

VAN HORNE FIGHTS FOR ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN WOULD LOSE BY RECIPROcity

Sir William Van Horne Plainly Shows Folly of Laurier-Taft Agreement -- Great Meeting in Queen's Rink -- Important Platform Statement from One of Canada's Biggest Men.

That the people of St. John are, in common with the rest of Canada, thoroughly alive to the great danger which lurks in the reciprocity agreement which the Liberal government and their supporters are trying to foist on Canada, and that they will have none of it was completely made manifest at the great meeting in the Queen's Rink last evening when Sir William C. Van Horne, ex-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, made his first appearance on a St. John platform and delivered a strong business-like address, dealing with the reciprocity agreement and stating the reasons why he, as a business man, was opposed to the consummation of this, the crowning folly of the Laurier regime of misrule.

After the plain statement of Sir William, and the excellent addresses of Dr. Daniel and H. A. Powell, the men who will represent the city and the county of St. John in the incoming Conservative government as supporters of Premier Borden, it needed but the argumentative force and convincing eloquence of Hon. J. K. Fleming, the provincial secretary, to bring out the top note of enthusiasm from the great gathering. The applause which greeted Mr. Fleming's eloquent and masterly appeal to the best sentiment and common sense of his audience has not been equaled in this city since the Borden demonstration, and it served to show conclusively the trend of public opinion.

Another important feature of last evening's meeting was the reading by W. S. Fisher, who presided, of a statement from the executive of the Liberal-Conservative party of the city and the county, and backed by their full authority which showed that the men at the head of the party in this community have excellent reasons for their belief that a fund has been sent into Canada from the interests south of the line in an effort to buy the votes of the Canadian electorate in favor of reciprocity, and that already the Liberal party has received its share of this corruption.

Mr. Fisher did not go as far as he might have done last evening. It is intimated that he might have said more and still been within the mark, but if the warning served last night on the part of the Liberal party and repeated herewith is disregarded, it is said that there may be further developments in the matter. This statement was as follows:

MR. FISHER'S STATEMENT. "WE HAVE RECENTLY HAD RELEASABLE INFORMATION SUBJECT TO POSITIVE THAT WARRANTS US IN STATING THAT ON THE 30TH DAY OF AUGUST A \$50,000 GOLD COIN AMERICAN BILL WAS PRESENTED FOR DEPOSIT IN A CITY BANK BY A PROMINENT LIBERAL. THE MONEY WE BELIEVE IS FOR USE BY THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN. WE ARE ALSO CREDIBLY INFORMED OF OTHER TRANSACTIONS OF A SIMILAR NATURE." Long before the time of opening the meeting the big rink was crowded. In comparison with the attendance at the recent Pugsley Promise solace and Alward historical held in the same building, the attendance at last evening's meeting was as two to one.

Victory's in the Air. In addition to the chairman the platform was occupied by more than one hundred representative men, some of whom have previously held allegiance to the Liberal party, but who will this time be with the party of progress and British connection supporting Dr. Daniel and Mr. Powell. There was no special effort made at the decoration of the rink. Many of the mottoes used at the Borden meeting were still in evidence, but the most striking motto of the lot and the one which found hearty and convincing response in the temper of the gathering was that which hung across the back of the platform and directly behind the chairman. This motto read "Victory's in the Air."

MR. PUGSLEY'S ORGANS CAUGHT RED-HANDED

Mr. Pugsley's organ, the Telegraph, showed an over-weening desire yesterday to secure some information regarding a sign which appeared recently in the window of the Canadian Pacific Railway's Lands Department in Seattle stating that "Reciprocity will increase Canada Lands 100 per cent." Judging, apparently, that the arrival of Sir Wm. Van Horne to address a public meeting here last evening was the psychological moment to launch this bombshell showing the duplicity of the C. P. R. in opposing Reciprocity in Canada and advocating it in the States, the Telegraph plastered its front page yesterday with the damning evidence.

"Since Sir William Van Horne," said the Telegraph, unctuously, "has come to St. John to offer the people here some advice about Reciprocity, there is a little matter he should lose no time in clearing up. "Here it is: Sir William says Reciprocity is a bad thing for Canada and is going to ruin the transportation interest and the country generally--but-- "On August 29--just fourteen days ago--there appeared in the window of the "Canadian Pacific Railway's Land Department in Seattle, a large sign upon which appeared these words:

RECIPROcity WILL INCREASE CANADA LANDS 100 PER CENT.

"A photograph of the company's window in Seattle is in the possession of nearly every Liberal newspaper in Canada. "The business view of the C. P. R., then, is that Reciprocity will be of tremendous advantage to the railroad company and to Canada. "The Times, Mr. Pugsley's evening organ, followed this up by publishing a photograph of the incriminating evidence under the heading: "C. P. R. ADVERTISES THE BOOM WHICH RECIPROcity WILL BRING."

The bombshell has exploded, but, as so often happens in these cases, it has annihilated those who contemplated the outrage. On the evidence procured by the Standard yesterday, Mr. Pugsley's organs in making their silly announcement were guilty of suppressing material facts and are no better than common fakery. It appears that this story first saw the light in the columns of the Calgary "Albertan," a Liberal organ in Southern Alberta, and has been passed on to other Grit papers in the West, including the Manitoba Free Press, and Laurier's organ, the Toronto Globe, with the object of conveying the impression that the C. P. R. believed an increase of farm values in Canada would follow the ratification of the Reciprocity Agreement. It finally reached the Telegraph and Times with the result that was in evidence yesterday.

Each and every one of these newspapers, including Mr. Pugsley's organs which published the story and the photograph, taken from the sidewalk in front of the windows of the C. P. R. office in Seattle, discreetly suppressed a letter which Louis Williams, the C. P. R. agent in Seattle, addressed to the Calgary "Albertan" as soon as the matter was brought to his attention. Here is the letter:

To the Editor of the Calgary Albertan, Calgary, Alta. Dear Sir: "Your reproduction of a sign in C. P. R. land office in Seattle is misleading in the extreme. This sign was not authorized by the C. P. R., nor by me, nor by anyone in authority in the office, but was put up by a clerk during my absence and immediately removed on my return. As a large land-holder and grain-grower in Alberta, I believe Canada is better without Reciprocity, and thus freer untrammelled by foreign trickery, and I wish as a subscriber to your paper that you be fair and give this the same publicity you gave the reproduction and the misleading statements.

"Yours for justice, "LOUIS WILLIAMS." Seattle, Sept. 2, 1911.

Mr. Pugsley's organs, who, like their Western contemporaries would resort to any means to bolster up Reciprocity, refrained from printing Mr. Williams' letter, but sent their own end of the story broadcast.

So here we have the plot, which had been so carefully hatched, exposed in all its diabolical ingenuity. A clerk in the Seattle office exposed the card in the window when the agent was absent; a photographer was lying handy to snap the picture, and the deed was done. It only remained to circulate the story among the Grit newspapers in Canada and await results.

The results were hardly, however, what were expected. The exposure of the plot shows the desperate lengths to which such organs as the Telegraph and Times will go in their efforts to save Mr. Pugsley and the Laurier Government from defeat, and emphasizes the despicable character of the campaign that is being carried on to force Reciprocity on the people of Canada.

ports and upon the future of St. John. He says: Mr. Whitney's Opinions. "New York and Boston and Portland are the natural outlets for the foreign trade of eastern Canada. St. John and Halifax are twice as far from Montreal as New York, or Boston or Portland. The Canadian Atlantic ports are not to be mentioned in competition with the American Atlantic ports for passenger business. Our steamers are larger, and social conditions count for very much with the travellers. Under existing circumstances what Canadian going abroad or coming from abroad would prefer landing in New York or Boston or Portland, to disembarking in Halifax or St. John's? And with the increasing size of Atlantic liners and the growing attractions of our cities, the advantage will increase rather than diminish. "The elevators for storing and handling Canadian grain should be located on this side of the line, and the steamers of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Pacific should, in the winter time at least, find their home port in New York, or Boston, or Portland. And if, under a reciprocity arrangement or otherwise, the farm products of Canada were admitted free of duty, the Canadian government would be friendly instead of hostile, to the use of American ports for Canadian business. My belief is that such a course would promote the cause of reciprocity on the broad lines of free trade between the two countries. "These were the words of a business man who knew precisely what he

HON. J. K. FLEMING'S SLASHING SPEECH

Provincial Secretary Dissects Reciprocity Proposals and Lays Bare their Utter Absurdity -- Exhorts Voters of St. John Not to Make Disastrous Bargain on Election Day.

and a quarter dollars for the same purpose and without help from the government to the extent of a dollar. No such thing has been done by any machine city in Canada. The government has done it all. The Old Dredge Game. "I HEAR THE PUFFING AND RATTLING OF A STEAM DREDGE IN YOUR HARBOR. I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG IT HAS BEEN WORKING, BUT WE HEAR THE SAME THING OVER IN ST. ANDREWS--BEFORE ELECTIONS. "When more railways and more steamships come with more traffic you may be sure that this traffic will be handled whether the government of the day does its duty or not. The main thing is to get the traffic, but you must not expect the C. P. R. or anybody else to go on with the business if it must be done at a heavy loss, and that is exactly what will come of reciprocity, as Mr. Whitney and other Americans so well see. "I don't know anything about the merits of the proposed Courtesy, Bay Improvement, but IF CANADA STICKS TO HER PRESENT TRADE POLICY ST. JOHN WILL SOON NEED VAST ADDITIONS TO HER TERMINAL FACILITIES. THE OCEAN BUSINESS HERE HAS BARELY STARTED AND YOU HAVE ONLY TO CONSIDER WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS TO SEE WHAT IS COMING. "And while I am no longer spokesman for the C. P. R. I may say, as I heard on the future of St. John, that it has always been the policy of that company to hold its business to Canadian seaports without regard to any immediate differences in profit. It has never for a minute departed from this policy, believing that in the end its advantages must be far greater in building up the strongest possible Canadian merchant marine, thereby improving and cheapening ocean carriage and securing complete independence.

His Reasons for Opposition. "Now as to the general question of reciprocity, I am opposed to reciprocity. "Because it would destroy our fiscal independence. "I am opposed to reciprocity. "Because the underlying idea on the part of our American neighbors is our estrangement from the Empire, which would be a long step towards annexation. "I am opposed to reciprocity. "Because it would undermine the foundations of our trade and manufactures which have been laid with such effort and success in the last twenty-five years. "Because it would be a most damaging blow to our Canadian railways and our Canadian merchant marine which have been built up in these same years. "Because our trade per capita is threefold that of the United States and reciprocity and its natural results would surely bring us to a common level. "I am opposed to reciprocity. "Because we don't need it now, having made our own way to success and prosperity. Not One Advantage. "And I am opposed to it for many other reasons and I DO NOT SEE IN IT ONE SINGLE UNALLOYED ADVANTAGE TO ANY PART OF OUR COUNTRY. There may be here and there temporary advantages to individuals or localities, but they will not compensate for the disadvantages and dangers. "HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING IN THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARDS CANADA TO INDICATE ANY DISPOSITION TO PROPOSE ANYTHING FOR OUR ADVANTAGE? Surely not. Their disposition towards us has not changed in the least since JAMES G. BLAINE TOLD CANADA THAT THE ONLY WAY SHE COULD GET RECIPROcity WAS TO TAKE DOWN HER BOUNDARY LINE. Since then only their tactics have changed. Their McKinley tariff and their Dingley tariff failed of their object and they saw that Canada reach independence of their markets, saw Canada's trade and manufactures built up prodigiously, then, as I have said, they changed their tactics and set out honey for us; but we have reason to suspect that they have put something into their honey and that THE TRADE PARADISE NOW DESCRIBED TO US AS TO COME FROM RECIPROcity IS LIKELY TO BE THE PARADISE OF THE OPIUM-EATER.

Prosperous Canada. "We have a trade three times as great per capita as that of the United States. We are prosperous and that they are not prosperous is evidenced by every page of their newspapers where we find dismal accounts of factories shutting down, railways cutting down expenses, vast numbers of men thrown out of employment, and others working on half time. THEY HAD HALF A CHANGE JUST NOW THEY WOULD FLOOD US WITH THEIR PRODUCTS AND WE WOULD QUICKLY FIND OURSELVES IN A WORSE SITUATION THAN THEY ARE. And in this connection I am tempted against my promise concerning quotations to read two or three short extracts from the speeches of Senator Beveridge of Indiana, one of the strongest supporters of President Taft in the reciprocity matter. Listen to this:

What Senator Beveridge Says: "There must be reciprocity with Canada. Our tariff with the rest of the world does not apply to our northern neighbors. That policy already has driven American manufacturers across the Canadian borders, built vast plants with American capital on Canadian soil, employing Canadian workmen to supply trade. "That capital should be kept at home to employ American workmen to supply Canadian demand. "And again: "We should have a special tariff arrangement with this intimate neighbor and natural customer. This would mean millions of dollars of profit every year to Indiana's factories. Reciprocity would mean vast increases in Canada's purchases from us. "And again: "Not the Bourbons of France in the time of Louis XIV., not the Tories of England in the period of George III., ever insisted on a policy so blind, so foolish and so ruinous as that so-called statesmanship which, instead of fostering a healthy market in Canada, is making Canada a manufacturing competitor."

Shall We Play Gosling. "Is not this fine reading for us here in Canada? Shall we play gosling to the American Fox? "In the past fifteen or twenty years hardly a voice has been raised in Canada in favor of reciprocity. CANADA HAS HAD NO NEED OF IT. Nobody has wanted it. But Mr. Pugsley's organs seem to be only of the distant past, went down to Washington, fell to the blandishments of the charming people he met there and SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WHICH PUT OUR GOVERNMENT INTO A HOLE. They had no way out save through the ratification of the agreement. The good or the bad of it and the right and the wrong of it were not discussable questions. The agreement had been signed by two accredited representatives of the government and the party machine was invoked to put it through whether the members of the party liked it or not. Some of the leaders like Mr. Sifton openly rebelled; others unwillingly submitted. The question is now before you and you are asked to save the faces of Mr. Fielding and Mr. Patterson no matter how damaging the result may be to the country, not even if it brings ruin to your trade and industries; not even if its ultimate results may be the dismemberment of the British Empire.

An Absurd Thing. "I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT SIR WILLIAM LAURIER WAS A SILLY PARTISAN TO THIS ABSURD AND INEXCUSABLE THING. It is quite contrary to his strong expressions on the subject in recent years--expressions which had the ring of sincerity and patriotism. Unfortunately he and his party are in a hole and must put this outrageous thing through or see his party go down. That his heart is not in it may be easily seen in his speeches of this campaign which are utterly unlike him, consisting of explanations and excuses and appeals to the selfishness of localities and individuals--of arguments in one locality that more will be got for its eggs, in another that that tariff will become apples and so on--all of it talk for little children and unworthy of the great man that he is. AND SO WITH MANY OTHER LEADING LIBERALS, AMONG THEM THE HON. MR. PUGSLEY AND COL. McLEAN, BOTH OF WHOM I ESTEEM MOST HIGHLY. Continued on page 2.

"SHALL WE PLAY GOSLING TO THE AMERICAN FOX?" --Sir Wm. Van Horne