

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1911

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 7, 1911.

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THE EVENING TIMES
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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RECIPROCITY AND POPULATION

It is stated that the census will show a loss of population in some counties in this province. If so let us have reciprocity and see if the impetus given to the development of our natural resources will not encourage our young people to stay and share in the new activity, instead of going away to share in the development of the western provinces.

We are sorely in need of a new industrial impulse in the maritime provinces. There should be no decline in population in any county of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia or Prince Edward Island. There should be at least a normal increase. One trouble has been that the west has been pictured in so attractive a manner that it has lured away our young people by thousands. Another handicap has been the lack of a better market for the products of the farm, the forest and the fisheries. Still another has been the lack of capital for the development of great natural resources. Doubtless, also, as is charged by outside observers, our people have displayed less confidence in themselves and their ability to do things than is shown by the people of the west.

Does not reciprocity come very opportunely to give our people the new impulse that is so greatly desired? Will not the prospect of larger free markets, and of a constant large market, encourage production? Will not, also, the closer trade relations with the New England states tend to interest American capital in the development of great natural resources which are as yet untouched? Surely the maritime provinces would be very ill-advised if they did not declare themselves to be overwhelmingly in favor of the new agreement.

During the period of the old reciprocity treaty the population of these provinces increased rapidly. After its abrogation there came a period of decline. For example take the population of Kings county, in Nova Scotia, and note the changes in fifty years. Here are the figures:

1861	.....	14,138
1871	.....	18,731
1881	.....	21,510
1891	.....	23,489
1901	.....	22,489
1906	.....	21,937

The reciprocity treaty was in force from 1854 to 1896. The population of the county in 1901 was practically the same as it had been in 1871, although prior to 1871 there had been a large increase. Give Kings county reciprocity again, and the conditions would at once begin to improve. The like is generally true of the three provinces. They need the large market at their doors to give a new stimulus to every branch of productive industry.

CONSIDER IT CALMLY

Until the Conservatives made a campaign issue, reciprocity between Canada and the United States was a mere matter of business, relating only to the exchange of commodities between the two countries. Such an exchange had always been going on, and was inevitable, because for thousands of miles the two countries lie side by side. Year after year the trade between them had increased. The total trade of Canada with the United States is greater than her trade with the mother country, and this trade has developed in spite of mutual high tariffs. Canada sends to the United States market much that she could not sell in England, and imports from the United States much that she could not import from England. Moreover, so far as trade is concerned, Canada has a perfect right to follow the example of England, buying in the cheapest and selling in the highest market. No Conservative would dare assert the contrary.

The new agreement is not designed nor can it do more than facilitate and increase the already large trade between Canada and the United States. Now will it lessen or injuriously affect the trade between Canada and the mother country. There are products of the farm, the lumber industry and the fishing industry which the mother country does not want from Canada; and for those which she does want she will not pay one cent more to Canada than to any other country.

So long as there is no discrimination against the mother country (and instead of it there is the preference extended to British goods), Canada is not only just-

ified but would be very unwise if she failed to seize every favorable opportunity to enlarge her trade. This is all that is proposed under the new agreement. It offers Canada a larger free market for many products, and a lower duty on some others. It would encourage production, and stimulate every branch of industry.

But what of competition by Americans in the Canadian market? This is a fair question, and the answer is easily found. For example, every farmer, lumberman and fisherman in the maritime provinces knows that he has nothing to fear in his line from American competition in his home market. He would laugh at any man who would suggest such a possibility. What reciprocity will do for him will be to enlarge his market, and give him the assurance that he can always find buyers for his products. The manufacturers, on the other hand, are not injured, for the protection given them is not removed, because greater activity and prosperity among those engaged in the great natural industries will create a larger demand for the products of the factories.

This whole question of reciprocity is merely one of business. We have already an enormous trade with the United States. We are offered a very favorable opportunity to enlarge that trade without disturbing the chances for larger trade with other countries. It is an invitation to produce more, and so increase the prosperity of Canada. It would be not only bad business but unparliamentary to reject such an opportunity to enlarge our trade, and to establish more friendly relations with the country which every citizen would rejoice to see in closer alliance with the British Empire.

The Ottawa board of control has decided to ask the city council to accept a tender for the construction of a Homan Froude type of incinerator, the cost to be \$36,450.

Before the end of this week the Liberals of St. John will be lined up for the battle. Both city and county should go strongly for reciprocity and better times in the maritime provinces.

The city of St. John must deny itself the luxury of filling the streets unless it can be done without spoiling clothes, carpets and other things of value. Other cities do not encounter this difficulty—why should St. John?

Premier McBride has dashed the hopes of the Conservatives, who expected that he would enter the federal arena. Interviewed in Vancouver last week Mr. McBride said:—"I do not intend to enter this election as a candidate."

The city council will have before it today some radical recommendations with regard to the taxation system. The proposals submitted point in the right direction, and the council should give them prompt and serious consideration.

The Huntington Gleaner says:—"What is the district of Beauséjour going to do in the coming election? That its farmers are as near a unit as can be in favor of dropping the bars that keep out American buyers from coming in to buy what they have to sell is certain, and no candidate opposed to reciprocity ought to get a ballot from them."

E. W. Thomson, the correspondent of the Boston Transcript, whose letters have been frequently quoted with approval by the Conservatives when they have suited them, says: "Opposition success is not conceivable. Laurier's majority will be seventy, and may be ninety. The cards are all in Laurier's hands." Conservative papers, please copy.

It seems quite clear that orders have been issued to the St. John Standard to proceed with an utter disregard for truth to deceive and frighten the people into voting against reciprocity. In large type the Standard asks today:—"Why open the home market of the Canadian farmer to the forty million farmers of the United States? When did the United States get forty million farmers?"

Messrs Armstrong and Brooks, representing the Jackson Construction Co., which built great docks in South Africa, informed the St. John Standard on Saturday that it would not be difficult to convert Courtenay Bay into a shipping port, with dry docks, etc., and that their firm would probably tender for the work. What work? Does not the Standard know, and will not Dr. Daniel solemnly affirm, that there is to be no work done at Courtenay Bay?

Speaking of the taxation of vacant lots, the Ottawa Citizen says: "The principle is generally admitted that a vacant property held for speculation should be well assessed, and if any latitude is allowed it should be in the case of the small householder, who is often struggling to make a home for himself and incidentally improve the city." Having made this statement the Citizen tells of a vacant lot assessed at \$300 which was sold a month ago for \$4,300, and adds:—"The Citizen has no hesitation in saying that the assessor who valued that property should be dismissed either for incapacity or worse." Are vacant lots in St. John properly assessed?

THE WEAKLING

Weak hands strike deepest, hitting in the dark,
Strong men go down before some craven blow.

I know mine enemy, nor fear his mark,
God saves me from the spite I do not know!

An open fighter, be he man or fate,
I'll face with courage—yea, with rude delight;
For just as love is honest, so is Hate,
I fear the uncaring haunter of the night.

I have not trembled at the sound of strife,
Nor shrunk from Death because of his still eyes.
I've known defeat, and played the game with Life,
But, God, I fear the weakling I despise!

—Theodore Roberts.

IN LIGHTER VEIN



EMBARRASSING.
Short-sighted Vender—(to lady in heaven skirt). Buy a nice pair of suspenders, sir?



A LOVELY SPECIMEN.
Dumley—What a pretty girl your friend is. Such bright eyes and clear complexion one seldom sees. Hasn't she Irish blood in her veins?

Miss Smart—Oh, yes, she is a true daughter of Erin (to Braggs).
Dumley—Well, all I've got to say is that Mr. and Mrs. Go Braggs ought to be proud of her.



VARIETY.
Seaside Visitor—What do you do here in the summer?

Shoreman—We loaf and fish.

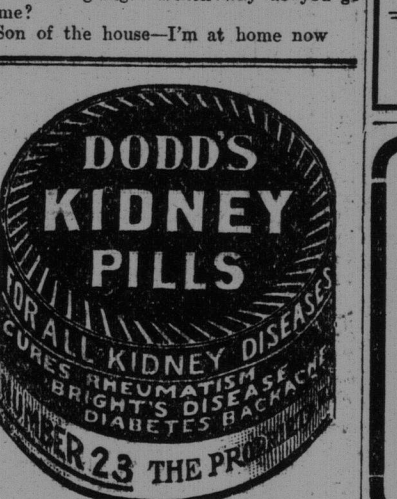
Seaside Visitor—And what do you do in the winter?

Shoreman—We don't fish.



IN WRONG.
Bored Man—(at party)—Beastly slow here! I'm going. Which way do you go home?

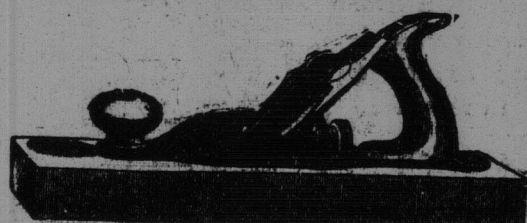
Son of the house—I'm at home now.



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Cantaloupe Melons,
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Liberal Convention
and Ratification

The delegates elected at the Primaries in the several wards and parishes will meet in convention in

The Queens Rink, Charlotte Street,
Thursday Evening, August 10

at 7.30 o'clock to select candidates to represent the City, and City and County of Saint John in the Dominion Parliament.

A RATIFICATION MEETING

will be held in Queen's Rink, Charlotte St., the same evening at 8 o'clock to ratify the choice of the delegates.

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