

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1912.

## THE DUTY ON WHEAT.

That an import duty does not increase the price of an article for export, is a lesson which the Western grain growers, who still see visions of higher prices in the "larger markets" of the United States, might well try to learn. The Chicago Journal in a recent issue contained the following leading editorial:

### OUR "PAUPER" FARMERS.

Here is an instance of how the tariff helps the farmer:

On August 27, the wheat known as No. 1 Northern sold in Winnipeg, Canada, for \$1.04 1/2 per bushel. On the same day, the same grade of wheat, called here No. 1 Hard, sold in Minneapolis for \$1.00 1/2.

On August 27, No. 2 Northern wheat sold in Winnipeg for \$1.02 1/2 per bushel.

On the same day, the same wheat sold in Minneapolis for 92 3/4 cents per bushel.

No. 2 Northern sold in Winnipeg that day for 95 cents.

The same wheat, differently named, sold in Minneapolis on the same day for 88 3/4 cents.

Oats that sold in Winnipeg for 42 1/2 cents, sold in Minneapolis the same day for 30 cents. A similar difference prevailed in the price of barley.

In a word, wheat sells in the American market from 4 cents to 10 cents cheaper than in the Canadian market. Yet there is a duty of 25 cents per bushel on wheat which tries to get into America from Canada.

Why doesn't the American farmer get the advantage of that duty?

Because we export wheat, instead of importing it. An import duty does not and can not help the price of an article of export—unless the producers of that exported article are in a trust that is strong enough to fix prices.

The farmers have never formed a trust.

It is now in order for some jingo paper over the border to ask for a high tariff on wheat to protect the free and many Canadians from the "pauper product" of American farmers!

The September crop report, issued at Washington, estimates a possible yield of 800,000,000 bushels of wheat, 2,300,000,000 bushels of oats, 2,000,000,000 bushels of corn and 72,000,000 tons of hay. The United States market is over supplied. The farmers have produced enormously greater quantities of grain this year and the exports are correspondingly increased. According to statistics of the Department of Agriculture, 15,000,000 bushels of wheat, representing that amount above the quantity required for home necessities, will be exported this year.

The Western grain grower has brought home to him today in a very striking manner the startling, and somewhat unwelcome, fact that not only are the United States capable of supplying their own demand for grain, but that they also have a very considerable quantity for export, which surplus would, on the removal of the tariff, immediately find its way into Canada.

## ELECTRIC POWER FOR THE FARM.

An interesting demonstration has been given in Ontario of the feasibility of employing electric power in the work of the farm. The experiment, which was made on a farm in Toronto township, was under the auspices of Hon. Adam Beck and of Hon. James Duff, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, and was a striking revelation of what the future has in store for the farmer in favorable localities.

Mr. Beck previous to turning on the power, gave facts as to the suitability of the employment of electric power on the farm which were highly interesting. He declared that the German farmer who could get an abundance of cheap labor and to whom the cost of power was comparatively high, found it advantageous to employ electric power for practically all the work on the land. As to the cost of power in Toronto township, Mr. Beck estimated that if two hundred and fifty farmers took the power, two horse-power, or sufficient to do practically all the work of the farm except threshing, could be obtained by each farmer at a cost of eighty dollars a year. In the demonstration that followed, milking, threshing and various other agricultural operations were performed by the employment of electricity, while coffee and toast prepared by electricity were served to the farmers and their wives.

New Brunswick possesses water powers as yet but little developed. It is quite a possibility of the future, however, that in certain sections of the Province water power could be harnessed to provide electricity to perform labor of the farm. For clearing land, threshing, milking, churning, sawing, pumping, crushing feed and for cooking, and lighting the house and barn, the employment of electric current would be invaluable. It would solve many of the problems with which the farmer is confronted would save time and labor, would lead to the introduction of new conveniences and would provide the farmer with many of the advantages of the city.

## THE WRONG KIND OF SOOTHING SYRUP.

Prominent in the editorial columns of the Telegraph and Times a day or so ago appeared an article headed "A Word to Liberals," taken from the Toronto Globe and evidently designed to instill some hopes of victory for the party in the near future, and to remove the sting, as it were, from the anniversary of defeat. It was a humane effort much appreciated by Liberal organs throughout the country. The Globe called the story "Borden's two per cent. grip," and proceeded as follows:

"The talk of Borden's 'decisive majority' at the polls a year ago is rendered ridiculous by the publication at Ottawa of a careful official analysis of the total vote. The Premier—like most Premiers of Canada—is merely hanging to office by his finger tips, so far as the popular vote is concerned. He has a majority of 47, or 21 per cent., in the House of Commons, while in the country, where 1,207,528 persons actually voted, he secured 689,569 votes, the Liberals 625,096, and Labor and Socialist candidates 12,867. The Conservative majority over the Liberals was 44,471, and over all 31,006. This popular majority, therefore, was about 2 1/3 per cent. . . . Borden's two per cent. grip has been represented as a stranglehold. Instead he is hanging by the tips

of his fingers, and a very small thing would force him to let go."

Now, if Mr. Borden is merely hanging by the tips of his fingers with a popular majority of about 2 1/3 per cent., what kind of a grip would the Globe say Sir Wilfrid Laurier had in the last Parliament? He was returned to office in 1908 with a popular majority of less than one per cent. in the Dominion was 16,871. On the strength of this, Sir Wilfrid had a majority of 48 in the House of Commons. Would the organs of the Liberal party be prepared to stand for the statement, even at this late date, that Sir Wilfrid retained office for more than three years by the skin of his teeth? He surely did, if there is any force in the Globe's argument.

In commenting upon this foolish attempt to misrepresent the facts of the case the Ottawa Journal gives the Liberal party a pointed reminder of the true situation. "In last year's election," says the Journal, "the Conservatives had a majority of 44,471 over the Liberals. Independent candidates polled 12,867 votes. These were against Sir Wilfrid in the next election not merely with this comparatively large advantage, but with the aid of power in addition. And everyone knows what that means in Canada. The Conservatives fought and won last election in the teeth of power, prestige, patronage and money. Now they have on their side the power, the prestige and the patronage, and are much more likely than they were before to get easily the money which is needed in general elections, while the Liberals will find they can't get what they used to. Apart altogether, then, from questions of political principle or record—we leave them out because we are dealing merely with what the Globe confines itself to—the Borden grip is a jolly tight one."

## TARIFF REVISION IN THE STATES.

It is significant that one of the fixtures in the programme of each of the three leading political parties in the United States is a revision of the tariff, and that would seem to be a certainty of the future. Usually an impending revision of the tariff unsettles business and many enterprises mark time until definite changes are made. But this year business in the States is reviving and the country as a whole is enjoying a return of prosperity.

The fact that all lines of business are active in the face of the probable success of the Democratic party, which has declared for the immediate downward revision of the tariff, may be taken as a sign that people have confidence in the Democratic standard bearer, and that the country is prepared for the change in schedules.

Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt also favor revision along lines to be recommended by a tariff board.

This revision will be undertaken at a time when the crops are good and the country can stand an adjustment. It is generally conceded that the Payne-Aldrich tariff is a failure and most of its schedules will be revised downward. The sooner that task is finished and the country has a chance to conduct business on a fixed tariff basis, the better the people will like it.

## Current Comment

### National Ideas.

(Winnipeg Herald.)

Through whatever phase a power is passing, its people consider the ideal which animates it to be the best possible. A people given to war consider martial glory the end of life. A people absorbed in arts, letters and commerce regard everything as subservient to these, and a people devoted to the accumulation and preservation of wealth understand nothing else as their highest aim. This makes the cyclic process of rise, zenith and decay as near as a definition of the inevitable as anything could be among creatures who apparently control their own destiny.

### The Latest.

(Montreal Gazette.)

Neuromobilis is the name given by Dr. John P. Walker of Walla Walla, to what he regards as the disease which impels people in automobiles to drive furiously. He says also it will make nervous wrecks of its automobile riding victims. This might be borne if it did not also operate so often to make physical wrecks of the other class of its victims, the walking people on the streets.

### Safeguarding Food.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Iowa, under the State Pure Food Law, intends prosecuting vigorously all grocers, butchers and others who expose foodstuffs to flies. It is held there that food so exposed is adulterated, and therefore amenable to the act. This is certainly true, and united with the higher claim of sanitation, furnishes abundant reason for the universal prosecution of this vital reform.

### Not Unexpected.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Palling the opportunity, through Reciprocity, to grind Canadian wheat in the United States, a Minneapolis company is establishing a 1,500-barrel-a-day mill in Moose Jaw. Others are sure to follow its example. One more case of Mahomet going to the mountain. The moral is as plain as a piecrust.

### Some Food for Thought.

(London Free Press.)

The amount of American tonnage passing through the Canadian canal at the Soo exceeds Canadian tonnage by 60 per cent. The tolls to both countries are alike. Here is one of the answers to special privilege on the Panama Canal that should give Uncle Sam food for thought.

### A Wise Man.

(London Opinion.)

Once upon a time a Wise Man penned a letter full of confidential statements and at the end he wrote this line, heavily underscored: "Burn this letter." Then, being a Wise Man, he took his own advice and burned the letter himself.

### Proverbial Facts.

(Judge.)

It's the early bird that catches the worm,  
No doubt you've often heard;  
But don't forget it's the early worm  
That's caught by the early bird.

### Ships that Can Fight.

(Canadian Courier.)

Thus from the Great Lakes to the Pacific Coast there is only one voice and it speaks for a big Canadian navy. Not a Laurier navy, not a tin-pot navy, but a more substantial and effective navy.

### A Tall Order.

(Calgary Herald.)

If the Borden naval policy includes the gift of battle-ships to Great Britain it would be a splendid thing to name them after the various Provinces of the Dominion.

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**THE SACKVILLE MEN'S LETTER**  
Women's Institute Organized at Middle Sackville — Students from a Distance at Mount Allison—Other News.

Sackville, Sept. 24.—Mount Allison University opened for the year on Tuesday with a large enrollment of students. The two new members of the faculty, Professors Dwight and Wheelock, with their wives, arrived in town last week. The former takes the chair of physics and the latter of logic and psychology.

Dr. R. C. Archibald, who has spent a few days here on his return trip to England, has left for Brown University.

Dr. Margeson and Mrs. Margeson, of Vancouver, are the guests of Mrs. Margeson's brother, Rev. W. H. Robinson, Point de Bute.

Editor A. H. McCready, of the Sackville Post, is confined to the house with a mild attack of typhoid fever.

Among students attending Mount Allison Academy are Alexia Harriott, of Kingston, Jamaica; Victoria Reeves, of San Domingo; Moran de Latorre, of Camaguey, Cuba; Gordon LeMarquard, of Newport, Rhode Island; Victor Paspasie, Que.; John Ryan, of Paris, France.

James Smith, of Poultry street, was successfully operated on for appendicitis on Saturday in the Moncton hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Nichols and children of Winnipeg, who have been the guest of Mrs. Nichols' parents, Governor and Mrs. Wood, left this week for their home in the west.

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**SERIOUS ACCIDENT BRAVELY AVERTED.**  
A four-year-old child of Mrs. Jas. Donohoe, had a narrow escape from serious injury Wednesday. A butcher's team was standing outside the house and the little one in attempting to get on it, scared the horse with the result that the animal started running down the street and around the park. Clayton Morris, who was standing at "The Palms" went to the assistance of the child and owing to the young man's bravery saved the youngster from serious injury. —North Shore Leader, Sept. 27.

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