

## Press of Canada

The Ottawa Journal: President Taft is out with another outburst of admiration of the Aldrich tariff—the tariff which is incidentally producing the trouble with Canada. Maybe he is right, from the United States viewpoint, but beyond a doubt a majority of the newspapers of the United States think that the president's championship of the Aldrich case does more credit to the president's courage than to his political acumen.

Evening Journal, St. Catharines: The rapidly with which the civilization of Japan has gone ahead in 60 years points to a lesson—that a young country should choose the best from other lands in its education and government. While our Canadian educational system is one of the most advanced and perfected that can be devised it is sometimes objected that it costs too much for students without means to go thru a four-year course at our universities. Baron Kikuchi, president of the Imperial University of Kyoto, when speaking at Toronto the other night, stated that a pupil pays only \$1.10 per year for everything while attending the institution with which the baron is connected. The cost in this country is several times this amount, if the fees paid for degrees is included.

Chronicle, Port Arthur: A surtax for a maximum tariff will be about a fair exchange. The German gentleman tried the game of shutting out Canadian goods, and the result was that the legend "Made in Germany" was about forgotten in Canada, and while the Canadian lucky horseshoe emblem became better known in Britain. Our dear uncle across the way may be able to pull along without Canadian trade, but we have a fine credit elsewhere.

Chatham Planet: A citizen writes The Planet suggesting that the More Daylight Movement should be inaugurated this year and put into active operation. This is a scheme which this great home journal has repeatedly advocated. The matter has been given the fullest publicity, and, if the citizens want it, it is "up to them" to get busy. All the newspaper talk in the world will not accomplish the movement if the arguments in favor of it are not supported with action by the people whom it will benefit.

Moncton, N.B., Transcript: During the past ten years, it is stated, 47,412 settlers came to Canada from the United States. Of these, 40 per cent. have made homestead entries. In cash and settlers' effects, it is estimated, they brought with them four hundred million dollars, a big addition to the wealth of the country.

Hamilton Spectator: In Australia and New Zealand women have had the franchise for many years, and experience shows that results are satisfactory. But, then, it must be remembered that the women of these countries wanted the franchise.

Telegraph, Quebec: The announcement that the Queen's Own of Toronto is to go to Aldershot this summer seems to have given great satisfaction in the British House of Commons. It will give great satisfaction in Canada, where the public spirit shown by Sir Henry Pellatt, in offering to take the regiment at his own expense, is greatly appreciated. The visit of such a corps as the Queen's Own will show the people of Britain the sort of men we make soldiers of in Canada, and we do not believe the object lesson will be lost.

Montreal Gazette: Thirty townships in Northern Alberta are to be at once thrown open to homesteaders. They are located in the Peace River country, of whose agricultural capacities more has been lately told than 40 years ago was generally declared about the region that is now known as Saskatchewan and Alberta. There is in the district also room for many more townships. "The Last West" that we have been hearing about is a big West.

Kingston British Whig: Mr. Foster is suffering from the strain of his recent law suit. The willing enough to perform his public tasks, he is unable to do so, and goes away for a long rest. In any other profession than politics his breakdown would be a matter for universal regret. Serving the people is such a thankless task.

Vancouver World: Call a man a hog nowadays and he feels complimented. It makes him feel that he is worth something.

Common sense will work out better than red tape at the immigrant retention shed.

## In The Spot Light

Premier McBride of British Columbia has a favorite motto. It is: "If you can't boost don't knock." He has long, white, wavy hair, altho only 36 years of age, and is a glad-hand artist of the finest brand. He seems to know everybody and pretends to know those he does not. His long suit is organization.

Attorney General Bowser of B. C., is a man of the bull-dog type. He has the fighting jaw and is called the Napoleon of British Columbia politics. If McBride went into Federal politics he would probably be his successor.

Ex-Lieut. Governor Dunsmuir of B. C., is a multi-millionaire. He is the owner of a fine steam yacht, which Kaiser Wilhelm once visited as well as other notables of royalty.

Principal Auden of Upper Canada College is called "Henry" among the students, but never to his face. He is a broad-minded, cultured man of gentlemanly bearing.

Ramsay Wright, dean of University College, is one of the leading biologists of the world and his lectures are among the most popular. He speaks several languages and loves music.

Prof. Alfred Baker of the University of Toronto is a famous mathematician. He has interested himself in promoting rifle shooting among the student body.

## Mating Time

He is called the shark of our inland waters. He is wicked and ferocious and other fish avoid him, even his first cousin, the yellow pike, who with him sometimes contests possession of a shady weed-bed or cool water-grotto.

The pike is something of an outcast in his native element. He is a powerful, lazy fellow. He loves to lie in the sunny shoals thruout the day and forage thru the deeper waters in morning and evening. Often he may be seen lying as motionless as a stick close to the surface of the water, his blue-green back blending with the emerald tinge of shaggy water-plants.

He loves solitude, and from May until March goes his way alone. He shuns the companionship of his kind and devours millions of helpless baby fish out of pure greed and wantonness, for he is always hungry.

Altho he provides much sport for the angler, being a game fighter when hooked, he is anything but popular with fishermen, because he kills many young bass and destroys the spawning beds of the game fish.

But there comes a season when the despised, ferocious pike becomes a gentle, play-loving fellow: a time when the minnow-schools may pass close beside him and not suffer harm. This season comes with the breaking up of winter—when the great pike feels the touch of the creek current.

Then instinct draws him thru the bay's waters toward that creek, and instinct makes him crave the companionship of his kind.

Under the honey-combed ice of the bay, thru the deep blue water, he swims indolently, and, as he passes shoreward, he is joined by many other pike, also swimming shoreward.

The fish pause before the mouth of the creek, then enter it carefully. There are dozens of them together now. The creek is deep and clear, and its current bears the smells of land and dead grass and doty woods. Once in the creek's waters, the pike awaken to renewed life. They swim more swiftly, and now and again some great, playful fellow will throw himself high out of the water to alight with a mighty splash among his fellows.

Up the creek swims the happy school, mile upon mile, swimming only at night and lying motionless thruout the day, until the wide, wooded shallows are reached.

Into some quiet pond, sheltered from the wind by red-willow clumps, they pass in twos and fours, the great female pike always in the lead and her slender mate following some three feet behind.

In those shallows the pike leap and play and thrash the water into foam.

Two days, three days perhaps they linger there. Then comes some mysterious warning that the high waters are about to subside, and when the waters lower the fish are gone. They have once more sought the deep pools of the bay, each to feed and dart and fight alone until another mating season comes.

Later, in the sun-kissed waters of the flats, myriads of baby pike come to life and nose their way out into the deep creek. There they rest and grow and by fall are strong young fellows, capable of taking care of themselves. Then in schools of hundreds they make their way out into the bay.



The Heavenly Visitor: The last time I passed that old sphere was bald-headed.

## Press of States

San Francisco Bulletin: When once a man has accepted a gold brick it takes more than faith in human nature to convince him that all bricks are not gilded. Aggregations of men are no different. Witness the case of the University of Copenhagen. Prior to the rejection of the proofs offered by Dr. Cook the professors of that justly celebrated institution thought highly of the word of all servants of science, but now not even the sons of old Missouri are more skeptical. From the doubting castle of the Danish savants come expressions of surprise that Commander Peary declines to submit his proofs to competent authority. "Scientific and astronomical observations," say these recently "stung" savants, "are of no interest to a publisher."

Evidently the professors of Copenhagen are not yet convinced that the North Pole has been discovered. In any event, all diaries will henceforth be promptly turned over to the janitor.

New York American: Six hundred thousand people die every year in the United States of diseases that are preventable and that could be suppressed by public action.

Five million people fall sick annually from such causes, losing time, strength, courage and wealth. It is estimated that the annual economic loss to the country from needless sickness and death cannot fall far short of three billion dollars.

Such statements are vouched for by experts who have made exhaustive investigations under the auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Medical Association.

The movement for the mobilization of all the energies of science and civil law for the saving of the lives of the people is an undertaking so primary in importance that another generation will be at a loss to explain the tardiness of such an effort.

The conservation of human life should hold the first place in the movement for the conservation of natural resources.

Rochester, N.Y., Herald: If many more American citizens emigrate to the Dominion the Canadians will be lying awake at night for fear they may take a referendum and vote to annex the blooming country to the United States.

Brooklyn Eagle: When the British foreign office probes, as it will, the merciless beating of two young Englishwomen by a mob in Bogota, and Colombia is called upon for explanations and redress, the Colombian will discover that the British official world is singularly devoid of humor and that the joke of mistaking English girls for Americans is likely to cost somebody dear.

This deficiency in humor, this stern refusal to be led astray by trivialities or technicalities or jocularities when the lives of British subjects have been threatened or British subjects have been molested, is almost worth cultivation in Washington. Perhaps if Washington had the same reputation for virtue, handling of such complaints American women would be as safe, the world over, as Englishwomen. There are contingencies in which

## A Retrospect

April 3, 1847—Forts of Canton captured.

the Big Stick, promptly applied, is worth a thousand politenesses of diplomatic badinage tied on with red tape.

New York Tribune: According to Consul-General Jones, at Winnipeg, Canada is in great need of rat traps. Farmers in the grain belt are becoming anxious over the invasion of rodents from the United States, and are willing and able to pay a good price for a trap that will combine durability and efficiency. The rats are, nearing Winnipeg, and attempts to check them by inoculation with communicable virus have so far failed to stop their onward march.

Ohio State Journal, Columbus: Using the foot for going anywhere is gradually growing less and less. Going on wheels is fast becoming the universal habit. Walking is being relegated to the field of hygiene. This fact suggests to the thinkers on human destiny that the foot is to disappear from man's sad lot some day in the future. The disuse of an organ means its final disappearance or absorption, because there is no use for it.

It will not be that bad, however. Of course, we will have feet of some kind to stand on and to kick with. There are people now who can't go three blocks without riding. It is getting to be degrading to walk. A man walking along the street feels himself to be an object of pity, when a carriage or automobile flies by, the gay occupants of which say: "to one another, 'How sad that poor fellow must be who is walking yonder!'" And in nine cases out of ten, beholding the gaily of the locomotion, he is sad.

Our neighbor walks down town nearly every day, and he immediately explains the reason—that he does so for his health, before we remember that he has no automobile. Some day he will get one and lose all interest in his health. A learned doctor, lecturing on this subject, said it would be a thousand years before the ordinary man would lose all use of his feet. So there is still plenty of walking to do.

## The Real Victory

(New York Herald)  
This is, in truth, the real and only victory in the controversy, and it is one to be proud of—one that will cement the cordial friendship between the Canadian and American peoples and which must ultimately lead to direct diplomatic representation at Ottawa and Washington and to an unlimited increase of trade across the border.

The few disgruntled Canadians who find fault because the people of the Dominion buy more from us than we buy from them should note the movement of American farmers into their territory. In eleven months nearly ninety thousand Americans have migrated across the border, or at the rate of nearly one hundred thousand a year.

At the lowest estimate, these carry an average of \$1000 each, so that our neighbors in this way are getting \$100,000,000 a year, to say nothing of the potential value of these intelligent and skilful immigrants in developing the resources of Canada and increasing her trade and wealth.

## Public Service

In answer to the rather invidious comparison often drawn between the public spirit of British municipalities and that of Canadian, it is commonly urged that Canada does not possess that leisured class who, in the old country, give their services freely in civic administration. This is true in minor part, since it is undoubtedly that there are many more in Britain who pursue no private avocation than there are in Canada. But it is incorrect that this class appear to any really material extent on the role of British city and town councils. By far the larger proportion are engaged in active business, and personally engaged at that. Take, for example, the composition of the London County Council, a body where, if anywhere, the representatives of the leisured classes should be found. Moreover, the last council, with its large "Municipal Reform," really Conservative, majority ought, in any case, to have provided an unusually large proportion of those who, in Britain, favorably incline to that party. Yet in its ranks were 21 merchants, 10 manufacturers, 18 lawyers, 11 workmen, 10 retired civil servants and 26 "gentlemen," or persons whose independent means exempted them from the necessity of pursuing any regular occupation. Even this proportion is considerably more than is present in the English provincial and Scottish city councils. Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow and other cities are all administered by men drawn from the general body of business citizens, and they are all unpaid.

Some other reason must, therefore, be looked for in explanation of the acknowledged efficiency of British city government. Their administration has not always been commendable; indeed, this only became possible after the Reform Parliament of 1832. That report followed upon an exhaustive investigation, in which the commissioners found borough administration characterized by extravagance, inefficiency and even dishonesty. It is certain that little over two generations ago English city government was about as bad as it could be. What is notable about the change that followed is that it was not obtained thru any radical reconstruction of the system of municipal government, for that remains substantially as it was before 1835. As a recent writer observes, it was the spirit not the form of local administration that was profoundly altered during the epoch of reform—the real change was that the citizens came to have a genuine voice in their own local affairs—municipal oligarchy gave way to municipal democracy.

Perhaps the sense of freedom from the corruption and inefficiency that prevailed may have had—indeed, it has—an inspiring effect on the citizens who were enfranchised by the British Municipal Act of 1835. Naturally, there would be keen interest aroused in the new responsibilities which that measure placed on the electorate and strong ambition stimulated to take actual part in their discharge. But the point is that this spirit was not transient but enduring, and has grown with extraordinary growth of the cities and with the expansion of the matters entrusted to their councils. Prominent among these were the public services which, up till 1870, were treated generally as unsuited for municipal operation, also special powers, applicable to the supply of water and gas, were obtained by various cities prior to that year. But it was only in 1870 that Glasgow obtained the first parliamentary authorization to acquire and work its street railways, after the expiry of its agreement, altho Huddersfield was the first authority obtained in 1832. But not till 1896 did the principle of municipal operation, generally and unreservedly receive parliamentary sanction and become established thruout Britain. Since then, parliament has made ample amends for its former hesitation, and all governments, whether Conservative or Liberal, have united in maintaining the right of all municipalities to own and operate their public franchises.

Apart from occasional articles contributed or inspired by individuals friendly to private companies, there is remarkable unanimity in the opinions of impartial engineers who have studied the situation—all agree that the movement has reacted favorably on the character of British civic government. As the field of responsibility has been widened, so has administrative capacity increased and developed. Similar effects will follow in Canada from expansion of civic powers and responsibilities. Recent happenings in Ontario and Toronto have demonstrated the widening attention given by the people to questions intimately being upon the comfort and amenity of city life.

The qualifications of the immigrant should be manhood and character, not dollars.



## City Tax Rate

It is true that the figures which decorate the budget of the city treasurer run into many millions and make an imposing show. Little is it to be wondered at if the alderman is awed by a sense of the magnitude of these interests of which he is a custodian and trembles at the significance of a fraction of a mill on an assessment which in not more than two years will reach the \$300,000,000 mark.

As a matter of fact, the fixing of the rate is a somewhat hollow ceremony. A rate of 17 1/4 mills for 1910 looks better than the one of 18 1/2 mills which has been burned into the minds of the taxpayers for the past four years. Yet wherein does it profit John Brown to know that the levy has been reduced by one and one quarter mill, if his store and lot, previously valued at \$3000 now swell with pride on an assessment of \$4000?

It is a somber fact that he must draw a cheque on the savings department for \$13.50 more than he did last year. As the presiding deity's skilful twist of the wrist deceives the eye, so does the manipulation of the property assessment and tax rate scales give a pleasing seeming of that which is not. The public eye is trained to observe that side of the scale in which the weight of taxation reposes, to perceive its ascent with lamentation and its decline with proportionate satisfaction. So engrossing is the occurrence

## Good Roads

The series of editorials on the good roads question which were launched in the columns of The Daily and Sunday World some weeks ago have been copied by nearly every press bureau in Canada and United States and have appeared in nearly every Canadian paper of importance.

With modesty The Sunday World acknowledges gladly the assistance which the good roads movement has received thru these influential newspapers lending their columns to give wider publicity to a series of very carefully prepared editorials.

Among the editorials which first appeared in The World was one entitled "A Plain Business Proposition." It set forth as the leading sentiment that the building of good roads was a matter-of-fact, business consideration. It pointed out how good roads affected the buoyancy of farm real estate, how they improved conditions of transportation and contributed to the greater usefulness of the railway systems. The editorial has to our knowledge appeared in at least one hundred newspapers in this country without credit having been given to The Toronto World. This paper is not complaining at all of this circumstance and gladly accepts the general recognition of the soundness of the good roads gospel.

Brooklyn Eagle: The announcement by Professor Metchnikoff of the Paris Pasteur Institute that he has successfully inoculated monkeys with the germs of typhoid fe-



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pation, that the other side of the scale which really adjusts the balance of the whole, gets little attention.

It is an unescapable fact that, altho Toronto is to have a cut rate, it is going to cost somewhere above half a million dollars more to run this city's affairs than it did last year. No miracles of retrenchment have been performed; neither has there been shown a tendency to skimp. A city like Toronto is bound to increase its expenses from year to year under the operation of natural law. The burden of taxes was \$400,000 greater in 1909 than in 1908. This record is to be passed by about \$150,000 this year, which might be termed "going some."

A building labelled Vancouver Stock Exchange was raided by the police. They found several gallon jugs of whiskey and captured ten prominent business men for gambling.