling newspaper story; "The Carnival," a tale of pleasure loving Paris, and "Cupid's Chauffeur," a comedy of real life and clean-cut fun.

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RECORDS GO IN ATHLETIC TOURNAMENT

Pittsburg, July 1.—Three senior records were broken and one equalled today in the second and final day's meet of the Amateur Athletic Union championship games at Forbes Field. The records broken were in the 880 yard run, the mile run and the juvenile throw. The previous record for the 220 yard hurdles was equalled by the man who made it. From every angle the contests today were exceptionally good. It is estimated that 25,000 spectators crowded into the stadium at Forbes Field to witness the seniors perform.

Two of the records broken today went to members of the Irish-American A. C. The third honor of a broken record fell to a member of the Olympic club of San Francisco. Eller, of the Irish-American A. C. equalled his own A. A. U. record in the 220 yards hurdles.

In the 880 yard run Mel Sheppard, Irish-American A. C. madethe fast time of 1.54 1-5, beating the previous record by just one second. In the mile run, A. R. Kiviat, Irish-American A. C., took the race in 4.19 3-5, the former American record having stood at 4.22 4-5. O. F. Snedigar, of the Olympic club, San Francisco, hurled the javelin for a distance of 165.21 feet, breaking the American record. The previous mark, made by Brodd, Irish-American A. C., last year at New Orleans was 163 feet 1 inch. In five mile, C. V. Bonhag, Irish-American A. C., took the lead and held it until the end.

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