

## N.B. PREMIER SPEAKS AT WEST SIDE MEETING

Advocates Protection Policy and Use of Canadian Ports

SAYS SECTIONAL TARIFF FOOLISH

Candidates and Others Address Electors—Women Hold Meeting.

Classing as foolish the suggestion brought forward in Nova Scotia for a sectional tariff policy and declaring that it would serve to widen the breach between the parts of the country as well as to put heavier burdens on the parts unable to carry them, Hon. Dr. J. B. MacLaren, K.C., Premier of Nova Scotia, last night addressed a meeting of West Saint John electors in the 'Prentice Boys' hall.

He declared that he, as a son of the Maritime Provinces, was ready to see Ontario and Quebec benefit by a stable protective tariff, even if it did not assist the Maritimes, but that he would then insist that all the Canadian business be done through Canadian ports and that these ports be developed to handle the traffic that would follow a business revival in the country.

He thought that this was a just demand on the part of the Maritimes and that it would be recognized as such by any Government having the right policies for the development of the Dominion.

J. Starr Tait made the first address. He was followed by Dr. Baxter and the two Conservative candidates, Dr. Murray MacLaren and Thomas Bell. Lieut-Colonel E. C. Weyman also spoke a few words.

### DR. BAXTER SPEAKS

Hon. Dr. Baxter prefaced his remarks by saying that it was like old times to be addressing a West Side meeting. If it had not been for the recent disaster he would have liked to be with them in the old city hall, but it had passed as many other things were passing, and as the "temporary scaffolding" of the Liberal Government would pass on Oct. 29. It would pass because there were reasons for its passing and he would give a few.

He saw where they would have to fight again a question he had thought settled politically many years ago, the question of protection. He was a Conservative and had been one all his life but, before he was a Conservative, he was a son of the Maritime Provinces and he thought his first duty was to this part of Canada. If he thought that free trade would be of benefit to this section enough to overshadow other considerations, he would support it, but he believed it would be of no real benefit.

### ON NOVA SCOTIA IDEA

He said he saw that a group in Nova Scotia was advocating a graduated tariff to give free trade to the Maritimes and to the Prairie Provinces, protection to Ontario and Quebec, and whatever was decided by British Columbia.

As a Maritime man he believed that the British Empire would be stronger with Canada a united nation. He thought the policy of the Meighen party was one that would be fair to all parts and would strengthen the whole and he was supporting it for that reason. For the same reason he was denouncing the King policy as one that would break Canada asunder.

### RAPS KING POLICY

He described the King policy as a "variable animal at best" with fur of one color for the north and of others for the south, east and west. Mr. King had said he would support Maritime rights if he knew what they were. So he would favor anything else that would get him votes.

Didn't Mr. King yet know what were Maritime Rights? he asked. Did he not know that the rest of Canada was propping while we were growing withered? Confederation called, the speaker declared, for a mutual working for the good of all and not for the sacrifice of any one part.

In regard to the sliding scale of tariff advocated, he wished his hearers to remember that the provinces of Quebec and Ontario bore a great share of the taxes of the country. The Maritimes did not pay much as they did not have the wealth and the Prairies did not pay much. With a debt of \$2,000,000,000 there were heavy bills in the way of interest and other charges to be met. If the ability of Ontario and Quebec to earn were lessened the burden would

fall more heavily on the rest of the Dominion.

These provinces had rural sections but also had industries to a greater extent than the other sections. The more money they paid to labor, the greater would be the home market for farm produce and the more railway traffic there would be. This in turn would increase the demand for manufactures.

### BRITISH PREFERENCE

If such a scheme as suggested were followed the market for manufactures of these provinces would be cut about one-third. They would be unable to make as much and, therefore, unable to pay as much in taxes. Someone must make up the difference and the load would fall on the rest of the Dominion.

The United States might not be universally prosperous, he said, but it was prosperous enough to attract \$300,000,000 Canadians. The only way in which to get them back was to offer them employment here.

He believed in British preference but believed it should be confined to articles not made within the Dominion. Referring to the number of British shoes brought here, he declared that every pair brought in meant that some Canadian workman had been idle for a certain time.

### TRADE BALANCE

He referred to a recent article in the Saint John Globe saying that the people should be thankful for the increase in the trade balance of from \$200,000,000 to \$300,000,000. If we could sell more than we bought, why not increase it, he asked.

He would like to point out that the balance was only the value of the wheat exported. This was not all we sold by any means. Was the wheat crop all that the Government wanted to save the country as a trade balance, he demanded.

They had been told that a low tariff would mean a lower cost of living. What was the good of low prices when one had no money? he asked. The people in China lived for a few cents a day but what Canadian wanted to ensure the same living conditions?

### SAYS PROTECTION NEEDED

He did not want to see the working man of Canada living under the conditions now even under the conditions prevailing in Britain today, where the dole was being given to help the

unemployed. He would like to see the British workman prosperous, but remembered that he was making shoes, with the help of the dole, cheaply enough to sell in Canada in competition with the Canadian shoes.

If they wanted to see the working man prosperous they must erect a tariff wall sufficient to ensure the manufacture in Canada of the materials Canadians needed.

### MARITIME RIGHTS

In regard to the question of Maritime Rights, he thought that some blame attached to both of the great political parties. In fact, until he and Dr. MacLaren had been elected, the House of Commons had never had the question brought forcibly to its attention. The solid 16 from Nova Scotia and the solid four from Prince Edward Island had said nothing while the Maritimes were being depopulated because of a lack of recognition. If the Maritimes wanted to be recognized they would have to depend on Mr. Meighen and the Conservative party.

### WANTS RETURN

If the Maritimes shared the burdens of others they might well expect the others to help them, he asserted. He would be willing to see a tariff wall erected to aid Quebec and Ontario but in return wanted to see a vigorous

policy that would carry out the promises so often made but never kept.

He wanted to see every possible pound of Canadian goods shipped through Canadian ports, which would mean through Saint John and Halifax in the winter.

They need not worry about Courtney Bay, he said. In the election of 1911 the Liberal party had held out a wonderful prospect for this development, and when the Conservative party was returned, it had done all the development that was done there. They would not be likely to fall to carry on this work.

### SAYS \$3,000,000 NEEDED

Two years ago there had been an amount put on the estimates for the completion of the Negro Point breakwater, but it had never been spent. Last year it had been dropped out. The expenditure of \$3,000,000 in Courtney Bay was all right, but it would have to be \$3,000,000 before anything would be accomplished. The matter of a terminal for the Canadian National Railways was important, but, to be any good here, the C.N.R. must bring business here. He would have been better satisfied if he had heard Sir Henry Thornton say to bring goods here.

### LINE TO PORTLAND

The country owned the line to Portland, and it was up to the Government to say whether it should rust or whether the line to Saint John should rust. The King administration had not shown any signs of activity. They were now offering to sell the lines. He warned his listeners that a private company would be an undesirable competitor and suggested that it would

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be better for the country if it kept control and stopped shipping through

Portland.

It would be expensive to put the ports of the Maritimes in condition, he declared. He was ready to bear what burdens the tariff might cause, but demanded in return that the country give the east the facilities and insist on shipment through Canadian ports.

Referring once more to the tariff,

he said that, if the protection were withdrawn from the manufacturing plants, they would be unable to pay taxes and the country would keep sinking into debt until finally some foreign country would take possession of it.

### MR. TAIT SPEAKS

Mr. Tait said that Dr. Foster had declared at St. Martins that he would like to be Secretary of State for four years and had promised about everything possible. All knew that the Government declared, that the promise of \$300,000 for Courtney Bay was a mere election trick and that the amount was a bagatelle. All knew that the Government had failed in its four years to complete Negro Point breakwater and thus make available two additional piers on the West Side.

Dr. Foster had said he believed in the King tariff policy. It was hard to say just what this policy was. In the west the Liberals were talking free trade while in the east they were talking a moderate tariff. If Dr. Foster were elected, he said, he would be able to do nothing. He would be in the same position as Sir Lomer Gouin, Minister of Justice, who had been forced to leave the Government when it became influenced by the free traders of the Progressive party.

### SAYS AGRARIANS DID IT

Mr. King had offered four cabinet positions in the west to members of the Progressive party. This did not seem to show that he had given up the free trade idea but rather that he was eager for power.

The Liberal cry had always been for free trade but the backbones of the party had never intended any such thing, he declared. The Laurier Government in its 15 years of power, had reduced the general tariff only three per cent. It was the pressure of the Progressive party, without whose support the King Government could not stand, that had caused the large cuts, he said.

### SAYS PEOPLE AROUSED

It was said that Mr. Meighen was pessimistic. Was there any cause for joy in the sight of the depression in the country, of the boys leaving home or of the natural resources being poured out, he demanded. He wondered if Dr. Foster had seen the large cargoes of pulpwood being shipped in the raw state to the United States to be manu-

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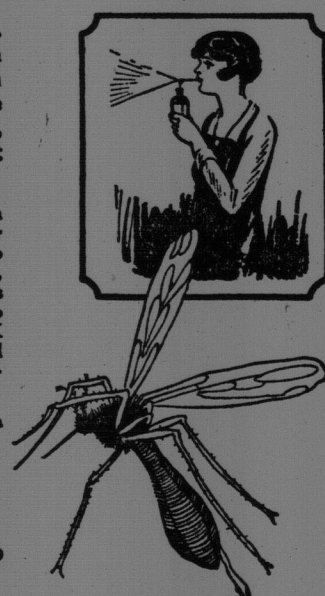
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## The Maritime Provinces' Opportunity is YOUR OPPORTUNITY

Never before in the history of Canada has there come knocking at the door of the Maritime Provinces such a political opportunity as presents itself today.

For four years the King Government has played with us, throwing us an occasional stick of candy in the vain belief that "Canada's sick baby" would go quietly to sleep "again."

But the Maritimes are awake. The people of these three provinces have seen the political hypocrisy of the King Government. For four years they have seen delegation after delegation to Ottawa greeted with insincere and meaningless promises.

Their votes are not to be captured now by the Political sops thrown out on the eve of election.

They can see that Mackenzie King has decided to cast the Maritimes adrift in his frantic attempt to win the support of the Progressives.

They know before hand that if their votes put King back in the saddle he will do nothing to help them attain their fair share of the profits of this Canadian Partnership because he has shackled his Government, and would shackle Canada with bonds forged by his despairing necessity to capture Progressive votes.

Premier King has done nothing that has benefited the Maritime Provinces in the four years he has held office.

Mr. Meighen, the Conservative leader, promises that when he is elected on October 29th he will institute a properly balanced economic arrangement whereby the Maritime Provinces will receive just compensation for bearing their share of Canada's burden.

The Liberals cannot be elected without a considerable measure of support from the Maritime Provinces. They will do nothing for the Maritime Provinces if elected.

## THEREFORE

the opportunity of the Maritime Provinces is to send to Ottawa a solid Maritime Conservative Bloc, which will elect Meighen and which will be strong enough to secure for the Maritimes their just Confederation rights.



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