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ALL WISH TO PRESERVE THE IMPERIAL TIE

Both Parties in Canadian Parliament Unanimous in Desire To Remain Within The British Empire.

Before resuming the discussion of the terms of the agreement concluded between the Government of Canada and the President of the United States, and with a view to dispelling the feeling of unrest created in Canada by comments made in both countries as to the political consequences of the agreement, the House wishes to

affirm emphatically its determination to preserve intact the bonds which unite Canada to the British Empire, and the full liberty of Canada to control her fiscal policy and internal economy. The foregoing resolution was unanimously carried in the House of Commons Wednesday.

FARMERS AND RECIPROCIITY

The Canadian Century of Montreal believing that Reciprocity with the United States would imperil the future of Canada and that it would be specially disadvantageous to Canadian Farmers, wishes to place its view of the question before the whole farming community and has arranged for a series of articles in newspapers of both political parties.

The first article follows and others will be published from week to week.

The Door Wide Open.

From The Canadian Century, Feb. 18.

If the reciprocity compact merely opened the door of the Canadian food market to American farmers it would be very injurious to thousands of Canadian farmers. It costs no more to transport American farm products to Canadian towns and cities than it does to transport Canadian farm products to cities of the United States, and the American farmers have the advantage of an earlier season. Moreover there are at least ten times as many farmers in the United States as there are in Canada, and so ten American farmers will get entrance to the markets of Canada for one Canadian farmer who gets entrance to the markets of the United States. That the American farmers will take advantage of the open door there can be no doubt. Even with a tariff wall against them they have succeeded in selling immense quantities of farm products in Canada, more than Canadian farmers have been able to sell in the United States. With reciprocity in farm products the ten American farmers will crowd the one Canadian farmer pretty close in his own market.

But this is not all that the Canadian farmer has to face under the reciprocity compact. Owing to favoured nation treaties, any tariff advantages granted by Canada to the United States must also apply to the following countries: Argentine Republic, Austria Hungary, Bolivia, Columbia, Denmark, Japan, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela.

Then it is provided that the advantages granted to the United States shall extend to the United Kingdom and the several British colonies. This will bring about free entrance of farm products from these great food exporting colonies, Australia and New Zealand. In fact Canadian farmers will have to compete in their own home market with farm products from all the great food producing countries of the world.

Let, but when he has to compete with the farmers of the world at large it is much more difficult to determine what the future will be. It is now proposed to add to the uncertainty of Canadian farming. Imported farm products from the United States, the Argentine Republic, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and a number of other countries coming into Canada without payment of any duties will to a considerable extent displace Canadian farm products in the home market as a result of the reciprocity compact.

To make up for losses in the home market the Canadian farmer will have to very greatly increase his exports to the United States. In sowing seed, in raising stock, in growing vegetables and fruit he will always have to consider what is most likely to satisfy American demands. And after he has made his arrangements, while his crops are still ungarnered and the live stock, which he is raising specially to suit the American market, is half grown, the United States Congress may suddenly decide to shut out Canadian farm products of all kinds. Remember the Reciprocity Compact is not a treaty. It may be ended at will by the United States Congress or the Canadian Parliament. It is well that we are not tied down to a permanent arrangement. Even the Free Trade Farmers' Convention in Ottawa on December 15 and 16, 1910, recommended that a permanent treaty should not be made, but that any understanding arrived at should be put into effect by concurrent legislation.

All classes of the community were of the same opinion in this regard, and the Government could not have defied the unanimous sentiment of the community. So when we point out that either the United States Congress or the Canadian Parliament is at liberty to end the agreement at short notice we are not blaming the Government for this. We believe that Canadians in general, including both farmers and city people, will find the arrangement unsatisfactory that they will be thankful Parliament has the power to terminate it, but if this forecast should prove wrong there will always overhang the cloud of uncertainty regarding the attitude of the United States Congress.

There will always be strong influences at work in the United States that may cause Congress to alter the tariff. American farmers may be dissatisfied or American manufacturers may think they are not getting enough out of the agreement and demand better terms. Mr. Taft has made no secret of his expectation that the United States is to get greater concessions later on. If the United States Congress endorses the compact it will be because of this expectation. Under such conditions with what feelings of uncertainty will the Canadian farmer plan his work for a year ahead?

Adding to the Uncertainty There is always some uncertainty about farming. The farmer never knows when he puts seed in the ground what the weather conditions will be. There may be frost or hail or drought or too much rain. Added to all these uncertainties due to Nature's variations there is the uncertainty regarding the prices which will prevail when the crop is harvested. How many acres should be devoted to one crop and how many to another depends upon a guess as to what demand there will be for the different agricultural products at the time of harvesting and what prices will prevail. What is true of farm crops is also true of live stock. It is comparatively easy for the farmer to study the conditions of the home mar-

VERY SUCCESSFUL CARNIVAL HELD HERE

Many Beautifully Costumed Skaters on Ice—Prizes Given—Excellent Music was Furnished by Citizen's Band.

Last Tuesday evening's Carnival at Newcastle Rink was a great success. More than usual appeared in costume, and the dresses were exceptionally fine. The music as usual, was excellent. Following were judges:—Mrs. John O'Brien and J. Percy Birchill of Nelson; Miss Holt, Renous Bridge, T. W. Crocker and Mrs. Thomas Connors, Chatham. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

Ladies'—\$5.00—Miss Mary Lawlor—Justice. Gents'—\$5.00—Arthur Jardine, Spanish Don. Girls'—\$2.50—Rose Keary—Queen of Fairies. Boys'—\$2.50—Redvers Bate—Which is the Better Half? Most Original—\$2.50—Mrs. Wm. Stables and Miss Addie Stables—Reciprocity. Funniest Clown—\$2.50—Ray Morrison.

LINER'S OFFICERS ALL ARRESTED

Held in Heavy Bail on Charge of Smuggling Aliens into United States.

New York, Feb. 25.—Federal officers swept aboard a trans-Atlantic liner when she made her port this afternoon, and arrested every man in authority from the captain down. The steamship is the Athina, of the Hellenic Trans-Atlantic Steamship Company, whose general agent here also, was placed under arrest. The government charges that the company has been smuggling in aliens for more than a year, some of them disguised as members of the crew, some of them hidden about the ship, in coal bunkers, and elsewhere, until there was no danger of search.

Nikolas A. Galanos, the agent, was released under \$20,000 bonds, and his confidential secretary in \$45,000. Captain Gekas-Kolouras was released in \$10,000, as were his first officer, the chief engineer and Dr. Gerasimos Diakovatos, the ship's surgeon. Three other officers were held in \$10,000 bail each, and all the crew in \$5,000 each. In all, the government required \$195,000 bail. Judge Chatfield set the trial for March 1. The penalty for conspiracy is \$10,000 and two years imprisonment, either or both, and for violating section 8 of the immigration laws, \$5,000 and two years, either or both.

OLD AGE PENSIONS

Make Great Improvement in Conditions of Britain's Poor.

The original British old age pension bill, provides a weekly pension of 5 shillings (\$1.2) for all persons over seventy years of age whose income is 21 pounds or less per year. A sliding scale, based on the income of the pensioner, provides for smaller pensions of 4, 3, 2 and 1 shilling a week. An income exceeding 31 pounds, 10 shillings disqualifies one from receiving a pension. "Lunatics, criminals, inebriates and wastrels," are excluded from pensions, as were also the recipients of poor relief originally. Payments began two years ago. They are made weekly through the postoffice officials in each place.

WILL KILL U. S. INDUSTRY

International Paper Co. Says American Skilled Labor and Plants Will Come to Canada.

International Paper Company has protested against the ratification of the reciprocity agreement with Canada in a memorial addressed to the congress saying, in part, as follows: If the proposal regarding paper and pulp in the McCall bill, covering the trade agreement are enacted into law, without question, it will paralyze the paper industry and eventually result in the almost complete annihilation in this country of the manufacture of paper made of pulp wood. Here and there may be a mill with exceptional advantages, but there is no doubt that, in the main, the industry will go over into Canada, and that a very large number of skilled laborers will have to leave this country to find employment.

We regard that so-called "trade" as being a very costly one for the United States, in so far as it relates to our industry. It is proposed to let in free paper and pulp in exchange for the privilege of getting Canadian wood, but when our mills have gone out of existence in this country, and no longer require Canadian wood, Canada will have the industry and we will have nothing. With a moderate duty on paper, the industry, as it exists today, can perfectly well be preserved in this country, and it is, in our opinion, a blunder to open our markets to Canadian competition for the sake of getting these restrictions on wood removed. No doubt, in any event, much of the future growth will be in Canada, but that is no reason why the existing industry should be blotted out.

E. H. McEnchorn, Charlottetown, is at the Miramichi Hotel. Messrs. R. A. Lawlor and Robt. Murray, Chatham, were in town today. Mr. Lawlor goes to Fredericton Thurs-

GAME PROTECTION

St. John, Feb. 25.—A delegation from the executive of the N. B. Forest, Fish and Game Association waited on Premier Hazen this morning and consulted with him regarding the proposed reorganization of the association. Mr. Hazen promised cooperation in securing the legislation necessary for incorporation. Suggestions for extending the association's work were also discussed, among them being a plan for the employment of a secretary as a good salary, to give all his time to the work, with a couple of detectives working under him to detect violations of the law.

CLERGYMAN TO STAND TRIAL

Moncton, Feb. 24.—The preliminary hearing in the case of Rev. Z. B. Grass, charged with setting fire to his premises in Robinson Street, on Sunday evening last, was concluded in the Police Court before Magistrate Kay today. He was committed to stand trial at the next sitting of the Supreme Court in Dorchester on Thursday next. J. Sheeran, counsel for the accused, brought up the question of bail as His Honor stated that under the Act, he could deal with the matter to issue bonds.

FOR IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

Canada Has No Special Proposals, But others Have Much to Discuss.

London government has issued the correspondence with overseas dominions setting out the subjects for discussion at the Imperial Conference. New Zealand suggests an imperial council with representatives from all parts of the empire, a secretary of imperial affairs instead of colonial secretary, separate departments for the dominions and crown colonies, high commissioners raised to the status of ambassadors.

South Africa proposes self-governing dominions, matters to be placed directly under the premier. Australia raises the question of the declaration of London, regretting that the colonies were not consulted, opposing the provisions affecting food supply and destruction of neutral vessels.

Mr. Harcourt, colonial secretary, hopes the conference will meet fifteen times between May 22 and the coronation on June 22nd. The all-red route and state cable with a line across Canada are also subjects for discussion. Newfoundland proposes a line of steamers subsidized by Great Britain, Canada and Newfoundland to link up the three. Another topic is an imperial court of appeal, New Zealand and Australia suggesting overseas representation in it.

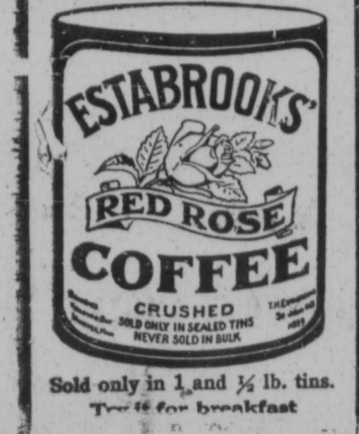
ASSAULT CASE.

The adjourned case of the King vs. Patrick Carroll for assault case came up before Police Magistrate Maltby today. A number of witnesses were examined but very little material evidence was added to that given at the previous hearing. Today's evidence being directed principally to Carroll's movements on the night of the assault. Two witnesses believed to be important did not put in an appearance, one having disobeyed the subpoena and the other the officer was unable to locate. The hearing was further adjourned for one week to enable the crown to compel the attendance of these witnesses. Mr. T. W. Butler represented the crown and Messrs. R. A. Lawlor, K. C., and Robt Murray, K. C., represented the prisoner.

The cabinet raises the British Indian issue, labor exchange, uniform design for stamps, expulsion of undesirable aliens.

Canada has no special proposals, but would welcome suggestions as to uniform naturalization law. The Chronicle, commenting on the absence of Canadian proposals for the conference programme, says Canada is well pleased with the empire as it finds it. The Times says there are good reasons for this cautious attitude. Canada is extremely busy with her own affairs. The country is developing more rapidly than the most sanguine dared to hope a few years ago. All onens being propitious, it naturally produces a comparative lack of interest in external imperial affairs.

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