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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1912.

THAT INTERVIEW WITH SIR RICHARD MCBRIDE.

A despatch from Victoria, B. C., to the Toronto Globe, purporting to give statements by Sir Richard McBride in which he expressed his views on the naval question, was given much prominence in the columns of Liberal organs throughout the country on Friday of last week. The Premier of the Pacific Province was quoted as saying that he considered the "German war scare" as an exceedingly unfortunate and ill-advised exploitation, that he had recently visited Germany and observed for himself the spirit of friendliness there; that Sir Wilfrid Laurier may have been on the right line in the matter of naval policy, but that he started on too small a scale, and that the Government would have to start building their own ships on the Pacific Coast under penalty of losing the support of British Columbia.

Sir Richard McBride has had this despatch brought to his attention and gives a direct denial to every statement of importance in the interview as published by the Globe. He states that he did not say that he regarded the German war scare as an exceedingly "unfortunate and ill-advised exploitation." On the contrary, in the conversation which he had with the Globe's representative he pointed out that in his opinion there was a distinct emergency confronting the British Empire, and that he had no doubt Mr. Borden would be found advancing a policy which would adequately meet it.

"I am quoted as saying," said Sir Richard, "that I visited Germany and learned there of the friendliness of the officials and of the people to Great Britain. As a matter of fact, I have never been in the country." Neither did Sir Richard express his approval of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's naval policy. On the contrary, he declared that the people of the Pacific Province had never taken that policy seriously, always regarding it as quite inadequate to meet the national needs of the country. As to forcing Mr. Borden's hand or dictating his policy, he had said and continues to say, "I am most content to leave this question, with every possible confidence, in the hands of my chief."

What political advantage does the Toronto Globe expect to gain by publishing interviews with public men which are pure inventions? The discredited naval policy of the late Government will not appear in any better light by resorting to misrepresentations and statements without a grain of truth. The question of Naval Defence can be discussed fairly and squarely on its merits. Incidentally, Mr. Fugles's organ, the Times, cheerfully published the alleged interview under glaring headlines to the effect that Sir Richard McBride was supporting the Laurier naval policy and saw no signs of menace from Germany. Editorially it regarded the interview as "a poser for Borden." If the Times desired to show some honesty of purpose it would give equal publicity to Sir Richard McBride's prompt correction.

A DEMAND FOR PROTECTION.

The British automobile industry is up in arms to establish the supremacy of the British cars over the machines produced in the United States and other foreign countries. The movement is significant of the strong trend of public sentiment in the Old Country in favor of Tariff Reform, and a policy of moderate protection.

A cable to the New York Herald indicates that a two-fold remedy may be applied to meet the enormous output of low-priced cars manufactured in the United States. It was decided at a meeting in London on Tuesday, at which representatives of seventeen British firms were present, to form a \$25,000,000 company to fight the American automobile invasion by manufacturing cars nearly as cheap and quite as good as the American product. The meeting was also strongly of the opinion that representations should be made to the Asquith Government urging the importance of placing a tariff on cars manufactured in foreign countries.

Those present were unanimously in favor of the Tariff Reform policy, outlined in a letter from the Duke of Westminster, who said the invasion of cheap American cars threatened to deprive thousands of English workers of employment, and that the way out was to support the campaign throughout the country to advance the cause of Imperial Preference and the imposition of a protective tariff against foreign nations. He added that the Imperial Preference League was raising a fund of \$2,500,000 to be used in propaganda for this purpose.

That there are strong grounds for protest against a continuance of "Free Trade" in Great Britain is well exemplified by the situation created in the automobile industry. In 1911 motor-cars, complete and ready for sale, to the value of \$1,408,000 were imported and motor chassis and parts to the value of \$2,987,000, making together a total of \$4,395,000. During the current year the imports have still further increased. These importations of foreign cars are in direct competition with the home industry and are allowed to come in untaxed. An import duty, while preventing the market being flooded with foreign cars, would add a very substantial sum to the revenues of the country and would stimulate the home industry for the benefit not only of the manufacturer but of the British workman.

WARNINGS AGAINST THE WEED.

The London Lancet has been conducting an investigation into the tobacco question and arrives at some interesting conclusions. It has discovered that the pipe smoker absorbs the most nicotine, the cigarette smoker the least, and the cigar smoker somewhat less than the pipe smoker. It says that Havana cigars contain remarkably little nicotine, and that Turkish cigarettes have more than the American cigarettes.

The Lancet finds, however, that in some tobaccos there is a worse poison than nicotine, and that is furfural, a chemical that is credited with giving cheap whiskey its deadly character. Furfural was found in considerable quantities in Virginia cigarettes. There is little of it in Turkish cigarettes and in pipe and cigar smoke it is rarely detected.

It is inferred from the Lancet's investigation that the cheaper the cigarettes, the more dangerous they are to the smoker, and it follows that there are two reasons why boys should not smoke. One is that the practice has the effect of stunting their growth and impairing their general health, and the other is that since they usually smoke only the cheapest kinds of cigarette they are exposing themselves to the action of a drug that their elders for the most part can avoid.

HYPOCRISY.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who is addicted to posing as the champion of a United Canada, at a meeting at St. Clet, in the Province of Quebec, the other day, enlarged on this point and referred in eloquent terms to his efforts "to promote good feeling between all classes." At the same meeting one of his lieutenants, who came along to assist the good work, is reported as follows in the Montreal Gazette:

J. A. C. Ethier, M. P. for Two Mountains, followed the leader in a violent attack upon gentlemen whom he named "Sam Hughes," "Bob Rogers," "The Toronto Jingos," "Borden a Protestant, who has been defeated in his own county and had taken refuge in Carleton the most intensely Orange constituency in the Dominion." Sproule, the Speaker, Hughes, who had insulted priests and nuns from France, and Rogers, who, with Attorney-General Campbell from Manitoba, had insulted the Papal Delegate, were the men who had replaced the members of the old regime and who were now associated with Monk, Pelletier and Nantel. Mr. Ethier closed after giving in his adhesion to Reciprocity.

Generous sentiments in the same strain were voiced by other speakers, including Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who has been declaring his life was devoted "to promote good feeling between all classes," sat through it all without a word of protest. He took no occasion to rebuke his friends and supporters who were endeavoring in his presence to stir up race and religious prejudice against members of the Government.

It is apparent, as the Halifax Herald remarks in commenting on this incident, that the Quebec electors will be regaled with that sort of thing. "We are of opinion," adds the Herald, "that they are too intelligent to be misled by incendiary appeals. Sir Wilfrid's first duty as pacifier—if he is sincere in assuming that role—is to wrench the torches out of the hands of those of his lieutenants and colleagues who would light the fires of race and religious bigotry under the very eyes of their leader and before the echoes of his own oily phrases have died away."

PEACE PROSPECTS.

The war between Italy and Turkey, which now seems drawing to a close, has attracted little interest outside the sphere of the immediate contestants. Reports of the guerrilla warfare in which the two countries have been engaged in Tripoli for the past eleven months have for the most part been meagre and none too reliable. The most sanguinary engagement of the war appears to have taken place this week near Derne on the Mediterranean coast. According to reports from Rome the Italians lost 61 men killed and 113 wounded and the Turks and Arabs suffered a loss of 1,000 killed and about the same number wounded. It is the fortune of war that this slaughter should have taken place while the delegates in Switzerland were arriving at a basis on which to negotiate peace.

A cable of yesterday's date from Chiasso, the scene of the conference, states that a satisfactory agreement now seems certain. A fundamental point, however, which Italy refuses to admit for discussion, her complete sovereignty of Libya including Cyrenaica and the hinterland, may lead to trouble outside the control of the Turkish authorities. It is the Mohammedan population of Tripoli and Cyrenaica, most of whom are Arabs and Berbers, who have borne the brunt of the struggle. They have no particular love for the Turks. They fought for the sake of their common faith and are liable to put up a long and determined resistance against Italy's sovereignty even after peace has been formally signed by the Porte.

One of Turkey's earlier stipulations was to the effect that she accepted peace on condition that Italy did not exact formal recognition of the annexation of Libya. Apparently she has been forced to forego this provision. The Arab followers of the prophet would be just in the temper to carry on a guerrilla war on their own account.

The following defence which the Times makes to the exposure of the weakness of the Laurier naval policy in these columns yesterday is conclusive but hardly conclusive. "For downright misrepresentation concerning the Laurier naval policy the St. John Standard is first, and there is no second." The Standard has never entered for the misrepresentation stakes. We would have no chance against Mr. Pugsley's pair of champions, especially at election times.

Current Comment

Australia's Record.

The great destruction wrought by Sir George Reid represents has done something substantial without making much fuss about it. It has armed and is drilling every able-bodied youth in the country between the ages of 14 and 26, and it is building a navy to co-operate with the British navy in time of trouble. Sir George is entitled to point Canada to the example set by Australia. It may not be expedient for this country to choose the Australian way of contributing to the defensive forces of the Empire but it should do something worth while—and do it quickly. Every year adds to the danger.

Perhaps Too Easy.

Abraham Lincoln walking fifteen miles across country to borrow a volume of statutes of Illinois and then reading it by the light of pine knots, is a striking contrast to the conditions that exist in this era of public schools, night schools, public libraries and lecture courses. The road to education is an easy one today. There is little excuse for the one who neglects it.

Intemperance of Speech.

Rev. T. Albert Moore is reported as saying that no community has a right to call itself Christian as long as it permits one liquor license to remain. Intemperance of language is not likely to extinguish intemperance in the use of liquor.

This Covers the Ground.

Love is a peculiar thing—sometimes a disease, sometimes an hallucination, sometimes an awakening, sometimes a farce, sometimes a tragedy, sometimes a joke, sometimes a reality—but always interesting and quite often unexpected.

Canadian Education.

In this country 85 per cent. of the boys and girls leave school at 14 years of age. It is assumed that they are equipped for the battle of life, and we boast of the superior quality of our civilization.

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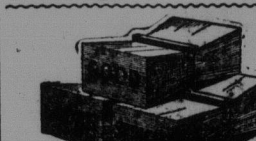
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HOW PROVINCE IS BECOMING KNOWN

Premier Flemming in West Tells How New Brunswick Seeking New Settlers—What Government is Doing.

Edmonton, Sept. 17.—"New Brunswick has set out to advertise its own special advantages with such good effect that a fine type of immigrant in the Old Country, is beginning to look with favor upon what we have to offer."

Premier Flemming, of the maritime province, who is visiting in Edmonton on the way home from Victoria, B. C., where he attended the forestry convention, said this at the King Edward Hotel the other day. "New Brunswick is developing its pulp and paper industries," Premier Flemming continued. "It has guaranteed a railway of 200 miles, cutting through the heart of the province, from St. John to Grand Falls. The development of the water powers is being aided. Vast shale areas are being developed. Natural gas wells are being opened. Moncton has its gas through that port, one, and the flow is satisfactory."

The control of its own natural resources is a great aid to the Province of New Brunswick. From a scientific system of forestry the Province derives an annual income of \$500,000.

The practical policy of development followed by the New Brunswick Government looks to the expansion of its apple industry. Like the western man always calling his town the best, the Maritime man usually calls the apple of his Province the best. Premier Flemming has the same trait. He says the apple of his Province has more color, more of the rose in it than the apple of the Annapolis Valley, and a better flavor than the apple of British Columbia.

The Government employed an expert horticulturist to show the orchardists how best to grow their fruit and extend their orchards. This practical demonstration to the farmer in his own orchard has proved so successful, that assistants to the expert have been engaged to extend the demonstration, and the number of apple trees planted this year alone is double those previously in the Province. The people are accordingly, looking forward to possessing a great apple industry.

Apple Shipments.

The shipping of the fruit is a factor of prime importance. Not entirely on this account alone, but on general principles, the Government is expending eleven million dollars on the improvement of the Harbor of St. John. Premier Flemming says that his Province anticipates the time when the wheat of Alberta will be shipped through that port. He speaks of its future value as a railway centre for the three trunk lines of Canada with the same boasting hope of the western real estate agent forecasting the rise of a new divisional point.

The underlying principle of the efforts of the Flemming Government is to secure a family living upon every piece of land in New Brunswick upon which a family is not at the present time living and making a living. With this object in view, that Province was the first in the Dominion to place on its statute books a law permitting it to go into the business of providing ready-made farms for those who wish to buy and work the land.

A farm settlement board has been appointed. Farms abandoned in the province for no one is living on them, but anything but abandoned from a soil value point of view, are purchased by the farm board, improved, and to the extent of at least ten acres are made ready for a man and his family to go onto and raise crops. The idea has been widely approved by all sorts of people from within the Province and makes a very natural and strong appeal to the emigrants in the old country.

These farms ready made by the government can be purchased on a payment of a quarter down, with ten equal payments covering a period of ten years, the interest charged being as reasonably low as can be made.

New Brunswick's Advantages.

That such abandoned lands are procurable by the government is mainly due to the attractiveness of the western immigration, but Premier Flemming speaks of the comforts of life in his province as being something really desirable. Against the faster development, the sudden rise in real estate values in the West, he points to the means by which the Maritime Province is able to locate its settlers within communities offering all the social advantages to be derived from lengthy settlement. Beside there is a home market.

"Western people are so busy talking about their wheat fields, their mixed farming and other resources, railroad building and the rise in corner lots," said the Premier, "that they do not appear to know what wealthy provinces we have got in the East; and if they visited us as much as Easterners visit the West they would have a far better understanding of our problems and aspirations." Besides," he added, "with a thought of Isaac Walton, 'if they'd like a nice, fresh, toothsome salmon there's no place to get it from like the Restigouche or the Miramichi or the St. John of New Brunswick.'"

Premier Flemming was entertained to lunch at the Edmonton Club by Hector L. Landry, the guests including A. K. McLaren of Toronto, for 12 years a member of parliament for North Perth, and famed for his cheese and milk industries; W. A. Griesbach, Richard Secord, J. R. McIntosh and J. Burr Morgan.

ST. JOHN LOSES PRIZE.

Miss Flossie Gould and Hazen Marr were the losers in the drawing, held at Mr. Gould's or Dr. Loggie's. This will be a surprise for the friends of a good looking St. John fencer who has been expected to carry off the prize.—Chatham World, Sept. 18.

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