

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1911

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN N. B., AUG. 28, 1911.

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THE EVENING TIMES
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

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Honesty in public lifeMeasures for the material
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entwine The Maple Leaf
forever.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER

Canada is greatly prosperous. Her progress and prosperity have been in very large measure due to the enlightened and aggressive policy of the Liberal government, which has been fifteen years in power. The leader of that government is St. John today, and is received with heartiness of welcome which sees in him more than the leader of a political party. He has but lately returned from the imperial capital, where, as the representative of Canada at the Imperial Conference, at the coronation, he was the most striking figure and the most popular among the representatives of the overseas states. Here, even more perhaps than here, is recognized the great service he has rendered to the Empire by his constant efforts to promote race harmony in Canada, and to develop the great principle of imperial unity in conjunction with that of local autonomy. Later generations will appreciate more fully than his contemporaries the statesmanship of the service Sir Wilfrid Laurier has rendered during these fruitful years of imperial development. With a far vision that is in remarkable contrast to the narrow views of his opponents, Sir Wilfrid sees also the true situation in which Canada should stand between the mother country and the other Anglo-Saxon nations on this continent. With absolute confidence in the ability of Canadians to protect their own interests, and with an equal faith in their loyalty to the Empire, he advocates a wide agreement which will be alike beneficial to Canada and the United States, and at the same time deepen the feeling of friendship between the Empire and the public.

Nowhere in Canada should such a man receive a warmer welcome than in St. John, for her citizens are intensely loyal to the Empire, and on close terms of friendship with the New England states. It is to be regretted that many of our sons and daughters have gone in past years to make Sir Wilfrid's home among a kindred people. It is not to be forgotten that while some of English birth, who boast of their Anglo-Saxon lineage, are now busily engaged in an effort to arouse bitter prejudice against people of the same race, the south, it is a man of French-Canadian birth and traditions who stands for a British ideal of Anglo-Saxon unity. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, though he claims to be only a plain Canadian citizen, is far from an imperialist than those who today are rallying every discordant element in frantic effort to defeat his government.

SIR WILFRID'S OPPONENTS

The Conservative leaders ask the people of Canada to believe that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, toward the end of a great public career, seeks to betray his country. In their words that is the meaning of the appeal to "stand by the flag," and keep both hands on the Union Jack. They would have the voters believe that is man, who has been so highly honored by his fellow citizens, and received the marks of approval from the sovereign of the Empire, has now turned traitor to the interests of his country. The persons who seek to prejudice the people by such insinuations do not themselves believe anything of the sort. Their sincerity is proved by the fact that they are allied with Mr. Boursassa, and ally accepting his aid in the struggle to beat Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The Boursassa lie, if carried to its legitimate conclusion, would not only sever Canada from the Empire, but rend Canada itself in twain. Mr. Borden is quite aware of this, but he does not repudiate Mr. Boursassa.

Why is the Union Jack waved in one part of Canada and flouted in another by those who are opposed to the government? Because they cannot hope to win in fair

discussion of the real issue in this campaign. The motto "Anything to beat Laurier," brings together for the time such ordinarily warring elements as are represented by Borden and Boursassa, Clifford Sifton and Joe Martin, Mr. Foster and the Montreal Star. The more clearly this fact is realized by the people, the more their sense of fairness will prompt them to forget party, and rally to the support of the statesman under whose leadership Canada has made such wonderful progress for fifteen years.

SOMEWHAT HYSTERICAL

A fair sample of the kind of arguments the Conservatives are advancing, in their opposition to reciprocity, is found in the following extract from the Standard's report of a meeting in Sussex:

"Dr. Burnett closed with a rattling speech in which he resented the Liberal argument that Canada would be benefited by reciprocity. The Liberals claimed that to defeat it would be to give President Taft a slap in the face. Dr. Burnett wished he had two votes, so that he might administer a slap in the face to Taft and a good solid kick as well. Canada was good enough for him and it made his blood boil to see the Liberals crawling at the feet of President Taft." After Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been returned to power, and the trade agreement with the United States has been adopted, and its benefits begin to flow into Kings county, those who are making such inopportune remarks as are above quoted will wonder that they ever permitted themselves to take leave of their senses to such an extent.

Why should even a per-fervid orator at a partisan rally describe his fellow-citizens, whose views on a trade question differ from his own, as things that crawl?

Hail to the chief, Canada's greatest statesman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

After tonight's demonstration Sir Wilfrid will be able to judge whether there are any friends of reciprocity in St. John.

"Borden, Bunscombe, Boursassa et Cie," is the sign the Conservatives would like to place over the front door of Canada.

"It is well with Canada, but it will be better when we have free access to the United States market,"—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Mr. Carvell charges that a race and religion cry against Sir Wilfrid Laurier is being worked in Carleton county. Evidently those who adopt such tactics know that they cannot win by fair and honorable methods.

There is one opponent of Sir Wilfrid in Quebec who has a very wide reach. "In regard to the navy," he says, "I am with Mr. Borden, Mr. Monk and Mr. Foster." In other words, he is for it and against it.

Ruin for St. John, ruin for Canada, disaster for the Empire, is the burden of the Tory cry. Yet Canada was never so prosperous as today, and the outlook was never so bright. The Borden party have decided that their only hope is in playing upon the fears of the people.

A prominent horse breeder in Ontario writes to the Toronto Globe, giving a comparison of prices in Canada, Great Britain and the United States, and proving from his own experience that reciprocity will be of great benefit to the Canadian breeder of horses, because of the higher prices to be obtained.

The Ottawa Free Press says:—"The rate of dividend of the Bank of Nova Scotia has been raised from 13 to 14 per cent., but Mr. R. L. Borden, who owns a big interest in that institution, is objecting to the proposal to give the farmers of Canada an opportunity to increase their dividends. Free trade in money but restriction in natural products is his policy."

The Standard accepts Mr. Boursassa as a Conservative for the purposes of this campaign. The Montreal Gazette speaks of the "Boursassa wing of the opposition," but the Standard goes further. It says the Conservatives will have candidates in every constituency in Quebec. "Thus all of Mr. Boursassa's candidates, who are opposed to the navy and to British connection, are taken into the fold."

No answer has yet been given to the question why, if reciprocity is to divert trade from our Atlantic ports, the diversion has not already taken place, since Canadian produce can now go free in bond through United States ports. Neither is any explanation offered of the fact that more than a third of the winter port exports through St. John last year came from the United States. Until they can explain away these facts the Conservatives may as well give up the effort to convince the people that reciprocity will interfere with the trade of our Atlantic ports, St. John included.

The politician who boasts about his yearning to defend the flag when it is in no danger is in the same class with the hen which cackles when there is no egg.



A PRAYER

Not for the blazoned sorrows, Lord,
That flout their purple in the market place,
But for grief's fearful secret sword,
That hides its piercing from the daylight's face
Pity, I say.

Not for those ill the world may know,
Nor plaints, whose moanings all the world may hear,
But to the lonely midnight's woe,
That lurks 'neath laughter in the noon-tide clear,
Give ease today.

Not for those weeping ones, who share
Their tears with others, in a mingled rain,
But for the silent brave, who bear
With smiles their burden of an unguessed pain,
For these, I pray,
—Lillian White Spencer, in the Metropolitan.

IN LIGHTER VEIN



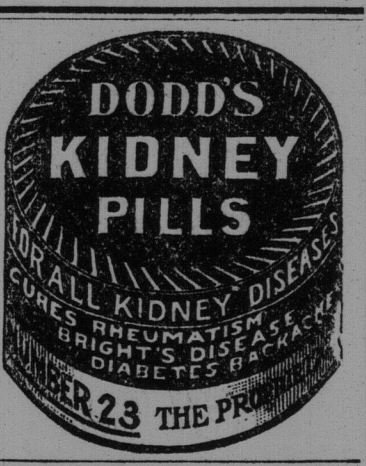
AMBIGUOUS.

First Sportsman—(after pheasants) Look out! Your last shot missed my wife by about an inch.

Second Sportsman—Sorry, old man.



CAUSE FOR REJOICING
Teacher—"Don't you realize, Willie, that by jumping you in after school, I punish myself as well as you?"
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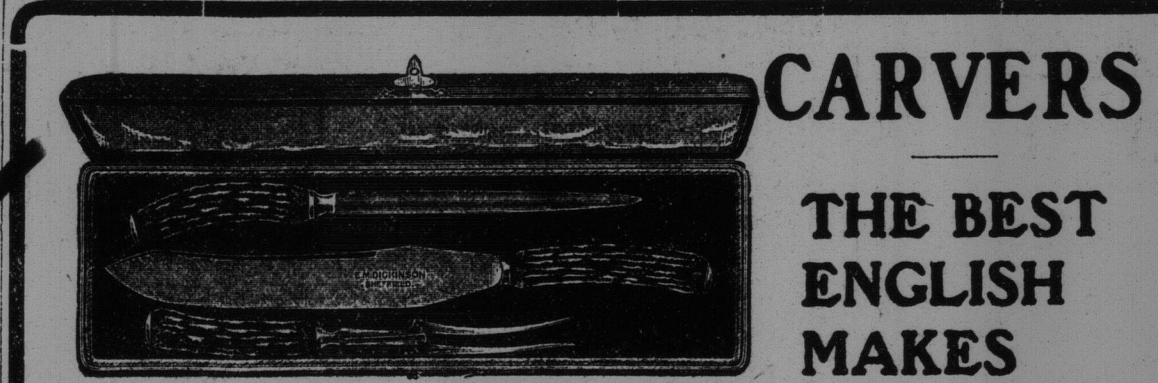
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