

The West

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1906.

The Important Question.

Farmers of the West, you are confronted with this question—Will you have a Brodeur-built navy, or the Hudson's Bay railroad?
From this question there is no escape. If after twenty years of agitation, during which no such expensive luxury as a "national" navy absorbed the taxes of the Western farmer, the road has not been built, is it likely that it will be built when several millions of new annual expenditure will go into the pockets of heavily protected manufacturers to enable them to experiment in building men-of-war of which they know nothing?

What has hitherto blocked the construction of the Bay road? To some extent has it not been the opposition of rival corporate railroad interests? Has it not also been further stated that the work has been delayed because of the high expense? Certainly the Grand Trunk Pacific has received its first loan instalment. It will ask for more money and will get them. From where then is the money for the Bay road to come?

Brodeur's "national" navy will be boomed by interested capitalists. Have no doubt on that point. "Patriotism" is the last refuge of a scoundrel, particularly of him who would fatten at his country's expense. And there will be many after this "good thing." A good thing it would be, since it will be controlled by one or two firms, who will charge monopolistic prices. Competition there will not be.

The Hudson's Bay railroad has first claim upon the public purse. It has been solemnly promised. But give Brodeur's rotten Marine Department opportunity first to build the "national" navy and Western farmers will whistle long for the road to Hudson's Bay.

Liberal Protectionists.

The Western Liberal press busies itself endeavoring to represent that every manufacturer is both a protectionist and a Conservative. By parity of reason it is further represented that every declaration of the Manufacturers' Association is a declaration from authoritative Conservative circles. Such representations are so manifestly absurd that one wonders the only assignable reason being the hope that they will be accepted by many persons in western communities who are entire strangers to our politics.

Instead of all protectionists being on the side of the Conservative party, one finds that many of the manufacturers who benefit most from the tariff are high in the councils of the Liberal party. For example there is Hon. L. M. Jones, a person very prominent in the management of the Massey-Harris Company. There is no more thorough-going Grit in the Dominion than he; he has strong influence in the party councils and is a particular friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He is one of those who declared long ago that the tariff was a dead issue. Why? Because the agricultural implements which his firm manufactures are so well protected by the present tariff that there is no kick coming. So highly are these articles protected that some of them are sold in England for thirty per cent less than in this country. So much for Hon. L. M. Jones the highly benefited Liberal manufacturer who is satisfied with the tariff.

Thus one could go down the list of leading Liberals who are satisfied with the tariff. Would they be satisfied if it did not suit them? By no means. Who today complains? It is the farmer, not the manufacturer.

Do the Liberals in the Canadian steel trust object to the system of bounties which has been introduced and perfected by the Laurier government, by which they are enabled to lay down in India and Australia steel rails for \$4 and \$5 a ton less than where they are produced? No, the Liberals in the steel industry do not complain; they are perfectly satisfied.

The Ottawa Free Press in discussing the resolution of the Manufacturers Association that British Columbia lumbermen should be allowed to import free lumber for use in their own factories, asks why farmers should not have the same privilege? The question seems to be a fair one; but it is asked for the mere purpose of throwing dust in the farmers' eyes. For is not Hon. W. C. Edwards, the great lumber king, a

leading Liberal senator? Now what benefits the lumber manufacturer in British Columbia benefits the lumber manufacturer throughout the Dominion; and certainly the Ottawa Free Press has no intention of shying bricks at so close a friend as Hon. W. C. Edwards. Every person at all acquainted with the Laurier tariff policy, knows full well that one of its chief purposes has been to admit duty free the raw materials used in manufacture. But such questions as the Ottawa Free Press has asked are for the purpose of misleading the public.

The manufacturers are on the side of the government; on the side of the Liberal party. Why? Because only the government can grant their demands. Today the manufacturers on the whole are satisfied, because their demands have been granted.

DR. PRICE'S

Cream Baking Powder

Made from cream of tartar derived solely from grapes, the most delicious and healthful of all fruit acids.

were purchased for the government steamer Storm King. Only one is on board and no one remembered that Mr. Tache paid for the one he bought. It is easy to see that Mr. Tache is not the kind of scoundrel who would die in his tracks in the performance of his duty.

Where is the responsibility? Who gives Mr. Girard his amazing powers of compelling the Department of Public Works to stand and deliver? He "has the patronage." Who gave it to him? The ministers of the crown, who are the administrators of the trust funds contributed by the taxpayers for the needs of the nation. They know that patronage induces extravagance and robbery. They know that patronage is one way of wasting the money committed to their care. Yet they allow Mr. Girard to whirl through his constituency "strengthening himself" at the public expense. The responsibility of all this riot of robbery rests upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the chief buttress of the patronage system.

Editorial Notes.

It is reported that Hon. "Archie" McNab is kept busy hunting for something to do.

There seems to be plenty of money for a tin pot navy, but none for the Hudson's Bay Railway.

Guess "Slippery Bill" Pugsley has forgotten all about the navigation of the Saskatchewan by this time.

Was it not Hon. "Charlie" Murphy who said that the west was more concerned about box cars than Dreadnoughts?

Calder denies that he will not grant \$250,000 to the Selkirk Centennial. Good reason why. The government is too hard up.

It was western Grit members who voted down the resolution of a western Conservative to cut in half the duty on agricultural implements.

Brodeur says his department will probably have charge of the projected navy. That means Brodeur chief, Gourdeau second in command, and the notorious Gregory third.

First thing one knows Calder will be interested in some big mineral claim north of Prince Albert, a part of the country which a few years ago he said was not worth taking into account.

The West calls for the development of the Hudson's Bay route and Quebec calls for the building of a "national" navy. With Laurier and Brodeur directing matters it's dollars to doughnuts that Quebec will be served and the West denied.

It is worth while for the farmer to remember that one of the leading members of the Massey-Harris Company is Hon. Lyman Melvin Jones, the Grit senator and particular friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Incidentally one can buy a Canadian binder \$30 cheaper in England than in Canada.

Press Comment.

(Toronto Telegram.)

One great objection to church union is inspired by a belief that the present denominations are plenty big enough for the leadership they have developed. The moral paralysis of official Presbyterianism and Methodism, when every professed ideal called these churches to battle for the right in 1905, has never been forgotten by thousands of Methodists and Presbyterians.

(Winnipeg Tribune.)

Is there a man in Canada who believes that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would stop any tariff "robbery"—that is the word he used—if he had a photograph of the tariff robbers actually taking the money out of the pockets of those who buy? Not a soul. Sir Wilfrid has the absolute proof before him of a dozen combines in Canada, and there are many more, but he is as completely in the hands of the combiners as though he were the office boy of the combines. His position is more contemptible than that of the office boy. The latter is paid to serve the combine. Sir Wilfrid is paid to serve the people. Instead of serving them he has betrayed them. More than that, he still pretends to be a tariff reformer, and as one of the organs giving him general support shows, the duty on this one article of cement necessary in home building everywhere throughout the land is nearly forty per cent.

(Moose Jaw News.)

Lord Northcliffe has delivered a home-thrust. He has done it in commenting on our neglect of Wolfe's grave. True, he merely reinforced the criticism of Mr. F. O. Wade; but it is no disparagement to that gentleman to say that the noble lord's remarks will attract more attention to this matter than his own. Such is the irony of fate and the treatment generally accorded to a prophet in his own country.

Fortunately by his deeds, Wolfe reared into himself a monument more enduring than that of brass or marble. But imperishable as is his fame that does not relieve Canadians from erecting a monument to his memory. Nor is this a matter which appeals only to one racial element in our midst. While Wolfe's victory involved the downfall of French authority on this continent, it gave to the French-Canadians a greater liberty than they could possibly have enjoyed under the old regime, not even under the new regime which was soon to be ushered in by the revolution at home. Nor could they have hoped to enjoy as many privileges under the subsequent American government as was guaranteed them by the treaty of Paris.

(The Weekly Sun)

In his address at the annual convention of the Manufacturers' Association, ex-President Hobson declared the anti-dumping clause of the tariff insufficient for the protection of the Canadian manufacturer, and called for a "satisfactory scale of specific duties" instead.

It will be interesting in view of this declaration, to look into the measure of protection manufacturers really have now under the regular tariff rates, with the anti-dumping clause and arbitrary valuation for customs added. Let us take enamelled ware for purpose of illustration.

The regular tariff on enamelled ware is 95 per cent. But that rate is based not on the price the importer actually pays for the goods; it is based on what the custom authorities may consider "fair-market value." In at least one case that recently came under the Sun's observation, the duty collected figured out at over 50 per cent on the price actually paid for a line of goods brought in. Nor is this an isolated case. In some instances on woolen goods, similar duties are paid. On the cheaper line of goods the tariff also works out at about fifty per cent.

And still some beneficiaries of protection are not satisfied, but are clamoring for more. It would be interesting to have those who are dissatisfied write out what they really would consider a "satisfactory scale of duties." The exhibit would have a peculiar value as an indication of the length to which human greed can go.

(Winnipeg Telegram)

Somewhere by Cape Breton's sound-ing shores Lieutenant Peary is keeping himself warm and the atmospheric waves hot by sending his private opinion to the wide, wide world of a Brooklyn doctor whom he accuses of stealing the indefinite, but long sought North Pole.

Lieutenant Peary has been seeking the said indefinite pole for such a long period that many of his champion supporters have been given, so many resoundings have been made, and so many brass bands have played him in and out, that he probably deems that he has some prescriptive right or title to the Pole.

Men are only grown up children, and it may be that Lieutenant Peary in a way familiar to Canadian children borrowed the North Pole. He feels as if his rights were infringed when a Brooklyn doctor claims to have held an at home with several Eskimos and a dozen huskies for an hour or two about a year before he turned up to play the host.

There are ways and ways of discovering the North Pole and according to all the previous rules an explorer should be rescued half a dozen times before he even get within halting distance of the Pole, much less picnicking in its shadow, that is if the North Pole is a pole and is situated as to throw shadows carelessly around its vicinity. Dr. Cook claims to have discovered the Pole without even a rescue. The doctor broke the first rule of the game.

Now, according to all available information, Dr. Cook and Lieutenant Peary, respectively, are the only white people living who know whether he himself was at the Pole or not. Neither of them have any more real knowledge than the man on the street in Winnipeg or the man in the moon whether the other was ever

was or not. Still Lieutenant Peary has been calling Doctor Cook a liar by wireless telegraphy.

The lieutenant has called the doctor by an unpleasant name, apparently on general principles and a notion that he had the sole and undivided right to his discovery. He seemed to think that the world should wait until he should discover it and if he failed that he should will the right to his belts or assign to some of his friends or dispose of it as he pleased.

Manhood becomes possessed of strange ideas of property and it may be that the world should sympathize with Lieutenant Peary in his chagrin, when he learned of Dr. Cook creeping stealthily up to his own particular pole and finding him not in the neighborhood, had taken tea, an observation and made himself as comfortable as circumstances permitted, a year before the rightful discoverer even knew the neighborhood looked like life. Lieutenant Peary, however, and the whole Peary family will always believe the North Pole to be theirs.

An old time western Canadian once claimed one of the most desirable real estate lots in the Saskatchewan in the vicinity of the present site of Edmonton on the grounds that he had had his eye on it for a long time.

ROSBERRY'S SPEECH.

The following extracts are from Lord Rosberry's recent Glasgow speech on the budget:

This budget is putting the future of Great Britain into the melting pot.

It is, as I have already written, a revolution; but whether it be beneficial or necessary or not it has no mandate from the people.

Our chancellor of the exchequer says it is a budget of "war against poverty"—a war against poverty by an immediate increase of unemployment.

The next notable feature is the want of preparation in all the taxes of the budget, the violent onslaught on land which is, according to the statement of the promoters, to bring in little or nothing, and the universal insecurity which is produced by its provision.

The licensing clauses are, I understand, unjust to Scotland, and largely confiscatory in their nature.

These taxes are not to provide for national defence or any part of the primary necessities of government; they are to hand over to the central government vast sums to be used at the will or whim of the central government.

The land tax, though small, is like a dum-dum bullet; it enters the body and makes a small hole, but when it gets in the body it expands and kills the victim.

The arguments on which this special taxation are applied to land, apply logically four-fold-three-fold at any rate—to consols, and if to consols, therefore, obviously, to all other forms of realized property which depends upon the stability of our government.

Depend upon it that the unearned increment of land, once accepted, will soon spread to all securities, and no form of property is therefore, safe from this extraordinary tax.

The prime minister said this budget was the only alternative to tariff reform. Then, I think, many will cease to agitate for Free Trade.

This budget is introduced as a Liberal measure. All I can say is that it is a new Liberalism, and not the Liberalism I have known and practiced.

Mr. Gladstone would have made very short work of a deputation that waited upon him with such a measure.

I would abandon unremunerative taxation; I would endeavor to restore confidence to capital and enterprise; I would endeavor to live on my income, and not on my capital; and, lastly, I would put the spending department on a business footing.

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INDEPENDENCE OF CANADA

J. Boutier, of Quebec, Tells Washington Paper of the Dreams of His Compatriots in the East.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 26.—In an interview with a representative of the Herald, Jean Boutier of Quebec spoke of the independence sentiment of his compatriots as follows:

"French Canada has virtually a new flag, or rather a flag of its own. It has already four or five flags differing from the Canadian flag proper, but none of them quite expressed the real national aims and desires of the French Canadians. Even the new standard is not assured of universal adoption, though it is being very largely employed by groups of French Canadians throughout the whole of Canada, and also for church and other decorations in certain French-Canadian centres in the New England States.

Visitors have always been struck with the number of French tri-colors decorating the streets and public buildings of Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec and other parts of French Canada. The French colors are occasionally in evidence, but are being rapidly displaced by the new flag.

"Like all Gallic people," added M. Boutier, "the French Canadians attach a great deal of sentimental interest to the symbolism of flags, and there is consequently considerable significance in the change of standards. The French Canadians attach a great deal more importance to the choice of a flag than is generally supposed by those who are not familiar with all their aspirations. That they dream of becoming an independent nation, which will in time dominate the northern part of Canada, few of them care to deny. They largely base their hopes upon the rapid natural increase of their nationality, and the alleged race suicide which their public men openly charge against the English-speaking citizens of Canada and the United States. And it is precisely because they believe so firm in their future destiny as an independent nation that they attach so much importance to the choice of an appropriate flag which shall be distinct from many other existing colors and shall proclaim their French and Catholic origin.

Commenting on the above article the Orange Sentinel of Toronto says: "The interview with Jean Boutier appeared in the Washington Herald of Sept. 10. This article is one further testimony of what we have said many times in discussing the sentiment of French Canada.

It will be observed that M. Boutier frankly admits that the Union Jack is not the flag of the French-Canadians. They have a flag of their own. This flag is intended to give expression to the race and religious sentiments of the people of the province of Quebec. It is the flag of the Sacred Heart, which we have described in these columns on several occasions. And the intention according to M. Boutier himself, is to make it the symbol of a French Roman Catholic nation on the banks of the St. Lawrence.

He says that the French Canadians are encouraged to work for this ultimate condition by the rapidly decreasing birth rate of the English speaking people of Canada. It is upon that that they base their expectations of being able to separate from

the English speaking provinces when the time seems ripe to do so. It is impossible that any country can develop a spirit of unity where so large a section of the population are animated by ambitions that have their very basis in the idea of separation. When the French-Canadian press, and the party press which for the moment enjoys the French-Canadian support, appeals to the English-speaking people to suppress their dearest convictions in order to promote national unity, they are taking a course which is hypocritical in the extreme. It is intended to allay any incipient distrust that might develop so that the schemes of the leaders of this movement may be furthered by the silence that is maintained regarding it.

We submit that it is a dangerous state of affairs when twenty-five per cent of the population of a country is animated by a desire for its dismemberment. National unity must have its growth in the aspirations of the people. If they aspire to separate rather than unite, how can there be maintained anything like national unity. The English speaking people of Canada treat the matter altogether too lightly. They refuse to admit the possibility of the achievement of such an ambition. By this course they silently acquiesce in the progress of the movement. The wisest plan would be to recognize it, to oppose it publicly, to denounce those who advocate it, and to raise the issue in every part of the Dominion. There is no use trying to fight a separation movement by maintaining an ostrich like attitude regarding it. That it is advancing in the neighboring province is apparent from the frank way it is discussed by some public men. It is important that this separation movement should be discussed and considered in the English-speaking provinces of Canada.

During the last fiscal year the births of Indian children outnumbered deaths by 1,791 and the total Indian population increased from 110,206 to 111,048.

The report notes that while infantile mortality and tuberculosis still prevail to a considerable degree among the Indians of the Dominion, better education, and an increase of knowledge as to sanitation are having a good effect. The wigwam and tent are giving place to comfortable, well furnished houses, equipped with all the conveniences of present day civilization.

On the industrial side of Indian life satisfactory progress is reported. During the year the Indians of Canada tilled 52,989 acres of land, from which crops valued at \$1,477,977 were raised. This was an increase of 3,966 acres and \$198,886 in the value of crops produced. Trapping of game brought the Indians in \$616,934, while fishing produced slightly over half a million dollars.

It is announced in the report that the department is considering the advisability of establishing an improved school system, and a further development of day schools for Indians throughout the country.

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Ottawa, Sept. 28.—A steady decrease in numbers which for more than a century has marked the Indian races of Canada is now a thing of the past, according to a report of the department of Indian affairs issued today. The paternal guardianship of the Indians by government is being rewarded by a steady improvement in their conditions and morals, and an increase in their numbers.

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