

Taft-Fielding Pact A Complete Surrender

A Loss of Revenue--A Giving up of the Imperial Preference in Port--The First Fatal Step to Fiscal Dependence Upon the United States--Loss of Power on Tariff.

HON. GEO. E. FOSTER, M. P.
In Canadian Century.

A few weeks ago Mr. Fielding announced that no changes in the tariff would be made this year. None worthy have been made but for the "big stick." They were made at the conclusion of the United States. They were made open to the world, not from mere good will but by virtue of the most favored nation clauses. By the French treaty they had to go to France, by the Japanese treaty to Japan, and by the most favored nation treaties to twelve or thirteen other countries. By the preferential treatment Great Britain and France could already have even better rates. That practically includes the world. To attempt to "save our face" by so apparent a demerit, to give up the statesmanship and in reality is very absurd for a Canadian chancellor of the Exchequer.

No Other Advantage Secured.

7. But why when all was conceded and nothing received in the way of tariff concessions was not advantage taken of the negotiations to settle some points of great importance and settle them in favor of Canada? The matter of preferential treatment between the mother and colonies and between the colonies themselves is left entirely undetermined. In so far as the United States legislation goes, that country is legally empowered to flourish the surtax club and demand concessions if Canada gives to Great Britain rates that discriminate, or if for instance she gives a preference to the West Indies and to her. Today the great obstacle to a treaty arrangement with Jamaica and other West Indian islands is their fear that the United States will apply the surtax.

Here was an excellent opportunity to settle the policy of the United States in that respect. To have it settled once for all would clear the way to most important trade arrangements. The opportunity was not availed of and the whole matter is still in the haze of doubt with the impending and probably contingency against us.

What then has Canada gained? Nothing as a quid pro quo. What has he given up? A considerable revenue, a valuable trade privilege, a portion of her imperial preference, the right of independent treaty making as respects the United States, and made upon a powerful and successful negotiator whose tariff from A to Z is as it long has been, unfair to a degree. Yes, it was a surrender sure enough.

The principle was that a Canadian contention was surrendered, the United States contention was victorious. Having been conceded in this case, it rules for all cases. The principle is set out by Secretary Knox? This, the United States will use its surtax to compel Canada to give up the tariff. The United States will give to any other country in respect to all articles which really compete with similar articles exported by the United States. The article is of a class with respect to which the United States either controls the Canadian market or is by geographical position able to compete therein. It will not insist that the treatment is unduly discriminatory and will not therefore invoke the surtax.

Canada Made Concessions. So in the case of the French treaty Mr. Knox points out several items of that nature and raises no objection to them, but he says, "there remained others on which France and the United States would have an advantage. These had to be adjusted." They were adjusted by Canada making the concessions demanded; but the French treaty was not made. Mr. Knox says, the surtax would necessarily have been applied. Now let Canada arrange a treaty with Germany, as the government has declared its intention of doing. That can only be arranged by giving concessions to Germany in exchange for concessions given to Canada.

What happens? The United States by statute, demands that, before the treaty goes into operation Canada pay the fine adjusted by the United States to be satisfactory, the big stick is raised, and what is the Canadian answer? It has none--it conceded the ground in respect to the French treaty--it must concede again, and on the same ground--fear of the surtax and its consequences. It must do this--revolt. Make a treaty with Belgium. The same "big stick," the previous admissions again concessions and so on to the end of all possible treaties. The honoree is complete. The first step has made all others necessary. There is an end to our freedom of tariff legislation. Unless we revolt.

But, says the Government, we made no concessions to the United States specially--we made them to all the world. A childish artifice--only equalled by its fatuity.

Now, after all the crowing and cackling in the diplomatic barnyards of the two capitals is over, and we try to gather the eggs, what does Canada get? Our basket contains not a single egg Uncle Sam carries away a hamperful and serves them up fresh every morning on his commercial breakfast table. Yes, it was a Canadian surrender, all along the line, after all the bravado, the posing and the patriotic phrasing.

And, unfortunately, the surrender is not measured by the present substantial concessions in the specific articles mentioned. It passes on to the sacrifice of a long fought and hardly earned position of "most favored nation" principles and of future free fiscal action on the part of Canada. In a word, for the time being the commanding position has been given up, the flag hauled down, and the enemy's forces left in possession. What has happened?

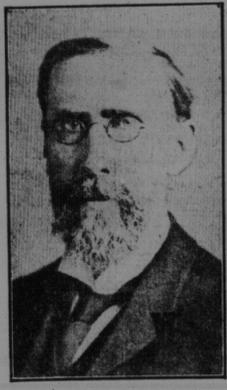
A Blow At Autonomy.

1. Canada's boasted autonomy in fiscal matters has received a rude jolt, if not a fatal shock. For more than a half century she has been free to tax British goods as she pleases, with never a word of dissent from the Mother Parliament. She still possesses that right and exercise it. In 1898 she proclaimed herself free to give the Mother Parly what she withheld from the foreign countries, and when Germany contested that right and penalized her for exercising it, Canada maintained her right by counter-penalization and fought the issue to a successful finish. Canada was free, so said our Finance Minister, and so affirmed we were not in the highway, and before we were allowed passage, a fine was demanded. We covered before the "big stick," we paid the fine, and the very men who previously to March 31 lustily proclaimed our freedom are the very men who now invite the shackles and did us wear them proudly. Read the statement made by Mr. Fielding in Parliament when the French Treaty was discussed and note the contrast.

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What we have clearly made it understood in this Parliament that



GEORGE EULAS FOSTER.

Canada, while paying great difference to her neighbor, is no longer willing to be dependent upon the action of the United States in tariff matters. The settlement of our people is that we shall quietly and deliberately work out our own commercial policy. If that policy is acceptable to our powerful neighbor, we are all the more pleased, but if it should not, much as we might regret the fact, I do not see why that would justify our taking a different course. I do not see why we should depart from any line of action which we deemed advantageous in our own interests, because that might not be agreeable to the great republic. Comment is unnecessary. We have given up the free and proud position Canada it be regained?

Pilgrimages To Washington

We were to have "no more pilgrimages to the United States." With what pose and power was the statement made on the platform, in the press, in Parliament and by Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Imperial Conference in 1907?

Yet within a week we have seen one pilgrimage to Albany, when the principle of capitulation was agreed to, and a second to Washington where the details of capitulation were settled and the articles signed, sealed and delivered.

We are mulcted in a yearly fine of hundreds of thousands of dollars--which we must pay out of our treasury as a punishment for daring to make a treaty that suited us and that offended no treaty nor any international obligation. The fine is triple. It takes from our treasury \$250,000 or more yearly at the behest of the United States. It penalizes our own industries in important particulars by submitting them to an increased competition. So it slashes our revenue--our preference for the benefit of countries that have given neither Canada nor Great Britain any compensating return. So it slashes our revenue--our industries and our Empire preference.

Emphasizes Unfairness. It accentuates a tariff disparity and unfairness already definite and grievous.

Between the Canadian and U. S. tariffs the advantage was all against Canada in the Payne Act. So was it in the McKinley Act and its predecessor, the Dingley Act. The latest U. S. legislation did nothing to mitigate this unfairness. See the following table:

Canada	U. S.
Bacon 4c.	4c.
Eggs 3c.	6c.
Wheat 12c.	25c.
Barley 15c.	30c.
Peas 15c.	30c.
Beans 25c.	45c.
Hay 3c.	4c.
Butter 4c.	6c.
Cheese 3c.	4c.
Wire rods free.	\$6 to \$12
Lambs 25c p.c.	75
Apples 15c.	25c
Potatoes 20c.	25c
Fresh meat 3c.	1 1/2
Poultry 20c.	3 to 5c

On everything that competed with their products a ruthless hand laid prohibitive rates. On raw material desired by them they relaxed the rates. On our wood pulp they placed a discriminating and practically prohibitive tax. And the trade results followed the tariff pressure. The United States got from Canada less than one dollar's worth for two dollars' worth than they

Oh, Mamie Get The Rake!

France, England and Holland Still Holding Aloof, Says President Gomez in Message to Congress.

Caracas, Venezuela, April 22--President Gomez, presented a message to Congress yesterday afternoon regarding foreign relations. In it he said: "The relations between the republic and Germany are growing ever stronger. Argentina, to whom we are bound by fraternal ties, has just established a legation here and has invited us for the Fourth International Conference of American Republics and to take part in her centenary celebrations. The republic will send representatives to scientific and industrial assemblies to be held at Brussels. Our relations with Brazil continue as cordial as in the past. Brazil has solicited Venezuela's accession to the convention signed at the third Pan-American conference at Rio de Janeiro, providing for a revision of the codes of international public and private law. The Government will ask Congress to consent.

With Colombia.

"Our relations with Colombia have been reestablished. I hope for the early conclusion of the negotiations, already far advanced, for a treaty of navigation and treaties concerning the frontiers and transit traffic. This will be the best offering Venezuela and Colombia can present to the memory of the Liberator for the century. A legation has been established in Cuba. The Minister there is endeavoring to negotiate treaties of friendship, navigation, commerce and extradition. An envoy is being sent to Madrid, with which capital the best relations continue. Diplomatic intercourse with the United States is destined to become constantly stronger. Our relations with that country continue supremely harmonious. I am pleased to see that the United States conceded to Venezuela products the minimum tariff. Owing to protocols signed with other states for the arrangement of all other claims, the Hague tribunal will have to decide only the claim of the Orinoco Shipping Company.

"Our relations with France continue interrupted in spite of the efforts the Venezuelan Government has made since the beginning of last year. The United States has been extremely helpful in the relations depending upon the establishment of a mixed commission to take cognizance of the claims of French citizens against Venezuela, which the Executive is unable to accept, it being opposed to Article V of the convention of 1885 between these two countries.

"The Government, owing to various reasons, had not been able to arrive at an arrangement with Great Britain for the payment of duties on goods imported from the Antilles, but in view of our long friendship and proximity of some British possessions, we are all the more pleased, but if it should not, much as we might regret the fact, I do not see why that would justify our taking a different course. I do not see why we should depart from any line of action which we deemed advantageous in our own interests, because that might not be agreeable to the great republic. Comment is unnecessary. We have given up the free and proud position Canada it be regained?

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THE STANDARD'S BOSTON LETTER

Massachusetts Had Faith to be Investigated--A German Professor's Opinion of New England Women.

Boston, April 22--A divinity shapes our ends while wrong living misshapes our figures. Here is a German professor declaring: "Woman is losing her femininity," and New England women seem to be in a straight line for his conclusions, for he says the chief cause of this catastrophe is the excessive indulgence in outdoor sports, of which our New England women are so fond. The same causes are at work both in Germany and the United States, says Professor Thilo, but woman's beauty is fading faster in this country than across the water. A second cause is given as the craze for the slender figure. The estimable professor declares that the "robe collant" or dress glued on, simply falsifies the natural lines and injures the health. Lastly, he claims that woman's way of thinking has changed, to the deterioration of her beauty, and that she no longer desires sincere love but encourages flirtation. He claims that the motherless character of the best modern statuettes is disappearing from the features of American women. So, back to the hoop skirts and spinning-wheel, women of America, if you would escape the fate threatened.

The Aeroplane Figure.

And, right on the heels of the German professor's remarks, comes the mandate that in order to be quite correct must acquire the aeroplane figure and glide. One must float with a grace incarnate. Now, one occasion ally sees on the streets of the Hub a young lady who seems to glide along with a perfect swan-like motion, but when it came to exclaiming this from the masculine population--it is too much to expect--Respecting his fingers, bandaging its face and chin to make them slender, and curving and grace. A course in acquiring the figure is being given, which promises to those who faithfully follow instructions to be a finishing touch for the stout lady of five feet-two who attempts to get her 150 pounds into the requisite airy proportions.

Dominion Wins.

Boston and Lexington enjoyed the distinction of Patriot's Day on April 19, and the inhabitants thereof spent the holiday in riotous sports and restful excursions, according to their bent, while their sisters and brothers in neighboring cities were, it is presumed, with envious eyes. The chief patriotic exercises were held in Lexington, of course, but the able old Boston is nevertheless tapering its fingers, bandaging its face and chin to make them slender, and curving and grace. A course in acquiring the figure is being given, which promises to those who faithfully follow instructions to be a finishing touch for the stout lady of five feet-two who attempts to get her 150 pounds into the requisite airy proportions.

Peace Proclaimed Between Rival Tongues.

New York, April 22--A proclamation was posted in Chinatown to the effect that a treaty of peace between the See Sing Tong or Four Brothers Company and the On Leong Tong would be signed in the Chinese consulate today in the presence of Dr. On Shou-Tehum, first secretary of the Chinese legation at Washington and the Consul Yang Yu Yang. Before the proclamation had been up fifteen minutes, it was partly torn down, apparently by "Gun Men" dissatisfied with the idea.

THE STOLID EGYPTIAN

Some of the Qualities Which go to Make the Egyptian of Today--A Queer Mixture--Eastern Manner.

To do business with Egyptians carries one back to the Arabian Nights. It is to the Western mind one long waste of time. Suppose a European has motor cars to sell. He hears a wealthy bey or pasha is inclined to buy one. He calls upon him, is welcomed, is offered coffee and cigarettes talk upon all kinds of subjects--the Egyptian is a polite invited to come again. He may call half a dozen times before he comes near striking a bargain, and after that he has to secure his money, which very likely takes half a dozen more calls. This is the regular Eastern manner. It is as futile to try to hurry matters on as it is to attempt to deal at fixed prices. Bargaining is part of the pleasure of life. To be annoyed with the Eastern manner is unreasonable, though human. Europeans who live in Egypt have often raw edges to their tempers especially in summer time. Yet the only sensible thing to do is to grin and bear it. The East is still as it has always been. Further, one has to make allowances in dealing with the Egyptian functionary. He is generally pleasant and obliging, but you must let him take his time, and never ask him to step outside the strict letter of his position. Sometimes his slowness is maddening. On days when mails are in, Cook's office in Cairo is filled with a long queue of people eager for letters. Waiter, an Egyptian clerk in charge of the post office goes through the bundles with conscientious determination to make no mistakes, examining each address at length. Then glanced at the line of faces in the queue. You realize that "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" with peculiar force.

Loss of \$500 Gem Wins Maiden's Eyes

Case of These Sweethearts Shatters Tradition That Removal of the Ring Spoils the Wish.

New York, April 22--Nicholas H. Moria, Jr., on Sunday spent the evening with his best girl, and upon taking his departure, placed upon her finger a diamond ring worth \$500. Twenty hours later he called again and found that the young woman had lost the gem.

Mr. Moria, Jr., is 21 years old, and lives at No. 150 West 126th street. His father is a wealthy plantation owner of Ecuador. The girl in the case is Miss Ida Annette, of No. 114 East 107th street. She is just 18. On his finger when he called on Sunday he gave her the diamond ring. His father had given it to him as a birthday present. Miss Annette admired the gem and young Mr. Moria asked the privilege of placing the ring upon her finger with a wish.

"I will return at eight o'clock tomorrow night," he said, "and you must be careful not to remove the ring or my wish may not come true."

Miss Annette promised, but early yesterday, when she reached the office of the Nathan Manufacturing Company, at No. 416 East 106th street, where she is employed as a stenographer, she found that the ring was gone. She searched for it in vain, but she decided that she would place it in her purse.

Reaching her home at 6 o'clock she opened the purse. The diamond had vanished. When the young man called at 8 o'clock Miss Annette's cheeks were wet with tears. She told the story.

"Now, don't cry any more," he said. "There is only one gem in the world that I care for."

He then told her what his wish was. Miss Annette smiled.

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WHEN HIS DO ME

President's Former Pilgrimage to Eternal City Recalled in Roosevelt Vatican Incident--Future Problems.

Rome, April 22--The incident between Theodore Roosevelt and the Vatican has recalled attention to another occasion when matters of much greater importance were involved. Under the Pontificate of Leo XIII, Taft, then Governor of the Philippines, came to Rome to negotiate with the Vatican for the settlement of all Roman Catholic questions involved in the transfer of the archipelago from the domination of Spain to that of the United States.

Who knows how things might have turned out if the present President of the United States and Cardinal Rampolla, then Papal Secretary of State, instead of being animated by the most cordial spirit, had come to a rupture? No one can even say that much more important problems than that may not arise in the future between the Papey and the Kennedy, now that the latter is the fourth Catholic power in the world, having over 15,000,000 Catholics at home, besides that of the Philippines, Porto Rico, Guam, and Hawaii.

Future Outlook.

It is pointed out here that in the near future the United States will, peacefully or otherwise, find itself face to face with the archbishop of America, where the influence of the Roman Catholic church is unquestionable. Is it therefore possible, it is asked, that what may be very important interests for the Republic should be left to the mercy of possible incidents due to misunderstandings such as that which marred Mr. Roosevelt's visit to the Eternal City?

What is the remedy? It is again asked, and the answer comes that the only way to avoid such friction is to see that between the United States and the Vatican there is an exchange of diplomatic representatives.

Imagine, for instance, it is argued, to go back to the Philippines affair, that instead of Mr. Taft coming to Rome with the credentials of an extraordinary envoy, and being therefore in a position to deal directly with Cardinal Rampolla, who represented the Pope, negotiations had gone through the same channels adopted to arrange the case of the Philippines. There is no doubt, it is added, that if on the one side there had then been the American ambassador accredited to the Holy See, and on the other the Vatican representative accredited to the United States, the conditions required by the Vatican for the audience were fulfilled without their taking the character of an imposition, and thus a whole thing might have been a failure.

Roosevelt's Faction. In the case of Mr. Roosevelt, Ambassador Leishman, with all his good will could, and after that he has to secure his money, which very likely takes half a dozen more calls. This is the regular Eastern manner. It is as futile to try to hurry matters on as it is to attempt to deal at fixed prices. Bargaining is part of the pleasure of life. To be annoyed with the Eastern manner is unreasonable, though human. Europeans who live in Egypt have often raw edges to their tempers especially in summer time. Yet the only sensible thing to do is to grin and bear it. The East is still as it has always been. Further, one has to make allowances in dealing with the Egyptian functionary. He is generally pleasant and obliging, but you must let him take his time, and never ask him to step outside the strict letter of his position. Sometimes his slowness is maddening. On days when mails are in, Cook's office in Cairo is filled with a long queue of people eager for letters. Waiter, an Egyptian clerk in charge of the post office goes through the bundles with conscientious determination to make no mistakes, examining each address at length. Then glanced at the line of faces in the queue. You realize that "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" with peculiar force.

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Equally shallow are those who deny that the religion of the Egyptians--I mean Islam, for nine-tenths of them profess that faith--has any effect upon their lives. Often that attitude is taken up by Christians as the only refuge from shame at the far greater piety of the Moslem. At first the visitor from Europe or America watches with amusement the peasant merchant before his shop, the peasant in the fields, the sailor in his vessel, standing and kneeling and bowing and no thought of being laughed at. Soon, however, this becomes so common a sight that it is noticed no longer. Where in a Christian country could one see the like? In Cairo there is a fine block of flats built by the Khedive, and besides it is a little inclosure surrounding a ruinous old mud tomb. This is the tomb of a holy man. Public opinion was too strong for the Khedive even to dare to remove it. It was scheduled for destruction, but it had to stay.

Moslem Piety. Moslem piety does not have the same effects, perhaps, as Christian piety, but to pretend that it has none is ludicrous in view of the charity of Mohammedans. Their acceptance of the idea of brotherhood, their simplicity of life. In a big shop in Cairo I was told, as a matter of course, that the proprietors gave 10 per cent. of the profits to the poor. No one ever starves in Egypt. There is always

Tenders For Taking Down Chimney.

Sealed Tenders will be received at the office of the Common Clerk of the City of Saint John, addressed to him marked "Tenders for removing Chimney," up to April 25th, at 12 o'clock noon.

For taking down the specific articles mentioned. It passes on to the sacrifice of a long fought and hardly earned position of "most favored nation" principles and of future free fiscal action on the part of Canada. In a word, for the time being the commanding position has been given up, the flag hauled down, and the enemy's forces left in possession. What has happened?