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Hon. Mr. Laurier, the Liberal leader, has come and gone, and, personally, has, no doubt, created good impressions, as have several members of his travelling staff, which was composed of representatives of Quebec, Ontario and the Maritime provinces. This was presumably to show that there could be no question as to his leadership, in fact, that the Liberals East of the Manitoba boundary line had no difficulty as to following in his political footsteps. But the mouth-piece of Manitoba Liberalism did not come, that troublesome issue—the school question—standing in the way. At Saanichton, this subject came up on Tuesday night; but, as with regard to the trade policy of the country, the Liberal leader, as it were, pleaded for time. Free trade, in the one case, is, he declared, his ultimate object, and, in the other, justice to the minority. He asked for time, however, so as to ascertain that his information was correct and his theories were practical. He also theorized a great deal on the general policy of the Government. The Opposition theory is that it is wrong from start to finish, while its administration is as corrupt as it well can be. Let Mr. Laurier bring along his proofs, and let him show that the Opposition will and can do better, and he will secure a stronger following than he now has in this Province, whose people are fully convinced that they are not in many respects done justly by in matters of Dominion concern. Meantime, however, it is not to Mr. Laurier that we must look for the redress of our grievances, but when he does get an innings, we are quite certain that he will be afforded every opportunity of demonstrating what he can and will do.

There are, however, not a few people who, if not exactly anxious, are desirous of having a few words with Sir Charles H. Tupper, who earned his title as the price of his willingness to sacrifice British Columbia interests to Imperial exigencies. They would like to know what he proposes to do about securing a settlement of those scaling claims against the United States Government, whose adjustment the authorities at Washington have contrived to stave off so long, while all the time they have been allowed to have, as it were, their own way, in connection with a matter in which the Paris arbitrators declared that they were utterly in the wrong. The Fraser River cannery would also like to interview the gentleman, as we have more than once pointed out, in regard to fishery regulations of one sort or another, which the ignorance and bull-headedness of the Minister and those by

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whom he is surrounded and advised have made not only oppressive but utterly unadapted to the conditions with which they are designed to deal. Tupper is the man whom the British Columbians would like to get at, and we can assure him that he and his Department are mainly responsible for the strong feeling of discontent and dissatisfaction which prevails here, and which, having as they think, the members for the Province at their beck and call, they have not taken steps to allay. Had, we say, Mr. Laurier had something more definite to offer than the burden of his parable, the Government might well have reason to be apprehensive: but, as it is, he has made but few, if any, converts, and has not done much to strengthen his supporters in their faith.

—Commercial Journal.

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